a newspaper for the rest of us

www.lansingcitypulse.com

August 15-21, 2012

**City Pulse** 

turns 11!

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Why isn't climate change on the front burner? see page 10

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Savage Love comes to Lansing — starting today see page 21

**Theatre Festival** Full schedule on pages 14 & 15



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## ON OUR CITY PULSE SAYS ON OUR CITY PULSE SAYS ON OUR THANKS TO ALL OUR OUR CITY PULSE SAYS ON OUR CITY PULSE SAYS



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Karen Wilson, Sales Manager Allan I. Ross, Arts & Entertainment Editor

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#### DEAR DAN Advice you can use — now every week in City Pulse starting today SAVAGE

**OVF** see page 21

I'm 16 and I like my friend's mom who is 35. She's married and has two kids. But I really like her. What should I do?

—Help One Really Needy Youth

Here's what you shouldn't do: You shouldn't say anything—not to your friend, not to your friend's mother—and you certainly shouldn't try anything.

Here's what you should do: You should masturbate about your friend's mom just as much as you like...

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

#### Write a letter to the editor.

E-mail: letters@lansingcitvpulse.com

 Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912 Fax: (517) 371-5800

Write a guest column: Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or (517) 371-5600 ext. 10

#### **PUBLIC NOTICES**

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

#### SLU-6-2012, 3124 S. ML King Blvd. Special Land Use Permit - Church

The Lansing Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 4, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., Neighborhood Empowerment Center Conference Room, 600 W. Maple Street (Corner of W. Maple and N. Pine Streets) to consider SLU-6-2012. This is a request by Allyssa Narvaez, City of Refuge Ministries, for a special land use permit to utilize the building at 3124 S. ML King for a church. Churches are permitted in the "H" Light Industrial district, which is the designation of the subject property, if a Special Land Use permit is approved by the Lansing City Council.

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., Tuesday, September 4, 2012 at the City of Lansing Planning Office, Department of Planning and Neighborhood Development, Suite D-1, 316 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, MI 48933-1236. For more information concerning SLU-6-2012, call Susan Stachowiak at 483-4085.

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

**Notice is hereby given** of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing City Council on Tuesday, September 4, 2012, at 7:30 p.m., Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, to consider the following:

- A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1281, a request from University Reformed Church to rezone the property at 841 Timberlane Street, from C, Community Facilities, and R-1, Low Density Single-Family Residential, to RM-14, Low Density Multiple-Family Residential District, subject to a conditional rezoning agreement, limiting the use of the property to religious use, while allowing for phasing out of the existing educational use. The property is approximately 7.77 acres.
- A public hearing will be held to consider an application from University Reformed Church 2. for Special Use Permit approval for the property at 841 Timberlane Street. The proposed application would allow the church to occupy the existing building on the site (the former East Lansing Public Schools administration building). The property is being considered as a conditional rezoning to RM-14, Low Density Multiple Family Residential, in conjunction with Ordinance 1281

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

> Marie E. McKenna City Clerk

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

EAST LANSING WAYFINDING SIGNS PROJECT

CITY OF EAST LANSING 410 ABBOT ROAD EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN 48823

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of East Lansing at the office of Planning & Community Development, Room 222, 2nd Floor, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823, up to 4:00 p.m. local time Thursday August 30, 2009, at which time proposals will be publicly opened and read for the furnishing of materials, labor and equipment for East Lansing Wayfinding Project in the City of East Lansing. The Bid Opening will be in Conference Room A, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan.

Work includes: Fabrication and installation of wayfinding signs and kiosks, obtaining permits for installation and all necessary restoration work at installation sites.

The Contract Documents, including Contract, Design Intent Drawings, Sign Message Schedule, Sign Location Plan, and Sign Count may be requested via e-mail to Imullin@cityofeastlansing.com or in person at the Planning & Community Development, 2nd Floor, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823. The Contract Documents will be available beginning Thursday August 16, 2012 and questions about the project will be answered until Tuesday August 28 at 5:00 p.m. Questions for this project should be made in writing to Lori Mullins at Imullin@cityofeastlansing.com.

Proposals must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond payable to the <u>City of East Lansing</u>, in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the bid amount, which shall be forfeited to the City of East Lansing if the bidder to whom the Contract is awarded as specified in the contract fails to enter into a Contract within ten (10) days after the Contract is awarded. The unsuccessful bidders' checks or bid bonds will be returned upon final award of Contract, approved and executed

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

> CITY OF EAST LANSING Marie E. McKenna By: Citv Clerk



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responds to Wisconsin shooting

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The Food Fight team tackles a Mexican mainstay

new documentary on sexuality

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7 p.m. Wednesdays

#### MSU Geography Professor Judy Winkler on global warming

H

WEEK MSU Neuroscience Professor Marc C. Breedlove on the roots of homosexuality

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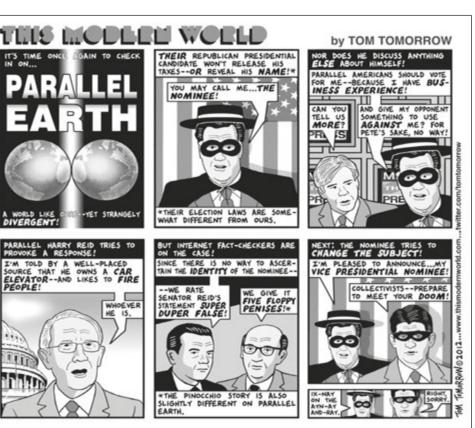
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CLIMATE CHANGE by **RACHEL HARPER** 

THE

AIR



### PULSE Thank news & opinion

### **The Master Plan**

#### If City Council approves putting a new Red Cedar Golf Course proposal on November ballots, what will we get out of it? Nobody really knows.

The Lansing City Council is planning to vote in less than two weeks on placing a November ballot proposal before voters that asks them to sell the remaining 48.32 acres of the former Red Cedar Golf Course.

At this point, details about that proposal are scarce. A once clear idea for repurposing the shuttered 61-acre golf course — 12.5 acres for development along Michigan Avenue and 48.5 acres of publicly owned parkland and storm water management — is no longer so apparent.

After voters approved by 70 percent to 30 percent in November authorizing the sale of 12.5 acres for redevelopment, five proposals to develop the strip along East Michigan surfaced — and they varied.

But Monday, the Bernero administration said it wants voters to approve authorizing the sale of the rest. That was after the committee reviewing the five proposals recommended considering the plan submitted by local developer Joel Ferguson and Chris Jerome that calls for developing the entire golf course — not just the 12.5 acres along the road — as well as two former car dealerships on Michigan Avenue. The administration is recommending the City Council approve ballot language that places the question of selling off the rest of Red Cedar to voters in November. The Council plans to vote on it at its Aug. 27 meeting.

That raises significant questions: How much of the 61 acres would actually be privately owned? Will voters be asked to approve the authorization of a land sale that would lead to a privately owned and maintained park? And what will happen to Ingham County Drain Commissioner Pat Lindemann's plan to filter storm water, reducing pollution of the Red Cedar River?

Moreover, it negates a big selling point of last year's referendum, which is that the proceeds from selling the 12.5 acres are to be used to maintain a 48-plus acre park on the remaining land. The Council will have to decide if it's breaking faith with the voters by asking permission to sell the rest. If so, the Council could argue that the public will still get a park - albeit a privately owned one. But how much of a park is a big question: The proposal does not say. In essence, it will put the spotlight again on the biggest concern opponents had last year: Selling parkland - and selling it without specifics on what will happen to it.

"I am intrigued by the notion of an expanded development on the Red Cedar property," Mayor Virg Bernero said in accepting the review committee's proposal. The committee's members are Bob Trezise, president and CEO of the Lansing Economic Area Partnership; Lindemann; Karl Dorshimer, also of LEAP; Lansing Parks Board President Rick Kibbey;



This proposal by Chris Jerome and Joel Ferguson seeks to develop all 61 acres of the former Red Cedar Golf Course on the east side, as well as two vacant car dealerships: one on the north side of East Michigan Avenue and one adjacent to the park's east side. It includes student and professional housing, an amphitheater, bars, restaurants and public green space. The Bernero administration is requesting the City Council approve ballot language seeking voter permission to sell off 48.32 additional acres of the former course.

Lansing Parks and Recreation Director Brett Kaschinske; Lansing Planning and Neighborhood Development Director Bob Johnson; mayoral Chief of Staff Randy Hannan; and Ken Szymusiak, also of LEAP.

However, it's uncertain how much of Jerome's and Ferguson's plan will come to fruition because the resolution before Council doesn't specify much, nor did the review team's decision detail a final outcome. That will likely be drawn up in a development agreement to be voted on by the Council should the new ballot proposal reach, and be approved by, voters.

What is known is Ferguson and Jerome want to own all 61 acres for a development that includes bars, restaurants, an amphitheater, student and professional housing and mixed-use buildings along Michigan Avenue, their renderings show. Perhaps more important, however, is the several acres of green space on the south portion of the old golf course that abuts the river. The developer team says it would rather own and maintain the south end of Red Cedar Golf Course - and make it available for public use - than leave it in the city's hands due to fears that it wouldn't be maintained properly. Who wants to own land next to a derelict golf course, they ask.

"It doesn't work on 12 acres," Ferguson, a Michigan State University trustee, said of his plan in an interview Tuesday. Moreover, Ferguson is confident that voters will approve the additional acreage, as they did last week in authorizing the city to sell off 120 acres of the former Waverly Golf Course and Michigan Avenue Park without any specific redevelopment plan.

Ferguson's main point about acquiring the rest of the acreage is the guarantee that it would be maintained well — even though the language approved in November and the latest proposal say "any net proceeds from the sale of the Parcel, or any portion of the Parcel, will be used to improve recreational facilities within Red Cedar Park," as well as defray costs of the storm water management project and go into maintaining the rest of the city's parks system.

"The city doesn't have any money to maintain its parks and public spaces anymore," he said. "If you're going to do an investment, why wouldn't you want to have everything?"

While the developers' renderings cover

#### See Red Cedar, Page 6

"Eye candy of the Week," our look at some of the nicer properties in Lansing, will return next week. It rotates each week with Eyesore of the Week. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call Andy Balaskovitz at 999-5064.

#### Red Cedar

#### from page 5

the entire 61 acres and a pair of car dealerships at 3165 E. Michigan Ave. and 1415 Michigan Ave. in East Lansing, the Bernero administration is saying final designs are far from certain. That includes whether to sell the entire 61 acres to Jerome and Ferguson.

"It is very likely that the property required for development will be significantly less than the full 48 acres," mayoral Chief of Staff Randy Hannan said in an email Tuesday when asked about the appraised value of the remaining 48.32 acres. In other words, the administration is waiting to see how much land the developers will need, if the voters approve the latest ballot proposal, before getting an appraised value of the property.

Ferguson, a Sexton High School graduate, is prominent in development circles around Lansing. Notably, he's one of the developers of the Michigan State Police headquarters at Grand Avenue and Kalamazoo Street downtown. That project faced a barrage of criticism in its evolution: that it was a sweetheart deal for two politically connected developers; that it was built on a flood plan; that it was costing the state money at a time when it was laving off state troopers; and that MSP personnel were against the move in the first place. Ferguson and his partner on the project, Gary Granger, denied all of the accusations by the time the building opened in late 2009. Ferguson is also the developer of Capital Commons, a large downtown residential complex, and coowner of the Capitol Commons Center on Pine Street, which leases space for state employees. Ferguson told City Pulse last year that his 2010 city property tax bill was \$1.5 million.

Jerome is the son of Leo Jerome, who is listed as the resident agent of the limited liability company, CKJ Properties, that owns the former Sawyer Pontiac car dealership immediately to the east of the golf course on Michigan Avenue. The glass-paneled, former Story Olds dealership on Michigan — across the street from the golf course to the north — is owned by Kay Investment Co. County records show Kay Investment and CKJ Properties share the same mailing address at 1919 S. Creyts Road.

Ferguson said he is friends with the Jerome family and added that because Chris and Leo Jerome own the car dealerships, the partnership has "better resources, better vision" than others who submitted the proposals.

Jerome said going for the full "Master Plan" version of his and Ferguson's proposal (they also prepared a scaled-down proposal solely for the original 12.5 acres up for sale) will still allow for the public to use several acres of green space that will likely be financed with private money.

"The real story is about taking incredible green space and returning it to public use," Jerome said Tuesday. He said the question of who will technically own the park portion of the development is "to be determined. The vision is for a public park." Moreover, the city wouldn't have the resources to install and maintain features like sports fields and community buildings — like the private sector could, Jerome said.

#### What's it mean for Lindemann?

If Jerome and Ferguson acquire the entirety of Red Cedar, then where does that leave Lindemann's plan to build a large-scale, lowimpact storm water management system?

First of all, Lindemann said, his needs are flexible based on the final decision of voters and city officials. "I can work around virtually any kind of design," said Lindemann who notably was one of the eight members of the review committee that chose the Ferguson-Jerome plan.

"Whatever I don't put on the golf course will have to go someplace else," he said, referring to areas around Frandor that could make up the difference, such as the Michigan Avenue median. "What the city does with this property is up to the city. I'm not commenting whether it's good, bad or indifferent."

Lindemann also stressed the fact that the city has not settled on a final design or even developers. Depending on the outcome of the Council vote or the November vote, Hannan said, it may force the administration to revisit all five of the proposals or perhaps put a call out for more.

"Whatever proposal is chosen is going to be the subject of a lot of review by me," Lindemann said.

- Andy Balaskovitz

Coping with tragedy

#### The Lansing Sikh community responds to Wisconsin shooting

It was standing room only in a small south Lansing church as community members gathered to celebrate the union of a young man and woman. As the ceremony neared its end, photographers and videographers scrambled to capture every moment of the event. The bride and women in the congregation dried their tears to keep their makeup from smudging. The event was a joyous occasion for the Sikh community in Lansing in the wake of tragedy.

The shooting at a Sikh temple in Oak Creek, Wis., on Aug. 5 claimed the lives of six worshippers. The gunman, Wade Michael Page, a known white supremacist, took his own life after being wounded by police gunfire. National news outlets covered the tragedy extensively in the days following the event. The event hit hard in the Lansing Sikh community.

Harpreet "Rocky" Singh, 35, is a Lansing business owner and a member of the Guru Nanak Sikh Center, 4701 Pleasant Grove Road, the only Sikh temple in Lansing, which has a "tightknit" congregation of about 200 people. He said the overwhelming feeling in the community following the shooting was one of "sadness."

"They're not mad, I can tell you that much" he said. "But they're just confused on how to digest it, so to speak. If you're praying in a temple, why should you have to look behind your shoulder to see if you're safe? From that day, it's kind of in the back of your mind now."

A day after the shooting, Mayor Virg Bernero, city officials and nearly 100 others attended a vigil held at the Guru Nanak Sikh Center.

"We are part of the American Dream," said 42-year-old Ladi Multani, director of the temple. "People felt that we are maybe misunderstood. But we have very good relations with the neighbors and everyone in Lansing."

Sikhism was born in the 15th century in the Punjab state of northern India. It was founded by the first of ten gurus, Guru Nanak Dev. Those who practice Sikhism, Multani said, worship one God and look to their 1,430-page holy book, Guru



Granth Sahib, for answers to life's problems. The religion is based on a doctrine of peace, Multani said, and nothing should be done forcibly.

Multani highlighted the three main tenants of Sikhism: Make your living honestly; share what you have with the needy; and remember God all the time.

The temple floor, where members sit during services, is blanketed with white sheets. Those who enter the church must cover their heads with a turban or scarf and remove their shoes before entering as a "sign of respect," Multani said. The services are conducted in Punjabi, the language of the Punjab state. English translations to the songs are projected onto a screen next to the altar.

"In our temple, anyone who comes in, we believe they belong here," he said. "We believe our aim is the same. We just take different roads to get there."

People might confuse Sikhs with Muslims because of their dark complexion and turbans, Singh and Multani said. It's speculated that Page, the Wisconsin shooter, thought the Sikh temple was an Islamic mosque and that's what drove him to commit the deed.

"Even that resemblance shouldn't give someone an excuse to kill anybody," Singh said.

"I don't think most people know what we believe in," Multani said. "Our beliefs are very similar to American founding beliefs. We are all created equal: men, women and children."

The wedding on Sunday showed a blending of cultures, both Sikh and American. While the bride and groom weren't sporting a white dress and tuxedo — and instead were adorned in gold, beads and jewels — the meaning is the same.

"The idea is the same, it's just a different medium of expressing it," Singh said. "We are not all so different when you think about it. If you were to attend a wedding, it's so traditional and, in a way, so religious. But when it comes time for (the reception), there is an American side of the life, an American part to the culture we're a part of."

One thing that would surprise people about the Sikh faith, Singh said, is how open and accepting they are of all religions and people. He said it's reflected in their morning and evening prayers.

"Ek Onkar" opens the morning prayer, he said, which means "God is one."

#### See Sikhs, Page 7

Sam Inglot/City Pulse Priests at the Guru Nanak Sikh Center sing hymns and play musical instruments during a wedding on Sunday. From left: Gurpreet Singh and Tarlok Singh, the head priest, play harmoniums as Kanwaljeet Singh plays the Tabla.

#### Sikhs

#### from page 6

"God is like the CATA bus station downtown," Singh said. "Buses come from everywhere. Someone comes from East Lansing, south Lansing, the west side, someone is coming from the airport. So we're all taking different routes, but our main goal is to achieve that one God. We just have different routes."

At the end of the day, Sikhs close out their prayer by asking, "May it be better for everyone?"

"It doesn't have anything to do with being a Sikh," Singh said. "It doesn't have anything to do about being my family or my friend — that's everybody. You want it for the whole world."

"We're a peace-loving, little community and I don't know what else to call it," Singh said. "We love Lansing. Personally, I came here and settled here for a reason. It's well spread culturally, we have everybody and you don't miss anything. I just wish and pray nothing happens like (Wisconsin). We don't need anything like that here."

- Sam Inglot

#### ΔΤΕ

By order of the County Treasurer of Ingham County

#### Friday, August 24 at 10:00 am (Reg. 9:00 am)

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Deposit of \$1,000 is required to receive a bid card. Eric Schertzing, Ingham County Treasurer, 341 S. Jefferson St, Mason, MI (517.676.7220)

⊜





319 Grand River Ave W, Lansing

**Detailed Info** 

888-481-5108

#### **PUBLIC NOTICES**

#### CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Z-3-2012, 5133 Balzer Street Rezoning from "A" Residential District to "DM-1" Residential District

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Thursday, September 6, 2012, at 1:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI, to consider Z-3-2012. This is a request by Shannon Wiggins and Mohamad Abduljaber to rezone the property at 5133 Balzer Street, legally described as:

LOT 20 SUPERVISORS PLAT OF BALZER SUBDIVISION

from "A" Residential District to "DM-1" Residential District. The purpose of the rezoning is to permit the use of the subject property for two single family homes.

For more information about this case, phone City Council Offices on City business days, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted if received before 1:30 p.m., Thursday, September 6, 2012, at the City Council Offices, Tenth Floor, City Level 1:401 Microbiol 1:402 (1997) 1:402 (1 City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 1696.

#### Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk

Ingham County is seeking proposals from qualified and experienced vendors to provide for the Ingham County Department of Management Information Services (MIS) an Operations Manual, which include written policies and procedures for the Data Center and training the County staff in such policies and procedures.

Proposals will be received no later than 11:00 A.M., local time prevailing, on August 30, 2012, at which time they will be opened in public and read aloud in the

Ingham County Purchasing Department Attention: Jim Hudgins, Purchasing Director PO Box 319 121 E. Maple St., Room 203 Mason, Michigan 48854

Proposals received at other locations or delivered after the due date and time will not be accepted and will be returned to the proposer.

The deliverables shall be completed within 60 days of receipt of an executable contract. It is anticipated work can begin on or around October 1, 2012.

Any explanation desired by a proposer regarding the meaning or interpretation of this RFP must be requested to the Ingham County Purchasing Department, attention Jim Hudgins at jhudgins@

Please see the RFP for more information.

#### **CITY OF EAST LANSING**

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 1279**

#### AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING USE DISTRICT MAP OF CHAPTER 50 - ZONING - OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING

Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1279 was adopted by the East Lansing City Council at a regular meeting of the Council held on August 8, 2012 and will become effective 7 days after the publication of the following summary of ordinance.

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

The Zoning Use District Map is hereby amended to rezone the following described area from B-1, General Office Business District to B-2, Retail Sales Business District:

Parcel 1: (Foster and Harmon Enterprises, LLC) Tax Parcel No: 33-20-02-18-402-001 Lot 18 of the Fairview subdivision, City of East Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan More commonly known as 903 East Grand River Avenue, East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Tax Parcel No: 33-20-02-18-402-002 Parcel 2: (Claucherty Parcel) Lot 19 of the Fairview subdivision, City of East Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan More commonly known as 911 East Grand River Avenue, East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Parcel 3: (MertenGraham Building) Tax Parcel No: 33-20-Lot 20 of the Fairview subdivision, City of East Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan Tax Parcel No: 33-20-02-18-402-003 More commonly known as 919 East Grand River Avenue, East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Parcel 4: (James Hagan, LLC) Tax Parcel No: 33-20-02-18-402-004 Lot 21 of the Fairview subdivision, City of East Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan More commonly known as 927 East Grand River Avenue, East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Parcel 5: (Merten Building Limited Partnership) Tax Parcel No: 33-20-02-18-402-005 Lot 22 of the Fairview subdivision, City of East Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan More commonly known as 933 & 935 East Grand River Avenue, East Lansing, Michigan 48823

A true copy of Ordinance No. 1279 can be inspected or obtained at the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan during normal business hours.

> Marie McKenna Citv Clerk

#### **PUBLIC NOTICES**

#### CITY OF EAST LANSING

#### ORDINANCE NO. 1282

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-253 OF DIVISION 1 - GENERALLY - OF ARTICLE V - BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS - OF CHAPTER 2 -ADMINISTRATION - AND SECTION 42-6 OF ARTICLE I - IN GENERAL - AND SECTION 42-43 OF DIVISION 1 - GENERALLY - OF ARTICLE II - ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT- AND SECTIONS 42-214 AND 42-215 OF ARTICLE IV - FRANCHISE FEES - OF CHAPTER 42 -TELECOMMUNICATIONS - OF CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING AND TO REPEAL DIVISION 2 - CABLE AND TELECOMMUNICATION COMMISSION - AND SECTIONS 42 -71, 42-72, 42-73 AND 42-74 OF CHAPTER 42 - TELECOMMUNICATIONS - OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING

#### THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

Section 2-253 of Division 1 of Chapter 2 and Section 42-6 of Article I and Section 42-43 of Division 1 of Article II and Sections 42-214 and 42-215 of Article IV of Chapter 42 of Code of the City of East are hereby amended to read as follows:

#### Sec. 2-253. Boards and commissions created; number of members.

The following boards and commissions are hereby created, and shall be composed of a maximum of nine members unless otherwise stated:

- (1) Elected officers compensation commission.
- (2) Transportation commission.
- (3) Arts commission.
- (4) Planning commission.
- (5) Human relations commission.
- (6) Commission on the environment.
- (7) Housing commission.
- (8) University student commission.
- (9) Seniors' commission
- (10) Building board of appeals. The membership, powers, and duties of the building board of appeals shall be as prescribed by chapter 6, article II.
- (11) Zoning board of appeals. The membership, powers and duties of the zoning board

of appeals shall be as prescribed by chapter 50, article II, division 2.

- (12) Historic district commission. The membership, powers, and duties of the historic district commission shall be as prescribed in chapter 20, article II.
- (13) Parks and recreation advisory commission which shall be composed of seven members.
- (14) Active living for adults (ALFA) advisory commission which shall be composed of seven members.

#### Sec. 42-6. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Act means the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (and specifically as amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992, Public Law 102-385), and as may be amended from time to time.

Advertising means all matter cablecast for which any money, service, or other valuable consideration is directly or indirectly paid, exchanged, or promised to, or charged, or accepted in connection with the presentation of cable services.

Associated equipment means all equipment and services subject to regulation pursuant to 47 CFR 76.923.

Basic cable service means "basic service" as defined in the FCC rules, and any other cable television service which is subject to rate regulation by the city pursuant to the Act and the FCC rules, and shall include, at a minimum, all public, educational, and governmental programming or channels required to be carried by the city.

Cable communication system, cable television system, cable system, CATV, or system shall have that meaning given by section 602(7) of the Act and shall mean a system of coaxial cables or other signal conductors and equipment used or to be used to originate or receive television or radio signals directly or indirectly off the air and to transmit them via cable to subscribers for a fixed or variable fee, including the origination, receipt, transmission, and distribution of voices, sound signals, pictures, visual images, digital signals, telemetry, or any other type of closed circuit transmission by means of electrical or light wave impulses, whether or not directed to originating signals or receiving signals off the air.

*Cable service* means all of the services as defined by section 602(6) of the Act which franchisee has provided or will provide pursuant to the terms of this franchise agreement.

*Channel* means a portion of the electromagnetic frequency spectrum which is used in a cable system and which is capable of delivering a "television channel."

*City* means the City of East Lansing, Michigan, and all the territory within its territorial corporate limits.

*Customer* means any person who for a charge or payment of a fee receives, sends or uses any signal or service provided, collected or distributed by a private communications system franchised by the city.

FCC means the Federal Communications Commission.

FCC rules means all rules of the FCC promulgated, from time to time, pursuant to the Act.

*Franchise* or *franchise agreement* means the franchise agreement required under the Uniform Video Service Local Franchise Act in the standard form published by the MPSC.

*Gross revenues* means all consideration of any kind or nature, including, without limitation, cash, credits, property, and in-kind contributions received by the provider from subscribers for the provision of video service by a video service provider within the jurisdiction of the city of East Lansing. Gross revenues shall include all of the fees, compensation, revenue, and commissions described in subsections 6(4), (6) and (7) of the Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act.

Local exchange network means the facilities providing access to "basic local exchange service" within a "local calling area" for the transmission for high-quality two-way interactive switched voice or data communication within the meaning ascribed by section 102(b) and (I) of the Michigan Telecommunication Act, Public Act No. 179 of 1991 (MCL 484.2101 et seq.).

MPSC means the Michigan Public Service Commission.

*Pay-per-view* means cable services through an arrangement under which a charge is made on a per-program or per-diem basis to a subscriber for receiving a television program or programs or other service not a part of the basic cable service.

Pay TV means an arrangement under which a channel is offered to subscribers at a single price per channel.

*Person* means a natural person, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, municipal corporation, unit of government, or any other legal entity.

*Private telecommunication services* means services offered to customers for the transmission of two-way interactive communication and associated usage.

Private telecommunication system means any wired communications services, equipment, facilities or network not specifically the public network of a local exchange carrier or part of a cable system franchised by the city providing high-speed, high-volume digital, voice and data signals that in any manner is connected with, occupies or uses the public streets, alleys, public ways, public places, or easements located therein within the corporate limits of the city, and shall include a private network offering private telecommunication services and video signals which are not deemed to be "cable service" as defined by this section.

*Producer* means a user providing input services to the cable system for receipt by subscribers.

*Public (PEG) channels* means channels which are dedicated to the public interest, according to the following categories:

- (1) Public access;
- (2) Education use;
- (3) Local government purposes; and
- (4) Local interest programming.

State of the art means a cable system with production facilities, technical performance, capacity, equipment, components, and service equal to or better than has been developed and demonstrated to be generally accepted and used in the cable television industry for comparable areas of equivalent population.

Subscriber means a person or organization whose premises are physically and lawfully connected to receive any transmission from the system.

Subscriber service drop means each extension wiring from the franchisee's distribution lines to a subscriber's premises.

Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act means 2006 PA 480, as amended, being MCL 484.3301, et seq.

#### Sec. 42-43. - Prosecution.

Prosecutions under this chapter shall be recommended by the city manager to the city council, and shall be prosecuted in the name of the city.

#### Sec. 42-214. - Reports.

(a) A franchisee shall annually provide the city within 90 days following the close of its fiscal year, a financial report of the franchise for the preceding fiscal year. The report shall be based on an outline or chart of accounts following generally accepted accounting principles and in a form suitable for the city adequately to enforce the franchise. The account shall also separate revenues allocated on a reasonable basis between the East Lansing franchise and any other franchises or businesses operated by the franchisee, and in the event that franchisee is legally authorized to regulate rates, shall separate overhead, personnel, and other costs on a reasonable basis between the East Lansing franchisee shall allow the commission to audit those financial and accounting records necessary to verify those records, reports, or certificates required to be filed by the franchise agreement or required by the city to enforce the terms of the franchise agreement, and shall make all of its plans, contracts, and engineering, statistical, and customer service records relating to its system available for inspection by the city. The due date for

#### **Powerless people, special interest proposals**

When our state Constitution's authors drew up the amendment process, did they ever envision the high-stakes special interest bonanza we're facing today?

Instead of well-meaning initiatives addressing issues unforeseen in 1963, we're getting self-serving policies carefully packaged by professional handlers bought and

paid for God Knows Whom? they did.

It's hard to believe

This November we're getting potentially six constitutional amendments and one referendum because a few deeppocketed entities see money to be made or,

in the case of organized labor, higher membership numbers to be gotten.

LE MELINN

Every single ballot proposal boils down to one special interest attempting to extract a victory it couldn't get out of the Legislature. Meanwhile, arguably the state's most pressing issues like road funding or K-12 education funding are passed over for another day.

Recent campaign finance statements show some entities are more transparent about it than others. Some have created pleasant-sounding secret groups like "Jobs First" or "Home Care First" to screen their money. Others are upfront.

Either way, the powerless people can expect to be forced-fed telecasted talking points in a contest over who can throw together the most digestible mish-mash.

Example A is this so-called "Jobs First" idea to give Michigan exactly what everybody's been asking for - eight new casinos on top of the 25 casinos we already have.

Jobs First LLC, a faceless entity created late last year by attorneys Michael Hodge and Willard Holt III, found \$2.5 million in petition-signature collection money to put this idea in front of us.

Will Jobs First publicly release its books so we know whose money is being speculated? Don't count on it. We do know a few existing casinos – Greektown, Four Winds, MGM, Firekeepers, Motor City are already spending money to protect their collective investments.

Another say-nothing group, Home Care Inc., is working out of the East Lansing address of Disability Services, which I doubt has \$1.84 million lying around. Yet, that's what was spent to collect signatures for a proposal giving collective bargaining powers to home care workers who watch over Medicaid patients.

It's hard to find the SEIU's fingerprints on much of their literature, but it's the only one with money out of the bunch pushing for this one.

Just about every other organized labor group - AFL-CIO, UAW, AFSCME, MEA, Teamsters, IBEW, the Nurses, AFT, the

Laborers - has skin in the "Protect Our Jobs" ballot proposal, which rolls back just about every limitation to collective bargaining ever passed.

It's been fought by, predictably, business groups. The Michigan Chamber of Commerce, the Michigan Manufacturers Association and the Small Business Association of Michigan, among others, have already spent membership money as part of "Citizens Protecting Michigan's Constitution."

AFSCME has its own special issue with Gov. Rick Snyder and Republican legislators. It's the new emergency manager law that allows appointed municipal bailout experts to revoke union contracts in broke cities like Pontiac or school districts like Benton Harbor.

While there are plenty of Detroit groups and well-meaning liberals against the emergency manager law, a look at the campaign finance statement shows only one entity giving money to the effort: the state and local government employee union.

Meanwhile, a California 501(c)4 called Green Tech Action is working with the New York-based environmental group Natural Resources Defense Council to juice up the percentage of energy Michigan must get from renewable sources by 2025 to 25 percent.

The Michigan League of Conservation Voters and the Blue Green Alliance are kicking into the effort, too, but the amount of in-state money invested in this one is less than 25 percent.

Consumers Energy and DTE don't like the mandate, which is why they're spending a combined \$6 million on the "Clean Affordable Renewable Energy for Michigan Coalition."

The Detroit International Bridge Co. is the only entity on the globe that believes enough in the people's right to say something about Snyder's proposed bridge to Canada to put money behind it. It's spent \$4.6 million so far and more is coming.

DIBC Vice President Matthew Moroun appears to have been so interested in getting the support of Tea Party people on this one, his side company is bankrolling an über-conservative's wet dream - a twothirds legislative requirement for any future tax increases.

Just about any entity that relies on the state General Fund for its existence is saying "no" to this one - the employee unions, the hospitals, the teacher unions, local governments and the corrections workers.

Does the average person get a better government out of any of these proposals? If you're affiliated with any of the aforementioned groups, sure.

But most people are not, which means we're being forced to take a side in somebody else's special interest.

(Kyle Melinn is the editor of the MIRS Newsletter. He can be reached at melinn@ *lansingcitypulse.com*)

#### **PUBLIC NOTICES**

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submission of these reports and the contents and format of such other reports as are necessary or

desirable for the city adequately to enforce the franchise shall be determined by the city manager. (b) Each franchisee shall also file annually with the city clerk copies of all rules, regulations, terms, and conditions which it has adopted for the conduct of its business.

#### Sec. 42-215. - Disbursement of franchise fees.

(a) The annual franchise fees shall be paid into the city's general fund and shall be disbursed and appropriated by the East Lansing City Council, without restriction, pursuant to the budget procedure by chapter 10 of the East Lansing City Charter.

(b) The annual city budget shall include a program or activity line for cable TV expenditures. Amounts appropriated by the city council for the development of the use of public channels, for production grants to users, the purchase and maintenance of equipment not required to be provided by the franchisee, and to cover overhead and other expenses with respect to the regulation of any franchises granted pursuant to this chapter, shall be included in the program or activity line.

#### THE CITY OF EAST LANSING FURTHER ORDAINS

Division 2 and Sections 42 -71, 42-72, 42-73 and 42-74 of the Code of the City of East Lansing are hereby repealed.

DIVISION 2. - Repealed.

Sec. 42-71. Repealed. Sec. 42-72. Repealed.

Sec. 42-73. Repealed. Sec. 42-74. Repealed.

Marie E. McKenna City Clerk

RFI/13/005 REQUEST FOR INFORMATION PERTAINING TO FIRST AID SUPPLIES / STOCK BOXES as per the instructions for responses provided by the City of Lansing.

The City of Lansing will accept responses at the FINANCE DEPARTMENT, PURCHASING OFFICE, 8TH FLOOR CITY HALL, 124 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48933 until 3:00 PM local time in effect on SEPTEMBER 11, 2012.

Complete RFI/13/005 document is available by calling Darleen Burnham, CPPB at (517) 483-4129, email: dburnham@lansingmi.gov, or for content and purpose of this request for information contact Kathleen Woodman at (517) 483-4012, email: kwoodman@lansingmi.gov, or ao to www.mitn.info

The City of Lansing encourages responses from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

**Notice is hereby given** of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Zoning Board of Appeals on **Wednesday, September 5, 2012**, beginning at 7:00 p.m., in the 54 B District Court, Courtroom 1, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

A public hearing will be held on the appeal of Joseph W. Goodsir, Jr. requesting a variation for the property located at 124 Center Street, in the RM-14, Low Density Multiple-Family Residential District, from the following requirements of Chapter 50 - Zoning of the Code of the City of East Lansing:

- a. Article VIII. Section 50-815(3), to permit new driveway paving to remain where all of the on-site parking and access facilities do not comply with all applicable Code requirements; specifically, the ground coverage exceeds the allowed coverage by 1.5%, the driveway is not setback a minimum of 3 feet along the entire property line and the required landscape screening plan has not been submitted;
- b. Article VIII. Section 50-816(4), to permit a portion of the new driveway at the northwest side of the property to remain less than 3 feet off the property line; and
- Article V. Section 50-403(2)(e), to permit the ground coverage to exceed the allowed С. coverage by 1.5%
- The applicant is requesting the variances to remedy violations created as a result of paving without the required permit.

Call (517) 319-6930, the Department of Planning and Community Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, for additional information. All persons interested in these appeals will be given an opportunity to be heard.

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

> Marie E. McKenna City Clerk

## **Closing the window on climate change** How much heat will it take to get fired up?







Jeff Andresen

Julie Winkler

Aaron McCright

**By LAWRENCE COSENTINO** 

There's a bright side to the hottest year in Michigan history.

love dusty Vinifera grapes Mediterranean places like Morocco and Portugal. The vines are sinewy and stoic, like my Sicilian grandfather. They didn't jump out of the ground during the record March 2012 heat wave, only to be killed by April frosts. An estimated 90 percent of the state's cherry crop and many other fruits and grains did just that, and were wiped out.

"It was a disaster for the fruit industry," Michigan state climatologist Jeff Andresen said. "We lost a large amount of our apple, cherry, peach and grape crops."

But take heart. Lots of tasty wine is on the way.

'There's a lot of real optimism about this year's vintage," Andresen said. "We've had a very warm summer, and the quality might be very high."

That's welcome news, because the S.S. 2012 Heat Wave is starting to feel like the mother of all tropical cruises - the one we've been told about since scientists began to ring the alarm bell about climate change in the mid-1980s. The wine bar is a nice touch, but excuse me, steward, aren't we steaming into hell? Where is the captain? Shouldn't we be doing something about this?

#### 'LIKE THE DESERT'

Jake Dunne, the athletic morning and noon meteorologist for WLNS TV in Lansing, cuts a dashing figure in high def, but last Wednesday he was in deep incognito, in a baseball hat and rumpled black T-Shirt.

"I'm not Brad Pitt, but I try to dress down," he said.

At the YMCA, at the store, even over family dinner at Applebee's, people have been collaring Dunne all year to talk about the record heat.

March 1, 2 and 3 pushed into the mid-

80s, breaking all-time records for that month. "Something that hadn't happened in over 150 years happened not once, not twice, but three times in a row," Dunne marveled.

That was only the beginning. "July was the hottest on record and the hottest month in Lansing history," Dunne said. "There has never been a month hotter than July 2012, any month, any year."

Dunne, an avid football fan, savors the stats. "On July 4, we hit 100 for the first time since 1988. We just missed it the next day, the 5th, then on Friday, the 6th, we went to 103, the highest temperature ever recorded in Lansing history. We're shattering records left and right."

He explained that the winter of 2011-2012, the fourth mildest in the state's history, was a perfect setup.

"We came out of spring without the snow pack we usually have," Dunne explained. "Our ground was already dry."

hottest in the past 125 years, at least. So we are definitely heading up.'

But Dunne doesn't think human activity is fueling the cycle.

"My official stance is that yes, the globe is warming, and no, we're not nearly as responsible as you're being led to believe," he said.

Dunne has made about 400 school visits since coming to the Lansing market seven years ago. Mostly, the kids want to ogle his StormTracker van, but if the question of climate change comes up - and it's usually raised by a teacher, Dunne said – he tells them what he thinks

#### 'IT'S CRIMINAL'

"We need to have skeptics," Jeff Andresen said. "No question. But at some point in time, it's like in a legal court. There is a vast amount of evidence in the scientific literature that supports the link between

"If [climate change] didn't involve reinventing our energy economy, how we lay out cities, some companies failing and others winning, we wouldn't have a problem."

#### - AARON MCCRIGHT, A SOCIOLOGY PROFESSOR AT MSU

Dunne pointed at the window, appropriately decorated with wavy orange hot-coffee decals. We looked at the parking lot beyond, baking in mid-August sun.

"Dry ground heats up faster. That's pretty much what has happened all summer long. The ground is heating up like concrete, like the desert."

It sounded almost apocalyptic, but Dunne said that hot periods have come on in 25- to 30-year cycles since records have been kept in the mid-1900s.

"It's like a roller coaster ride," he said. "Our peaks are getting higher. This backto-back summers of 2011and 2012 are the human activities and climate change."

As computers improve and data piles up, Andresen said, the case for man-made climate change has only gotten stronger.

"My undergraduate training was as a forecaster, a meteorologist," he said. "I was skeptical of some of what I heard from people like James Hansen back in the 1980s." Hansen is the NASA official who testified about global warming before Congress in 1988, bringing the issue to public consciousness.

Responding to Dunne's argument that the data is thin, Andresen said temperature records from the Earth's past come from

"reliable proxies' like pollen counts and sediment cores.

"Obviously, we didn't have a platinum resistance thermometer set up, as we do now, but the proxies are fairly reliable, and many of them are in agreement," he said.

After talking with a few climatologists, I have formed an unscientific theory about them. These days, they all wake up in the morning, bury their head in a stack of pillows, scream "WHAT DID WE TELL YOU??" and then calmly go to work.

You certainly won't hear them crowing about the current hot weather in broad daylight. When NASA's Hansen released a study in early August explicitly linking recent heat waves to man-made climate change, many climate scientists distanced themselves, as if he'd passed gas.

"It is very difficult to link one of these events, like our heat wave in March or our drought this summer, with long-term climate change," Andresen said. "That is the standard response."

But then he let his hair down.

"Some of the increases in extreme events are consistent with projections for the future," he said. "We have to take it seriously."

Julie Winkler, a professor at MSU who specializes in climate change and its effect on agriculture, didn't take the bait either. "I am very, very reluctant to take a particular event and link it directly to climate change," she said.

Both Andresen and Winkler agree that human-caused climate change is real. It's just that they've been burned (and frozen) before. Blizzards of "thanks, Al Gore" sarcasm flew during the harsh winter of 2009-2010. In a December 2009 op-ed, U.S. Rep. Paul Ryan, named Saturday by Mitt Romney as his GOP running mate, deadpanned that "unilateral economic restraint in the name of fighting global warming has been a tough sell in our communities, where much of the state is buried under snow."

No wonder climatologists close the window and pull the spreadsheets over their heads.

To get some real heat out of Andresen, I

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had to mention his kids. Andresen has two sons, a freshman and a junior, at MSU, and figures there will be grandkids some day.

"My personal philosophy is, we have no right to screw up their life and leave a mess," he said. "That's what we're doing. It's my own opinion, but it's certainly isn't fair. It's actually criminal."

Struck by Andresen's show of passion, I suggested to him that the gap between the magnitude of climate change and the blah level of public concern might be the biggest failure of basic science communication since Galileo was put under house arrest.

"I would agree 1,000 percent," he said. "We have discussions about that on a regular basis, a great fear about that. We have to challenge ourselves to do better and seek truth."

Aaron McCright, a sociology prof at MSU and specialist in the public perception of climate change, finds scientists' Vulcan caution to be only the first in a formidable stack of stumbling blocks to getting the message across.

To begin with, the human brain isn't designed to solve or even recognize so huge and sprawling a phenomenon as climate change. We prefer shiny distractions, or, as McCright puts it, "dramatic movements of middle-sized objects that can be visually perceived," like footballs.

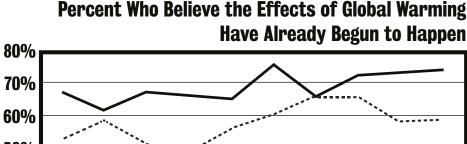
One middle-sized object people love to watch is a pair of arguing heads. I inadvertently unleashed some pent-up frustration when I emailed Tom Dietz, a founding director of MSU's Environmental Science and Policy program, and let slip that I had talked with Dunne. In less than three minutes, a tart reply popped into my box.

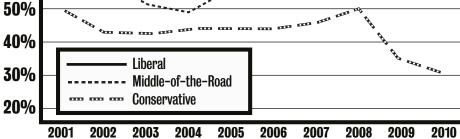
Dietz is tired of seeing the media orchestrate splashy Jello-wrestling matches, under the guise of providing "balance," by weighing the US National Academies, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and "well over 95 percent of scientists who actually work on climate change" against a "denialist," into which category he apparently assigns Dunne. (Dietz may have invented that term).

He thinks the practice is a major cause of American foot-dragging on climate policy. "Many people think there is no scientific consensus on climate change and thus that we don't need to act — both problematic views," he wrote.

The public opinion needle seems to have rusted in place. After looking at hundreds of polls and studies, McCright has found that public acceptance of the scientific consensus on man-made climate change "hasn't changed much" over the last decade.

However, McCright found that the flat average masks a "robust" underlying shift. While acceptance of climate change among liberals has gone up, it's gone down considerably among conservatives, and, to a lesser extent, among middle-of-the-roaders.





Source: Aaron M. McCright, Michigan State University, and Riley E. Dunlap, Oklahoma State University

MSU sociology Professor Aaron McCright, a specialist in public perception of climate change, found that the nation is growing more polarized on the issue.

What happened?

The answer is bleak. In an epic stroke of bad luck, a huge and complicated problem requiring unprecedented cooperation and consensus to solve came to light just as the national buzz saw of political polarization went into overdrive.

In new study covering the current heat wave, McCright is finding that political affiliation still has much more to do with public opinion on climate change than local weather, however weird. McCright's latest research isn't out yet, but a March 2012 study by the Yale Project on Climate Change Communication covers similar ground: Since November 2011, public belief that global warming is happening increased by three points, to 66 percent. However, belief that it is caused mostly by human activities decreased four points, to 46 percent.

McCright also found that women are more likely to accept climate change science than men.

"Men still claim they have a better understanding of global warming than women, even though women's beliefs align much more closely with the scientific consensus," he said.

(Dunne told me that he prides himself



#### on convincing his wife, a teacher, there's no such thing as man-made climate change.)

SOWING DOUBT

Last fall, McCright and his colleague Riley Dunlap of Oklahoma State University drew up a flow chart of what they call the climate change denial "machine," an array of influential, moneyed groups with a strong interest in sowing distrust of climate science.

"If [climate change] didn't involve reinventing our energy economy, how we lay out cities, some companies failing and others winning, we wouldn't have a problem," he said.

In the chart, arrows bounce among interlocking interests, led by the fossil fuels industry (ExxonMobil, the American Petroleum Institute, and so on), "corporate America" (Chambers of Commerce, manufacturing and mining associations),

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conservative think tanks like the American Enterprise Institute and "front groups" like the Global Climate Coalition. These, in turn, feed into an "echo chamber" of blogs, politicians and media.

It's nothing new for a coalition of conservatives and industry heavyweights to oppose environmental regulations, but the climate change battles have taken the art to a whole new level. The deniers' success, in McCright's view, can be traced to a lesson learned in the Reagan years, when the dead lakes, killer smog and other environmental disasters of the 1960s and 1970s were fresh in the nation's memory.

Suddenly, everybody was "green," seemingly for good. Republicans like President Richard Nixon and Michigan Gov. William Milliken made the environment a top priority and backed up their rhetoric with action. To this day, the out-and-out reversal of clean air and water laws and regulations or dismantling of environmental agencies is a tough sell to the public.

So the opponents of environmental regulations moved to a far more effective strategy. They conceded the popular goal of environmental protection while challenging the science behind its underlying alarm calls.

Promoting environmental skepticism, McCright said, has been a top priority for conservatives and industry since the 1992 Rio "Earth Summit" replaced the disappearing "red threat" with a "green threat."

"These fears crystallized around climate change," McCright concluded. And it didn't take much.

"They don't necessarily need to discredit the science," McCright said. "They just need to raise the questions. Are you sure? Do you really know? That's enough to make policy makers cautious."

#### RAYS OF HOPE

When Jeff Andresen gives talks on climate change, he tells the audience that projected warming could be largely averted if there were an international agreement on limiting greenhouse gases. Curbing harmful land use down forests, would also make a difference. "Everybody snickers," Andresen said. "It gets a laugh."

patterns, such as urban sprawl and cutting

But it's been done before. In 1987, President Ronald Reagan bucked his own skeptical advisers and approved a strong negotiating policy on ozone protection. He became the first head of state to sign on to the 1987 Montreal Protocol phasing out ozone-depleting CFCs, the most ambitious and successful global environmental fix ever attempted. With political cover from the Gipper himself, Republican lawmakers could vote safely for the treaty.

"With carbon, it's a lot more complicated and expensive, but there is a precedent there," Andresen said.

"We could slow the rate of warming and actually reduce the amount of ultimate warming if action were taken now. There's still reason to get our act together. It's going to take some strong leadership."

McCright poured cold water on that.

"We're not going to be doing anything bipartisan of any significance anytime soon on any issue, and we all know that for sure," McCright said. "That's just where we're at."

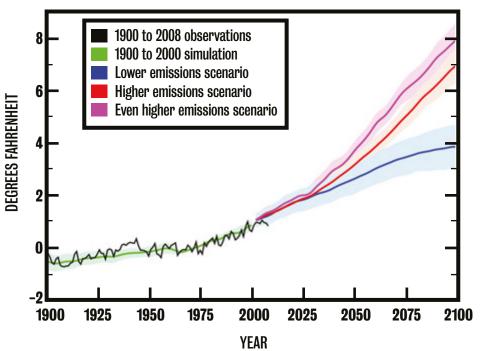
After talking with McCright, I was ready for my case of Merlot from Traverse City, but it was only 2 in the afternoon. So instead, I called Lorraine Cameron, an environmental epidemiologist with the Michigan Department of Community Health and champion of grass-roots action on climate change.

"There's a place for national and international policy, but we shouldn't underestimate the impact of local activities," Cameron said.

She pointed to East Lansing's Climate Sustainability Plan, adopted in April of this year, which lists 12 actions to help the city "strive to meet or exceed Kyoto Protocol targets for reducing global warming pollution by taking actions in our own operations and our community."

"That's where all the action is here right now," Cameron said. "Planners and local health departments aren't going to deny the connection between greenhouse gases and climate change, but they're not going to spend a lot of energy fighting that battle."

Local action is where humans' bias



Source: United States Global Climate Research Program

When Michigan's state climatologist, Jeff Andresen, gives talks on climate change, he shows this slide from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to illustrate how much the Earth might heat up under various future scenarios. When he tells people an international agreement to limit greenhouse gases would result in the lowest curve on the right, Andresen said, "everybody snickers."

toward noticing middle-distance action comes in handy. Besides, everything in the plan, from reducing sprawl to cutting carbon emissions to planting more trees and green roofs, ends up making the city more livable anyway.

Planners call these "no-regrets policies" that even skeptics are often happy to sign on to. In a 2009 Joel Pett cartoon for USA Today, a disgruntled critic at a climate change summit scowls at a list of talking points like sustainability, green jobs, healthy children, energy independence and so on. "What if its' a big hoax and we create a better world for nothing?" he complains.

I'm not a climatologist, so I can stick my neck out and make predictions. No, there won't be significant federal action on climate change anytime soon. But there will be great Michigan wine and plenty to do locally to combat global warming. And those consolations are not mutually exclusive.





#### 13

### B C A D B THEATRE FESTIVAL

#### Occupy Old Town Renegade Theatre Festival returns to

#### **Old Town with new live performances**

#### By TRACY KEY

This weekend, occupiers will fill the streets, overrun local businesses and infiltrate the vacant spaces of Old Town. This isn't a hostile takeover, however — it's just the seventh annual Renegade Theatre Festival. The free three-day event this year features over 25 performances scattered throughout Old Town, presenting a diverse variety of theater styles.

"What's so exciting about Renegade is that it's so varied," said co-founder and event manager Chad Badgero. "We have everything from a puppet theater all the way to musicals, cabaret-style performances, dramas with really serious content and even improv."

Badgero said that the ongoing motif of "anything goes" has kept audiences transfixed over the years, under the banner of "no boundaries, no expectations."

"Some of it is classic stuff, and some is new original works that have never been presented anywhere else," Badgero said. "One show even involves actual cooking, and at the end of the performance, they'll share the food with the audience. That's bound to be one of the most popular shows."

Each performance will vary in length from 15 minutes to two-and-a-half hours. The venue for each show will contain 50 seats, with locations including

#### Renegade Theatre Festival

August 16, 17 and 18 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Various locations throughout Old Town renegadetheatrefestival.org

outdoor areas, vacant buildings and local businesses that have been transformed into theater spaces. Badgero says that, as in years past, the event hinges upon the cooperation of the Old Town community and businesses.

"One of the reasons we have really succeeded in Old Town is because Old Town is so supportive of artists and creativity," he said. "If it weren't for the attitude of enthusiasm for creativity and arts in Old Town, the festival wouldn't exist."

Louise Gradwohl, executive director of the Old Town Commercial Association, also sees value in the unique opportunities that Renegade brings to town.

"I think it's a great event for our arts district," she said. "It allows for a lot of innovation and brings different minds together. Theater really opens your mind in a different way, just like different types of art, and I also think it highlights Old Town's cool assets."

The majority of the shows are intended for audience members 14 and older, and Badgero encourages parents to use good judgment when deciding which performances are appropriate for their children. He also said that if the shows contain adult subject material, there will be a warning before it begins. However, there will be special kids' shows on Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., taking a little guesswork out of the decisions for wary parents.

"We also encourage people to download the program beforehand and plan out their evening so they can get the most out of each night and plan what you want to see, whether it just be one night or all three," Badgero said. He said that first-timers may feel overwhelmed by the sheer number of performances, and that planning ahead can alleviate the pressure. Playwright/performer Fred Engelgau hopes that audiences will be scheduling in his original piece, "The Big Bump," which stands apart from all the other shows at this year's festival. Heck, it stands out from most performances in general: It's a puppet show.

"It's a takeoff on the '70's Blaxploitation movement," says Engelgau, who has performed at all seven Renegades with his group, The Puppet Theatre. "I worked on it on and off for about seven months and then it finally coalesced. It's all about that whole stab-you-in-the-back mentality of the streets, and it's got everything. Drugs, lost love, the mob. It's a real step out for me."

The plot revolves around that old movie trope about two friends who split up as kids, and one comes back to clean up the town, facing off with his former ally. He says it has a "bittersweet ending," and features adult language and themes (sorry kids). Engelgau works for the LCC Theater Department as a stage designer and carpenter. He said he was interested in puppets for years, but Renegade finally gave him his outlet seven years ago. He writes the dialogue, the songs (including melancholy love ballad "I Got A Man," the showstopper "Double Stacked," and the title song) and, of course, makes all the puppets and sets.

"I'm really quite pleased with the response I've gotten at past Renegade festivals," he says. "It's really allowed me to do some things I never would have been able to try otherwise." That experience could pave the way for a future in puppetry — Engelgau says that he recently secured a sponsor, which allows him to apply for a grant from the Jim Henson Co. next year. "That could open a lot of doors," he says.

At last year's festival, actor/playwright Brad



AUGUST

16-18

Courtesy Photo Actresses Danielle Silverman and Blair Wojcik, appeared in "Stop Kiss," one of the shows from the inaugural Renegade Theatre Festival in 2005.

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### FES AUGUST 16–18, 2012 OLD TOWN LANSING Ar)

CityPULSE

MessageMakers

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Gabriels Community Credit Union Kathleen & John Herrick Kirk Domer & the MSU Thr Dept. s for the Festival.

providing perfor

Old Town

ALANSING COMMUNITY

# THEATRE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE BOX

estival.org for the Visit www.renegadetheatrefestival.org ror latest schedule and participant updates.

# Renegade Evening, August 16-18

"The Ki	I heatre Devon Brooks m) "That's Life" nter Ruhala Perf Arts Center		deshow" "Based On A Totally True Story" Touch Your Soul Productions w" "Danny & The Deen Blue Sea"		"Comfort Food" MSU Theatre	"The Big Bump" The Puppet Theatre	n" "Wall-paper" e Katie Doyle	Le Treet N Cedar Street
"Surviving Lunch"	J-Michigan Family Theati "That's Life"(7:30pm) Ruhala Perf Arts Center	"Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner" Brad Rutledge	"Long Gone: A Poetry Sideshow" Karrie Waarala "Renegade Imorov"	Williamston Theatre		"Ludlow Fair" Leo Poroshin	"Tallulah In London" Riverwalk Theatre	ENorth St Eaver St Clinton St Clinton St Clinton St Clinton St Clinton St Clinton St
			ERY	(UPSTAIRS) TEMPLE (DOWN)	MEAT	MUSTANG	TALLULAH'S FOLLY	

# Renegade NOW: New Original Works

RED CEDAR	7p	7pm	9p	9pm
HOUSE	Room 1	Room 2	Room 1	Room 2
Thurs.	"Least I Could Do"	"Home Is Where the Heart"	"Working In Restaurants"	"ThinkTank"
Fri.	"This ls Not A Musical"	"Think Tank"	"Least l Could Do"	"Awake At Night"
Sat.	"This ls Not A Musical"	"Awake At Night"	"Working In Restaurants"	"Home Is Where The Heart"

## Renegade Kids, August 18

RED CEDAR HOUSE       SHOWS AT 2 & 3:30pm         Mid-Michigan       "The Bully of Barksdale Street"         Mid-Michigan       "The Bully of Barksdale Street"         Saginaw Actors       "The Adventures of Dr. Seuss - Abridged"
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## enegade Music, August 16-18

		6–7pm	8–9pm
	Thurs	Mike Vasas with Joel Kuiper Piano Pop	Redline Blues Rock Blues/Old Country
I UKNEK MINI- Park	Fri	Donny & the Dorsals Surfin' Oldies	Eric Jerome Brodberg Modern Country
	Sat	Tom & Mary Folk	Cuatro Sur Salsa
<ul> <li>Chrome Cat</li> <li>226 E. Grand River</li> <li>Mustang</li> <li>1215 Turner St.</li> <li>Red Cedar Friends</li> <li>Meeting House</li> <li>1400 Turner St.</li> </ul>	er ends se	<ul> <li>Meat</li> <li>1224 Turner St.</li> <li>1224 Turner St.</li> <li>Tallulah's Folly</li> <li>1220 Sweet B Turner St.</li> <li>MICA Gallery</li> <li>1210 Turner St.</li> <li>G Absolute Gallery</li> <li>307 E. Grand River</li> </ul>	H Perspective2 319 E. Grand River ■ Temple Building 500 E. Grand River ▶ Turner Mini-Park ★ Information Tent

EVENING PRODUCTIONS

RENEGADE MUSIC

RENEGADE NOW

In the midst of a prolonged family medical crisis,

new home away from home, and she's surroundlife. However, the real world quickly invades her love-struck daughter and a mysterious stranger. ed with her over-the-top family life, rebellious, welcome refuge from her increasingly chaotic iht: Annie Martin/Direc Kathryn Fuller regards the waiting room as a

## Based On A Totally True Story

Ethan is bombarded with life when a Hollywood producer decides to make his play into a movie, married woman, and his new relationship with he finds out that his father has an affair with a is/Playwright: Roberto Sacasa/Director: Dennis Corsi/Older Teen Michael is moving at lightening speed. Adults/100 min

### The Big Bump

ight: Fred Engelgau/Direc-Puppets take on "Shaft." A play based on the black-sploitation film genre form the 70s. tor: Fred Engelgau/Adult/40 minutes

## Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner: A One Act

marriage together, and dinner is shared by a pair ctor: Brad Rutledge/Adult (profanity of twenty-somethings on their second date. Two actors play all the roles in this funny, bittersweet is shared by empty-nesters trying to keep their Breakfast is shared by an elderly couple, lunch look at the stages of life and love. Play in Three Meals

## **Comfort Food**

and sexually explicit language)/1 hour

vast MSU Library Special Collection of historical American cookbooks. This comedic play traces the intersection of food and history back to the ywright: Rob Roznowski/ food and history/2 hours including talkback and food A world premiere play written to highlight the Director: Rob Roznowski/All audiences interested in first published American cookbook.

## A Creative Expression: Images, Sounds, and Words from an ACOA (Part I)

This play explores the secrets, fears, hopes and nammad/Playwright: Keesa V. Muhammad/ issues of growing up as an adult child of an Teen-adult/35 minutes alcoholic.

## Danny and the Deep Blue Sea

eek Theatre Company/Playwright: John serve begins to melt, and they decide to spend the night together, the possibility of a genuine and meaningful relationship begins to emerge-In a rundown bar in the Bronx, two of society's rejects, Danny and Roberta, strike up a halting conversation over their beer. As their initial rethe first for both of them.

## Patrick Shanley/Director: Chad Badgero/Adult/1 hour Ludlow Fair

Rachel is glamorous, fast-living, sometimes lost in her own self-dramatizations; Agnes is plain, matter-of-fact, her shyness masked by a kooky personality.

ywright: Lanford Wilson/Director: Leo <sup>o</sup>oroshin/Adult/30 minutes -eo Poroshin

Mid-Michigan Family Theatre/Director: Bill Gordon/All

ages/1 hour

Play deals with the problem of bullying in

schools.

The Bully of Barksdale Street

Have you ever depended on the kindness of The Kindness Of Strangers

strangers?

Brooks/Director: Devon Brooks/ Playwright: David Landskroener/Teen-adult/80 minutes

miles - one nearing the end of college and one far from

A tale of two brothers separated over thousands of

Awake at Night

New Original Works

the end of a war. It is a story that explores love and loss,

the regrets that haunt us at night, and the hopes that

keep us going when we awaken.

**Director: David Dunckel** 

Long one-act/Drama

Playwright: Ariel Vida

LONG GONE: A Poetry Sideshow This one-woman show tells the story of Tess, a compulsive and haunted tattooed lady in the

ywright: Karrie Waarala/Director: J.W. circus sideshow, through a collage of poems, monologues, and imagery. Basilo/Teen-Adult/75 minutes

My Life

A play, about a play, that might actually be a musical.

This is Not a Musical

Or... a play about a musical, that might actually be a

Playwright: Veronica Bialecki

play?

Director: Marianne Bacon

A one man story about the ups and downs of living with a disability.

Playwright: Tim Lewis/Director John Lepard/All Ages/50 m

Surviving Lunch

Play deals with the problem of bullying in schools.

Mid Michigan Family Theatre/Director: Bill Gordon/Older teens and adults/1 hour

## Tallulah in London

the Ten Most Remarkable Women in Britain. Her The young American actress Tallulah Bankhead room titillated the press - come join the party! Riverwalk Theatre/Playwright: T.E. Klunzinger/Director: most of the 1920's, even being named one of was the biggest star on the London stage for scandalous exploits onstage and in the bed-T.E. Klunzinger/Sophisticated Adults/1 hour

### That's Life

presented in the fall of 2012. That's Life features A teaser of the full cabaret act which will be

song-and-dance cabaret revue of classic musical MSU graduate Eddy Lee and Artistic Director Celina Matos Ruhala in an upbeat Broadway style theater and pop songs.

ing Arts Center/Playwright: Conceived by Celina and Mark Ruhala, Musical Direction by Jeff English/Director: Mark Ruhala/All Ages/45 minutes **Ruhala Perfori** 

"Think Tank" is an intellectual comedy searching for the

answers to life's great mysteries.

Playwright: Ben Blackman

**Director: Andrew Bailiff** 

Full length/Comedy

Touching on religion, violence, immortality and more

Enter the Think Tank where Ideas come to die.

Long one-act/Comedy-drama

Think Tank

## Renegade Improv

Anything can happen during improv.....ANY-THING

fanity and sexually explicit language likely)/90 minutes Devon Brooks/Director: Devon Brooks/Teen-Adult ((pro-

Wall-paper

#### importance of freedom and self-empowerment for remedy of her "nervous condition" after the Based on the 1892 novella THE YELLOW WALLof women." Jane is sentenced to a country rest PAPER by Charlotte Perkins Gilman, this work has been described as a "testimony to the

ing complete passivity. Locked in her bedroom, Katie Doyle/Director: Katie Doyle/Playwright: adapted by Katie Doyle from the 1892 novella "The Yellow Wallhusband and doctor forbid it, instead prescribpaper" by Charlotte Perkins Gilman/Adult/40 minutes the heroine creates her own reality under the birth of her child. She longs to write but her hypnotic pattern of the faded wallpaper.

musician, his Songs Not By Me project had Vasas Vasas has been releasing records since his teens. in Los Angeles. His progressive pop group, Mike Vasas and The Beasts of Burden, has performed recording and releasing 365 free covers in 2010. Mike Vasas with Joel Kuiper (Piano Pop) A Michigan native and Lansing resident, Mike Vasas has a style that cross-pollinates diverse Monica" were featured in theater productions at The Palace of Auburn Hills. An avid studio genres. Two songs from his 2004 LP "Grace songsnotbyme.com mikevasas.com

REDLINE BLUES featuring Lana LaReau & J-Stone Wicks will be performing a variety of old counsuch artists as Merle Haggard, Patsy Cline, Etta try, jazz, and rock blues, and paying tribute to A unique, soulful blend of vocals and guitar, Redline Blues (Rock Blues/Old Country)

#### This smokin' group plays a variety of great tunes from artists like The Beach Boys, The Ventures, with their own rendition of Don Ho's well-loved The Sufaris and other classic surf bands, along Donny and the Dorsals (Surfin' Oldies)

'What is really the least we can do for someone else?

Least I Could Do Short one-act/Comedy

How does it change when that someone is your brother?"

James and Jimi Hendrix. lanalareau@aol.com

Hukilau Song. www.donnyandthedorsals.com

ticipated sophomore CD "Fantastic" was released favorites along with captivating originals telling in the fall of 2009. You can find more about the Eric Jerome Brodberg (Modern Country) incorporates his love of rock and gospel music released his debut self titled CD. His highly aninto his live performances. His music will take stories that have touched his life. In 2008 Eric Eric's roots are in country music but he also you through decades of country and rock band at www.brodbergband.com.

apartment, both women will have to decide what each

wants for their future together—or apart.

Playwright: Alana Mancuso

**Director: Paul Bourne** 

Anna's ex-boyfriend is interested in buying the same

Cara and Anna are looking to buy their first apartment together after two years of dating. When they discover

Home is Where the Heart

Director: Ann Marie Foley

One-act/Drama

Playwright: Paul Bourne

(Folk) A Singer/Songwriter pair performing fa-miliar favorites from the '60's and '70's, as well as Tom Heideman & Mary Koenigsknecht singing in and around Lansing for several years. many original pieces. Tom and Mary have been tomhandmaryk@yahoo.com

## Cuatro Sur (Salsa)

area's many international and talented residents, citizens of Spain), performing a timeless variety Named after the main highway that leads into Madrid, Cuatro Sur is an authentic Rumba and of rhythms and melodies. mcabanas@msu.edu Miguel Cabanas and Norberto Aguado (both Cuban ensemble lead by two of the Lansing

> their pockets. After a night of wrought seduction with a recently divorced, laid-off high school teacher, Berdie is

forced to confront more realities than just the promis-

Playwright: Emma Jeszke

Director: Katie Bristol Long one-act/Drama

cuity of her young life.

and sex. Her other-side-of-the-tracks charm gets men

16-year-old Berdie is no stranger to lying, stealing,

Working in Restaurants

twice her age into bed and, secretly, the cash out of

## **Other Festival Offerings**

## **Renegade Kick-off**

theatres as they unveil their seasons and Join representatives from Lansing area Mini-Park/Thurs/6pm as we kick-off the festival!

## **Renegade Afterglow**

The Adventures of Dr. Suess - Abridged A handful of Dr. Seuss' best loved stories, told by

**RENEGADE KIDS** 

aginaw Actors/Playwright: Rusty Myers/Dr. Suess/

one actor, 5-6 minutes each

Director: Colleen Cartwright/All Ages/30 minutes

renegadetheatrefestival.org great year. Light food and beverages provided, all welcome. Location: Mustang/Sat/10:30pm Come celebrate the closing of Renegade's seventh season! Mingle with festival actors, directors, playwrights, and participants as we cap off another



#### Renegade

#### from page 13

Rutledge directed his original work "Loving Alanis," and is back this year with another new play – "Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner." It will be performed as a concert reading, with actors performing the script from chairs (as opposed to a staged reading, where actors move about on stage with scripts in hand) and afterwards having a talkback session with the audience.

"I look at this as part of the writing pro-cess," Rutledge says. "This is a fantastic opportunity to get feedback from the audience and Renegade draws lots of knowledgeable people from theater community with great ideas."

"Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner" is a one-act play told in three scenes, revolving around three uniquely adult relationships taking place during the titular meals. Breakfast is a monologue from an elderly man feeding his

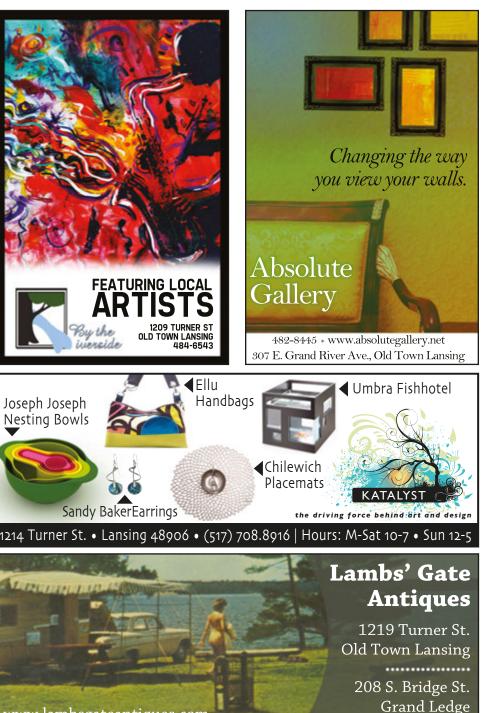
wife who is suffering from dementia; lunch is a middle-aged couple looking to revive their spark; and dinner is a second date for two 20-somethings.

"Two actors (Heather Kluge and Blake Bowen) play all six roles, and they've put all their hearts and souls into this," Rutledge says. "I've had interesting conversations with both of them and actually rewritten some of the show based on their input. This has been a process of discovery."

Rutledge says Renegade is one of the premiere festivals for upcoming local artists, and calls it " a great shot in the arm for the theater scene." And he thinks his show fits in perfectly with the no-frills nature of the Renegade Theater Festival.

'This show is theater stripped down to its essence," he says. "It requires good acting and people to use their imagination. It's heavy on guts, not so much on glitz."

(Allan I. Ross contributed reporting to this story.)





#### An unconventional truth

MSU prof raising funds for provocative new documentary on sexuality: 'This movie is going to be eye opening for people who don't understand progress.'

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those

#### **By ALLAN I. ROSS**

A year after Al Gore famously mounted his scissor lift to stress the factual threats of climate change in "An Inconvenient Truth," Oxford University conducted an international survey of people who had seen the film. Of those polled, 89 percent said it had made them more aware of the global warming problem, and an impressive 74 percent said that they had changed some habits because of the film.

Despite the overwhelming evidence, however, climate change is still considered a debatable subject (see this week's cover story). But if you want to dive into a really hot topic, let's talk about that old moral, political and social impasse: homosexuality.

However, Michigan State University neuroscience Professor Marc Breedlove thinks he can do for gay pride what Martin Luther King Jr. did for civil rights: give credence to a much-maligned minority to initiate real, positive social change. And he's using the Gore doc as a template. "Can

believe

when

v.

people were out-

raged in 1967

judges ruled in

favor of inter-

marriage?"

Breedlove says,

referencing the

landmark Loving

case that legal-

ized marriage

between blacks

and whites in

America. "Forty

years from now,

Virginia

#### Want to support?

The deadline to donate to the "Whom You Love" The biology of sexuality Kickstarter campaign is Aug 22. For more information on how to make a contribution, visit: www.kickstarter.com/projects/ marcbreedlove/whom-you love-the-biology-of-sexual-

orientation

"Whom You Love" lecture series Mondays at 4 p.m. in Wells Hall room 115B Sept. 10 through Dec. 10. Free and open to the public Full list of speakers and topics at whomyoulove.com

you're not going to find anyone arguing against gay rights, and those who are doing so now are going to be ashamed that they ever did. The only thing you could do in the '60s to rid the system of the really racist people was wait for them to die, but we've been seeing that people are changing their minds about homosexuality. This movie is going to be eye opening for people who don't understand progress."

The movie Breedlove refers to is "Whom You Love: The biology of sex-

ual orientation," a documentary that he hopes to make by raising funds on the website Kickstarter.com. His goal is to raise \$50,000.

The film, aimed at a general audience, asserts that sexual orientation is a matter of biology and not choice. The material will be drawn from a weekly speaker series at MSU this fall that Breedlove has organized. A roster of prominent experts from the field of sexual identity science to be interviewed on camera and lead an interactive lecture at Wells Hall. Breedlove says he's usually media-averse, but he was inspired after a recent speaking engagement.

"I was invited to talk to a group of medical students at Sparrow Hospital on this subject, and I found it surprising that the medical field doesn't know anything about this," he says. "I became convinced that there was a wider audience for these findings. Then I read a Newsweek article about Kickstarter and it really got me thinking."

Kickstarter is an online tool that uses "crowd funding" to finance creative projects. Like other Kickstarter users, Breedlove made a short video pitching his idea and setting his funding goal (\$50,000) and deadline (Aug. 22). He's hoping potential investors will find his project among the website's other ventures and commit to a donation amount, which could be anywhere from \$1 up to the remaining balance of about \$36,000 (he's received \$14,493 as of Monday afternoon). If he succeeds in reaching his goal, all backers' credit cards will be charged at the project's deadline and the movie gets its funding. If the project falls short, however, no one is charged and Breedlove will be back to square one. Whether he reaches his goal or not, Breedlove's research speaks for itself.

"We have proven that things that happen years before you're even conceived play a role in your sexuality," he says. For example: "One in seven homosexual men is gay because he has older brothers. It's called the Older Brother Effect. It's not learned behavior and it's not genetic it's hormonal. You take these same men with the same genes being raised in the same culture, and if their mothers had had daughters before them instead of sons, they'd be straight."



MSU neuroscience Professor Marc Breedlove in his office on campus. He is inspired, in part, by the quote, "Tell me whom you love, and I'll tell you who you are."

In 2006, Breedlove's research was picked up for a segment on "60 Minutes" called "The Science of Sexual Orientation." In it, he demonstrated how he could make a male rat act like a female rat simply by depriving it of testosterone, and make a female rat not exhibit typical heterosexual mating behavior by injecting her with the same hormone. He was attempting to prove that sexuality can be a simple matter of the way the body responds to chemicals.

"I can make a given animal as masculine or feminine as I want just by controlling when they're exposed to testosterone in the developmental process," he says. "The big question is, 'Is testosterone doing this to humans, too?' Up to 1998, I was a skeptic, but in the years since, the research makes the fact inescapable. To my knowledge, no one looks at this data and argues. There is no debate within the scientific community - it's settled."

Breedlove thinks that "Whom You Love" could get picked up by PBS or the Discovery Channel, cementing the shift in pop culture that has seen gay stereotypes in the media replaced by more balanced portravals.

"All credit goes to the brave individuals who are willing to come out," he says. "This is a crucial time in the acceptance of homosexuality. A lot of Americans – including religious people - are struggling with their feelings about it. They've been raised with one set of ideals, but these are facts that are challenging everything they think they know."

Allan I. Ross/City Pulse

Breedlove says the budget he has set for "Whom You Love" will be used to pay for the film crew's production costs, as well as his speakers' travel and lodging costs - "As well as a very modest honorarium." He will also have to pay for the rights to other media clips - such as footage from his "60 Minutes" appearance and the creation of original music and animation to make the film really come alive. MSU and several organizations there, including the Office for Inclusion, the College of Human Medicine and the LBGT Resource Center, have provided funds, and MSU has pledged to waive all bookkeeping and administrative charges for managing the money if he lands it. For a guy who calls himself tongue-tied and doesn't like to see pictures of him or hear his own voice, why choose a movie as his preferred platform to spread his message?

"I've had over 100 articles published in scientific journals, but they just don't have the same impact that a single movie could have," he says. "The power of movies is that you can draw people in and challenge their thinking much more easily.

"My dream is that this documentary can serve as 'An Inconvenient Truth' for people still harboring ill feelings about homosexuality. And public attitude affects public policy."

#### **'Like a death in the family'** Downing's strange, sudden 'retirement' leaves some at WLNZ in tears

#### **By RICH TUPICA**

Retirement after a 37-year career would typically be a celebratory affair, with a jubilant going-away party hosted by co-workers and management that would honor the decades of devoted service. That is not the atmosphere at WLNZ, Lansing Community College's radio station. Wednesday was former general manager Dave Downing's last day in the studio he built from the ground up, but the mood was somber.

"It's devastating," program manager Karen Love said during a phone interview, choking back tears. The two worked together for nearly a decade on the station's popular program Coffee Break. "He put the station on the air, he built it from nothing. So this station has Dave's imprints on it everywhere. It's almost like there's been a death in the family."

While a short news release distributed by the college said Downing "has decided to retire from the college," he and his coworkers seem pretty shaken up over this sudden departure that ends a career that spanned five decades. While Downing, 59, and his co-workers preferred not to comment on the reasoning behind the sudden exit, the "forced out" vibe is looming heavily.

Since Thursday repeated calls have been made to LCC President Brent Knight's office, but he has been either out of the office or too busy to talk about Downing. It leaves many questions about the future of WLNZ up in the air. As of right now, the station doesn't have a general manager, which doesn't necessarily point to a planned departure from Downing. But if he was forced into retirement, the college isn't painting the picture that way for reasons unknown. With Downing out of the picture, could the college be planning to sell the station or cut funding? If there are plans in place, Downing was left out of the loop.

"If they wanted to sell it, they could, but I don't know," Downing said. "There have been times where they've talked about cutting the funding, but not selling."

The release distributed (upon request) by LCC, closes with, "We wish Dave and his family the best as he begins this new chapter in his life." Apparently that chapter is looking for a new job.

"Yeah, I'm definitely going to be looking," he said. "Just a couple days ago I was elected to the board of the National Federation of Community Broadcasters, which is an organization of community stations. WLNZ is a member, I'm not sure if they're going to maintain their membership now that I'm gone. But I just got elected to the board, so it's really going to be exciting."

It's no surprise Downing was elected onto a prestigious broadcasting board. He's been at it for a long time.

"I got my first job in radio when I was 14," Downing said. "So I already had, like, seven years of experience when I left WFMK to go to LCC to run the station and teach in 1974. I had just turned 21."

WLNZ is a non-commerical station that switched from a jazz format to adult alternative format three years ago. The station currently airs on 89.7-FM from LCC's Technology and Learning Center building, but when it started, it was heard in only one room on campus: the cafeteria.

"That's how the station was when I first got there," Downing said. "It was 16 speakers in the cafeteria, which was the only place you can hear the station. The DJ was in the personal services building in a tiny little studio."

From there Downing began his mission of localizing WLNZ to the fullest, unlike the



Sam Inglot/City Pulse

LCC abruptly announced longtime WLNZ station manager Dave Downing's retirement last week amid a flurry of confusion and emotions. Downing served as general manager for the station for 37 years. "It's devastating," program manager Karen Love said.

trend of most stations.

"Our programming decisions and operations decisions are done there, at the station," Downing said of his former workplace. "At commercial stations they're done at corporate offices somewhere out of state. That's always been the selling point of what we do. When we're on the air, you know the programming decisions are made just across the hall. To me, that's where radio and broadcasting should be — local."

With WLNZ not being a concern anymore, Downing said in between scouting for jobs he plans to spend more time with his wife of 38 years and a more time doing what he loves: Civil War reenactments. Downing said he's even brainstorming ideas on how to keep alive his annual Old Time Radio show, held each year at Dart Auditorium during Silver Bells in the City.

"Audio drama — that's been a passion of

mine for at least 30 years," he said.

In the end, Downing said he looks back fondly at his years building the station.

"I can sum it up in one word, and that's 'satisfied," he said. "I feel very satisfied knowing I did the best I could do. I got the station going and a lot of local musicians were able to get their music on the air and exposed, which is something that probably wouldn't have happened otherwise. I'm hoping they keep that going."

Even though he may not be at the studio anymore, Love said she and her co-workers will always feel his influence.

"He is actually everywhere here," Love said. "He is a big history buff and loves radio, so there are old radios that he has collected all over the station. He kept a lot of equipment that is no longer used, but allowed us to put together a mini radio museum through the years ... so, in many ways, Dave will always be here."

#### New York meets Michigan

#### Trybe launches fall 2012 debut clothing line

#### By TRACY KEY

If you're looking to empty your wallet on superfluous fashion trends, outrageous "Project Runway"-style dress designs, and colors that would give hazard cones a run for their money, then Trybe, a new Lansing-based line of women's clothing definitely isn't for you.

"When we were designing clothes for Trybe, we thought about what it is that women would want to wear every day, whether they're at work, at home or going out to dinner," said Trybe lead designer Rebecca Clark. "We want you to throw it on and feel like yourself, so we used classic shapes, soft fabrics and designs with a lot of drape and pleats. It's simple and not overly trendy, but it's modern."

Trybe's simple yet flattering clothing line was designed by and for women under the creative direction of Clark, who has designed for a variety of legends in the New York fashion industry, including Vera Wang, Daisy Fuentes, Lori Goldstein and Jill Stuart. All Trybe clothing is designed and sampled in Lansing and produced 100 percent in the United States, meaning no Italian leather pants or luxurious haute couture jackets from France will be found here. The roots run locally for this budding brand. Both Clark and Trybe CEO Molly Kircher began their journeys in Michigan as workers in Michigan-based businesses.

"We grew up in small towns and had large and loving families," wrote Kircher in a recent press release. "We've lived in the city, we've traveled extensively and we're involved in the multitude of activities that so many

See Clothing Line, Page 19

er n n d e t e t e t y

Courtesy Photo Rebecca Clark (left) and Molly Kircher launched the new Trybe fashion design company out of the John Bean Building on Cedar Street in Lansing. "We're committed to Michigan," Clark says.

#### **Clothing Line**

#### from page 18

women we know take on these days: family, work, community, social and political causes, education charity and more. Along the way we've distilled what we think is important — loving what you do and who you are, and sharing that with the world."

Clark agreed, explaining that she believes Michigan holds a tremendous potential for developing a local fashion scene, and that it has several advantages over busy and bustling Big Apple.

"I've done the New York thing and it was great, but a decade there was enough," she said. "We're committed to Michigan. It's part of who we are, and we want to give back to the economy here."

Clark said the fall 2012 debut collection is very "neutral-driven," centered around a natural color palette with splashes of rich earth tones, such as burnt orange, turquoise, sapphire and plum. She said the designs of the dresses, tops, pants and jacket, combined with the warm colors, will ensure that "the clothing accents the woman, instead of the woman accenting the clothes." In other words, toxic neons and seizure-inducing prints are a no-go for these practical pieces.

Many times, you'll be forced to part with a pretty penny if you want to wear what's in this season, but cost-conscious women who want to dress beautiful on a budget will rejoice at the reasonable pricing of Trybe clothing.

"A major aspect of our line is that we want to remain affordable," Clark said. "It's really important to us that we offer obtainable clothing that our friends, family and people we know can afford to wear. Most of our pieces are under \$100."

Clark said she designed the Trybe clothing line with a 30-something woman in mind, "someone who is super busy working, someone who is mother and a wife, who has a million things to do." But she said that the line also has appeal for a much wider age range due to its flexibility and flattering silhouettes, which are meant to fit women of all shapes and sizes. Distribution began in early August in Michigan and the East Coast, and Trybe can already be found in over 80 stores nationwide, including local clothing boutique Grace in Old Town. That number is expected to increase in September when more retailers begin to carry their fall fashions.

"The Michigan garment industry can really come together and support all parts of the production process from the farm to the factory to the store," Clark said. "Michigan has this great feeling of people working together and a general attitude of supporting one another, and that great Michigan spirit will help this state become known as one of the great garment hubs in the country."

#### If You Brew It, They Will Come Lansing Beer Week taps a keg

#### **By RICH TUPICA**

For the casual beer drinker, the story behind the ice-cold suds they just ordered at their local watering hole doesn't weigh too heavily on the mind. For microbrew connoisseurs, however, it's all about ingenuity and innovative tastes. To that end, self-proclaimed local beer geek Paul Star co-founded Lansing Beer Week to encourage that passion and to advance the artistry of brewing. The first annual seven-day celebration kicks off this Sunday at bars and various locations across the city featuring a bar crawl, a bar-themed bike ride, tap takeover bar events, beer and food pairings, a beer tasting boat cruise, and a brewery bus tour - all highlighting Michigan made beers and supportive local businesses.

"Being a beer enthusiast is a lifestyle," Star said. "It's appreciation for good food and a good beer — they go hand in hand. Most people think wine pairs better with food but that's actually wrong. Brewing is essentially cooking. As much as a chef is an artist, a brewer is an artist. People appreciate the flavors. Personally, I just can't drink Bud Light. After a while you're just like, "Wow, this does not taste good at all."

Star, 29, is known in the brew community for his "I'm a Beer Hound" website. He organized the event with fellow beer lover Steve Johnson, 39, who hosts the Motor City Brew Tours in the Detroit area. The idea for the weeklong celebration began to take shape after Star and Johnson met at the U.P. Fall Beer Festival

last year and decided to team up to create a multifaceted event that brings people out to different beer-friendly spots.

Lansing Beer Week will have plenty of sam-

#### 1st Annual Lansing Beer Week

Aug. 19-25 Various locations around town lansingbeerweek.com

• Aug 19: Reno's East-2-West Bike Ride starting @ Reno's Sport Bars (10 a.m.)

• Aug 20: Retail MI Beer Sampling Day: Big Ten, East Lansing Food Co-op, Vine & Brew

• Aug 21: Tap Takeover Bar Event Day @ Crunchy's, Beggar's Banquet (7 p.m.)

Aug 22: Beer & Food Pairing @ REO Town Pub (6 p.m. - 8 p.m.)
Aug 23: Craft Beer Bar Crawl @ Lansing's Stadium District (6 p.m. - 10 p.m.)
Aug 04: Deep Topting Dept Opting @ Michigan Princess

 Aug 24: Beer Tasting Boat Cruise @ Michigan Princess Riverboat (6 p.m. to 10 p.m.)

• Aug 25: Brewery Bus Tour @ Barn Tavern, Eagle Monk Brewery, BAD Brewery (11 a.m. – 4 p.m.) ples from a long list of breweries at many of the planned events, but Johnson said attendees don't have to be a beer snob.

"Sampling is what craft beer fans love to do," Johnson said. "The average beer drinker often sticks to one beer; the average craft beer drinker is always trying new things. What I'm trying to do with all the events I run is bridge that gap. I'm a big fan of craft beer, but I want Lansing Beer Week to be approachable so people who are just kind of sticking their toe in the water can feel comfortable and sample new things."

While Lansing may not compare to the booming number of breweries in the west and southeast regions of the state, Johnson said the escalating success of Michigan microbrews is a collective effort from all parts of the Mitten.

"A lot of it revolves around metro Detroit and Grand Rapids, but you're having small little pockets pop up as well," Johnson said. "Areas like Lansing are starting to take an interest in it. For example, BAD Brewery recently opened in Mason and ran through all of their beer. It shows that there's people and smaller communi-

ties that support it. It's kind of like, 'If you build it, they will come."

As for Star and his "I'm a Beer Hound" site, it has grown steadily since its July 2010 launch. The site has multiple writers and features articles, previews, reviews, recipes, and a comprehensive event calendar. Last week the "I am a Beer Hound" TV series premiered on WHTV, MY18. The site's Facebook page has over 10,000 followers.

"I started

'ImABeerHound' because I wanted information about craft beer and I found there wasn't a lot of sites out there," Star said. "So I figured I'd create a site and maybe sometime down the road it could be a source of income. That was my goal for it. It's been growing ever since."

While Michigan Brewing Co. in Webberville closed its doors back in April, the brew industry isn't drying up in Mid-Michigan. Eagle Monk, a new Lansing brewery, is opening at 4906 W. Mt. Hope Hwy. this week. And high-profile microbrew companies from across the map are tapping into the Lansing market, with New Belgium Brewery in Colorado set to introduce its Fat Tire beer in the capital city.

"Lansing has some pretty good beer bars, like Crunchy's, Soup Spoon, and the Waterfront Bar," Star said. "But Lansing is really lacking in the whole brewery feel. I'm excited about Eagle Monk opening up; I think they're going to do a lot of good things. I think Lansing, in a few years, could have four or five breweries. There is a lot of room to grow here. I hope it does."

Rich Tupica/City Pulse

I'm A Beer Hound Founder Paul Star with his beverage of choice. Star has taken his love for beer to the web, to television, and next week he launches a weeklong celebration of suds.







Bill Castanier/City Pulse

The sexually

explicit "Fifty Shades of

Grey" book

prominently

on display

bookstore

reserved for Harry

Potter.

shelves once

on

series is

#### The **Sexperts** Local panel discusses inflammatory book series next week

#### **By BILL CASTANIER**

The window at Barnes & Noble in the Lansing Mall beckons the mall walkers like a suburban siren with more than 50 copies of "Fifty Shades of Grey" proudly on display. Since it first appeared as an online-only fan fiction spin-off of the "Twilight" series, British author E.L. James' lurid novel series, which includes the two sequels "Fifty Shades Darker" and "Fifty Shades Free," has become an unprecedented publishing phenomena. Combined, they have sold more than 40 million print and e-book copies worldwide, with half of that sold in the U.S. alone.

So why have these books about the contrac-

SCHULER BOOKS

#### =೮ Music= **COMING SOON** to Schuler of Lansing (f\*rls' N\*ght ()ut presents SB&M TALKS BDSM: 50 Shades of Grey **Panel Discussion!**

Everyone's reading it, so let's talk about it!

Our panel features four women with a unique perspective on 50 Shades, erotica and sexuality. Darci Doll is a philosopher whose work has been published in the anthology Porn - Philosophy for Everyone: How to Think With Kink; Carah Kristel is an active member of the BDSM community and a kink educator; Dawne Prochilo is an Erotic Romance author & sex advice writer; and Jennifer Schwartz is a social worker, whose therapeutic work focuses on sex therapy, treatment of sexual dysfunction and trauma.

We'll have goodies to share and books to recommend, so save the date for this fun, frisky event! 7pm Wed. August 22

For more information, visit www.schulerbooks.com

#### tual BDSM relationship between Christian Grey and his muse Ana set pop culture on fire? At 7 p.m. on Aug. 22, Schuler Books in the Eastwood Towne Center hopes to answer that question with a panel discussion of local "sexperts." The panel will feature Michigan romantic erotica author Dawne Prochilo; Carah Kristel, a Lansing-area risqué sex educator and active member of the BDSM community; and Ph.D candidates Darci Doll (gender and sexuality) and Jennifer Schwartz (sex therapy).

en are reading the book because today's women "are more fluid in their sexuality and more experimental."

"The book's popularity is also a public sanction to read it and talk about it," Schwartz said. However, she cautions readers against believing they can replicate the steamy, frequent and sometimes acrobatic sex described in the book.

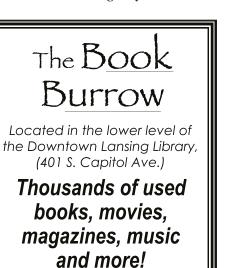
probably possible for all folks," she said. "If people read it as a standard, they are setting themselves up for failure."

sex scenes in the book go beyond unrealistic

Schwartz said from her perspective wom-

"I think not all the sex acts in the book are

Kristel says that from her experience, the



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and enter the world of actual risk if they try this at home.

"Some of the acts described in the book can be dangerous if they are not done right," she said. She believes that in many ways the book does a disservice to the BDSM community in the way it characterizes those activities.

Prochilo, who has written 15 romance and erotic romance novels, some with some serious heavy breathing, said she believes that women are drawn to these books because they don't have romance in their own lives and don't have their sexual needs met in real life.

"They are drawn to the books to escape the humdrum of life and to get into sexual experiences they never have had before," she says. "A lot of women want their men in control within boundaries."

Prochilo manages numerous romance blogs and is a consultant to the publishing industry. She said romance books are rated by "flames" from one to five with a "five flame" book being the hottest. Prochilo (who rates "Fifty Shades" as a "four flame") says that in the last two years, erotic romance has become a powerhouse of a genre especially driven by the growth of e-books. Most local libraries and retail outlets also carry the book, with the exception of WalMart and Meijer, which claim "family values" for not carrying it. (One would hardly say that the "Dragon Tattoo" series sold in both stores falls under any family values moniker.)

"Our writing has come a long way since it was called smut," says Prochilo. Although Schuler does not release actual sales totals for books, local managers report that sales of "Fifty Shades" are "amazing."

Schwartz said she is in favor of any book that gives people an opportunity to talk about sex, sexuality and issues of consent. That includes how consent is presented in "Fifty Shades" (Christian is the Dominant and has Anastasia sign a contract listing what is acceptable activity and what is not), which is a critical issue for Kristel, who says the relationship between the two main characters is not a healthy one.

"That is not how BDSM should work," she said. "Christian is a stalker who seems very manipulative,

and the sex is not **SB&M** Talks BDSM realistic." (And, frankly, neither is the scene where Grey stops into a hardware store

where Anastasia

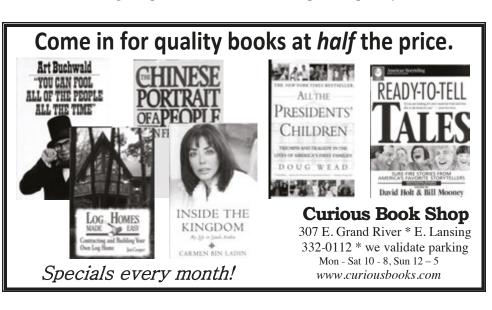
works to buy his

A "Fifty Shades of Grey" Panel Discussion 7 p.m. Aug. 22 Schuler Books & Music 2820 Towne Center Blvd Lansing

bondage supplies, such as plastic ties, masking tape and rope.) She does believe that the book might lead to other people being open to alternative relationships.

"Hopefully, there will be more people to play," she says.

There are already numerous knock-off books, and soon there will be a soundtrack of classical music based on the book as well as a feature film. The one thing for sure is that "Fifty Shades" has made E.L. James, who eats Nutella right out of the jar, a multimillionaire in short order. A signed copy of the trilogy is available on Abebooks.com for just under \$150. Whips sold separately.



#### SAVAGE LOVE Beginning this week, "Savage Love," which appears weekly, replaces "The Advice Goddess,"

which can be read online at www.advicegoddess.com.



Q: I've been confused about my sexuality for two years. I am a 22-year-old female. I liked guys when I was in school, but then, in perhaps the most stereotypical of fashions, I developed a HUGE crush on

DAN SAVAGE

Tegan and Sara when I was nearly 20. I like the idea of being with women, but I have never had a major crush on anyone since. So I'm really confused over what my sexual orientation actually is. I know many hetero-identifying people experience samesex crushes, but can someone's whole sexual orientation just change overnight? My confusion is compounded by the fact that I've never even held someone's hand, been kissed, or done anything else. I really want to experience such things, have an awesome relationship, and generally just stop feeling like a complete loser.

-Any help appreciated! Awfully Nervous Over Newness

A: "When I was young, I dated boys," said Tegan Quin, one half of the popular indie duo that prompted you to question your sexuality. "I never thought about love or being 'in love.' And I never thought about sexuality. I was lucky to have a group of friends much more interested in each other than dating. And so I was fairly untroubled about my status. Until I kissed a girl. Then I knew who I really was. I was gav,"

Oh, hey, I hope you don't mind that I shared vour letter with Tegan and Sara, ANON. I figured you might appreciate getting some advice directly from your potentially life-altering crush.

Like you, ANON, Tegan used to assume she was straight. "I'd gone most of my teens crushing on guys like Jared Leto, thinking that must make me straight," says Tegan. "Even though secretly I was dreaming of make-outs with Claire Danes. I thought my crush on Jared Leto vetoed my secret girl crush on Claire Danes. Maybe that was society weighing down on me. Perhaps it was peer pressure keeping me inside the lines of heterosexuality. Or, likely, I just liked them both."

Based on your letter, ANON, Tegan suspects that you might like both.

"Sexuality is not hard lines," says Tegan. "It's not black and white. Not for all of us, anyway. Some people know their whole lives who they are. Some people don't. My advice: Go and kiss a girl, go and hold a boy's hand. Don't worry about who you are until you find out what you like. Maybe you'll like both—and yay if that's the way it turns out, because that means you have twice as many people to fall in love with."

And while Tegan doesn't think a person's sexuality can change overnight, she believesshe knows from personal experience-that a person's awareness of their sexuality can change overnight. "You can have an awakening," says Tegan. "Like I did when I first kissed a girl. A whole new world can absolutely be waiting for you if you end up feeling up to exploring it. Good luck!'

Tegan and Sara's newest album is Get Along,

and they're about to embark on a tour of North America. For info, tour dates, music, merch, and more, go to www.teganandsara.com.

Q: I'm a twentysomething professional snowboarder. I have a problem that I don't really have anybody to talk to about. When I jerk it, I have to put a finger in my asshole to finish. I can't even come in a girl's pussy without sneaking a finger in my back door. I go to great lengths to hide it-push her head in a pillow, etc.-because I don't want them to think I'm gay. (I have no problem with other people being gay, just FYI. ) I'm pretty distraught that last night one of my chicks saw me do it! Today she won't return my texts. I want to convince her I was scratching an itch or something. How do I learn to come without prostate stimulation?

-Butt-Using Manly Man Entirely Distressed

A: I get a dozen letters a week from girls whose boyfriends "can't come." These girls tell me that their boyfriends get hard and stay hard and seem to enjoy fucking them-and fucking 'em and fucking 'em-but no matter how long their boyfriends fuck 'em, their boyfriends never climax. Invariably, these girls ask me if their boyfriends are gay. Because otherwise they would come during straight sex, right?

Your letter made me wonder how many of these girls are dating guys like you, BUMMED. That is, guys who need a poke in the prostate in order to come but either haven't figured that out yet or know it but don't wanna risk it in front of their girlfriends because their girlfriends might think they were gay if they did that. But their girlfriends think they're gay anyway-because they're not poking and not coming.

#### City Pulse Classifieds Interested in placing a classified ad in City Pulse? Call (517) 999-5066 or email adcopy@lansingcitypulse.com

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#### AVON

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So it looks like you're damned if you do, BUMMED, and damned if you don't. Stick a finger in your butt and come, and your girlfriendexcuse me, your groupiefriend-might think you're "gay." Don't stick a finger in your butt and don't come, and your groupiefriend might think vou're "gay."

A few practical suggestions: Get a butt plug. It's a butt toy that your sphincter muscles hold in place-picture a small lava lamp that fits in your ass-and once you get it in, BUMMED, it won't slip out. Provided your groupiefriends aren't touching your asshole or looking directly at it, they won't even know it's there. And a butt plug might help you break the strong mental association you've made between finger-in-hole and climaxing. A few dozen look-ma-no-finger-inhole orgasms, courtesy of a butt plug, might help you transition to look-ma-nothing-inmy-hole orgasms. Get a girlfriend. I'm not a noted proponent of monogamous couplinggo ahead and google me-so please don't dismiss this as standard-issue advice-professional moralizing. But you might benefit from opening up to one person, someone you can trust with your secret—that will require an investment of time and emotional energy, however. But the payoff could be huge. Imagine having sex with someone you didn't have to hide from, BUMMED, someone who you didn't have to worry about judging you because she understood.

Get over yourself. You're a heterosexual guv who needs to be on the receiving end of a little heterosexual anal play during heterosexual sex in order to get off heterosexually. There are lots of straight guys like you out there. Your sexuality isn't the problem; your need for prostate stimulation isn't the problem. The problem is your shame and vour desire to hide this aspect of your sexuality from your groupies and your bros. You may not be gay, BUMMED, but you do need to come out.

Find the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at thestranger.com/ savage.

By Matt Jones

#### Jonesin' Crossword

roll

TVP

lows

"Hybrid Cars"— I wouldn't drive these, though. Across 1 McMuffin ingredients 5 Canterbury title 15 Bunches 16 Little shaver 17 Hybrid pickup with really low visibility? 19 It's scored on a second 20 Torah repositories 21 Seabird that can be "sooty" 22 D.C. United's org. 24 Minuscule 25 ISP that used to mail free trial discs 28 It may feature a store from a mile away 33 Hybrid car that floats in the ocean? 39 Morales of "NYPD 18 Where many fans watch 38 Actress Cannon fortable jeans or shirts Blue" and "La Bamba" 68 Salt's performing football games 43 It may be worth one in 40 New York city on the partner, in a 1980s hip-hop 23 Heaps, as in loving or the hand Mohawk group missing someone 44 "Street-smart kid 41 Depend (on) 24 College URL ender moves to Newport Beach' Down 42 Hybrid car with a really 25 Banda (city devas-FOX series " (Alton Brown old sound system? 1"Good\_ 47 Bad guy in "Aladdin" tated by the 2004 Indian 45 Land speed record show) " (hit for Ocean tsunami) 48 "Bust 2 Unidentifiable stuff on a holder 26 Pretentious phrase of Young MC) 46 Pallid cafeteria tray 49 Spongy-looking mushemphasis 3 "Saturn Devouring His 47 Comedian Kennedy 27 Meat market specificaroom variety 51 She was Dorothy on Son" painter 50 Hindu god of war tion 'The Golden Girls' 4 It may be a-brewin' 29 "Stretch Limousine 52 Musician's rights gp. 53 "Supermodified" DJ 5 Legendary Notre Dame 54 Buster Brown's dog on Fire" folk rocker coach Parseghian Tobin Curtis 55 Netflix founder Hastings 54 Catch-y item? -tat-tat 30 Word repeated in 56 Since 7 Russian ruler, once 58 Trash-talker on daytime Duran Duran's "Rio" 57 Watermelon seed spit-8 Pawn 31 Permissible ting noise 62 Hybrid car that runs a 9 Super Mario 32 1981 Genesis album 59 "Motorcade of Generfew seconds, then stops, 10 Company behind Deep that's also a rhyme osity" band then runs again, then Blue and Watson 60 Perched upon scheme 11 Blue-gray shade stops again...? (G-rated 61 "Mazes and Monsters" 34 Kid-12 Tony-winning actress 65 Get past the highs and movies) novelist Jaffe Uta 35 Hockey legend Bobby 63 Get the picture across 66 "Right Now (Na Na Na)' 13 Junkyard emanations 36 Yelp of sudden pain 64 MCI competitor, way 14 Flower once a national rapper 37 Jazz legend Fitzgerald back when 67 Classification for comemblem of China

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**AUG. 18** 

AUG. 19

Listings deadline is 5 p.m. the THURSDAY BEFORE publication. Paid classes will be listed in print at the cost of one enrollment (maximum \$20). Please submit them to the events calendar at www.lansingcitypulse.com. If you need help, please call Jessica at (517) 999-5069. Email information to calendar@lansingcitypulse.com.

#### **AUG.** 16



#### A devotion to dance

On Thursday, Happendance and The East Lansing Film Festival will present a screening of the dance documentary "First Position" as part of a joint fundraiser. "First Position" follows six young dancers from five continents, ages 9 to 19, as they prepare for the prestigious Youth America Grand Prix ballet competition. The feature-length film documents their struggles and triumphs, and highlights the dancers' passion for success as they deal with issues of money, politics and war. Directed by Bess Kargman, "First Position" has already won multiple awards, including the People's Choice Award at the 2011 Toronto International Film Festival, and Audience Awards for Best Documentary at both the Dallas International Film Festival and Portland International Film Festival. 7 p.m. \$10. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. To reserve tickets, email susanwoods@elff.com.

ourtesy Photo

#### Wednesday, August 15 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-9
p.m. FREE. Vietnamese Buddhist Temple, 3015 S.
Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 351-5866.
Community Yoga. Power yoga class. 6 p.m. FREE.
Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.
Weed Warrior. Learn how to control common invasive plants. 5-6 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.
Judaism. Introduction to the Jewish faith. 6-7 p.m.
FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.
Grant Workshop. RSVP leslie@lansingarts.org.
8:30 a.m. FREE. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 702-3387 ext. 201.

on the

Drawing Class. All levels welcome, with Dennis O'Meara. 1-3:30 p.m. \$50 for 4 weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St. Lansing. gallery1212.com. **EVENTS** 

Kids Time: Ages 5-11. Help eastside youth to grow food, develop leadership and life skills. 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910. Practice Your English. Speaking and listening to English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. Allen Street Farmers Market. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE.

#### See Out on the Town, Page 24

#### Several items of fresh produce picked daily from our field.

- Green Peppers from our field 5 for \$.99
- Hearty Mum Plants \$4.99 each
- Thistle Seed \$1.19 per lb.
- Cabbage \$.29 per lb.
- Watermelons & Cantalopes small and medium sized from our field Bring this ad in and save 5%!

Lansing Gardens Farm Market 1434 E. Jolly Road, Lansing | 517.882.3115

#### Learn to be wild

Woldumar Nature Center will host a variety of activities and tours at its August Community Program Day. Guests can partake in a Wilderness Survival Skills class with Larry Martin, where they will learn how Native Americans made bows and arrows, obtained food, built shelters, harvested medicinal plants, created snares, navigated, created fire without matches and fished. The workshop will teach attendees how to survive using nature's resources and will include a discussion about which modern day equipment would be helpful in an emergency. Other activities include tours of the Moon Log Cabin and demonstrations by the Woldumar Blacksmiths. The program is open to everyone 6 years old and older. Participants should sign up in advance and bring their own lunch. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE, donations welcomed. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing. (517) 322-0030 ext. 11. woldumar.org.

#### AUG. 18 Festive and feminine

Women of The Greater Lansing Area are invited to attend the Annual Eastside Women's Health Picnic on Saturday morning. A health information booth will be provided by the Allen Neighborhood Center, and this year's keynote speaker will be Terri Shaver, who will discuss the Oldham Project, the nonprofit she founded that features moving photographs she has taken of people battling cancer. Guests can earn raffle tickets to win a basket of goodies for participating in exercise samplers such as a walking, tai chi and zumba — the more 10-minute samplers they engage in, the greater their chances to win. Lunch will catered by Gone Wired Café. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. FREE, \$5 suggested donation for lunch. Hunter Park, 1400 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. Call (517) 999-3924 to reserve a spot.



#### Courtesy Photo

#### **Pay it forward**

This Sunday, Bud Kouts Chevrolet will host the ePIFanyNow party, a family-oriented event open to people of all ages and cultures to celebrate the act of kindness. Guests will be given 100 ideas on ways to spread kindness and will then be sent out into the community to implement the ideas. After a few hours, they will meet back up to share how they "passed forward" acts of kindness. The Warton Center's Bob Hoffman founded ePIFanyNow three years ago. "The idea is to come together and create an energy of excitement," he says. "Enthusiasm creates continuous momentum. This isn't a fundraiser, or religious or political in nature. It's just like-minded people helping others for the sake of helping." 2-6 p.m. FREE. Bud Kouts Chevrolet, 2801 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 230-8807. epifanynow.org.

#### TURNIT DOWN A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE BY RICH TUPICA

#### 'NO F\*\*\*ING EGOS' ALLOWED

The Jackpine Snag, a Lansing-based grungy-doom blues trio, plays one last show Thursday before taking a hiatus from live gigs. The band is made up of Joe Hart (guitar/ vocals), Greg Lamb (bass) and Todd Karinen (drums). Karinen is also known for the releases on Silver Maple Kill Records, his own local indie label. One of the latest releases from the label was the second installment of "No F\*\*\*ing Egos: This is Lansing." The 2012 compilation disc, which is available at Flat, Black & Circular, contains newer tracks from area rockers like Frank and Earnest, Elliot Street Lunatic, The Hat Madder, and The Break-Ups. Headlining the show at Mac's is Dozic, a local metal/trash/stoner band. Fans of Kyuss, Morbid Angel and Slayer might want to check these guys out. Also taking the stage is local alt-rockers 80 Tons of Mercury and Dead See Kings, a Mt. Pleasant-based stoner rock band.

Thursday, Aug. 16 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 18 and over. \$5, 9 p.m.

#### OTEP STEPS INTO THE LOFT

Otep, a four-piece female-fronted alt-metal band, formed in Los Angeles back in late 2000 and was soon discovered by Capitol Records and Sharon Osbourne. On Thursday the band plays an all-ages show at The Loft. Otep, which is known for powerful live performances, developed its huge following after performing at multiple Ozzfest tours. To date the band has released five full-length albums and one EP. Since 2009, Otep has been on the Victory Records roster and released "Atavist" last year. Also



Big Perm benefit at Mac's

performing at The Loft are Butcher Babies, One Eyed Doll, Beyond The Fallout, Floodgate, and A Hymn To The Ancients.

Thursday, Aug. 16 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, all ages, \$15 advance, \$17 at door, 7 p.m.

#### INDIE-SPACE ROCKERS Calliope at (Scene)

(SCENE) Metrospace, East Lansing's cityfunded contemporary art gallery and performance space, hosts Lansing music scene veterans Calliope on Friday, along with Origami Ghosts (from Seattle) and Lac La Belle (from Detroit). Local favorites Calliope have been gigging for over a decade. The band blends spacey-indie rock and psychedelic dream-pop. Meanwhile, Origami Ghosts is the musical project of Seattle native John Paul Scesniak. The group, which recently released the "It Don't Exist" album, is known for its brand of light and poppy folk-rock. Lac La Belle is a duo comprised of Jennie Knaggs and Nick Shillace. The duo incorporates accordion, mandolin, and banjo into original and traditional tunes.

Friday, Aug. 17 @ (SCENE) Metrospace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. All ages. Doors open at 8 p.m.; music at 9 p.m. \$5 at door.



Root Doctor at Sun Dried Music Festival

#### BIG PERM HEADSTONE BENEFIT AT MAC'S

A showcase celebrating the life of the late Lansing rapper Cameron Doyle (a.k.a. Big Perm) happens Saturday at Mac's Bar. All proceeds go toward providing a headstone for Doyle. The event is hosted by local hip-hop artists Jahshua Smith (formerly known as JYoung the General) and SINcere of Mid Mob. The night will feature performances from the Blat! Pack, Harvey Lee, Jon Connor, Ward Skillz, J Money, Cho City, M.O.E. (of Conn Click), Pope Don King & St8 hood, DJ Carmine, and DJ Enyce. Doyle, who died at Sparrow Hospital June 2 after suffering a stroke, was influenced by legends like Pimp C, Notorious B.I.G. and Big Punisher, and became a pivotal figure in the local hip-hop scene after releasing his first mix tape in 2005.

Saturday, Aug. 18 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 18 and over. \$7 in advance, \$10 at door, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

#### SUN DRIED MUSIC Festival coming soon

Live music lovers may want to start planning ahead for the third annual Sun Dried Music Festival. The

free, two-day event hits downtown Mason August 24-25 and hosts a variety of sounds, including rock, blues, Latin jazz, salsa and country. Last year over 8,000 attendees made the event, which also features children's activities, merchandise vendors, and an adult beverage tent. This year's festival features performances from The Twangtown Prophets, a country band that's opened shows for Loretta Lynn, Clint Black, Travis Tritt, and Willie Nelson. Other acts include Orquesta Ritmo, Root Doctor featuring Freddie Cunningham, Showdown, The Ballinger Family Band, Backwoods Band, Updraft, Smooth Daddy, and the Kathy Ford Band. A second stage will feature local performers in between headlining acts, and a third "Kids Stage" will host childfriendly live music. To volunteer, fill out a contact form at sundriedmusicfestival.com.

Friday, Aug. 24 and Saturday Aug. 25 @ Sun Dried Music fest, Downtown Mason, all-ages, FREE, Friday hours: 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Saturday: noon to 11 p.m.



		To be listed in Live and information to liveandle by Thursday of the week	ocal@lansingcitypulse.com	WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TURNITDOW
	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
621 The Spot, 621 E. Michigan Ave.		DJ Radd1, 10 p.m.	Various DJs, 10 p.m.	Various DJs, 10 p.m.
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.			Homespun, 9 p.m.	Homespun, 9 p.m.
Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St.		Joe Klocek, 8 p.m.	Joe Klocek, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.	Joe Klocek, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Cloud Magic, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.		Tryst Thursdays, 8:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, Midnight	Smooth Daddy, Midnight
The Firm, 227 S. Washington Square		DnW Sound DJs, 9 p.m.	Various DJs, 9 p.m.	DJ Donnie D, 9 p.m.
Grand Café/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.	Driver & Rider Show, 7 p.m.	Kathy Ford Band, 7:30 p.m.	Karoake with Joanie Daniels, 7 p.m.	Capital City Groove, 8 p.m.
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	The Burnsides, 9:30 p.m.	Stan Budzynski & Thrid Degree, 9:30 p.m.	Starfarm, 9:30 p.m.	Root Doctor, 9:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.	Sonia Leigh, 7 p.m.	OTEP, 7 p.m.	Poor Young Things, 8 p.m.	
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Dozic & The Dead Sea Kings, 9 p.m.	Northpilot, 9:30 p.m.	All Get Out, 5:30 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic Night, 10 p.m.	The Hoopties, 10 p.m.	Frog & the Beeftones, 10 p.m.	Frog & the Beeftones, 10 p.m.
Rick's American Cafe, 224 Abbott Road	DJ Big Red, 10:30 p.m.	ICE DJ's, 10:30 p.m.	J.Y.D. Band, 10:30 p.m.	J.Y.D. Band, 10:30 p.m.
Rookies, 16460 S. US 27	Sammy Gold, 7-10 p.m.	Water Pong DJ, 9 p.m.	Karaoke dance party with DJ Klimaxx, 9 p.m.	Live Bands with DJs & DJ Klimaxx, 9 p.m.
Rum Runners, 601 East Michigan Ave.	Open Mic Night, 9 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 9 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog & the Beeftones, 9 p.m.	No Reason, 9 p.m.	No Reason, 9 p.m.
Uli's Haus of Rock, 419 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.			Benefir for Cody with Jamboozle, 8 p.m.	Super Bob & Past Tense, 8 p.m.
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive		Mike Eyia Quartet, 7 p.m.	Joe Wright, 7 p.m.	
Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert St.	DJ, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.	Bullwhip, 9 p.m.
Sunday Open Jam with Bad Gravy. 9:30 g	o.m., Green Door: Karaoke, 9 p.m. Dra	ag Oueens Gone Wild. 11 p.m Spiral Da	nce Bar: DJ Mike. 9:30 p.m., LeRov's Bar &	Grill: Open Mic. 5 p.m., Uli's Haus of Bock

Sunday Open Jam with Bad Gravy, 9:30 p.m., Green Door; Karaoke, 9 p.m. Drag Queens Gone Wild, 11 p.m., Spiral Dance Bar; DJ Mike, 9:30 p.m., LeRoy's Bar & Grill; Open Mic, 5 p.m., Uli's Haus of Rock. Monday Steppin' In It, 9:30 p.m., Green Door: Easy Babies funk trio, 10 p.m., The Exchange. Open-Mic Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Michigan Brewing Company-Lansing. Tuesday Tommy Foster & Guitar Bob, 9 p.m., The Exchange; Neon Tuesday, 9 p.m., Mac's Bar. Jazz Tuesday Open Jam, 9 p.m., Stober's Bar, 812 E. Michigan Ave.

#### Out on the town

#### from page 22

Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 485-4279.

Colonial Village Neighborhood Meeting. Every third Wednesday. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 482-5750. Dream Big Popcorn & Movie. Enjoy a PG movie. 1 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org. MUSIC

#### Jazz Wednesdays. Featuring the Jeff Shoup

Trio. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Gracie's Place, 151 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-1100.

**Concert in the Park.** Summer music series, with exciting new performers, lawn seating. 7 p.m. FREE. St. Johns City Park, located off Morton and Park Streets, St. Johns. (989) 224-8944.

Sammy Gold Band. 7-11 p.m. FREE. Rookies Restaurant, 1640 S. US 27, Lansing. (517) 487-8686. Sonia Leigh. All ages welcome. 7 p.m. \$13. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. theloftlansing.com.

#### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**DTDL Book Club.** Discuss Ann Patchett's "State of Wonder." 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Dr., Lansing. (517) 321-4014. **Baby Time**. Books and songs for ages 2 years and younger, with a parent/caregiver. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Dr., Lansing. (517) 321-4014 x3.

Lansing Area Science Fiction Association Meeting. 7 p.m. FREE. Buddies Grill, 2040 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 402-4481.

#### Thursday, August 16 classes and seminars

Water Media Class. Must register and pay in advance. \$50 for 4 weeks. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Gallery 1212, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 999-1212. Yoga 2XL. Learn to move with confidence. 7:15-8:15 p.m. \$8 suggested donation. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

**QiGong & Tai Chi.** Light exercises for those with physical limitations, senior citizens or just need to unwind. 8 a.m. Up to \$8. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

#### **EVENTS**

Youth Service Corps. East side youth grow food and develop leadership skills. Ages 11-17. 10-11 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community Garden House, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910. Karaoke. Every Thursday night with Atomic D. 9 p.m. LeRoy's Classic Bar and Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 482-0184.

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

Spanish Conversation Group. Both English and Spanish will be spoken. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. Mid-day Movies. Watch recent releases on the big screen. 2 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363. Bananagrams Night. Fun timed word game. 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495.

South Lansing Farmers Market. 3-7 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 482-5750.

**Moonlight Film Festival.** Outdoor movies on the big screen. Featuring "Big Miracle." 9 p.m. FREE. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Ct., East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

New Movies in Old Town. Showing "The Ambassador." 9 p.m. \$5. Broad Art Museum

Summer Annex (formerly Chrome Cat), 226 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 884-3900. **Colonial Village Walking Group.** Walks are 30-45 minutes. 7 p.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 15) **Beal Botanical Garden Tour.** Learn strategies to enlist a proper messenger to carry a flower's genetic code from place to place in the plant world. 12:10 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 100 Main Library, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 884-091.

#### MUSIC

Williamston Summer Concert Series. Music every Thursday through August 30. Tonight: iZwicky.
7 p.m. FREE. McCormick Park, located at N. Putnam and High Streets, Williamston. (517) 655-4973.
Sammy Gold Band. '80s pop rock. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Meridian Sun Golf Course, 1018 Haslett Road, Haslett. (517) 339-8281. reverbnation.com/sammygold.
Mike Eyia Quartet. Live music. 6 p.m. FREE.
Waterfront Bar and Grille, 325 City Market Dr., Lansing. lansingwaterfront.com.
Redline Blues. With Lana LaReau & J-Stone Wicks. 8 p.m. FREE. Turner Mini Park, Grand River Avenue and Turner Street, Lansing. lanalareau@aol.com.
Elden Kelly Group. Live music. 6 p.m. FREE.
Waterfront Bar and Grille, 325 City Market Drive,

Lansing. lansingwaterfront.com. **One-eyed Doll**. With OTEP and Butcher Babies. 7 p.m. \$17. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. theloftlansing.com.

**Deacon Earl.** Live blues. 8-11 p.m. FREE. Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave., East Lansing. (517) 337-0200. harrisonroadhouse.com.

#### THEATER

"Red, White and Tuna." Aral Gribble and Wayne David Parker portray the entire population of the town in this quick-change comedy. 8 p.m. \$20.
Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston.
(517) 655-SHOW. williamstontheatre.com.
Renegade Theatre Festival. A variety of performance styles from comedy, puppet shows, musicals, improv, staged readings and more. 2 p.m.-9 p.m. FREE. Old Town, Grand River Avenue and Turner Street, Lansing. renegadetheatrefestival.org.
LITERATURE AND POETRY

#### **Chillermania**. Fans of "Michigan Chillers" will enjoys games, snacks, and autographed prizes.

6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Dr., Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3. **Writers Roundtable.** Get feedback and connect with other writers. 6-7:45 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Dr., Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. dtdl.org.

Storytime With Ms. Deb. 10 a.m. FREE. Barnes and Noble, 5132 W Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. (517) 327-0437. bn.com.

Morning Storytime. All ages welcome for stories. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Dr., Lansing. (517) 321-4014. Michael Poore. Author of "Up Jumps the Devil." 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 1982 Grand River Ave., Okemos. (517) 349-8840.

#### Friday, August 17 classes and seminars

Oil Painting Class. Must register and pay in advance. \$50 for 4 weeks. 10 a.m.-noon. Gallery 1212, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 999-1212. Relics of the Big Bang. Emphasizes research currently underway at CERN. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4676. EVENTS

Summer Night Hikes. 7-9 p.m. \$5, members FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

#### THAT'S HOW WE BREW, STATE SIDE DELI & UNCLE LARRY'S RIBS



#### By ALLAN I. ROSS

Patrick Brazil recently added the new brewing supply store **That's How We Brew** inside his yearold, roll-your-own smoke shop **That's How We Roll.** That's just how he rolls, I guess.

"When Michigan Brewing Co. shut down earlier this year, it opened up the door for brewing supplies in the area," he says. "The closest other brewing supply store is (**The Red Salamander**) out in Grand Ledge, but that's a nice little drive. We're right in the middle of everything in Frandor."

That's How We Brew will sell everything a home brewer needs, including hops, yeasts, grains, stainless brewing pots, recipe kits, starter kits, carboy, books, and bottles. He joins the booming mid-Michigan microbrew business, and will partake in Lansing Beer Week with a beer tasting on Aug. 26 from noon to 6 p.m. He'll be rolling out his debut batch, a saison, which is a lighter brew similar to a Belgian whit. He credits curiosity as the No. 1 thing driving microbrew sales right

#### ERASER-FREE SUDOKU

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#### now, which has also led If you've ever been to the opening of not one stumbling around downtown Lansing after but two microbreweries in the last couple of a hard night of clubbing, months: EagleMonk Pub odds are you've delighted and Brewery in Lansing in the kickass smells of and BAD Brewing Co. Larry Piggee's food. He's in Mason. Brazil says he knows of at least two more breweries — an unnamed one that may open this winter in REO Town and the speculative **Gearhead** Brewery that is already brewing small batches and is looking to open in Haslett in the near future.

"I've hired three new people, and if things go well I'm already considering expanding my business into the empty space next door," says Brazil. "Business is good."

#### That's the spirit

Come fall, State Side Deli in East Lansing may be serving more than just the thickest Rueben sandwiches in townowner Spencer Soka hopes to be serving beer, wine and liquor, too. He told me he's seeking a liquor license for his 2-year-old enterprise and showed me some of the potential interior redesign plans if he gets it. He said he will probably extend his hours, too, although probably not to 2 a.m. If the license comes through, you can bet State Side will be a popular stop on future St. Patty's bar crawls — nothing goes better with green beer than corned beef. **Comfort food** 

**TO PLAY** 

the guy that works the smoker out in front of Downtown Subs and Salads every Friday and Saturday night, fixing up those awesome-smelling ribs, brisket, pulled pork, chicken breasts, hamburgers and hot dogs. His business, Uncle Larry's Ribs, has been cooking for about four years now, but I was surprised to see that it's never been written about — I was there last weekend, and felt like it really needed its praises sung. Ribs aside, Piggee's piece de resistance is his amazing macaroni and cheese, which is practically its own food group. He makes everything from scratch, including the coleslaw, baked beans, red beans and rice, potato salad, broccoli-bacon salad, and cornbread. The food's almost worth braving the crowds, and that's saying a lot.

That's How We Brew 3000 Vine St., Lansing 517-708-7548 thatshowwebrew.com 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sun. Uncle Larry's Ribs 216 S. Washington Square, Lansing Fridays and Saturdays 10p.m. to 3 a.m.

#### MEDIUM

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.

To avoid erasing, pencil in your possible answers in the scratchpad space beneath the short line in each vacant square. For solving tips, visit www.SundayCrosswords.com

Answers on page 27

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#### Out on the town

#### from page 24

Colonial Village Walking Group. Walks are 30-45 minutes. 10 a.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 15) Kids Time: Ages 5-11. 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 15)

Friday Noon Stroll, Bring friends, dogs, children or stories. Noon. FREE. Hunter Park, 400 S. Holmes St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468.

Move Out Made Easy. MSU students can donate items for reuse. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Bailey Neighborhood, 361 Bailey St. East Lansing. (517) 432-7527. cityofeastlansing.com/MoveOutMadeEasy. MUSIC

Northpilot. With The White Oranges. 9:30 p.m. \$8. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795. Montgomery Gentry. Live country music. 7:30 p.m. \$25. Genesee County Fair, 6130 E. Mt. Morris Road, Mt. Morris. montgomerygentry.com. The Square Pegz. Live music. 10:30 p.m. FREE.

Harper's, 131 Albert Ave., East Lansing. (517) 333-4040. THEATER

"Red, White and Tuna." 8 p.m. \$25, \$10 students. (Please see details Aug. 16)

Renegade Theatre Festival. 2 p.m.-9 p.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 16)

#### LITERATURE AND POETRY

Dream Big Storytime. Ages 2-6, can join for stories and rhymes with an "Around the World" theme. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

#### Saturday, August 18 **CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

Beginner Tai Chi. Can build strength and reduce stress. 8-9 a.m. \$8. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

Tai Chi in the Park. Meditation at 8:45 a.m., followed by Tai Chi. 9:30 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. Contact Bob Teachout (517) 272-9379. Relics of the Big Bang. Emphasizes research currently underway at CERN. 8 p.m. (Please see details Aug. 17) Parenting Group. Lecture and group discussion. 10-11 a.m. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

Keys & Navigating. Learn to type efficiently and control the mouse, 1-3 p.m. FREE. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 708-4392. Making the Most of Your Gmail Account. Explore the features of your email. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 708-4392.

#### EVENTS

Salsa Dancing. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$5. Gregory's Bar & Grille, 2510 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. (517) 323-7122.

Beer & Wine Tasting. Try samples. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Vine and Brew, 2311 Jolly Road, Okemos. vineandbrew.com. Habitat for Humanity Bike to Build. Three scenic routes, BBQ lunch and more. 8-10 a.m. \$35. Redeemer United Methodist Church, 13980 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 374-1313. habitatlansing.org. Urbandale Farm Stand. Purchase fresh produce.

10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. 700 block of S. Hayford Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3916.

Grand Art Market. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460. Memorial Service for Dick Clark. Long term Lasnsing resident. 3-6 p.m. FREE. Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-9910/. TICA Cat Show. Over 30 breeds gathered for regional and international titles and awards. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. \$6, \$5 seniors, \$4 kids. The Henry Center, 3535 Forest Road, Lansing. glaceshow.com.

Occupy Lansing. 1 p.m. FREE. Reutter Park, Corner of Kalamazoo & Townsend St. Lansing. Girl Scout Candle-Lighting Ceremony. 2 p.m. \$2. Museum admission: \$6, \$4 seniors, \$2 kids. Michigan Historical Museum, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 373-3559.

#### MUSIC

All Get Out. With Harrison Hudson, Death on Two Wheels and Junior Astronomers. 5:30 p.m. \$10. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795, macsbar.com.

Live Music at Altu's. Featuring a different music act each Saturday. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Altu's Ethiopian Cuisine, 1312 Michigan Ave., East Lansing. (517) 333-6295. eatataltus.com.

#### THEATER

"Red. White and Tuna." 3 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$22 matinee, \$25. (Please see details Aug. 16) Renegade Theatre Festival. 2 p.m.-9 p.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 16)

#### Sunday, August 19 **CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

The Family Show. "Space Chase," for children from pre-school through 3rd grade and their families. 2:30 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 kids. Abrams Planetarium, East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.

Relics of the Big Bang. 4 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 kids. (Please see details Aug. 10)

#### EVENTS

Salsa Dancing. 7 p.m.-midnight. \$5 21, \$7 under 21. Fahrenheit Ultra Lounge, 6810 S. Cedar St., Lansing. Capital Area Singles Dance. Meet new friends with door prizes. 6-10 p.m. \$8. Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 819-0405.

East Lansing Farmers Market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Ct., East Lansing. Stewardship Work Days. Volunteer to keep Fenner beautiful. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517)

483-4224. fofnc.org. Summer Sundays. All businesses open. Noon-4 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460.

Eastern High School All Class Picnic. Bring table and a dish to pass. 1 p.m. FREE. Eastern High School, 220 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 755-1050. Lansing Beer Week. Michigan craft beer themed events throughout Greater Lansing. Today: Bike Ride. 10 a.m. \$25. Reno's West, 5001 West Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. (517) 850-2563.

#### MUSIC

John Simpson and The Blue Notes. Live music. 3 p.m. FREE. Eagles Club, 835 High St., Williamston. imjassman@comcast.net.

Music on the Patio. Featuring Brad Maitland and Dan Wixon. 6-9 p.m. FREE. Waterfront Bar and Grille, 325 City Market Dr., Lansing. (517) 267-3800. Gospel Dinner Cruise Concert. Vickie Winans and other guest entertainers perform. 6:15 p.m. \$50. Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St., Lansing. (517) 391-4802. michiganprincess.com.

#### THEATER

"Red, White and Tuna." 2 p.m. \$22, \$10 students. (Please see details Aug. 16)

#### LITERATURE AND POETRY

Written In the Mitten. A panel of six up-andcoming young adult authors. 3 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495. schulerbooks.com.

#### Monday, August 20 **CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

Divorced, Separated, Widowed Conversation Group. 7:30 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal

Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272. GriefShare Seminar. A DVD series, with support group discussion. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 490-3218. Chronic Pain Support Group. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

#### **EVENTS**

Social Euchre and Bridge. No partner needed. Bridge 1-4 p.m. Euchre 6-9 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

Westside Farmers Market. 4-7 p.m. FREE. 743 N. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Lansing. nwlansing.org/ wfm.html.

Colonial Village Walking Group. (Please see details Aug. 15)

Kids Time: Ages 5-11. 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 15)

#### MUSIC

Open Mic Mondays. Sign up to play. Spoken word acts welcome. 6:30-10:30 p.m. FREE. MBC, 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 977-1349.

#### Tuesday, August 21 **CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

Water Media Class. Must register and pay in advance. \$50 for 4 weeks. 6-8:30 p.m. Gallery 1212, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 999-1212. Yoga 40. For ages 40+ 7:15 p.m. Suggested \$7. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260. Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Anyone wanting to lose weight is welcome. 7 p.m. FREE to visit.. Eaton Rapids Medical Center, 1500 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. Contact Judy at (517) 543-0786 Intro to Computers. 2:30-4 p.m. FREE. Capital

Area Michigan Works, 2110 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 492-5500.

On the Way To Wellness. Barb Geske provides nutrition and wellness coaching. 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. \$10. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 349-9536. Computer Class. Learn Excel. 7 p.m. FREE. Community of Christ, 1514 W. Miller Road, Lansing. (517) 882-3122. Speakeasies Toastmasters. Become a better speaker. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Bldg., 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. toastmastersclubs.org.

QiGong & Tai Chi classes. Light exercises for those who have physical limitations, senior citizens or anyone who just needs to unwind. 8 a.m. \$8. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260. Saving Your Memories in a Digital World. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 708-4392.

Microsoft PowerPoint Basics. 6 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6356.

#### **EVENTS**

Youth Service Corps. 10-11 a.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 16)

Compassionate Friends. For grieving parents who have lost a child of any age. 7:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. Salvation Army Community Center, 701 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 351-6480. 3-5 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130

Davenport Dr., Lansing. (517) 321-4014 x3. Colonial Village Walking Group. (Please see details Aug. 15)

Yawn Patrol Toastmasters. Celebrate this year's accomplishments. 5:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. yawnpatrol.eventbrite.com. DTDL Crafters. Conversation, knitting & more. 2:30-4 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3.

MUSIC

Jazz Tuesdays. 10 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. Stober's Bar,

#### 812 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing.

Eastwood Summer Music Series. Outdoor family-friendly concert. With Don Middlebrook. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Eastwood Towne Center, 3000 Preyde Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-9209.

Capital City Groove. Rock, pop and Motown. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-8555.

#### LITERATURE AND POETRY

DeWitt Library Book Club. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. dewittlibrary.org.

#### Wednesday, August 22 **CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

Meditation. 7-9 p.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 15) Community Yoga. 6 p.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 15)

Weed Warrior. 5-6 p.m. FREE.(Please see details Aug. 15) Near Death Experiences. On how it impacts reality. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434. Keys & Navigating. 6-8 p.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 18)

Prayer and Meditation Group. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.

#### **EVENTS**

Old 27 Motor Tour. Classic car show. Lansing Mega Mall, 15487 Old 27, Lansing Charter Twp. FREE to attend, \$15 if you want to register your classic car. 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (517) 881-2329. Kids Time: Ages 5-11. 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 15)

Practice Y= English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 15)

Allen Street Farmers Market. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 15)

Colonial Village Walking Group. (Please see details Aug. 15)

Teen Night at Spiral. Wtih DJ Alabama from 97.5. Ages 14-18 can dance in a safe and fun environment. 7 p.m.-midnight, \$10. Spiral Dance Bar, 1247 Center St., Lansing. (517) 371-3221.

Kids Lead Testing. 2-5 p.m. FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3924. Welcome Kindergarten. Children entering kindergarten in the fall can join for storytime, a craft and visit with kindergarten teachers. 2-3 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

#### MUSIC

Jazz Wednesdays. Featuring the Jeff Shoup Trio. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Gracie's Place, 151 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-1100.

Concert in the Park. Summer music series. 7 p.m. FREE. St. Johns City Park, located off Morton and Park Streets, St. Johns. (989) 224-8944.

A Plea For Purging. With As Hell Retreats as part of a dual farewell tour. 6 p.m. \$10 advance, \$12 door. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. theloftlansing.com.

Vital Remains. Live music. 8 p.m. \$12. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795.

#### LITERATURE AND POETRY

The Out of this World Book Club. Discuss "The Girl who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making" by Catherynne Valente. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org.

Girls' Night Out. "50 Shades of Grey" discussion. 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495.

Baby Time. 10:30 a.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 15)

Lansing Area Science Fiction Association Meeting. 7 p.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 15) August 15-21

#### Free Will Astrology By Rob Brezsny

#### ARIES (March 21-April 19): These days you have a knack for reclamation and redemption. Aries, If anyone can put fun into what's dysfunctional, it's you. You may even be able to infuse neurotic cluelessness with a dose of erotic playfulness. So be confident in your ability to perform real magic in tight spots. Be alert for opportunities to transform messy irrelevancy into sparkly intrigue. By the way, how do you feel about the term "resurrection"? I suggest you strip away any previous associations you might have had, and be open to the possibility that you can find new meanings for it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The game of tic-tac-toe is simple. Even young children can manage it. And yet there are 255,168 different ways for any single match to play out. The game of life has far more variables than tic-tac-toe, of course. I think that'll be good for you to keep in mind in the coming weeks. You may be tempted to believe that each situation you're dealing with can have only one or two possible outcomes, when in fact it probably has at least 255,168. Keep your options wide open. Brainstorm about unexpected possibilities.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Let's turn our attention to the word "mortar." I propose that we use it to point out three influences you could benefit from calling on. Here are the definitions of "mortar": 1. a kind of cannon; 2. the plaster employed for binding bricks together: 3. a bowl where healing herbs are ground into powder. Now please meditate, Gemini, on anything you could do that might: 1. deflect your adversaries; 2. cement new unions; 3. make a container — in other words, create a specific time and place - where you will work on a cure for your suffering.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Nirvana's song "Smells Like Teen Spirit" was a mega-hit that sold well and garnered critical acclaim. But it had a difficult birth. When the band's leader Kurt Cobain first presented the raw tune to the band, bassist Krist Novoselic disliked it and called it "ridiculous." Cobain pushed back, forcing Novoselic and drummer Dave Grohl to play it over and over again for an hour and a half. In the course of the ordeal, the early resistance dissolved. Novoselic and Grohl even added their own touches to the song's riffs. I foresee a similar process for you in the coming week, Cancerian. Give a long listen to an unfamiliar idea that doesn't grab you at first.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): One of history's most notorious trials took place in Athens, Greece in 399 BCE. A majority of 501 jurors convicted the philosopher Socrates of impiety and of being a bad influence on young people. What were the impious things he did? "Failing to acknowledge the gods that the city acknowledges" and "introducing new deities." And so the great man was sentenced to death. This is a good reminder that just because many people believe something is true or valuable or important doesn't mean it is. That's especially crucial for you to keep in mind. You are in a phase when it might be wise and healthy to evade at least one popular trend. Groupthink is not your friend.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): With all the homework you've done lately, you've earned a lot of extra credit. So I'm thinking you'll get a decent grade in your unofficial "crash course" even if you're a bit sleepy during your final exam. But just in case, I'll provide you with a mini-cheat sheet. Here are the right answers to five of the most challenging test questions. 1. People who never break anything will never learn how to make lasting creations. 2. A mirror is not just an excellent tool for self-defense, but also a tremendous asset in your quest for power over yourself. 3. The less you hide the truth, the smarter you'll be. 4. The well-disciplined shall inherit the earth. 5. You often meet your destiny on the road you took to avoid it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The Hubble Space Telescope has taken 700,000 photos of deep space. Because it's able to record details that are impossible

to capture from the earth's surface, it has dramatically enhanced astronomers' understanding of stars and galaxies. This miraculous technology got off to a rough start, however. Soon after its launch, scientists realized that there was a major flaw in its main mirror. Fortunately, astronauts were eventually able to correct the problem in a series of complex repair jobs. It's quite possible, Libra, that you will benefit from a Hubble-like augmentation of your vision in the next nine months. Right from the beginning, make sure there are no significant defects in the fundamentals of your big expansion.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): To some people, sweating is regarded as an indelicate act that should be avoided or hidden. But there are others for whom sweating is a sign of health and vigor. In Egyptian culture, for example, "How do you sweat?" is a common salutation. In the coming weeks, Scorpio, I encourage you to align yourself with the latter attitude. It won't be a time to try to impress anyone with how cool and dignified you are. Rather, success is more likely to be yours if you're not only eager to sweat but also willing to let people see you sweat. Exert yourself. Extend yourself. Show how much you care.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "Whatever I take, I take too much or too little; I do not take the exact amount," wrote poet Antonio Porchia. "The exact amount is no use to me." I suggest you try adopting that bad-ass attitude in the coming days. Sagittarius. Be a bit contrarian, but with humor and style. Doing so would, I think, put you in sweet alignment with the impish nature of the vibes swirling in your vicinity. If you summon just the right amount of devil-may-care jauntiness, you'll be likely to get the most out of the cosmic iokes that will unfold.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): What is the longestrunning lie in your life? Maybe it's a deception you've worked long and hard to hide. Maybe it's a delusion you've insisted on believing in. Or perhaps it's just a wish you keep thinking will come true one day even though there's scant evidence it ever will. Whatever that big drain on your energy is, Capricorn, now would be a good time to try changing your relationship with it. I can't say for sure that you'll be able to completely transform it overnight. But if you marshal a strong intention, you will be able to get the process underway.

AOUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You may have heard the theory that somewhere there is a special person who is your other half — the missing part of you. In D. H. Lawrence's version of this fantasy, the two of you were a single angel that divided in two before you were born. Personally, I don't buy it. The experiences of everyone I've ever known suggest there are many possible soulmates for each of us. So here's my variation on the idea: Any good intimate relationship generates an "angel" - a spirit that the two partners create together. This is an excellent time for you to try out this hypothesis, Aquarius. As you interact with your closest ally, imagine that a third party is with you; your mutual angel

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In the coming weeks, you'll be wise to shed your emotional baggage and purge your useless worries and liberate yourself from vour attachments to the old days and the old ways. In other words, clear out a lot of free, fresh space. And when you're finished doing that, Pisces, don't hide away in a dark corner feeing vulnerable and sensitive and stripped bare. Rather, situate yourself in the middle of a fertile hub and prepare to consort with new playmates, unexpected adventures, and interesting blessings. One of my readers, Reya Mellicker, sums up the right approach: "Be empty, not like the bowl put away in the cupboard, but like the bowl on the counter, cereal box above, waiting to receive."

Go to **RealAstrology.com** to check out Rob Brezsny'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.



The guacamole at La Señiorita, 2706 Lake Lansing Road in Lansing Township, is prepared tableside. A panel of judges visited four Mexican-style eateries and one non-Mexican tavern to see who can claim the best guacamole.

#### Wholly guacamole Food Fight tackles Mexican mainstay

#### **By ALLAN I. ROSS**

You'd think a decent guacamole recipe wouldn't be that difficult to pull off - just smash an avocado, add a bunch of spices and dip your chip in, right? But oh man, is there ever some wiggle



room for getting it so right and getting it so, so wrong. This month, the Food Fight gang descended on five Lansing-area

Mexican restaurants (and one non-Mexican tavern) to determine which was serving the best guac.

In this utterly unscientific and ridiculously subjective taste test, each restaurant was graded from 1 to 10 in five sections. Those scores were then averaged together to get an overall rating for the restaurant. Categories included cost per portion, taste and authenticity and a wild card X-factor category either adding to or taking away from a particular establishment based on that judge's overall reaction, which in this case ranged from the attractiveness of the waitstaff to the number of high-def TV screens nearby to distract us. This bears repeating: utterly unscientific, ridiculously subjective. So without further ado, let the countdown begin. Andele, arriba!

#### El Azteco: 4.7 out of 10

At \$7.50, this was rated the worst value of the lot. We found "no creativity whatsoever" in the "texture-less" "paste,"

and the "burnt chips" did the "cold green puree" no justice. Our "prompt service" was provided by a "friendly and engaging" waiter, but one of us said the setting "reminds me of a Mexican holding tank," detracting from the experience. Conversely, one of the people in our group hadn't stepped foot in this location in 30 years and was "blown away by how much better it is than before." We're going to have to consult the town archives for proof of that one. El Azteco, 225 Ann St., East Lansing

#### Los Tres Amigos: 6.1 out of 10

Of the three Los Tres locations around town, we opted to visit the one on Grand River in East Lansing. One of us found the \$2.79 guacamole here to have a "nice consistency" with a "good mix of onion and tomato." Everyone else was unimpressed, however, with reactions ranging from "nothing to write home about" to "inedible." As for authenticity, "at least you can see it's made from real avocado and tomato," getting us "closer to ol' Mexico," but it still seemed "more oily than it ought to be." The similarly "bland chips" appeared to be "out of a bag," for which we were charged \$2 because we didn't order drinks or dinner. They got docked points for that, though we understand they gotta make a buck off all the cheapskates out there somehow. But they made serious X-factor points when one of the servers heard what we were doing

#### Guacamole

#### from page 26

and asked us to pass a love note to his wife at another restaurant. All together now: "awwwww!" Los Tres Amigos, 1227 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing

#### Tavern on the Square: 6.4 out of 10

It should come as no surprise that the only non-Mexican restaurant on the list (which was chosen because it has a special guacamole appetizer on the menu) rated the worst for authenticity, with an abysmal 2.8 average. Other than that, it was a moderate hit with our judges, who "enjoyed the citrusy zing" and "loved the taste." The \$3 price and the fact that the staff re-opened the kitchen for us scored them high on service and X-factor, but the "music was just too loud" for us to have any kind of serious discussion about our meal. As we were eating, a nearby guest scoffed at our selection, saying he thought, "It's the worst. I'd rather eat mayonnaise by the spoon." Where was he at the beginning of the night? We can use opinions like that. Tavern on the Square, 206 S. Washington Square, Lansing

#### Cancun Mexican Grill: 6.7 out of 10

"Mmmm...chunky!" "Nice subtle spice." "Muy rapido!" Cancun Mexican Grill may have suffered from a "striking similarity" to the guacamole preparation style and décor at Los Tres Amigos (including identical furniture) but it squeaked ahead in almost every category across the board, including value. For \$3.25 we got a "massive gravy boat" filled with guac that disappeared in no time flat. We all picked up on the heat being packed, leading some of us to guess it had a "jalapeno bite" and others suggesting it was "chiles doing their job." Either way, it had a "real Mexican feel" that made for "a nice couple" when mixed with the "awesome salsa." Cancun Mexican Grill, 1754 Central Park Drive, Okemos

#### El Oasis: 7.3 out of 10

For being "a glorified taco stand," El

	SUDOKU SOLUTION From Pg. 18											
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Oasis was certainly the dark horse contender to beat on this outing. You "don't get much" for \$1.50 (including chips, which are extra), but the "onion-y" guacamole had "big chunks of tomato and avocado" with an "overwhelmingly authentic and delicious" style. It also had "the best chips of the bunch." The only thing we could fault El Oasis for was atmosphere, because "who really likes milling around a parking lot on the east side?" But if you can handle it, it's definitely worth a quick detour. El Oasis, 2501 E. Michigan Ave. (in the parking lot next to Capital Imaging), Lansing Township

#### La Señorita: 7.7 out of 10

Authentic was the word here, with the tableside guacamole service receiving a whopping 9.6 average. We were able to watch our \$6.99 order assembled from scratch, including the cilantro that "saved the day." It did take a while to get everything together, so the fastest you could probably ever get an order would be 10 minutes, but several of us noted that it was "worth the wait." The best part? "If you pay close attention, vou can get a free amazing guacamole recipe." And that love note that we were supposed to pass from that server at Los Tres? This is where she worked, but sadly we missed her by mere minutes. We did give it to one of her coworkers who assured us he'd get it to her, so hopefully our Romeo got some brownie points the next day. One more time now: "awwwww!" La Señorita, 2706 Lake Lansing Rd., Lansing Township

There were some other places we either couldn't get to as a group or were out of guacamole that day. Handy's Market at 424 W. Willow St. in Lansing only makes it occasionally, so we were out of luck last Wednesday when we did our judging. Similarly, our grand voyage didn't land us in Old Town until after 9 p.m., so we missed Pablo's Panaderia's legendary guac by less than 15 minutes. And we automatically excluded national chains, disqualifying Chipotle, but supposedly it has some of the best around. Sounds like it's worth a trip.

