

FREE

# CityPULSE

a newspaper for the rest of the city

www.lansingcitypulse.com

July 25-31, 2012



**THE**

## **GREBNER-LINDEMANN**

**RACE**

**HE SAID, HE SAID: WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT EACH OTHER — AND WHAT'S TRUE. BY ANDY BALASKOVITZ. SEE PAGE 8**



MARU SUSHI & GRILL TO OPEN TWO NEW LOCATIONS. SEE PAGE 32



SAVE 50% AT WATERFRONT BAR & GRILL. SEE PAGE 31

# Grand Ledge MUSIC IN THE PARK



## FREE CONCERT SERIES

Maypole Park  
6:30 pm ~ 8:30 pm  
(Weather Permitting)



The Squid Band July 26th

Brian Lorente and  
The Usual Suspects Aug 9th

Soulstice Aug 23rd



of Grand Ledge



Harry O. Culp  
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Sponsors Include: Sweet Linda's Café, Log Jam, Grand Ledge Independent, Red Salamander, Lill Design, Sew Creative, Paxton's Countertops, Union Bank, Talk of the Town Hair, Piece of Mine, Lamb's Gate, Grand Ledge St. Patrick's Day Parade Association

This advertisement was underwritten by the Grand Ledge Downtown Development Authority,

For More Information Visit: <http://www.facebook.com/GLMusicinthePark>

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## Garden Day

Get inspired with new ideas &  
practical tips for your garden.

Friday, August 3, 2012, 8am-4pm

- Two keynote speakers
- Garden Marketplace
- Plants for sale
- 12 workshops to choose from:

- Herbal First Aid
- Dividing Perennials
- Green Side Up - Plants on Rooftops
- Garden Sized Trees
- Native Plants & the Modern Land Ethic: The Power of Community
- Rain Gardens - Clean Up Our Rivers, One Garden At A Time
- Floral Design From the Vegetable Garden
- Hostas, Hostas, Hostas
- Organic Gardening Essentials
- Composting & Effective Weed Control
- Cultivating Creativity in the Garden
- The Garden-Kid Connection
- Experience the Magic

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

**Stephanie Cohen:**

**"Cutting Edge Perennials-No Bandages Provided!"**

Stephanie Cohen has written several popular books, including *Perennial Gardener's Design Primer*, a bestseller. She has expressed her love of herbaceous perennial plants on popular TV shows and has received many prestigious awards for her work. She is full of energy and a barrel of laughs! This nationally-known "perennial diva" tells it like she sees it. Prepare to watch the dirt fly!

**Jessica Wright & Val Albright:**

**"Quick Tips and Tricks for Getting Herbs from Garden to Table"**

Val Albright and Jessica Wright turn up the heat as they teach tips and tricks to get kitchen herbs from the garden to your table. In previous years, this mother/daughter team has had standing room only for their workshops. This year they take center stage to share their knowledge, recipes and tasty samples!

**Evening Garden Walk & Reception with Stephanie Cohen!**

Join Stephanie Cohen, best-selling author and perennial design extraordinaire, for an exclusive tour of the MSU Horticulture Gardens. She will teach and tell her own special stories about plants and gardening. In this small group setting, you will have the opportunity to ask questions and interact with the "Perennial Diva" herself! **Tour Begins at 5pm. Hors d'oeuvres reception to follow in the MSU Garden Conservatory. Fee: \$100.00. Space is limited to 25 participants. Register at [hrt.msu.edu/garden-day2012](http://hrt.msu.edu/garden-day2012)**

**Location:** MSU Horticulture Gardens & the Veterinary Medical Ctr in East Lansing

**Cost:** \$75 for 2012 MSU Garden Members, \$85 for non members, and \$95 for all registrations sent in after July 22. Registration includes two workshops, two keynote addresses, parking, lunch and materials!

**Information:** Website: [hrt.msu.edu/garden-day-2012](http://hrt.msu.edu/garden-day-2012)  
E-mail: [hgardens@msu.edu](mailto:hgardens@msu.edu) Phone: 517-355-5191 x1339



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107 Fernhill Ct., Lansing  
**\$61,000**

2 Bedroom, 1 Bath • 931 Sq. Ft.

### Other Available Properties

ADDRESS	PROPERTY INFORMATION	PRICE
326 Isbell	3 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath	1080 Sq. Ft. \$80,000
1142 Camp	2 Bedroom, 1 Bath	883 Sq. Ft. \$58,000
548 Norman	3 Bedroom, 1 Bath	1,425 Sq. Ft. \$80,000
412 W Madison	4 Bedroom, 2 Bath	1,980 Sq. Ft. \$100,000
1930 Hillcrest	3 Bedroom, 1 Bath	864 Sq. Ft. \$60,000
912 Clyde	3 Bedroom, 1.5 Bath	1,121 Sq. Ft. \$73,000

Please visit our website for further information about these and other properties.

BOARD MEMBERS: Eric Schertzing, Chair • Deb Nolan, Vice-Chair • Brian McGrain, Secretary • Rebecca Bahar-Cook, Treasurer • Debbie DeLeon, Member

# Feedback

## Advice Goddess no feminist

So I've seen your paper around and I have tried to read it a few times, but in general, I'm not a newspaper person. But today was the day. I went to the library and I got my rental of All-Star Superman and some books, and I picked up your paper on the way out. Flipping through led to some interesting articles, but as a way to wind down the evening I started reading Ms. Amy Alkon's advice column which had the admittedly catchy title of "Captain hookup and I.C.U. naked." I'm sure she gets complaints all the time, but here's another one.

"The policewymyn of gender neutrality have led many women to believe they can do anything a man can do..." blah blah blah, pseudoscience. I'm not going to bother writing out Alkon's justifications that "women don't do this, men do this" which she offers up after the sarcastic reference to those damn, dirty feminists. Really, man? In the past few months, I've heard women being attacked left, right and center. From the entertainment world's obsession with proving "Bridesmaids" means women are funny and "The Hunger Games" means women can be action heroes, to the political world legalizing rape by medical procedures and banning someone over the word "vagina." The latter of which you have a cartoon mocking in your very paper. Not that that matters. Everywhere I go, including your newspaper, it is as if feminism never happened, and Alkon would love to believe the same thing, I suppose. But the bigger problem I have is with the disrespect of women. If Alkon would like, I could point her to all sorts of science that say whatever they like about women being more happy doing one thing or another. I'm sure she's smart enough to have heard of such things, so why she tried to bring science into it is beyond me. The best advice to someone who's obsessed with a fuckbuddy is "get the fuck over it and move on." If she omitted two paragraphs she would have been golden. She didn't need to bring in a shot

at feminists, or at women.

Generally speaking, Alkon's misogyny/sexism is not that big of a deal. I've heard this shit all my life. "Men won't want anything from you but your body" and "men don't have feelings" - boy, was it shocking when this turned out to be false! "Women aren't good at math, driving, politics, computers, gaming..." you name it, women are apparently shit at it! I've heard women get called sluts for having sex, wearing revealing clothing, asking a guy out, and simply using birth control (thanks, Rush!). I can go on. And on. The constant microaggressions of being told that you are different, and in truth, inferior, because you have a vagina is infuriating, whether it's from the sitcom with the fat husband and the hot wife, whether it's from state legislators, whether it's from your loved ones, or whether it's from a newspaper.

I'm not writing this to say "fire her or I won't read your paper" - I'm writing to say that Alkon sucks, and I noticed. I have no doubt you are fine with that. Women getting shat on, and feminists getting shat on, is par for the course, and most people don't bat an eye. I always assumed your paper went against that course - why, I'm not sure now. But I was wrong. It was definitely a mistake to give your paper a chance.

—Maureen McCallum

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

Now you have two ways to sound off:

#### 1.) Write a letter to the editor.

- E-mail: [letters@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:letters@lansingcitypulse.com)
- Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
- Fax: (517) 371-5800

#### 2.) Write a guest column:

Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: [publisher@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:publisher@lansingcitypulse.com) or (517) 999-5061

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

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on Thursday, August 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

A public hearing will held for the purposes of considering a request from the property owner at 922 Huntington Road to repair and reconstruct a two story, damaged wing of the existing house.

Call (517) 319-6930, the Department of Planning and Community Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, for additional information. All interested persons 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

# CityPULSE

VOL. 11  
ISSUE 50

(517) 371-5600 • Fax: (517) 999-6061 • 1905 E. Michigan Ave. • Lansing, MI 48912 • [www.lansingcitypulse.com](http://www.lansingcitypulse.com)



The "current culture" of CATA drives international traffic expert from board position



Cheap Girls celebrates five years in the Chevy van



Old Town's den of smoke and flesh pleases slobs and snobs alike



A CLOSER LOOK by RACHEL HARPER

## CITY PULSE ON THE AIR

THIS WEEK

Ingham County Drain Commissioner candidates  
Mark Grebner and Pat Lindemann



Editor & Publisher  
Berl Schwartz

7 p.m. Wednesdays

**IMPACT**  
89FM

## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

**BOXED IN**

HE CAN'T MENTION HIS RECORD AS GOVERNOR. MASSACHUSETTS, YOU SAY? HMM--THAT DOES SOUND VAGUELY FAMILIAR...

BUT I DO NOT KNOW THIS "ROM-NEE-CARE" OF WHICH YOU SPEAK.

HE'S AFRAID HIS RELIGION WILL ALIENATE FUNDAMENTALIST VOTERS. LET'S JUST SAY I'M A MAN OF FAITH--

--AND QUICKLY CHANGE THE SUBJECT. HEY, LOOK OVER THERE! IT'S AN OBAMA TAX HIKE!

HE CLEARLY DOESN'T BELIEVE IN FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY. CALL ME OLD-FASHIONED--BUT I HAPPEN TO BELIEVE THE METHODS BY WHICH AN INCOMPREHENSIBLY WEALTHY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE AVOIDS TAXES ARE NOBODY'S BUSINESS BUT HIS OWN!

AND HIS TIME AT BAIN IS OBVIOUSLY A PROBLEM. I AM QUALIFIED TO BE PRESIDENT BECAUSE OF MY BUSINESS EXPERIENCE--

--WHICH IT IS UNCONSCIONABLE OF MY OPPONENT TO BRING UP!

MITT ROMNEY: DESPERATELY IN SEARCH OF SOMETHING HE CAN TALK ABOUT. VOTE FOR ME BECAUSE--UM--I LIKE PUPPIES!

IT'S A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE!

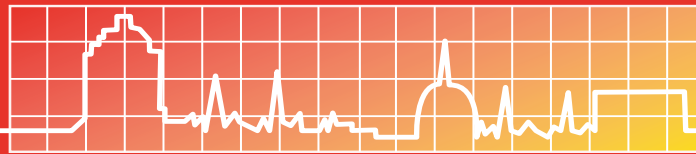
HAVE YOU NO SENSE OF DECENCY, SIR?

IS THAT WHY YOU TIED YOUR DOG TO THE ROOF OF YOUR CAR?

D'OH! I MEANT KITTENS! KITTENS!!

© 2012 Tom Tomorrow

# PULSE



## news & opinion

### Last stop

The “current culture” of CATA drives international traffic expert from board position

With a Ph.D in transportation from Michigan State University and nearly 50 years of experience in the field, Thomas Maleck is resigning from the local public transportation authority’s board in disgust.

Maleck, considered an international expert in transportation engineering, was appointed in September by the Meridian Township Board of Trustees to serve as its representative on the Capital Area Transportation Authority Board of Directors. An MSU professor, he teaches topics such as highway design, civil engineering analysis, highway and traffic safety and engineering ethics. He has received multiple state and international awards and special recognition from three Michigan governors. He has conducted lectures on the ethics of engineering across the state.

Yet Maleck’s appointment was met with unrelenting pressure from CATA about a perceived “conflict of interest” regarding his employment with MSU.

“My professional reputation is respected across the state and around the world,” Maleck wrote to CATA and Meridian Township administrators in a November email. “It is insulting that CATA would suggest that I would put myself in a position where there is a conflict of interest.”

Maleck drafted a resignation letter last month and notified a Meridian Township official Tuesday morning that he is looking for a replacement. He is the only member of the CATA board with full-time employment in the transportation field.

CATA is run by a board of directors made up of representatives from the five areas it serves: Lansing, East Lansing, Lansing Township, Delhi Township and Meridian Township. Each area pays a subsidy to CATA.

When Susan McGillicuddy, Meridian Township supervisor, appointed Maleck to the CATA board in September, she thought she was putting the best possible candidate in the position to serve the township. Since then, McGillicuddy said she’s felt “constant pressure” from CATA administrators to remove his appointment.

“CATA says there is a conflict of interest,” McGillicuddy said. “I don’t understand it. He’s so well qualified. They’ve put constant pressure on me to remove him. It’s very frustrating when you find someone who can help us and help CATA and they put him through this witch-hunt.”

#### The conflict

Peter Kuhnmuensch, CATA’s board chairman, said it’s Maleck’s employment with the university that poses the problem.

Maleck works for MSU both as a professor and a traffic adviser with the university’s planning department. MSU has contracts with CATA that, Kuhnmuensch said, may mean a conflict of interest.

Kuhnmuensch said CATA’s conflict of interest policy is “very broad.” Even the “appearance of a conflict” is problematic, he said. A conflict of interest policy is put in place to ensure that no one on the board can vote on items which they personally, a family member or employer may be able to

Fred Poston, MSU vice president for finance and operations and treasurer, said a conflict of interest is “quite a stretch.”

“I’m not sure what conflict they’re talking about,” he said. “He’s not in a decision-making position (with MSU). He advises me and the police on traffic concerns.”

Over the past five years, Maleck helped reduce serious traffic accidents on the MSU campus by 83 percent, Poston said, adding that Maleck’s expertise and ethical standards are “well respected.”

“I don’t understand the conflict,” said Mark Grebner, a longtime Ingham County commissioner who serves as a non-voting member on the CATA board. “Pat Cannon (the CATA board secretary/treasurer) works with the state of Michigan. The state has many contracts with CATA. Can Cannon be on the board?”

Nathan Triplett, mayor pro tem of East Lansing, also sits on the CATA board. He said he was “aware of the situation” and that “from the information I’ve seen, I personally don’t see” a conflict.

“It sounds like we’re talking about politics and not law,” Grebner said. He said it would be fair to compare the board to a “good ole boys club.”

After the constant “soap opera” surrounding the conflict of interest policy, Maleck said enough is enough and decided to step down from his position this week after speaking with McGillicuddy.

He said he accepted the board position with the idea of improving CATA by integrating it more with other public and private transportation services. He said it’s “impossible” for one board member to make a difference given the board’s “current culture.”

“It didn’t appear the existing board had great oversight on the actions of the administrators,” he said. “I’m a person with a good background, I have commitment and I could be a problem for them. I cannot rubber stamp anything, it’s not my personality.”

The issue goes beyond his personal appointment, he said. The fact that CATA ran off a township-appointed representative is “very sad.”

“It doesn’t matter what your personality is,” he said. “Cities and townships should have the right to choose who has oversight of their funding.”

— Sam Inglot



Maleck



McGillicuddy



Kuhnmuensch



Dragoo

benefit financially.

“No decision” has been made regarding the concerns and “personal conversations” have been ongoing for roughly eight months, he said.

Despite the possible conflict, Maleck has been allowed to vote and participate in board meetings.

Kuhnmuensch said Maleck was “unwilling to respond to requests” to answer questions about the conflict of interest policy. But in his November email to CATA officials, Maleck said he was willing to go before the board at his first official meeting to address its concerns. However, nothing about Maleck’s supposed conflict of interest has officially come before the board.

Sandy Draggoo, CEO of CATA, was asked about Maleck’s situation. She had little to say other than that it relates to “the code of conduct policy adopted by the board.”

Several people who understand Maleck’s position with MSU, know him personally and know the role of the CATA board don’t see any reason to run him out of his position.



Property: Little Free Library at 142 Cowley Ave., East Lansing

Owner: Joseph and Liesel Carlson

Surprise! Amongst the garden foliage, a little free library has taken root in the front yard of an East Lansing home just north of Michigan Avenue. Stationed like a small literary sentry, this library is open rain or shine and simply asks: Take a book, return a book.

Leisel Carlson, a volunteer at the East Lansing Public Library who lives at 142 Cowley Ave, hosts the diminutive library near her mailbox. It’s based in an upcycled (the process of converting a waste material or useless product into a new material or product of higher quality) lantern chosen for its ability to accommodate books of all sizes, as well as its aesthetic character that complements the house’s massing and gables.

Carlson sees the library as a great way to build community and literacy in the Lansing area. “I love the new people I have met because of the library,” Carlson said. “It is exciting to see what new books will show up!”

Filled with nearly 20 books — including children’s novels, magazines, fiction and non-fiction — the little library is one of over 2,000 registered “Little Free” libraries worldwide. The Lansing area boasts three others and residences and an elementary school.

To learn more about the little free library movement or to host your own library, visit [www.littlefreelibrary.org](http://www.littlefreelibrary.org).

— Amanda Harrell-Seyburn

“Eye candy of the Week” is our weekly look at some of the nicer properties in Lansing. It rotates each with Eyesore of the Week. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail [eye@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:eye@lansingcitypulse.com) or call Andy Balaskovitz at 999-5064.

**CityPULSE**  
**NEWSMAKERS**

Hosted by Berl Schwartz

**Ch. 30**  
LEAP President  
& CEO Bob Tresize

**Ch. 16**  
Ingham County  
Drain Commissioner  
candidate  
Mark Grebner

Sunday, July 29  
Meridian Township  
11:30 a.m.

Sunday, July 29  
Lansing  
Part 1: 11 a.m.  
Part 2: 11:30 a.m.

Watch past episodes at [vimeo.com/channels/citypulse](http://vimeo.com/channels/citypulse)

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**Work there.**

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LANSING  
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## The Niowave fix

Experts say the possibilities are endless for redesigning the exterior of a pole barn

Even some houses are “post-frame buildings,” or, more crudely, pole barns.

That should give some hope to Walnut Neighborhood residents who wonder what can be done to the exterior of a three-story, 14,000-square-foot, white and blue building erected near them this year by high-tech manufacturer Niowave Inc.

Post-frame building renovation experts say the possibilities are endless when it comes to upgrading the exterior of pole barns — no matter the size. When it comes to the exterior, essentially, you can give an industrial building a skin more like a residential structure.

“Post-frame really is just the base of the building,” said Kevin Simmons, president of the Michigan chapter of the National Frame Building Association. “You can pretty much do with that building what you can with any other structure. The options I would think are unlimited.”

Niowave has put on hold a \$200,000-plus tax abatement request to the Lansing City Council while it figures out what to do with what neighbors have called a “monstrosity” that the company built adjacent to the old Walnut Street School, which the company bought and converted into its headquarters in 2006. The pole barn went up this spring after Niowave told residents it was building a “shed” where the school’s playground was. City and Planning Board officials say the pole barn is legal under the special land use permit Niowave was granted when it bought the old school property.

A public hearing before the City Council was initially scheduled for Monday night, but was canceled after Niowave pulled its request. The Council’s Development and Planning Committee will discuss the matter at a noon meeting today on the 10th floor of City Hall.

It’s uncertain how much Niowave is willing to spend to compromise with its neighbors’ concerns. Mark Sinila, Niowave’s chief financial officer, declined

to comment Tuesday on the matter.

“We’re not willing to make a comment until we settle the issue with the neighbors,” he said. “We’re looking at our options, talking with neighbors directly.”

Sinila said “this thing has gotten so blown out of proportion” and that it “seems like every media outlet in Lansing calls me a couple times a day.” Council President Brian Jeffries said last week that he is open to the idea of tying building improvements to the tax incentive. At-Large Councilman Derrick Quinney, who chairs the committee considering the tax abatement request, also is open to the idea, but hopes Niowave will reach an agreement with neighbors before the formal request is up for Council approval.

“Hopefully Niowave will come to the table and not require something like that,” Quinney said Tuesday. “But if that is needed, we will do that. I’m not going to close the door on anything at this point. My hope is that we can resolve this thing without having to tie-bar something like that.”

“We just want to make sure we do the right thing” before asking for final approval of the tax abatement, Sinila said.

Quinney said ideal exterior changes would make the pole barn “compatible” with Niowave’s main building, at 1012 Walnut. The former Walnut Street School, over a century old, has a restored brick exterior that neighbors say featured graffiti before Niowave moved in.

Four of Niowave’s residential neighbors were back before the City Council Monday night with concerns about Niowave’s perceived disregard for the neighborhood. Some pledged to be at today’s committee meeting; others read from a list of 26 questions and talking points they hope Council members can answer.

“It started out as a really, really nice relationship” when Niowave moved in to the neighborhood in 2006, Councilman Quinney said. “Hopefully we can get back to that.”

— Andy Balaskovitz



Photo courtesy of National Frame Building Association

An award-winning commercial pole barn in Decatur County, Kansas, as decided by the National Frame Building Association. Experts say the possibilities are endless when redesigning pole-frame structures, like the one Niowave built.

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Advertisement for Bids – Knapp’s Centre Building Rehabilitation Project**

Kramer Management Group on behalf of The Eyde Company is soliciting bids from General Contractors for the 197,000 SF Knapp’s Centre Re-Development located at 300 S. Washington Ave, Lansing, Michigan. **Sealed bids will be accepted until 2:00 P.M. local time on Tuesday, August 21, 2012** at The Eyde Company, 4660 South Hagadorn, Suite 660, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 at which time they will be opened publicly. Bid documents can be obtained beginning on July 31, 2012 by contacting Capital Imaging at (517) 482-2292 and will be posted at the Lansing Builder’s Exchange. **A Pre-Bid Meeting (Mandatory for General Contractors) and site walkthrough for all interested bidders will be held Friday, August 3rd at 1:00 P.M. local time. Bidders will be required to comply with Section 3 provisions of the HUD Act of 1968, and 24 CFR Part 85, 135 and 570 regulations.** Please contact Karrie Blundell at [Karrie.Blundell@KramerMG.com](mailto:Karrie.Blundell@KramerMG.com) with questions related to this bid opportunity.

**ELECTION NOTICE  
PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2012  
FOR  
THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING  
INGHAM AND CLINTON COUNTIES, MICHIGAN**

To the electors of the City of East Lansing, please take notice that an election will be held in the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, on TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2012.

**For the purposes of nominating candidates of the Republican and Democratic Parties for the following partisan offices:**

- United States Senator
- Representative in Congress
- State Representative
- Prosecuting Attorney
- Sheriff
- County Clerk
- Treasurer
- Register of Deeds
- Drain Commissioner
- County Commissioners

**To vote on the following non-partisan offices:**

- Judge of the Circuit Court – 30th District
- Judge of the District Court – 54B District

Also to vote on the following proposals:

- Ingham County Juvenile Millage Renewal Question
- Ingham County Emergency Telephone Service (911 Service) Millage Renewal Question
- Ingham County Public Transportation System for Elderly and Disabled Millage Questions
- Clinton County Separate Tax Limitation Proposal

**And to elect Delegates to the County Convention of the Democratic and Republican Parties.**

For complete ballot wording, contact the East Lansing City Clerk at 517-319-6914 or the Secretary of State’s website at [www.mich.gov/vote](http://www.mich.gov/vote)

**Polls at said election will be open at 7 o’clock a.m. and will remain open until 8 o’clock p.m.**

**LIST OF POLLING LOCATIONS:**

- Pct. 1 – Brody Hall, MSU
- Pct. 2 – Peoples Church, 200 West Grand River Avenue
- Pct. 3 – East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road
- Pct. 4 – Capital City Vineyard Church, 1635 Coolidge Road
- Pct. 5 – Shaarey Zedek Congregation, 1924 Coolidge Road
- Pct. 6 – Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 1315 Abbot Road
- Pct. 7 – St. Paul Lutheran Church, 3383 Lake Lansing Road
- Pct. 8 – East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road
- Pct. 9 – Bailey Community Center, 300 Bailey Street
- Pct. 10 – Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road
- Pct. 11 – Burcham Hills Retirement Community, 2700 Burcham Drive
- Pct. 12 – All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road
- Pct. 13 – Abbot Hall, MSU
- Pct. 14 – West Akers Hall, MSU
- Pct. 15 – East Wilson Hall, MSU
- Pct. 16 – Wesley Foundation at MSU, 1118 S. Harrison Road
- Pct. 17 – Shaarey Zedek Congregation, 1924 Coolidge Road

All polling places are accessible and voting instructions are available in alternative formats of audio and braille.

The East Lansing City Clerk’s office will be open on Saturday, August 4, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to issue and receive absent voter ballots to qualified electors.

**PICTURE IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED TO VOTE** – Due to a recent court ruling, every Michigan voter who offers to vote in the polls must comply with the requirement by showing picture identification or signing an affidavit attesting that he or she is not in possession of picture identification. (See MCL 168.523)

**To see if you are registered or to find your polling location, check the Secretary of State Voter Information Web site at [www.mich.gov/vote](http://www.mich.gov/vote)**

Marie E. McKenna  
East Lansing City Clerk

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF  
CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
ON ITS FY 2013 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS AND  
PUBLIC HEARING ON ITS PROPOSED FY 2013 BUDGET**

Capital Area Transportation Authority (“CATA”) hereby provides notice to the public and to private providers of its proposed FY 2013 Program of Projects and of its public hearing on its FY 2013 Budget.

The proposed FY 2013 Program of Projects, is as follows:

**PROGRAM OF PROJECTS  
CAPITAL**

1. Annual Payment on Purchase of Large Buses (34)	\$ 974,228
2. Large Buses (5)	\$ 2,565,000
3. Small Buses (5)	\$ 350,604
4. Support Vehicles (14)	\$ 347,647
5. Paratransit Vehicles (8)	\$ 285,000
6. Maintenance Equipment	\$ 200,000
7. Facility Improvements	\$ 160,000
8. Preventive Maintenance	\$ 160,000
9. Spare Parts	\$ 150,000
10. Customer Enhancement	\$ 68,273
11. Safety and Security	\$ 68,273
12. IT Third Party Contract	\$ 150,000
13. IT Software	\$ 336,216
14. IT Hardware	\$ 119,000
15. Concrete Work	\$ 472,500
16. Planning	\$ 350,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 7,361,741</b>

Federal Share	\$ 5,889,392
State/Local Share	\$ 1,472,349

**Total \$ 7,361,741**

**OPERATIONS**

Federal Share Section 5307 & other *	\$ 1,117,979
State Share *	\$ 11,204,116
Local Share *	\$ 20,600,698
Farebox and other	\$ 8,086,524
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 41,009,317</b>

(\*Includes: Planning & Preventive Maintenance)

**Total Capital/Operations \$ 48,371,058**

The proposed program of projects will constitute the final program of projects if there are no changes. Additional details on the proposed FY 2013 Program of Projects and a copy of the proposed FY 2013 Budget are available for public inspection at CATA’s administrative offices at 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing, MI 48910.

CATA will hold a public hearing on its proposed FY 2013 Budget on Wednesday, August 15, 2012, at 4:00 P.M. in the CATA Board Room located at 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing, MI.

**The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**

Written comments on the program of projects or the budget should be addressed to CATA, Attn: Program/Budget Comments, 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing, MI 48910, and must be received by 4:00 P.M., on August 15, 2012. Reasonable accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities and should be requested by August 1, 2012.

Capital Area Transportation Authority  
Sandra L. Draggoo, CEO/Executive Director



# THE ENVIRO AND THE ETHICIST



**ON AUG. 7, INGHAM COUNTY DEMOCRATS MUST CHOOSE BETWEEN INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER PAT LINDEMANN, WHO HAS BUILT AN IMPRESSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RECORD, AND MARK GREBNER, WHO SAYS THE INCUMBENT RUNS HIS OFFICE UNETHICALLY AND WASTEFULLY**

By **ANDY BALASKOVITZ**

What do you get when you give a pair of unorthodox politicians an hour each on public access television to bash each other? A lengthy fact-checking mission, for one.

Pat Lindemann — the incumbent Ingham County drain commissioner — and Mark Grebner — his challenger, a long-time Ingham County commissioner — were granted just that in May, when Grebner spent most of his time bashing Lindemann, with Lindemann returning fire when he wasn't deflecting the attacks. The accusations have continued in campaign mailings. Grebner largely accuses Lindemann of overspending on drain projects and awarding contracted work to his campaign contributors. Lindemann says Grebner is unqualified for the position and is merely seeking a job that he can retire from in four years with a nice pension.

But to step beyond the politics, what is really at stake here in this Democratic primary? On one hand, you have the incumbent — Lindemann — who has a proven, 20-year track record of transforming the county's storm water management by taking a progressive approach to curbing wastewater, capable of polluting rivers and streams. The numerous awards back this. If he is re-elected, he will oversee his biggest project ever: reclaiming the Red Cedar River from pollution from the Frandor Shopping Center and other sources.

On the other hand, you have a challenger in Grebner whose lack of any practical experience in managing drains, he says, is made up for by his high regard for ethics. In fact, he wrote the book on ethics in his 32 years on the county Board of Commissioners (from which he is stepping down).

"I've managed your storm water system

in a brand new paradigm way," Lindemann told a crowd of about 50 people at a candidate forum earlier this month.

"I basically concede that Pat's politics are just fine," Grebner said minutes later, referring to Lindemann's environmental philosophy. "Frankly, I don't have any gripes with Pat's policy positions. The entire concern is over management, money and ethical standards."

Whereas Lindemann is qualified and educated on the fundamental science of water management, Grebner sees the Drain Commissioner's Office as a "chief bureaucrat position" — he even questions the need for it to be elected, saying it should be just another government department with an appointed head. And even with promises to cut the number of outside contracts and fire Lindemann's staff in the single term he claims to serve if elected, "I hope (for) no damage to what Pat is doing as far as policy," Grebner told the group at

Foster Community Center.

Lindemann argued a broader worldview in approaching the office: "There are four pillars to any community:

You need a place to flush your toilet; you need a way to manage storm water; you need a consistent source of drinking water; and you need public transportation. You take one of those away and you don't have a city. Infrastructure is probably the biggest and most important part of how we live as a community."

*And now a look at four accusations between the two over the last two months.*

## Grebner and Lindemann

will appear together on "City Pulse on the Air" at 7 tonight on 88.9-FM WDBM The Impact. A podcast of the episode will be available after the show at [www.lansingcitypulse.com](http://www.lansingcitypulse.com). City Pulse's TV show, "Newsmakers," will also rerun episodes of the two candidates' individual appearances earlier this year. Grebner's will air 11 a.m. to noon on Sunday and Lindemann's will air 11 a.m. to noon on Aug. 5.

## GREBNER SAYS: THE LIST OF FIRMS THAT RECEIVE CONTRACTS FROM LINDEMANN MATCHES POLITICAL CONTRIBUTORS



Sam Inglot/City Pulse

Mark Grebner in his office at Practical Political Consulting in East Lansing. Despite his inexperience in water management, Grebner argues for his election because he would bring a higher level of ethics and financial management to the Drain Commissioner's Office.

Scanning Lindemann's campaign finance reports since 2008 shows that several companies who have been awarded contracts by the Drain Commissioner's Office were also donors to Lindemann's campaign. In some cases, these companies have done millions of dollars' worth of business with Lindemann's office since 2008, such as the Clark Hill law firm, which has offices in Lansing, Detroit and Grand Rapids.

A report provided to City Pulse from the Ingham County Controller's Office lists the amount of money in contracts paid to 12 firms by Lindemann's office since 2008, spread over several different projects. Employees at these 12 firms also contributed to his 2008 campaign. The list includes attorneys, engineers and construction firms.

For example, Spicer Group — an engineering firm with offices throughout the state — was awarded \$4.2 million for various contracts through the Drain Commissioner's Office between 2008 and January, the controller's report shows. Six different engineers from the same firm donated a total of more than \$6,000 to Lindemann's 2008 campaign, finance reports show. Some have continued to donate since then. Fitzgerald Henne, a design and engineering firm based in Lansing, has done about \$2 million worth of business through Lindemann's office since 2008, including work on the Towar Gardens drain project in Meridian Township. Four different employees donated more than \$6,000 total in 2008. Lindemann's campaign also

received contributions from the Clark Hill law firm's political action committee and three different employees.

Lindemann's campaign received more than \$80,000 in the 2008 election year. Other firms with contracts with the Drain Commissioner's Office whose employees have donated to Lindemann's campaign include Hubbard Law Firm, Wilcox Associates, Great Lakes Engineering, Water & Woods Ecology and Northern Concrete. However, not all firms that contract through Lindemann's office are campaign contributors. For example, the engineering firm Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber worked on the Tollgate Drain project at Groesbeck Golf Course, but no employees of the business have donated to Lindemann's campaign.

Rich Robinson of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network said such contributions "creates what should be an uncomfortable situation."

"I think voters should be uncomfortable too. When you have that kind of overlap between political supporters who get business out of the relationship, I don't think that sits comfortably for most people," he said.

Robinson said the situation is not unique for elected officials who oversee infrastructure and development. "It's the sort of thing that it would be high standards of ethics to say: 'You can be a campaign supporter, you can be a vendor, but you can't be both,'" he said.

Moreover, Lindemann chooses contractors based on a Qualification-Based Selection process, which is an alternative to open bids. QBS, he says, is selecting the best firm from a stack of resumes submitted based on its qualifications and not necessarily the lowest price. Robinson said the situation "gets worse if the work is sole sourced."

Lindemann said Grebner is wrong for accusing him of pay-to-play politics and that just because he takes donations from some vendors, it doesn't mean he's "bought off" and gives work based on that.

"I take money for my campaign in the form of donations from hundreds of people. Some of them wind up working on projects," he said. "I don't hire them to work on projects because they donated. Others work for my office and never donate. I don't know what's not fair about that. I hire them because they're good at what they do — that's it."

Grebner's campaign finance reports since 2008 look much different. While he was in competitive county commission races in 2008 and 2010, merely three contributors (other than himself) have donated and all for a total of \$550. They include Erdman Mackenzie, a Grand Ledge business owner who donated to Lindemann's 2008 Democratic opponent, Gary Marx; and the Ingham County Democratic Committee.



# Drain

from page 8

## LINDEMANN SAYS: GREBNER HIRES POLITICAL FRIENDS, TOO



Sam Inglot/City Pulse

Pat Lindemann campaigning for his re-election as Ingham County Drain Commissioner. He says his environmental record speaks for itself.

Responding to Grebner's claims that he gives work to political friends (and donors), Lindemann says Grebner is no different. He claims Grebner oversaw the hiring of an attorney he's worked with since 1992, George Brookover, to be the counsel of the Ingham County Board of Road Commissioners. Grebner said Brookover has represented him in various matters since 1992, including Freedom of Information Act cases.

Grebner said he suggested that the board retain Peter Cohl, Ingham County's general counsel, for the job, but that he was unaware the board was already considering Brookover until after he was hired. "I'm told that they solicited proposals and conducted interviews before making their choice, but I wasn't aware of that at the time, and certainly didn't participate in any way or encourage anybody to hire him."

"Finally, the most important thing I've accomplished in the past 12 months was ABOLISHING the Road Commission, which had the effect of eliminating Brookover's contract with them. That wasn't the purpose for the change, of course, but it certainly would be a weird way to assist somebody," Grebner said in an email.

When Brookover was working on a lawsuit against Lindemann's office over the Cook and Thorburn drain dispute in 2010, Board of Commissioner meeting minutes show Grebner abstained from voting on a resolution to accept a \$100,000 settlement from the Drain Commissioner's Office because of his professional relationship with Brookover. And campaign finance records show Brookover donated \$1,000 to Lindemann's 2008 drain commissioner campaign. Brookover could not be reached for comment.

Lindemann also accuses Grebner of overseeing the appointment of Marc Thomas, who served as a county commissioner from 2003 to 2009, to the Ingham County Board of Road Commissioners. Grebner was a yes-vote to appoint Thomas and Milton Scales to the Road Commission board in early 2011, but that was after Grebner discouraged him from running and did not support him through the nominating process, Thomas said. Grebner added that it's the commissioners' job to appoint people to various boards — even if they are political "party hacks," he said.

Lindemann also says Grebner hired Thomas as a campaign manager, which Thomas denies. He said he helped organize a fundraiser last week and has volunteered for his campaign taking pictures, but called the idea of his being campaign manager "ridiculous."

## LINDEMANN SAYS: GREBNER SHOULDN'T CRITICIZE HIS HANDLING OF MONEY BECAUSE HIS BUSINESS NEARLY WENT UNDER

Grebner owned the well-known East Lansing political consulting firm, Practical Political Consulting, until he sold the business in 2009 to sales manager Penelope Tsernoglou.

Grebner cited the poor economy and the lack of a local bank's willingness to continue loaning money to the firm that resulted in the need to sell. But Lindemann said it's hypocritical for Grebner to criticize him for being "incompetent" at handling money when he was forced to sell his own business. Lindemann has said that Practical Political Consulting was driven "near into bankruptcy" under Grebner.

Tsernoglou, an Ingham County commissioner who is supporting Lindemann in the race, is now the resident agent listed on the company's 2012 annual report filing with the state. She said she doesn't plan to continue seeking a loan every two years to keep the company afloat, as Grebner did during odd-numbered years. Practical Political Consulting makes most of its money during even-numbered (election) years, Grebner has said.

"We're growing and doing more consulting," she said. "I will be managing all of the financial side of things.

"Our business did not go bankrupt. Mark was not able to manage it in a way that it could continue to be functioning," Tsernoglou said. "He had to find someone else to take over the finances of it. It is what it is."

Grebner's response: "The only criticism anybody can make is that I've never made much money at what I do, so I've never paid myself very much."

Moreover, Lindemann accuses Grebner of running because it would put him on a much sounder financial footing with the pension he collects from the county. As a commissioner in his final term, Grebner's pay is a little over \$11,000 annually, whereas the drain commissioner makes nearly \$83,000 a year. If elected, the pension he would collect is about \$61,000 a year.

"That's not the main motivation," Grebner has said, "but that's certainly a piece of this." Also, Grebner has led the effort on the board of commissioners to move county employees to a hybrid pension system, a move that he says could reduce his pension to about \$40,000 a year if elected drain commissioner.

Lindemann also uses the Board of Commissioners' handling of the recently opened, consolidated 911 dispatch center as evidence that Grebner mismanages money. The cost of the building was underestimated in both a preliminary feasibility study and for the actual cost to build it, Grebner said, which turned out to be roughly \$800,000 more than what contractors estimated it would cost. After scaling back the proposed building, Grebner said, the cost was about \$400,000 more than expected.

"You could say the Board of Commissioners did preside over a million dollars of unexpected costs," Grebner said. "Is there some evidence of malfeasance on my part? I did my best — maybe someone should have thought of better questions," he said, referring to the construction estimates.

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[cadl.org](http://cadl.org)

# Drain

## MEET THE CANDIDATES

from page 9



### MARK GREBNER

**Age:** 59

**Hometown:**

Kankakee, Ill.

**Education:**

Bachelor's in urban policy, Michigan State University; J.D. University of Michigan

**Work life:** Founded Practical Political Consulting in East Lansing; Ingham County Board of Commissioners 1976-1980 and 1984-present.



### PAT LINDEMANN

**Age:** 64

**Hometown:** Lansing

**Education:** Bachelor's in resource development, MSU; coursework completed in watershed management at MSU, didn't defend doctoral dissertation

**Work life:** Worked in a family butcher shop on East Michigan Avenue for 23 years; Lansing City Council member 1979-1991; Ingham County Drain Commissioner 1993-present

## GREBNER SAYS: LINDEMANN'S PROJECT COSTS ARE HIGH, HE TREATS TAXPAYERS LIKE HIS OWN PERSONAL ATM

As misuse of office resources goes, it's a small crime.

But as City Pulse reported two months ago, Lindemann is being investigated by the Ingham County sheriff and the Attorney General's Office over some mulch that shouldn't have ended up back at Lindemann's house, at least not the way it did. Heavy rain storms three or four years ago caused trees to fall in some county drains. When that happens, it's common for Lindemann's office to turn the wood into mulch, take it back to his office and have it bagged and given away free to anyone who wants it. But, as Lindemann admitted, one truckload never made it back to Mason. Instead, it was delivered to Lindemann's house by a county employee in a county truck and unloaded by state prisoners on a work detail.

"This was an innocent thing," Lindemann said in May, pointing out the trees were mulched near his Lansing Township house on the west side, so the truck was saved a trip across the county to Mason. "But this could be construed as a benefit to me. ... Honestly, I thought I was doing a good thing, but if I abused a privilege here, I apologize."

It's indicative of how Grebner thinks Lindemann uses his office like an ATM machine. He cites drain projects throughout the county suggesting Lindemann's projects are too costly and his spending too frivolous.

Grebner has repeatedly called Lindemann "incompetent" when it comes to spending. Most recently, Grebner wonders why the attorney fees for a relatively minor drain project — Kinawa View — are \$32,000 and a "financial advisor" costs \$12,000. Grebner has also cited a federal misdemeanor Lindemann was charged with for commingling funds 30 years ago at a U.S. Post Office substation in his art gallery (which Lindemann said he worked at less than half-time) and for paying property taxes late on a rental property he

owns on Michigan Avenue.

The Kinawa attorney fees offer an insight into how taxpayers are assessed for project costs and what actually is spent. While Lindemann budgeted \$32,000 for attorneys, which means taxpayers were assessed based on that fee, the latest figure of actual attorney costs is about \$10,000. This happens routinely on drain projects, Lindemann says, because he has to bond for money based on what he expects it will cost — not what it actually costs. Basically, Grebner highlights the cost assessed to taxpayers, not what is actually billed by attorneys. Any excess money, by law, must be used to pay off debt service on the bond or directed into a maintenance fund for that specific project.

Based on the state drain code of 1956, the drain commissioner makes a computation of costs within 10 days after the "letting of contracts" or, in cases when costs are appealed, after the appeal has been decided. The drain commissioner is required to factor in 12 different costs as part of the bill.

The Board of Commissioners vote to back the full faith and credit of the county on drain projects — which Grebner says would only increase the interest rate on the bonds if voted down — and not on line-item project costs.

Lindemann defends his spending as hiring the best talent for each aspect of a project and his progressive drainage policies save taxpayers up front and over the long term.

Qualifications-Based Selection, or QBS, is a process for hiring contractors for construction projects. Lindemann defends QBS as an efficient and reliable alternative to open bid processes. Basically, firms submit resumes to Lindemann's office and he determines who is best qualified. The Michigan QBS Coalition describes it as "an objective and fair process used by owners to select architects, engineers and land surveyors based on the design professionals' qualifications ... ." At least one state office, the Department of Management and Budget, is required by law to use QBS when contracting work, the coalition's website says.

Lindemann also is an advocate for low-impact development strategies, for which he's been recognized with awards several times. This, he says, also significantly lowers upfront drain project costs. Rather than traditional methods like diverting storm water directly to rivers, low-impact development creates a habitat at the source of the drainage problem to absorb it back into the earth.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approves of it. An EPA report from 2007 did a cost-benefit analysis of low-impact development versus conventional methods for 17 storm water management projects. "In most cases," the report says, it was less expensive to do low-impact design than conventional methods. "Total capital cost savings ranged from 15 to 80 percent when LID methods were used, with a few exceptions in which LID project costs were higher than conventional stormwater management costs," the report says.

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Public Accuracy Test for the August 7, 2012 Primary Election for registered voters in the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, has been scheduled for Monday, July 30, 2012, at 3:00 p.m., in the City Clerk's Office located at East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the program being used to tabulate the results of the election, counts the votes in the manner that meets the requirements of the law.

All interested persons are welcome to attend.

Marie E. McKenna  
East Lansing City Clerk

#### INGHAM COUNTY 2012 LOCAL ROAD SURFACING PROGRAM

Sealed proposals for the 2012 Local Road Surfacing Program will be received by the Ingham County Department of Transportation and Roads until **10:00 AM local time prevailing on August 8, 2012** at the Ingham County Road Department, Austin E. Cavanaugh Administration Building, 301 Bush Street, PO Box 38, Mason, Michigan 48854-0038.

The scope of work includes the following 8 separate projects: Separate Hot In Place Recycling (HIPR) and Ultra-thin HMA Overlay projects in each of Meridian, Lansing and Delhi Townships totaling 115,095 SYD of HIPR and 7,565 tons of Ultra-thin HMA over 7.9 miles of streets; 1 mile of HMA Overlay in Vevay Twp.; and 1.5 mile HMA paving of a gravel road in Stockbridge Twp. Each of these 8 projects will be awarded and contracted separately to the lowest qualified bidder on each.

Proposals will be reviewed and contracts will be awarded after the August 28, 2012 Ingham County Board of Commissioners meeting. Work will occur in September, 2012, with **completion by October 19, 2012.**

Interested bidders with questions about the project or desiring to obtain a copy of the proposal (no document fee) may contact Mr. William Conklin, P.E., Managing Director, at (517) 676-9722.

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of East Lansing in the Counties of Clinton and Ingham

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ADOPTION OF THE AMENDED BROWNFIELD PLAN #16 FOR THE CITY OF EAST LANSING PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACT 381, 1996, AS AMENDED, OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN.**

Please take notice that a Public Hearing shall be held before the Council of the City of East Lansing on Wednesday, August 8, 2012 at 7:30 pm in Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing, MI 48823 on the adoption of the Amended Brownfield Plan #16 for the City of East Lansing, within which the Authority shall exercise its powers, all pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, being Act 381 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan of 1996, as amended.

The brownfield site includes the property at 1525 West Lake Lansing Road (former Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Central). The property consists of land and there is no personal property included. A detailed legal description of the property along with maps and a copy of the Brownfield #16 are available for public inspection in the Department of Planning and Community Development, City of East Lansing, 517-319-6930.

Please note that all aspects of the Brownfield Plan are open for discussion at the public hearing, at which all interested persons will be provided an opportunity to be heard and written communication will be received and considered. **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 Abbott Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, 517-319-6920, TDD 1-800-649-3777.**

Marie McKenna  
City Clerk

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# Arts & Culture

art • books • film • music • theater



Courtesy Photo

Cheap Girls (from l to r) comprises Ben Graham (drums), Ian Graham (bass/ vocals), and Adam Aymor (guitar). Friday, the Lansing-based band celebrates five years of playing indie-rock and power pop with a show at Mac's Bar.

## Survival, not revival

### Cheap Girls celebrates five years in the Chevy van

By RICH TUPICA

Stepping into Ian Graham's rental house on Lansing's east side, not far from Kalamazoo Street, is a quick way to learn a few key things about the songwriter and Cheap Girls bassist-vocalist.

Even with all the blinds drawn to keep out the blistering summer sun, it's evident what inspires the 26-year-old. A poster of the Lemonheads, a '90s alt-rock band, looks across an old sofa in the living room at a framed Woody Allen print. The dining room is piled with guitars, amplifiers, a four-track recorder, an old organ, and a computer playing an Evan Dando solo album. "Obsession" is the mood.

But Graham hasn't seen much of his cozy abode over the past three years. The same goes for Cheap Girls guitarist Adam Aymor, 24, who shares the two-story home. Cheap Girls has all but taken over their lives.

"It's really all I think about, or everything revolves around it," Graham said. "It may even be unhealthy. One day I may regret some sides of it because even down to relationships and work, the band comes first."

The indie-rock trio, which formed in 2007 and also includes 28-year-old drummer Ben Graham (Ian's brother), has been on a seemingly endless tour across the United States and even ventured to

Europe. Sometimes the guys stay out for two months at a time in their navy blue Chevy Express passenger van.

The rigorous tour regimen started not long after the band began garnering buzz for its 2008 debut LP, "Find Me a Drink Home." The band plays its five-year anniversary show Friday at Mac's bar.

While the band's distinct sound, which Ian Graham often describes as "simple rock," hasn't altered much since the band's genesis, he said they've grown in other ways.

"With each record they feel more comfortable," Graham said. "Listening to the first record ('Find Me a Drink Home') there are things that bother me."

It's not the songs or the recording that give Graham pause. "We didn't sound all that comfortable," he said. "Maybe that's some of its charm."

Well-meaning listeners describe "Find Me a Drink Home" as "lo-fi," and that makes Graham bristle. "We worked our asses off trying to make that record sound as best as possible," he said. "We're always trying to get better takes, get better guitar tones, and try new things."

Since the debut LP, the band has dropped two more full-length records: "My Roaring 20s" (2009) and its first national release, 2012's "Giant Orange" on Rise Records. The new disc, recorded by

Tom Gabel of Against Me!, quickly earned the Lansing-based band write-ups from Rolling Stone and Spin Magazine.

True, this band of 20-somethings has a lot of love for left-of-the-dial '90s rockers like Dinosaur Jr., but Ian Graham is quick to point out it's not an intentional revival, as some writers have claimed.

"I don't really mind the comparisons, but I'd say the term revival is kind of silly," Ian Graham said. Yes, they listened to Lemonheads, Gin Blossoms, Superchunk and such bands in the formative '90s, but Graham and his bandmates have worked hard to craft their own sound.

With the landmark fifth anniversary approaching, Aymor said the band has only gotten tighter, both on stage and as friends.

"Now that we're getting older and more mature, you don't do as much dumb shit and argue about stuff like you did when you were 19 or 20."

Those long hours packed in a van are gradually paying off, though Ben Graham said it was not "overnight" growth by any means.

"First time we played Brooklyn, there were 40 people there, maybe," recalled Ben Graham. "Then we just kept going back, and each time there were more people. The last time we were in New York we were opening for Bouncing Souls in front of 1,600 people."



Courtesy Image

"Giant Orange" is the band's latest disc, and its first on Rise Records. The group debuted in 2008 with "Find Me A Drink Home."

It's been that way pretty much everywhere they've gone.

"Boston, the first time we played there, I think about 13 people were there," he added. "It kept slowly growing. Now the last two shows we've played in Boston have sold out."

Scott Bell, a local show promoter and tour manager, has accompanied Cheap Girls on a handful of tours across the United States. "They're different," Bell said. "Ian and Ben actually are family, and they've played in bands together since they were like 12 years old or something like that. And they've known Adam for a long time, too. On stage they need less verbal cues. They've been synced up since day one."

Another local music veteran, Cale Sauter, has released some Cheap Girls vinyl over the years on his Bermuda Mohawk Productions imprint. During that time he's noticed a "wonderful and interesting cult of fans" growing around the band.

"They're usually late-20's or early-30-somethings who look an awful lot like the band members and obsess over certain lyrics and parts of songs, and the condition of the vinyl they purchase," Sauter said.

While Cheap Girls are still promoting "Giant Orange," the band is already working on tunes for the next album, a huge fall tour, and another European tour at the start of 2013.

"It's pretty much 100 percent dedication," Ian Graham said. "It pretty much revolves around us doing what we want to do. It's one of the few things where I've had that luxury."

#### Cheap Girls

Five Year Anniversary Show

Friday, July 27

w/ Screaming Females, Pity Sex  
Mac's Bar

2700 E. Michigan Ave,  
Lansing

18 and over, \$8  
advance, \$10 day of  
show, doors at 10 p.m.

www.facebook.com/  
CheapGirlsMusic

# When children grieve

## Riverwalk Theatre and Ele's Place collaborate on 'Getting Near to Baby'

By **HOLLY JOHNSON**

Despite its title and cast of several child actors, Riverwalk Theatre's "Getting Near to Baby" is not a children's show. Set in a small town in 1967, the play deals with a child's ability to overcome tragedy through humor, wisdom and sensitivity.

Willa Jo and Little Sister, played by Grace Mary Hinkley and Oltivia Sowa, are sent to live with their stern Aunt Patty

(Teresa Hurd) after a death in the family. Her strict rules and uncompassionate attitude compromise the young girls' ability to cope with their loss until the neighborhood kids enlighten the sisters with wonders of their "cave" playhouse.

To help the young actors evoke real and

powerful emotion without traumatizing them, director Tom Ferris worked with Ele's Place, a nonprofit organization that supports grieving children and their families.

"We talked about how grief expends itself and especially how it expresses itself in children," Ferris said. With 17 years of



Courtesy Photo

Willa Jo (Grace Mary Hinkley) comforts Little Sister (Olivia Sowa) in Riverwalk Theatre's production of "Getting Near to Baby."

high school theater education under his belt, Ferris already knew a thing or two about helping young actors convey their characters effectively.

The collaboration with Ele's Place is not merely for the actors' benefit. Ferris hopes Ele's Place clients will attend the play and see how others successfully deal with loss, hoping it will inspire grieving families. "Adults sometimes don't know that children are grieving and need to grieve in order to help them heal," he said. "It's important to help (children) recover because then they can grow to be contributing and healthy members of society."

Opening night for the play is free for all and includes a special 120-seat section reserved for Ele's Place staff members and clients.

Despite the play's solemn undertones, Ferris stresses that "Getting Near to Baby" is not a sad play, and even its most serious moments are followed by comic relief and catharsis. He offered assurances that adult and children viewers alike can expect to leave with a positive outlook on life's most misunderstood subject.

# High energy, big ears

## Eclectic Eric Darius tops smooth jazz bill in Holt

By **RICH TUPICA**

Even though his "Goin' All Out" on Blue Note scored him a No. 1 album on Billboard's Contemporary Jazz charts, saxophonist Eric Darius prefers not to pigeonhole his high-energy sound.

"I don't only play jazz — I play hip hop, R&B, pop, rock, gospel, funk, country," said Darius, who headlines the "Evening of Smooth Jazz" concert Friday at the Holt Performing Arts Complex. "I think that's what makes my music different because I incorporate all those different styles of music and put it into one."

Perhaps that's because the 29-year-old Tampa-based smooth jazz star comes

from a family of musicians. His dad plays bass, his mom sings and plays the piano, his younger sister sings, and his older brother plays the drums and the trumpet. "Music has always been in my family, it's in my blood,"

### Evening of Smooth Jazz with Eric Darius

Al McKenzie Band, 496 West Friday, July 27  
Holt Performing Arts Complex  
Margaret Livensparger Theater  
\$38, \$50 VIP tickets  
BMRWPromotions.com or call 517-372-7246

Darius said. "I was born to be a musician."

Growing up, he listened through his parents' big ears. "I was listening to Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson, Earth Wind and Fire, to Tower of Power, to Bob Marley — so I think I've always had a diverse taste when it comes to music."

Darius picked up a saxophone at 10 years old. A few years later he was writing original songs and performing in front of audiences. Today he tours the world with a six-piece group. He plays mostly original material. "I've been writing my own music since I was 13 years old," he said. "But we



Courtesy Photo

"Evening of Smooth Jazz" headliner Eric Darius will play a diverse mix of musical styles Friday, July 27 at the Holt Performing Arts Complex.

do a few covers." Alicia Keys' R&B chart-topper "If I Ain't Got You" popped up on one of his albums a few years ago and makes its way into live sets. He often covers Ne-Yo's "Because of You." "Other than that the rest of the material is original," he said.

But make no mistake, Darius knows his jazz — and learned by digging back through the history of the genre.

"The guy that really perked up my interest in wanting to play the saxophone was Grover Washington Jr.," Darius recalled. "I started studying his music and then I discovered David Sanborn, and that was the alpha sound that I really wanted to go for. Then I got into John Coltrane, Charlie Parker, Cannonball Adderley, Michael Brecker, Kenny Garrett. There's a long list, but those are some of my favorites."

Now in its eighth year, the "Evening of Smooth Jazz" concerts are hosted annually by the Lansing-based BMRW Promotions. BMRW President Charlie Wilson said after he witnessed Darius play a show back in January, he knew he wanted to bring that smooth, up-tempo sound to Lansing.

"He is high, high energy — from start to finish," Wilson said. "I don't know how he blows on a saxophone like that for over an hour. People are going to be shocked by his performance."

Michigan jazz will warm up the stage for Darius: 496 West, an 11-piece local band with a new self-titled CD, and Detroit's Al McKenzie Band. Aside from his own music, Al McKenzie was the music director for the Temptations on Motown. He's the music director for Martha Reeves and also worked with Anita Baker.

July 12 - August 19, 2012



By **Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard**

Directed by **John Lepard**

The hilarious team of **Aral Gribble and Wayne David Parker** return to Tuna, Texas for the 4th of July Tuna High School Class Reunion, once again portraying Tuna's entire population in this outrageous quick-change comedy!

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**Getting Near To Baby**

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# JazzFest: 2012 LANSING



## FREE!

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Etienne Charles

John Douglas

Sunny Wilkinson Quartet

Edye Evans Hyde &  
The Terry Lower Quartet

The Macpodz

fo/mo/deep

RJ Spangler's Planet D Nonet  
Sun Ra Tribute

Layers w/Koke McKesson

Evidence Jazz Group

Roger Jones Trio

496 West

Theo Batzer Band

Tyler Vander Maas  
Sax Quartet

Hot Club of Lansing

Jeff Shoup Trio

Betty Baxter

Saginaw Area  
Youth Jazz Ensemble

Ben Godoshian Trio

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**MICA**  
MICHIGAN INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

# OLD TOWN WELCOMES JAZZ & CHANGE

by Alyson Gines

**T**here is a growing sense of excitement and energy in the air as the first weekend in August draws close. It is time yet again for a celebration of jazz, musicians, food, and community. The Lansing JazzFest, held every summer since 1995, will bring together over 10,000 people in Old Town's streets.

One of the first things they might hear could be the sultry notes of Edye Evans Hyde, as she pulls the audience in with her outstanding voice. Or perhaps it will be Etienne Charles, his trumpet's notes crisply cutting through the night at an incredible speed. Maybe the draw will come from the KidzBeat area, where children can explore new instruments and make some of their own. A leisurely walk down the street could bring festival goers to admire art on display at the MICA Gallery. The possibilities of art, enjoyment, and exploration are endless.

Old Town was not always the hub for performance, music, and the arts like it is now. In the early 1980s, Turner Street and the adjacent stretch of Grand River were practically abandoned, a ghost town on the north edge of Lansing's core. Local artists, including Terry Terry of MessageMakers and the late Robert Busby of the Creole Gallery, recognized the potential of its historic brick buildings and proximity to the river, and formed the North Lansing Art Association.

In the early 1990s, the committee began to recognize that "North Lansing" was not a very distinctive label, and had some unfortunate associations. Many parts of Lansing are north of the Capitol, but their interest—and incidentally, the region's

earliest commercial development—was focused in a tightly defined area. They changed their name to the Old Town Business and Art Development Association (OTBADA), and "development" is an excellent label for what happened next.

Old Town has come into its own over the past 15 years. Previously deserted, it is now filled with signs of the living—art galleries, businesses, new restaurants, boutiques, sidewalk sales of

baskets of flowers or garden fountains. These ventures and the people who run them are telling a different story now. It started with some help from a national Main Street grant, overseen by the Old Town Commercial Association (OTCA). The people of Old Town were ready to proudly display the hard work and efforts they had invested to make something beautiful out of a place that had been almost completely deserted.

Things began to change with a music festival called the "Snake Rodeo," a celebration of music, art, and new life held out in the streets. Any artist was invited to submit a piece of work, the one rule being that a snake as a symbol of transformation had to play a role in it. A huge success, this festival opened the doors to things like OctoberFest (which became BluesFest) and JazzFest, which started in 1994 and 1995, respectively, and have continued ever since.

Over the years, OTBADA transitioned into the Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art (MICA), but the goal of the organization remained the same: to promote the arts and bring people together to share the joys of music, expression, discussion, and so much more. Now, events like Lansing JazzFest, Old Town BluesFest, and Michigan Mosaic Music Festival occur every year—and even those are just what is happening in late summer.

MICA continues its focus on continually progressing in quality arts programming that catalyzes community development. As an all-volunteer organization, MICA is fortunate to call on the time and talents of an enormous group of dedicated people. These Old Town festivals, among the largest in mid-Michigan, are free to all because of the committee volunteers' remarkable, year-round commitment.

Outside of the great festivals and events already set in place, MICA is working on taking the vision of arts-driven development to a state-wide level. Bold and innovative ideas are continually being considered and subsequent plans put in motion to keep this wave of music, community, and arts continually growing. This weekend's Lansing JazzFest provides the perfect opportunity to take a step back, look at all that has been accomplished, and then enjoy the ride.



## ADMISSION

JazzFest is FREE to the public, thanks to our supporters. We appreciate your generous support. Look for the bucket brigade and drop your donation in!

## GREEN TEAM

Lansing JazzFest continues to support a healthier Earth by going green. Recycling bins can be found throughout the site.

## ACCESSIBILITY

Lansing JazzFest is committed to being accessible to persons with disabilities. As an outdoor street festival, the festival venue is naturally wheelchair accessible. Handicap-accessible parking is available on both sides of E. Grand River Ave. Wheelchair-accessible restrooms are available.



# AROUND THE FESTIVAL

## THE TURNAROUND LOUNGE

For \$5/day admission, the Turnaround Lounge is a prime location to enjoy music from both main stages. This year, the lounge offers some new beverage choices:

1. **Sierra Nevada Pale Ale**, a mix of maltiness and orange blossom that won multiple gold medals from the Great American Beer Festival.
2. **Shock Top's summer-only Lemon Shandy**, a sweet, citrus-flavored, crisp beer.
3. **Blue Point's Toasted Lager** is one of their most popular, made from 6 different malts for an overall smooth and long-lasting taste.
4. **Palm's Speciale Belge** has a honey-like mellowness mixed with a fruity aroma for one of the better Belgian beers of the early 20th century.
5. **The Dark Horse Crooked Tree IPA** is a light-bodied, dry and crisp beer.
6. **Arcadia Whitsun** is an unfiltered wheat beer with a sweetness from honey and a spice from orange peels and coriander.

## FIRST FRIDAY HAPPY HOUR

In celebration of First Friday ([lansingfirstfridays.com](http://lansingfirstfridays.com)) there will be FREE admission to The Turnaround Lounge from 4:00-6:00 pm on Friday, for ages 21+. Come out with friends or make new ones and enjoy happy hour with the sounds of jazz on Turner Street.

## BIKE TO THE FESTIVAL

Located along the scenic River Trail, bicycles are a great form of transportation to the Lansing JazzFest. Bike racks are available on E. Grand River Ave., Turner St., and around the corner north on Center St. Festival attendees are urged to lock their bikes securely to bike racks only, keeping their parked bikes out of designated walkways.

Don't forget that state law requires a white headlight and red reflectors, visible to 600 feet, for after-dark bicycle riding. Festival staff strongly recommend wearing a helmet at all times and using a taillight.

## SHARE THE FESTIVAL

Check in on Foursquare and Facebook! Share your experiences on Twitter and Instagram! @LansingJazzFest – #LansingJazzFest [facebook.com/JazzLansing](http://facebook.com/JazzLansing)

## RIVER BOAT TOURS

Lansing Metro Marinas will be giving half-hour tours of the Grand River on Friday from 5-9 pm. Festival goers can experience the new vibrant downtown Lansing developments and natural surroundings from the water. Tours are being offered at a discounted rate of \$3 per person and will depart from the dock at Burchard Park, next to the Brenke Fish Ladder.

## RIVER BOAT TAXI

Arrive to JazzFest in style! Lansing Metro Marinas will be running a taxi service Saturday from 2-10 pm from the Lansing City Market to Burchard Park, next to the Brenke Fish Ladder.

Festival goers can ride to and from the festival on the scenic Grand River for \$1. Children 12 and under ride for free. The taxi will depart from the Lansing City Market on the hour (:00) and from Old Town on the half hour (:30). Parking is available near the City Market at the Lansing Center and surrounding areas.

## KIDZBEAT

KidzBeat presents interactive activities for kids of all ages.

Join us Saturday from 1-7pm for **face painting** provided by MICA, **noodle art** provided by Noodles & Co., and an "instrument petting zoo" provided by Marshall Music.

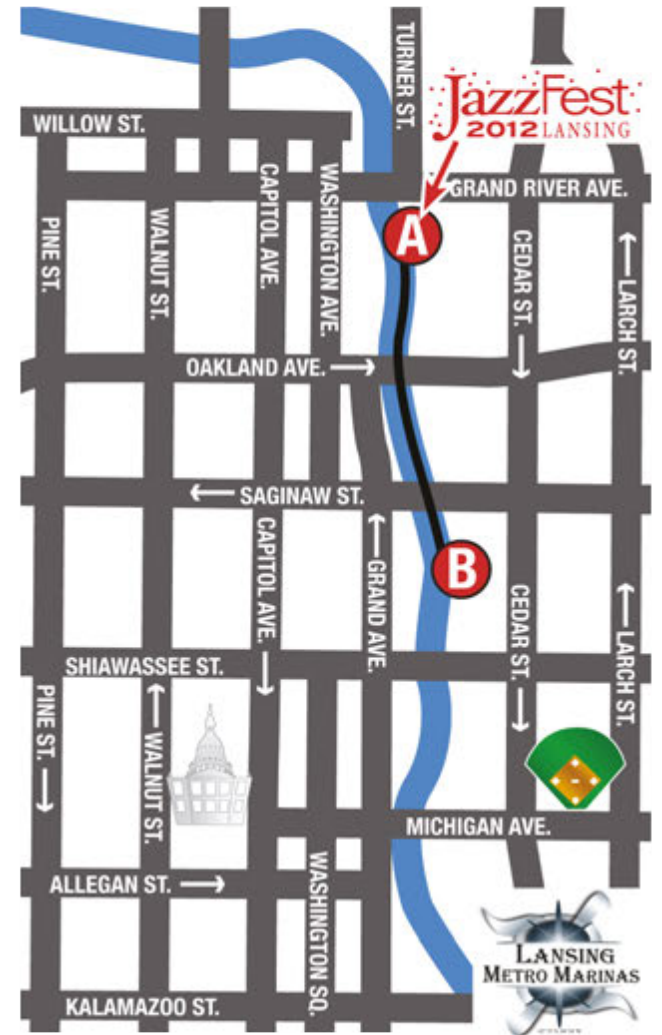
This year's teachers for the **instrument petting zoo** include Jason Strothiede, an electric bass player and songwriter for the popular Michigan band The Hooties who has long served the Capital Area Blues Society. Next is James "Mocha Man" Waller, a man of many talents, performing on saxophone, keyboard, percussion, vocals and various different horn instruments. Third is the infamous Big Willy, a songwriter and guitarist who's currently performing with three different bands and has a new CD set to be released. Finally, rounding out the group is Pete Kittle, a bass guitarist. One of his two groups, Uptown Praise Band, just returned from appearing in Nashville for the Christian Music Awards at TBN Studios. These intelligent and passionate musicians are ready to share what they know during this year's KidzBeat!

Teaching artists from the Broad Art Museum present a **drop-in musical instrument workshop** on August 4 at Lansing JazzFest in Old Town. Kids of all ages will learn to create a variety of working instruments from recycled and repurposed materials. Kids and their parents are invited to build a banjo, a drum, or a kazoo! The Broad Art Museum Family Day will take place on August 4 from 12-4 pm at the Broad summer annex at 226 East Grand River Avenue (formerly the Chrome Cat) and is FREE.

Peep, the enchanting star of WKAR's **Peep and the Big Wide World**, will be at the festival near the KidzBeat area on Friday evening from 5:30-7:30 pm and Saturday afternoon 2-5 pm. Peep and the Big Wide World is an animated cartoon that teaches nature and basic science concepts to preschoolers. The program airs on WKAR-TV weekday afternoons at 1:30 pm.

## WKAR BACKSTAGE PASS

We're proud to welcome videographers from WKAR's BackStage Pass program to the 2012 Lansing JazzFest! This fantastic live performance television program, broadcast around the country, is coming to JazzFest to capture the performances of Evidence Jazz Group, John Douglas, Tim Cunningham, and Edge Evans Hyde & The Terry Lower Quartet. Arrive early to get a good seat!



# JAZZFEST 2012 PERFORMERS

## THEO BATZER BAND

Friday 4-4:40p, Jackson National Stage

Armed with a diverse musical sensibility encouraged by the MSU jazz studies program, the local Theo Batzer Band won't hesitate to take you for a ride. Their aim is to keep it soulful and swingin', and to give the people some funky music they can groove to. Their sound is led by Theo Batzer himself on guitar, Anthony Stanco with a big sound on trumpet, Paul Bratcher running lines on piano, Sam Copperman riffing on bass, and Jordan Otto keeping the beat on drums.

## JEFF SHOUP TRIO

Friday 4-6p, MICA Stage

Well-known local drummer Jeff Shoup will make a special workshop/performance appearance. Jeff and his band will come out swingin' straight-ahead jazz. This event promises to be as educational as it is entertaining. Shoup hosts the weekly jam session "Jazz Tuesdays," and can be found performing jazz music at area restaurants, night clubs, and special events. He has performed with notable jazz musicians including Jim Alfredson, Rodney Whitaker, Diego Rivera, Wess "Warmdaddy" Anderson, and Ralph Tope. He also performs regularly in mid-Michigan with the jump blues band Those Delta Rhythm Kings and funk/R&B group Summer of Sol. Having started performing semi-professionally in Lansing in the early 90s, Jeff recently earned a bachelor's degree in jazz studies from Michigan State University and will be returning to MSU this fall to begin graduate study.

## LAYERS w/ KOKE MCKESSON

Friday 5-7p, Jackson National Stage

Into their sixth year of performing together, Layers—the band formed by current faculty members teaching at Lansing Community College—brings the smooth, traditional jazz sound to center stage. Mike Daniels provides rhythm on drums, Ed Fedewa plucks away on bass, Dennis Therrian moves the melodies on keyboard, and Jonathon Gewirtz sails through notes on saxophone. Although their passion is in live performance and the music they teach to students, these musicians were excited to release their first CD this year, *No Vacancy*, a recording of their original compositions. You can expect these unique tracks and more as their jazzy sound takes the stage.

Layers will be performing with Koke McKesson, who may not be a household name to the world, but in southeastern Michigan her resume is the stuff of which legends are written. Other singers should be so lucky—and so good.

## UKULELE FOR KIDS w/ BEN HASSENGER

Friday 6:15-7:15p, MICA Stage

Playing the ukulele is easy and fun—it's a perfect instrument for the young (and the young-at-heart) to learn to play music on. During this workshop, your children will learn a short history of the ukulele, the names of the parts, how to tune it, and three chords which can be used to play thousands of songs. The highly esteemed instructor, Ben Hassenger, is a long-time Lansing-area musician, educator, music therapist, and ukulele ambassador. Hassenger is the co-founder of the Lansing Area Ukulele Group (L.A.U.G.H.) and organizer of the Mighty Uke Day festival in Old Town. If possible, children should bring their own ukuleles, tuned G-C-E-A. If they don't have their own, there will be a limited number of ukes available to borrow for the workshop.

## EVIDENCE JAZZ GROUP

Friday 7-8p, MessageMakers Stage

For nearly 10 years, Evidence Jazz Group has been bringing the groovy jams to audiences all over Michigan. During this time, they have had the opportunity to share the stage and make music with some great fellow performers: Donald Bryd, David Leibman, Branford Marsalis, and Barry Harris, to name a few. Their success has carried them across Michigan music festivals, local jazz radio stations, and even the chance to open for Bill Cosby. Forrest Bryant of *JazzTimes* says, "This capable quintet offers up a nice mix of hard-bop and contemporary Latin sounds. Every member of the group composes...showing off the band's collective chops to particular advantage."

## BETTY BAXTER

Friday 7:30-8:30p, MICA Stage

Baxter's Michigan music career began back in 1977, upon meeting Sandy Izenson, a local pianist. An inseparable pair, they played weekly shows for local music lounges and country clubs. These performances are what brought her in touch with Dr. Fred Mitchell, Jr., a skilled jazz bassist and pianist, and inspired her soul-filled blues and jazz career that followed their meeting. Today, Baxter works with the Lansing Matinee Musicale presenting jazz programs, as well as study clubs of Michigan music composers. She also released her latest CD, *Love Remembers*, featuring a quartet of mid-Michigan all-stars: Jeff Kressler on piano, Ed Fedewa (part of the group Layers) on bass, Jeff Hall on reeds, and Fred Knapp on drums. Her love for jazz is apparent in every song, and promises to captivate the audience.



Sunny Wilkinson

## SUNNY WILKINSON QUARTET

Friday 8-9p, Jackson National Stage

Sunny Wilkinson, in over three decades of performances has taken her place in that elite group of jazz vocalists who have stretched the boundaries of music and found themselves one of a kind. *Worlds Record L.A.* took note of her, saying that "Sunny Wilkinson is at the top of her game here. She has spent a lot of time refining her craft in the trenches and now emerges as a master songstress able to get inside of a song and find its essential emotional core." The inspiration behind this ability is drawn from across the jazz genre—everything from traditional to contemporary jazz, folk music, rock, and even Brazilian music. Sunny brings all of this and more to the stage through powerful ballads and playful tunes that pull the audience into the deep roots of her music.

Betty Baxter





## THE MACPODZ

Friday 10:30p-12:30a, Jackson National Stage

The Macpodz bring a fresh style to their performances in the self-described disco bebop genre. This group is a guitar-less ensemble comprised of Brennan Andes on bass, Jesse Clayton on keys, Ross Huff on trumpet, Griffin Bastian on drums, and Nick Ayers on percussion, flute, and vocals. The drums and bass resonate frequencies of joie de vivre, and the cymbals and trumpets sound triumph. Together, they muster up some of the most lively music on the scene today. Ryan Bunch of the Toledo City Newspaper says, "With a little bit of everything in its musical grab bag, The Macpodz easily please music lovers, from fans of far out jazz to those rootsy jam band-style grooves...The Macpodz impress as only an open-minded band can, taking the core of genuine American music and tossing in tasteful touches of world grooves that rouse and comfort all at once."

## SAGINAW AREA YOUTH JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Saturday 1-1:45p, Jackson National Stage

SAYJE gives young musicians the chance to meet with similarly interested students in a friendly, inspiring, and intensive musical experience. The group, open to musicians age 13-21, is versed in music theory, music history, and instrumental technique pertaining to the jazz idiom. Music director Raeann Jones has her BS in instrumental music education from Central Michigan University, having taught at the Midland Academy for Advanced and Creative Studies, Carrollton Middle School, and A & A Music Academy in Chicago. She has performed as part of the CMU Concert Band, the Marching Chippewas, Central Air Jazz Ensemble, and 50s-80s cover band Benson Band. She has also served as jazz director of the Bay Area Summer Music Festival.

## CHILDREN'S BALLET THEATRE

Saturday 1-2p, MICA Stage

For over 30 years, The Children's Ballet Theatre of Michigan (CBT) has thrilled mid-Michigan audiences with the talent and exuberance of its young dancers, ages 8 to 18. Best known for its annual Nutcracker performances during Thanksgiving weekend, the company also performs classic ballets such as Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella and Swan Lake as well as original contemporary works in an annual spring show. Under the direction of Artistic Director Gregory George, they participate in creating their own choreography and exploring the inner artist. This diversity will be reflected in their performance at the Lansing JazzFest, where the CBT dancers will present an eclectic mélange of classical and contemporary ballet.

## TYLER VANDER MAAS SAX QUARTET

Saturday 2-2:45p, Jackson National Stage

Tyler Vander Maas Sax Quartet plays snappy original arrangements and compositions created by their group leader, Tyler Vander Maas. The music is heavily influenced by traditional jazz forms and harmonies, using those as a platform from which to explore new directions. Having met in the jazz studies program at Michigan State University, each musician provides something special and just a little different to their overall sound. Taylor Herron grooves on the alto sax, and is originally from Montana, where rivers cut through valleys much like his lines through chord changes. Ryan Freitas provides the solid jazz bass, adding flair to his performance with edgy tenor sounds. As the oldest performer in the group, Royce Phillips knows exactly when to lead out with his electrifying solos. Finally, backing up the entire group with his big sound is Travis Sinclair on baritone.

*Tyler Vander Maas Sax Quartet*



*John Douglas*

## JOHN DOUGLAS

Friday 9-10:30p, MessageMakers Stage

John Douglas is your funk specialist, your acid and Latin jazz star, and a seasoned be-bop professional. With dexterous ease, he rips the trumpet high notes, caresses the low notes, and rocks the melodic scales in between—all without compromise on clarity or tonal quality. His performance career began while studying at the University of Michigan—Ann Arbor, and expanded into Detroit in the early nineties when he and five others formed the band Jazzheads. The enormous success of Jazzheads' self-entitled debut recording earned the group 1999's Detroit Music Award for Best Jazz Recording, as well as Best Jazz Group Deserving Wider Recognition, and Best Modern Jazz Group, which they again won in 2002.

Douglas continued onto touring in the U.S., Canada, and Europe with notable fellow performers: Gladys Knight, Marshall Allen, Kevin Good of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and the R&B icons The Chi-lites. Returning home, he formed his current ensemble, the John Douglas Quintet. Fellow players include Ibrahim Jones on bass, Mike Malus on piano, TaJaun "Butter" Hawkins on drums, and Kris Kurzawa on guitar, creating a powerful sound of funky jazz. Together, this group's sounds, skills, and stamina indulge the senses, while John provides an insinuating energy that lights up both the stage and the minds of audiences all over the world.

# JAZZFEST 2012 PERFORMERS CONT.



Roger Jones

## **ROGER JONES TRIO**

**Saturday 3-4p, Jackson National Stage**

Roger L. Jones II is a native of Flint who has worked professionally with various artists in the USA, Japan, Europe, and Turkey. Roger discovered his musical abilities as a child at church while listening to organist Henry Moore. After graduating from high school, Roger attended Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Oberlin, Ohio, where his musicianship and reputation grew exponentially. Roger has performed with Wynton Marsalis, Joe Henderson, Wallace Roney, and JJ Johnson, among others, and in 2004 released his first CD, *Out of the Wilderness*. His current group is the Roger Jones Trio, with Tassili Bond on bass and Jerry Powell on drums. Jerry Powell has performed with the Mansfield (Ohio) Symphony Orchestra and has a bachelor's degree in jazz percussion performance. Mixed with a soulful and modern approach, the music of this band is hot and swings ridiculously hard. The *Cliff Bell's Jazz Review* has heralded Roger Jones as one of the most explosive pianists of his generation.

## **COMMUNITY DANCE PROJECT**

**Saturday 2-3p, MICA Stage**

As a cultural treasure in the Lansing area and Michigan's longest-running professional modern dance company, Happendance continues to find ways to develop the future of dance in our community. Under the direction of Missy Lilje, for the seventh year Community Dance Project offers free modern dance performances designed to demystify modern dance for audience members and to nurture Lansing-area choreographers and dancers. Prior to the presentation of each dance, the choreographer verbally shares his or her intentions and process with the audience. At the conclusion of the show, dancers and choreographers answer audience questions in a talk-back session.

## **DRUM CRAZY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE**

**Saturday 3-3:45p, 5-5:45p, MICA Stage**

Drum Crazy is an East Lansing percussion ensemble facilitated by Rob Curtner and Karen Arndorfer, made up of hobby percussionists and drum students. The activities of the group include drum circles, performances, lessons, and learning about the health benefits of drumming. The ensemble focuses on using traditional African and Latin rhythms as the basis for peaceful and persuasive percussion. Their mix of vocals, drums, and movement create a sense of community, inviting the audience in. Drum Crazy's goal is to awaken and explore a rhythmical relationship with the universe and to carry the healing quality and joy of music into life.

## **RECORDERS FOR KIDS w/ DOUG BERCH**

**Saturday 4-4:45p, MICA Stage**

Folk musician, singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist: Doug Berch does it all! His music has an original sound that shows the influence of old-time, Celtic, British, and rock. He is best known as a masterful player of dulcimers, a 3-4 string wooden instrument, as well as the banjo, tin whistle, and other unique instruments. Berch put his skills to use as a part of Celtic ensemble Colcannon for 10 years, as well as touring as a solo act. Upon returning home, Berch has been making dulcimers, and teaching for over 30 years.

You can find him leading the Recorders for Kids session this year, where he's bound to share his musical wisdom as well as some great laughs!

## **496 WEST**

**Saturday 4:15-5:15p, MessageMakers Stage**

496 West connects somewhere between contemporary jazz, R&B, soul, a sprinkling of the blues and, of course, gospel jazz. Together, these musicians form a contemporary instrumental and smooth jazz group that is all about artists pouring themselves into every beautiful note. With their first CD release scheduled for this summer, 496 West showcases its members. Starting with bass man Leonard Washington and keyboardist Richard Wolfolk, the former music director for Motown's Temptations, Al McKenzie, stepped in, providing artistic direction and adding keys. Soon, saxophonist Herbert Scott, drummer James Flanagan and vocalist Dina Flanagan joined the group. Today's instrumentation includes soprano, tenor and alto sax, keyboards, guitar, bass, drums, vocals and even a few surprises that, like jazz, are rich in tone and exciting to hear.

## **HOT CLUB OF LANSING**

**Saturday 7-9p, MICA Stage**

This is a one-of-a-kind Lansing band! Performing mainly gypsy jazz and acoustic swing, Hot Club of Lansing provides a roaring good time. Their music emphasizes Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli's jazz style from Paris in the 1930s and 40s, but also touches on bebop and classic American jazz standards. These are definitely tunes to move your soul and your feet! This swinging group is comprised of Timothy Williams on lead guitar, Bob McCarthy on vocals, guitar and mandolin, Travis Therrian on double bass, Benjamin Hall on vocals and featuring special guest Tia Imani Hanna on violin.



Edye Evans Hyde

## EDYE EVANS HYDE & THE TERRY LOWER QUARTET

Saturday 6:30-7:30p, MessageMakers Stage

2011 West Michigan Jazz Society Musician of the Year, Edye Evans Hyde has been singing jazz, blues and pop music for over 30 years in West Michigan, Los Angeles, Asia and Europe. She was also awarded "2012 Best Regional Artist" by the fans of WEMU Radio. That isn't the only recognition her outstanding voice has earned her, though—the *L.A. Jazz Scene* said "Edye Evans Hyde combines scat singing with lyric interpretation while working part of the time in a vocal mode that brings her voice into the fold as another instrument in the band." Hyde's music ranges from swanky, classic jazz to upbeat blues that makes you stand up and move. Her smooth ability to weave her voice with the instruments in her quintet or stand out and passionately belt her music makes her a must-see performer.

For the past 30 years, Terry Lower has been performing and creating incredible music on the jazz scene. Starting with his studies at the Berklee School of Music in Boston, Lower has since become an international musician. He has performed anywhere from Michigan's own Detroit Montreux International Jazz Festival, to touring Europe with Grammy-nominee Betty Joplin as part of the Centro Jazz Torino group. His most recent tour abroad was as part of the Edye Evan Hyde Sextet in Italy in 2008. Lower has also had the opportunity to play beautiful jazz with some of the greats, like Frank Morgan, Bernadette Peters, David "Fathead" Newman, Bobby Shew, Hendrik Meurkins, Larry Nozero, Kevin Mahogany and Benny Golson. This seasoned and talented musician is definitely one worth seeing live.

## ETIENNE CHARLES

Saturday 7:30-9p, Jackson National Stage

Etienne Charles comes from a family of extremely talented musicians. Born and raised in Trinidad, he began playing as a child, receiving his first trumpet when he was 10. Four short years later, Charles added percussion instruments into his growing musical collection as he studied at the Brass Institute, where he was the youngest member of the school's professional band. His obvious gift for music took him to the Berklee College of Music summer performance program at the young age of 16, where he decided that music was going to be not only his career, but his life.

Upon receiving a scholarship, Charles enrolled in Florida State University to pursue his dream of studying music. It was there that he was exposed to jazz like never before and truly fell in love with the sultry, smooth, exhilarating genre. He toured nationally and internationally, placing 2nd at the Trumpet Guild Jazz Competition in Bangkok, Thailand, and performing at the North Sea Jazz Festival in the Hague, Netherlands. Charles took 1st place in the National Trumpet Competition in Virginia. It was these successes and his passion for the music that took him on a full scholarship to Julliard School in New York City for his masters.

There, he would tour the world with the Julliard Jazz Orchestra. He would also release his first CD, *Culture Shock*, and record on the album *Elevation*, which received 2 Grammy nominations. He's had the opportunity to perform with other Grammy Award winners, such as Wynton Marsalis, Johnny Mandel, Roberta Flack, and Maria Schneider. He now serves as a MSU professor of jazz and has recently released a new album, *Kaiso*. This legendary performer is one that you surely won't want to miss.



Etienne Charles

# JAZZFEST 2012 PERFORMERS CONT.

## RJ SPANGLER'S PLANET D NONET SUN RA TRIBUTE

Saturday 5:30-6:30p, Jackson National Stage

The Planet D Nonet was founded in 2007 by RJ Spangler and James O'Donnell, both original members of the well-known Detroit band, The Sun Messengers. The "D" in the name stands for Detroit, and their exposure to musical genius Sun Ra began in the mid-70s when poet-activist John Sinclair first brought the band to the Motor City. Since then, they have completed two tours of the southern US, appearing in nine different states, as well as an annual tour of western Michigan.

A typical Planet D Nonet gig is anything but ordinary. There's a chance that each performance might involve very early jazz from Louis Armstrong or Mezz Mezzrow, Duke Ellington and Fletcher Henderson swing charts from the '30s, Detroit R&B from Paul "Huckle-Buck" Williams or King Porter, and even space-age jazz from Sun Ra. This phenomenal group can transition from scene to scene, spending one night playing a swing dance, the next at a concert performance at a small pub, and another as the entertainment at an art gallery. Whatever they do, they always have a Detroit twist and plenty of good humor, with an eye toward turning people onto this music.

## TIM CUNNINGHAM

Saturday 9-10:30p, MessageMakers Stage

Smooth and sultry, cool, yet definitely funky. These words best describe the sound of R&B saxophonist Tim Cunningham, also a Lansing native and former MSU football star. His high energy level and emotional stage show made him high in demand by fellow musicians—Earth, Wind & Fire, Wynton Marsalis, Boyz II Men, Luther Vandross, and Patti LaBelle are just a few of the incredibly talented people he has worked with. Cunningham's gift for performing earned him the opening slot at the Cincinnati Jazz Festival six years in a row. After experiencing just one of them, music critic Larry Nager of The Cincinnati Inquirer declared that he was "a soulful, hard-edged player. He gave a 35-minute show that posed the question, how can somebody this good remain relatively unknown?"

Tim Cunningham's latest project, Manchester Road, is receiving rave reviews for its title track. The album was recorded and produced with his long-time friend Daron Steward, featuring a collection of exciting, mellow and sensuous melodies that you can expect to hear him soulfully deliver on stage at Lansing JazzFest.

## FO/MO/DEEP

Saturday 10:30p-12:30a, Jackson National Stage

Best known for their sizzling live performances, the fo/mo/deep groove is rooted in the experimental school of the 70s, a time when jazz, soul and funk were one and the same. Seeking to defy the ordinary, this diverse collective harkens back to the days when groups hypnotized the world with bass-driven ensembles and a full-bodied sound that reigned supreme. fo/mo/deep plays music like it's **meant to be**—hot, incalculable and emotionally satisfying and fun for all ages. This ensemble is made **up of** Ron "FatKat" Holmes Jr. on bass, Kenneth "Pounce" Pouncey as percussionist, Andre Scott on drums, Kevin Jones on keyboard, N. Michael Goecke on trombone/vocals, and Keith Newton on saxophone/flute. Band leader Ron Holmes says of the group that they "couldn't have put together a more diverse group of cats. [We] all have something interesting to say and contribute to this music."



Tim Cunningham



## OTHERSTAGE

The OtherStage provides opportunities to jam with professional musicians. Bring your instruments and celebrate jazz!

### BEN GODOSHIAN TRIO

Friday 7-8p, 9-10p

This trio is led by Ben Godoshian on drums, Matt LoRusso on guitar, and Sam Cooperman on bass. Godoshian has taught percussion, conga, and keyboard lessons with Marshall Music for over a decade, and graduated from the MSU jazz studies program. He has played vintage keyboards with fellow funk artists, like Jive Dharma, toured and recorded in Nashville with Jamie-Sue Seal, and played in a West African drum and dance troupe called Likewater.

### MEMBERS OF THE OMOWALI DRUMMERS

Saturday 2:30-4p

The Omowali Cultural Society celebrates traditional African culture. Join these talented drummers and jam away!

### JAZZ DOGGS

Saturday 4:15-5:15p, 6:30-7:30p, 9-10p

Jazz Doggs is a collection of local musicians who regularly get together to play jazz. Eric Payne, on drums, has performed with Big Willy and the Kathleen Bolthouse Band. Doug Fritch, on guitar, is a graduate of the Los Angeles Musicians Institute, teaches guitar at Music Manor, and performs with Summer of Sol. Dick Johnson, on bass, teaches at Marshall Music and often performs with Betty Baxter. Dan Johnson plays tenor and alto saxophone, as well as performing with the LCC Faculty band Layers. Jon Gewertz received his masters of music performance in saxophone from MSU.

## CLINICS

Friday

4:30-6p . . . . . Jeff Shoup Trio  
6:15-7:15p . . . Ukulele for Kids with Ben Hassenger

Saturday

4-4:45p . . . . . Recorders for Kids with Doug Berch  
6-6:45p . . . . . Ron Holmes (fo/mo/deep) Clinic  
7-9p . . . . . Hot Club of Lansing  
(workshop and performance)

## ALSO CHECK OUT



## FESTIVAL POSTER GALLERY SHOW

MICA, the producer of Lansing JazzFest (and its sister festivals Old Town BluesFest and Michigan Mosaic Music Festival) emphasizes the use of quality fine artwork in posters and other promotional materials.

In honor of festival season, beautiful MICA Gallery (1210 Turner) is hosting a show of festival posters throughout history, featuring nearly all the posters ever used by JazzFest, Mosaic, and BluesFest, as well as some of the original art. This artwork is for sale in the gallery.

Artists featured include Brian Bishop, Melissa Calanchi, Louise A. Church, Dario Corsi, Andy Doerr, Barbara Hranilovich, Ken Keirns, Steven Kovar, Kirby Milton, Barbara Morris, Joe Oberlin, Dennis Preston, Theresa Rosado, David Sherer, Bruce Thayer, Terry Terry, Tim Whalen, Chuck Wilhelm and Qinge Wu.

MICA Gallery is also a product of MICA's work to catalyze community development through quality arts programming.



MICA Gallery



## LANSING JAZZFEST 2012 ART

This year's festival artwork is a manipulated photograph by Terry Terry, co-founder of JazzFest.

The photograph depicts his mother, who played drums, saxophone, and guitar in a family jazz band in the 1930s. He explains that it symbolizes getting back to the roots of jazz.



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Derby League and Noodles & Co.

## INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

We'd love for you to join us for JazzFest 2013 – or our sister festivals  
BluesFest and Mosaic in a few weeks! Go to [tinyurl.com/festvol](http://tinyurl.com/festvol)  
or e-mail [volunteers@micharts.org](mailto:volunteers@micharts.org) to sign up!



# MICA

MICHIGAN INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

1210 Turner St., Lansing, MI 48906  
517-371-4600

The Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art (MICA)/Old Town  
Business & Art Development Association is a 501(c)3 nonprofit  
organization that serves as a catalyst for community development  
through quality arts programming. Grants, donations,  
sponsorships and other revenues support art and artists.

### Programs include:

Lansing JazzFest  
Old Town BluesFest  
Michigan Mosaic  
Music Festival  
MICA Gallery  
LCC Collaborative

Turner Park Place  
(1208-1212) historic building  
rehabilitation project  
MSU RCAH Collaborative  
Burning Desires Poetry

# SCHEDULE

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 3

Enjoy happy hour at the Turnaround Lounge beverage tent. 21+ only.  
4-6 pm Friday. Admission free!

### JACKSON NATIONAL STAGE

4-4:40p ..... Theo Batzer Band  
5-7p ..... Layers with Koke McKesson  
8-9p ..... Sunny Wilkinson Quartet  
10:30p-12:30a ..... The Macpodz

### MESSAGEMAKERS STAGE

7-8p ..... Evidence Jazz Group  
9-10:30p ..... John Douglas

### MICA STAGE

4:30-6p ..... Jeff Shoup Trio  
6:15-7:15p ..... Ukulele for Kids w/ Ben Hassenger  
7:30-8:30p ..... Betty Baxter

### THE OTHERSTAGE—COME JAM WITH...

7-8p ..... Ben Godoshian Trio  
9-10p ..... Ben Godoshian Trio

River Boat Tours / Lansing Metro Marinas

5-9 pm, 30-minute Grand River tours available. See page 3.

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 4

### JACKSON NATIONAL STAGE

1-1:45 p ..... Saginaw Area Youth Jazz Ensemble  
2-2:45 p ..... Tyler Vander Maas Sax Quartet  
3-4 p ..... The Roger Jones Trio  
5:30-6:30 p ..... RJ Spangler's Planet D Nonet Sun Ra Tribute  
7:30-9 p ..... Etienne Charles  
10:30p-12:30a ..... fo/mo/deep

### MESSAGEMAKERS STAGE

4:15-5:15p ..... 496 West  
6:30-7:30p ..... Edey Evans Hyde & The Terry Lower Quintet  
9-10:30p ..... Tim Cunningham

### MICA STAGE

1-2p ..... Children's Ballet Theatre  
2-3p ..... Community Dance Project  
3-3:45p ..... Drum Crazy Percussion Ensemble  
4-4:45p ..... Recorders for Kids w/Doug Berch  
5-5:45p ..... Drum Crazy Percussion Ensemble  
6-6:45p ..... Ron Holmes (fo/mo/deep) Clinic  
7-9p ..... Hot Club of Lansing Workshop & Performance

### THE OTHERSTAGE—COME JAM WITH...

2:30-4p ..... Members of the Omowali Drummers  
4:15-5:15p ..... Jazz Doggs  
6:30-7:30p ..... Jazz Doggs  
9-10p ..... Jazz Doggs

River Boat Taxi / Lansing Metro Marinas

2-10 pm, Taxi service to/from Lansing City Market. See page 3.



Limited seating available on site.  
Bring your lawn chairs for added comfort!



# Strong themes for tough times

## Sandra Seaton's 'The Will' delves into race, family, power and music

By CHRISTOPHER HORB

When the curtain rises on "The Will" at the Michigan Library and Historical Center Forum Friday, it marks not just another step in playwright Sandra Seaton's professional journey, but in her personal journey as well.

Seaton conceived the Civil War drama on a trip to her native Tennessee. While studying public records relating to the African-American post-slavery experience, she examined her family's history and discovered her great-great grandfather's last will and testament.

"You could say it was something of a revelation," said Seaton, a playwright and librettist who has served as Writer In Residence for Michigan State University's

**The Will**  
Michigan Library and Historical Center  
7:30 p.m.  
Friday, July 27  
\$15  
Tickets must be purchased in advance at <http://thewillbysandra.seaton.eventbrite.com/>

College of Law. "I was struck reading the wills by the evocation of that way of life before and after slavery. And anytime you have the opportunity to show someone an aspect of history they don't

know about, it's so important."

"The Will" is a special event presented by the Library of Michigan, Library of Michigan Foundation and the Michigan Historical Center.

"The Will" dramatizes the experience of the Websters, African American brothers who return to their small Tennessee hometown from Union army service hoping to be treated as full citizens but who are disappointed by the very different reality of the Reconstruction-era South. Their father, Cyrus Webster, wants to ease their



Lepard

burden by passing on his wisdom as well as his material possessions, but the brothers face an uncertain future.

"It's about the conflict that arises out of having expectations and not having them fulfilled," Seaton said. "There's a lot of energy in this play. You have a lot of worlds colliding — black versus white, poor versus well-to-do."

Music plays a crucial role in "The Will." The play features music by Erik Santos, the innovative young University of Michigan music professor, composer, singer and electronic music wizard. There are also musical interludes by soprano Pia Williams, who plays Patti, a character inspired by the life of renowned 19th-century African American opera singer Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield.

Seaton said she wanted to show aspects of African American culture that only been documented with a "broad brush" up to now. "I had studied some things about blacks in opera and knew this was an important part of the culture that you don't usually hear about," she said.

"The Will" reunites Seaton with director John Lepard, who directed two other plays by Seaton, "Music History" and "A Bed Made in Heaven," and joined "The Will" at her request. Completing the cast under Lepard are Keith Williams, Regina Riddle, Kenneth Nelson, Corey Dorris, Michael Hays, Michael Banghart, Chris Goeckel and Gordon Hicks Clark.

When it comes to Seaton's work, Lepard is a fan as well as a collaborator. "(Seaton) is tenacious," he said. "She knows what she wants to do and she goes after it. Sandra comes up with great ideas and 'The Will' is no different. It's a tremendous premise."

Lepard said "The Will" offers a wealth of insight into race relations in the aftermath of slavery but also asks the audience to consider the ways society continues to grapple with the issues of racial equality today.

"We can see how far we've come, but stuff like this is still going on and we, as a society, still deal with this," he said. "I think we are frequently asking 'How do we empower people in our world?' and 'How do we keep people from being taken advantage of?'"



Photo by Chris Purchis

Pearl (Wayne David Parker) and Stanley (Aral Gribble) channel a town full of characters as the duo takes on multiple roles in "Red, White and Tuna" at the Williamston Theatre.

# Slicker than snot

## Two actors play a whole town in Williamston's dazzling 'Red, White & Tuna'

By MARY C. CUSACK

The Williamston Theatre's production of "Red, White & Tuna" is a tasty treat, from the quaint and cute stage to the toe-tapping music to the phenomenal acting.

"Red, White & Tuna" is another in the "Tuna" series about life in a tiny Texas town. Williamston produced the first in the series, "Greater Tuna," last year, and will conclude the trilogy next season with "Tuna Does Vegas."

In this case, as with last year's "Greater Tuna," that cast is Aral Gribble and Wayne David Parker. While director John Lepard is plenty skilled and accomplished, working with Gribble and Parker must make his job easy. In addition to already having developed many of the characters, they are also fleet-footed in switching among characters, creating and maintaining unique physicality for each one.

This "Tuna" takes place around the Fourth of July, as the town prepares not only for the festivities, but also for a high school reunion and the nuptials of Bertha Bumiller (Parker) and Arles Struvie (Gribble). Key plot points involve UFOs, tainted potato salad, spray-painted road kill, the sexual habits of senior citizens, and the election of a reunion queen. Anything more specific would lead to spoilers, and finding out which way the Tuna casserole bubbles is half the fun.

Parker's crowning moment is playing

director Joe Bob Lipsey, a small-town Texas version of Harvey Fierstein. Lipsey's latest musical production is shut down by the local Smut-Snatchers chapter, sending him into a melodramatic suicidal funk. Judging by audience reaction, Gribble's

most popular character is Helen Bedd, mostly because of the belly-baring costume. He is most charming as disc jockey Arles Struvie, and most repugnant as hypocritical Christian and Smut-Snatcher Vera Jenkins, who bans a book based on the number of times the word "poke" is used.

In this play, timing is everything. The actors take leave from one door, only to re-emerge seconds later from another as a new character in a different costume. While the costumes are fairly simple, the speed at which they accomplish this makes one wonder whether the backstage areas of the theatre is riddled with cosmic wormholes. Another possibility is that the backstage crew of Sarah Bence and Emily Young is just that good.

As they might say in Tuna, this production is slicker than snot.

### 'Red, White & Tuna'

Williamston Theatre  
122 S. Putnam St.,  
Williamston  
through Sunday, Aug. 19  
8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays; 3 p.m. July 28, Aug. 4, 11 and 18.  
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# Castles and goat farms

## 'Ink Trails' follows famous and not-so-famous Michigan writers

By **BILL CASTANIER**

They hailed from Benzonia, Elk Rapids, Saline, Hudson, Harbert, Grass Lake and numerous other whistle stops between Marquette and Monroe.

It's likely you've never heard of many of the writers extolled in "Ink Trails," the new book by Jack and Dave Dempsey, published by the MSU Press. The Dempseys, brothers who are both Michigan Notable Book writers, hope readers will connect in more ways than one with the 19 authors covered in the fascinating book. For avid readers who dig a pilgrimage, they cite a physical location for each author that can be visited.

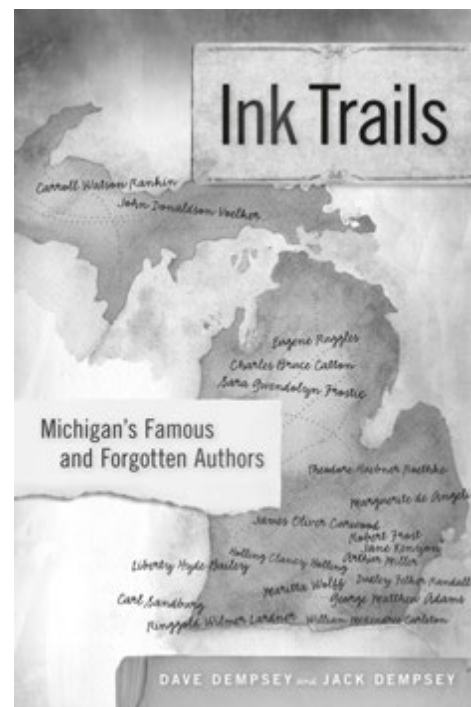
Dave Dempsey, whose biography of

Gov. William G. Milliken won a 2009 Michigan Notable Book Award, said his research for "Ink Trails" led him to "a wealth of [Michigan] writers who are totally forgotten."

Among the liveliest is Maritta Wolff, who was born in Grass Lake, went to college down the road in Ann Arbor and, at 23, published the blockbuster novel "Whistle Stop," which was labeled "vulgar" by many critics of the time. It was just right for the movies, though, and George Raft and Ava Gardner starred in the noirish screen version of the novel.

Jack Dempsey, author of "Michigan and the Civil War," said that in selecting the authors for the omnibus book, "some were immediately obvious," such as Civil War scholar Bruce Catton, who won the 1954 Pulitzer prize for "A Stillness at Appomattox." Catton was born and lived in Benzonia most of his life. Other subjects were quietly waiting for the Dempseys to stumble upon. Carroll Watson Rankin was born in Marquette at the end of the Civil War and became a prolific writer of stories for young people. Her "Dandelion Cottage," written in 1906, follows four young girls in a northern Michigan town as they seek their dreams. The book is still in print.

Few people know that the three-time Pulitzer-winning poet and Lincoln biographer Carl Sandburg spent nearly two decades living and writing in Michigan. Sandburg wrote the culmination of his Lincoln biography ("Abraham Lincoln: the War Years") in Harbert, a little Lake Michigan resort city near the Indiana border. In the foreword to the 1940



Courtesy Photo

Unsurprisingly, nature and booze are big themes in "Ink Trails," a look at 19 writers who lived in Michigan, by Michigan Notable authors Jack and Dave Dempsey.

Pulitzer book, Sandburg indicated it had originated from "Chikaming Goat Farm, Harbert, Michigan." You'll have to read "Ink Trails" to learn the significance of the goats.

The hardest part of writing the book was deciding whom to leave out. The Dempseys first decided the list would not include anyone living — Jim Harrison or Jeffrey Eugenides, say — but would also include authors like Sandburg, who were not born in Michigan, but lived there.

The co-authors agree that several themes emerged in the writings and lives of the authors they profiled. Among these were a concern with the natural environment and the "tortured" lives which many of them led.

One chapter details the life of Owosso author James Oliver Curwood, who in the early 1900s became a famed writer of adventure and outdoor stories, often with a romantic tone. The Dempseys

discovered that Curwood was so popular he may have become the first author to make a million dollars a year from his writing. About 40 of his books became movies, including the 1988 "Grizzly King."

Curwood did well enough to build a small castle on the banks of the Shiawassee River, which served him as a writing room. Curwood Castle still stands today and is the site of an annual festival honoring Curwood. Later in life, Curwood became an ardent environmentalist and a member of the state's Conservation Commission. He died from a spider bite suffered in Florida during one of his many adventure trips.

The Dempseys didn't leave Michigan's most famous writer out by accident. So much has been written about Ernest Hemingway's time in Michigan that it was easy for them to skip Papa in favor of lesser known authors who called Michigan home.

However, another famous Michiganian author, Ringgold Wilmer Lardner, could not be overlooked. Known as "Ring," Lardner was born in Niles and became one of the nation's best known short story writers. Most often, he wrote about baseball in a voice that was down to earth and influenced Hemingway, according to the Dempseys. Lardner spent much of his time covering baseball for Chicago newspapers. While still a teen, he wrote the poem "How Do You Get Your Shirt So Black" about Lansing's Vic Saier, a reckless base stealer for the Chicago Cubs.

Maybe it was the Cubs, or maybe it was his close friendship with drinking buddy F. Scott Fitzgerald, but Lardner is one example of the tortured-writer theme which emerges in "Ink Trails."

Another is National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Theodore Roethke, who hailed from Saginaw. Noted for his poems about the natural world, Roethke was a graduate of the University of Michigan and taught for a while at MSU until he was fired for self medicating his depression with alcohol.

The authors are already plotting a second volume of "Ink Trails" and lining up favorites.

## SCHULER BOOKS & MUSIC

### COMING SOON to Schuler of Lansing Launch Party for Fantasy Author JIM C. HINES' *Libriomancer!*

We are so excited for our favorite local fantasy author: After releasing a number of popular paperback titles in the *Jig the Goblin* series and the *Princesses* series, Jim's newest novel will be his hardcover debut! We'll have treats and giveaways to celebrate the book's release, so make sure to save the date!

In the novel, Libriomancers—members of the secret organization founded five centuries ago by Johannes Gutenberg—are gifted with the ability to magically reach into books and draw forth objects. The discovery that vampires have leaked from the pages of books into our world and have been attacking magic-users sets the fast-moving story into action. Libriomancer is a book-lover's dream of a novel!

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**ADVICE GODDESS**



**AMY ALKON**  
adviceamy@aol.com

# Better luck next time & you deplete me

**Q:** For nine months, I've been having fun seeing a nice woman a few times a week. We're both 50ish. I told her I didn't want a serious relationship. She went along with this but now clearly wants more. She has a picture of me at her desk. (I wouldn't think of displaying her picture on mine.) She talks about our future, once even saying we should move in together, and said we should make plans to celebrate our upcoming one-year anniversary. Perhaps I'm emotionally blocked from being only one year out of a 33-year marriage, but I don't have lovey-dovey feelings for her now. (Part of me wants to date every woman available.) Is it wrong to keep this going when I know she wants more and may even be convincing herself that we have more?

—Torn

**A:** It's got to be unsettling, coming into this woman's office and seeing what's basically a framed billboard advertising the serious relationship you told her you aren't ready to have. In her defense, she does have more contact with you than the guy whose stock photo came with the frame.

You were only looking to hang out with her a few times a week, not wear her around your neck at all times like a scarf. Maybe she thought she could go along with this, or maybe she figured she could nudge you into wanting more. She probably works hard to contain her true feelings, but they sometimes tiptoe out and whisper suggestions, like romantic ideas for your upcoming "anniversary." Which for you is the anniversary of "I'm dating you in the wake of my 33-year marriage hitting the wall — mainly because it seems more life-affirming than curling up in a fetal position and sucking my thumb for a year or two."

The big myth of relationships is that you just have to find "the right person." The reality is, it has to be the right per-

son at the right time. A year ago, a giant meteorite landed on your life, and you've just about collected your wallet, your keys, and all the change that blew out of your pockets. Now's the time to crawl out of the hole, look around, and figure out what you want. Unfortunately, this is difficult with a woman clinging to your ankle, campaigning to change her Facebook relationship status to "engaged" while you're hunting for the button for "entrapped."

If you decide to date around, explain that you really like her but the timing's off. ("Great moments in bad timing" is easier on the ego than "Great. I spent nine months with a guy who never really wanted me.") If you want to keep seeing her exclusively, remind her that you're far from ready to shop for bathroom accessories together. She may decide that some of you is better than none of you, but the ground rules will be clear: You can drag a guy to a chick movie, but you can't make him buy into the plot — unless it's the first chick movie ever that ends with the male lead waking up hung over in Thailand with two bar hostesses, a tattoo, and a monkey on his belly.

**Q:** I don't have a romance issue, but it feels just as complicated. I need to dump a close friend. We meet for coffee each morning and email daily, but I've finally admitted to myself that I don't enjoy her company. Her dour outlook really depresses me. We spent two hours having drinks yesterday, and I felt a physical discomfort, like I could actually see my time being wasted. I can't tell her the truth: "You drain me." I'd really like to just disappear.

—Done

**A:** When you're breaking up with a romantic partner, you can at least put a positive spin on things: "We can be friends!" What do you say to a friend you're dumping, "We can be strangers who wordlessly pass each other on the sidewalk!"? There's no wonderful way to shut down a close friendship, but the cruelest way is just disappearing on somebody you

see and talk to daily. You actually need to tell her it's over — as briefly and kindly as possible — and a note does that better than a face-to-face firing, which is icky and humiliating. Avoid personal attacks: "You're too this or that." Make your explanation about the dynamics — you just have "different approaches to life," you're just not "clicking" anymore (don't mention that you never have). She may call and press you for details, so be prepared to stick to your short but vague story. In the future, avoid mistaking tenure for friendship. A friend worth having is somebody you respect and admire — and the kind of person who's there for you when you're down, not the giant iron anchor that takes you there.

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To read more of Amy's advice and guidance, please visit our Web site at [www.lansingcitypulse.com](http://www.lansingcitypulse.com)

Serving Greater Lansing's LGBT Community

**Lansing Association for Human Rights**

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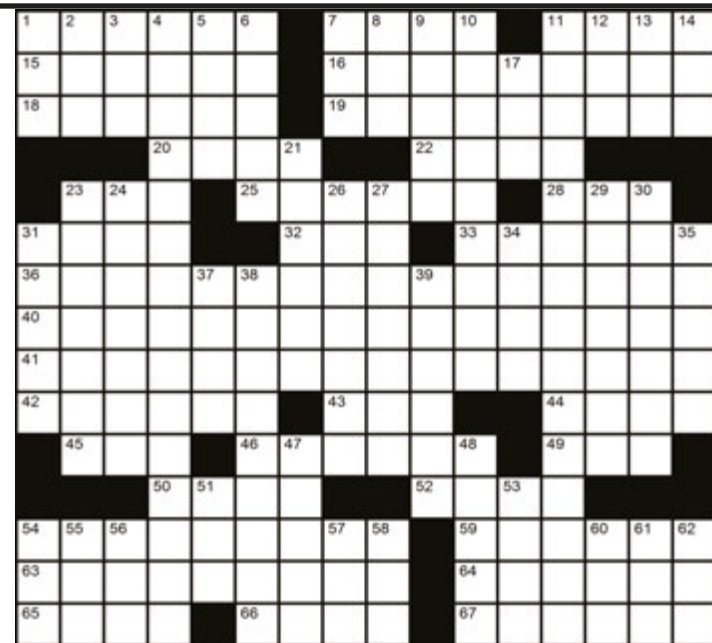
## Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Sixteen Handles" — right down the middle.  
Matt Jones

**Across**

- 1 Company sorta responsible for the "Battleship" movie
- 7 Atkins Diet word
- 11 Each
- 15 Prepared
- 16 1970s pills
- 18 "The Onion" genre
- 19 One-humper
- 20 Vampire's favorite body part
- 22 First half of a secret language on "Zoom"
- 23 "Dear God" band
- 25 Congolese president assassinated in 2001
- 28 \_\_\_/IP
- 31 \_\_\_-Ur (Egyptian sky god; hidden in CHERUBIC)
- 32 Nada
- 33 They're mostly in the Pacific
- 36 "The Sabre Dance" composer
- 40 Societal breakdown, as it were
- 41 Scientists collect it
- 42 Perceived to be
- 43 8-bit video game console
- 44 Really mad
- 45 "Silent Spring" pesticide
- 46 Sneezer's need
- 49 Orch. section
- 50 The Ducks' school, casually
- 52 Alka-Seltzer noise
- 54 What you get for a dunk
- 59 Make happy



- 63 Uncalled for
- 64 Subject of the "cloth or plastic" debate
- 65 Black, to poets
- 66 Win at chess
- 67 Mopey Disney character
- 70 Hip-hop pioneer Afrika \_\_\_
- 11 Computer aid for the blind
- 12 Blackberry, e.g.
- 13 Word after "fight" in "The Star-Spangled Banner"
- 14 \_\_\_-ops (CIA tricks)
- 17 Country known for cedars: abbr.
- 21 Shaq-as-genie movie
- 23 Made copies
- 24 Walked really hard
- 26 They come with caps
- 27 Marimba ringtone items
- 29 Free drawings
- 30 \_\_\_ of Paris
- 31 Fuzzy environments
- 34 Jethro \_\_\_
- 35 Golf legend Sam
- 37 \_\_\_ Nerys ("Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" character)
- 38 "Reservoir Dogs" or "Ocean's Eleven"
- 39 Misbehaves
- 47 Ancient region on the Aegean
- 48 Give the slip
- 51 Punched-in-the-solar-plexus reaction
- 53 "The Andy Griffith Show" kid
- 54 Tub temperature tester
- 55 When repeated, derivative term for dubstep's repetitive bass line
- 56 Ear-related prefix
- 57 Explosive stuff
- 58 Take notice of
- 60 NASDAQ event
- 61 "\_\_\_ sure, dude!"
- 62 Uno plus uno plus uno

## City Pulse Classifieds

Interested in placing a classified ad in City Pulse?  
Call (517) 999-5066 or email [adcopy@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:adcopy@lansingcitypulse.com)

R.E. Auction: By order of the County:  
Treasurer of Ingham Co.  
August 24, Reg: 9 AM;  
Auction: 10 AM  
Location: Lansing Center,  
333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI  
Eric Schertzing, Treasurer, Ingham County  
341 S. Jefferson St., Mason, MI (517) 676-7220.  
Detailed info on parcels and terms at  
[www.BippusUSA.com](http://www.BippusUSA.com)

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**"Safeguard Your Heart"**

District convention of Jehovahs Witnesses - July 27-29 @ Dow Events Center, Saginaw, MI and Seagate Convention Centre, Toledo, OH. These three day Scripture seminars (Tanakh-Christian Greek) are free - no collection. Everyone welcome. [www.jw.org](http://www.jw.org)

**City Pulse is seeking candidates** to join its sales team. Full time and part time positions available. Sales experience required, preferably in advertising/marketing. Opportunity to grow. EEO. Submit resume to [monique@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:monique@lansingcitypulse.com)

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# OUT on the TOWN

**Wednesday, July 25**

## CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

**Community Yoga.** Power yoga class. 6 p.m. FREE. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

**Healthcare Reform Seminar.** Learn and ask questions about the Affordable Care Act. Call to RSVP. 2-4 p.m. FREE. MSU Student Services, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 231-7838.

**Drawing Class.** Must register and pay in advance. \$50 for 4 weeks. 1-3:30 p.m. Gallery 1212, 1212 Turner St. Lansing. (517) 999-1212.

## EVENTS

**Overeaters Anonymous.** 7 p.m. FREE. Grand Ledge Baptist Church, 1120 W. Willow Hwy., Grand Ledge. (517) 256-6954.

**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 in a friendly, relaxing atmosphere. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Allen Street Farmers Market.** Fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, crafts, activities and more. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 485-4279. [www.allen-neighborhoodcenter.org](http://www.allen-neighborhoodcenter.org).

**Colonial Village Walking Group.** Meet neighbors and get some exercise at the same time. 10 a.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 580-8560.

**Life Size Candy Land Game.** Family Fun. 1-7 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. [www.dewittlibrary.org](http://www.dewittlibrary.org).

**Knit-Wits.** Bring a project of your own or join us in one of ours. 3:30 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156.

**Teen Night at Spiral.** With 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.

**Lansing Walkability Audit.** Join for a weekly training and group walk. 3-5 p.m. FREE. Allen Street

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](http://www.lansingcitypulse.com). If you need help, please call Jessica at (517) 999-5069. E-mail information to [calendar@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:calendar@lansingcitypulse.com).

## JULY 27

### One percent for one day

Village Summit, a previously foreclosed home turned micro community center with a focus on children and volunteering, hosts "One Percent Solution," a fundraising event at Gone Wired. Attendees are asked to contribute \$30, 1 percent of the \$3,000 it needs to complete its summer programs, but donations of any amount will be accepted. "One Percent Solution" arose from the idea of the growing wealth gap between 1 percent of America's wealthiest elites compared to the rest of the country and what it would be like to be part of that 1 percent for a day. So far this summer the Village Summit has served over 500 lunches, given away bikes, started multiple food gardens and provided tutoring, games and cooling centers for local kids. Light snacks, beverages, a cash bar and silent auction will be featured. 5-7:30 p.m. \$30. Gone Wired Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-2950. Donate online at [www.villagesummit.org](http://www.villagesummit.org).

## JULY 28

### Give what you can, take what you need



Courtesy Photo

East Lansing's Valley Court Park hosts its second Greater Lansing Really Really Free Market. RRFM, an idea that has spread nationally and internationally, creates a temporary gift marketplace in which goods and services are given without any explicit promise of future rewards. Participants are invited to bring food, books, publications, art, music, clothing, ideas and anything else that can be traded. Event organizer Shooka Rafizadeh said that this time around, the market's focus is on creating a family - of all ages. Scheduled workshops include zine making with "SMASH" zine creator Ethan Tate and songwriting with local folk artist Doug Mains and creative coach Elizabeth Wing. 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. FREE. Saturday, July 28. Valley Court Park, East Lansing. [www.reallyreallyfree.org](http://www.reallyreallyfree.org)

## JULY 27-29

### Reworking 'Othello'

The American Shakespeare Collective with support from the Arts Council of Greater Lansing presents "Othello" as part of Lansing Community College's Summer Stage Under the Stars. The six-actor adaptation of one of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies emphasizes the effects of jealousy and voyeurism between relationships with themes focusing on the staining of one's character and the female's role in the male world of Othello, said TASC co-director Tommy Gomez. TASC is a new mid-Michigan theater pursuing interpretations of the classics with an emphasis on the works of William Shakespeare. "Othello" has had three local readings over the past eight months TASC has backing from the Arts Council, LCC and Kickstarter, an online funding platform for creative projects. 7 p.m. Previews July 25 and 26. Performances July 27 to July 29. \$15 adults, \$12 students and seniors, \$10 previews. Dart Auditorium, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1488.

## JULY 31

### Picnic with a show



Courtesy Photo

This Tuesday, The City of East Lansing will continue its children's entertainment series Play in the Park with "The Amazing Clark Puppet Show." Pack a picnic and bring lawn chairs or blankets to enjoy an evening of family-friendly entertainment. The show combines audience participation and humor. There will also be a performance of "The Three Pigs - Large and In Charge," telling a story about the famous trio's goal to start their own construction company. If it should rain the event will be canceled. 7 p.m. FREE. Valley Court Park, 201 Hillside Ct., East Lansing. (517) 319-6823. [www.cityofeastlansing.com/communityevents](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/communityevents).

# TURNIT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICHTUPICA

## LANGUAGE DEBUTS AT MAC'S BAR

The debut seven-track EP by a new local "post art pop" band, Language, will be released Thursday at Mac's Bar. Language, which features Chris Minarik (guitar/vocals), Bobby Sullivan (guitar/synth) and drummer Joseph Dellgowan, is influenced by Girls, Yo La Tengo, Joy Division, Wire and an assortment of other British post-punk bands and classic American pop groups. The band formed back in the fall of 2011 and spent most of that time working on the new EP. This will be its first show. For more information, visit: languagemusic.org.

Warming up the stage is a pair of local lo-fi rock-n-rollers, Racket Ghost and The Peoples Temple. Also taking the stage is the Kalamazoo-based band Jake Simmons & the Little Ghost — which dropped a vinyl LP of soulful rock on John Krohn's Lower Peninsula Records label in late 2011.

**Thursday, July 26 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 18 and over. \$5, 9 p.m.**

## FREEROOTS-ROCKIN' SHOW AT MORIARTY'S

For those looking to rock on a limited budget, Thursday at Moriarty's may be the spot. A roster of rough-around-the-edges roots rockers will perform. There is no cover. Lonesome Wyatt & the Holy Spooks (Madison, Wis.) features Wyatt, guitarist/vocalist of Those Poor Bastards, a dark-folk band. Wyatt released albums on Tribulation Recording Co., his DIY label. Also performing is Joseph Huber, a member of the Milwaukee-based .357 String Band, a "streetgrass" outfit. Rounding out the bill is The Devils Cut, a local four-piece folk-rock-bluegrass



Courtesy Photo

## Lonesome Wyatt

band that formed in 2010.

**Thursday, July 26 @ Moriarty's Pub, 802 East Michigan Avenue, Lansing, 21 and over, FREE, 9 p.m.**

## JAZZ GROUP 496 WEST HITS HOLT

The Lansing-based jazz outfit 496 West opens for smooth-jazz saxophone star Eric Darius Friday at the Holt Performing Arts Complex. The group, which released its self-titled debut earlier this month, will lay down its upbeat mix of contemporary jazz, vocals, gospel, and R&B. Since it formed in July 2008, 496 West has opened for Grammy-nominated artists like Gerald Albright and Kirk Whalum, saxman Euge Groove and smooth jazz guitarist Tim Bowman, to only name a few. For more information about the show visit: bmrwpromotions.com. Word is, after the concert, an after party "meet and mingle" will happen at Smokey Bones Bar & Fire Grill at Eastwood Towne Center.

**Friday, July 27 @ Holt Performing Arts Complex - Margaret Livensparger Theater, 5885 Holt Road, Holt, tickets are \$38, \$50 for VIP, 7:30 p.m.**

## DOOM, PUNK & GRIND AT BLACKENED MOON

Five heavy-hitting bands play Blackened Moon Saturday, including Cadillac-based bands Major Disappointment (Oi! from Cadillac) and Destination Morgue (death-core metal). Also ripping it up is Ponyworm (stoner/doom from the U.P.), BerT (local sludge/doom), and Bruxism (Michigan-based grind). Ponyworm is a Marquette



Courtesy Photo

## 496 West

band that plays "grunge/blues rock/stoner metal." The band, which includes Pat Haydon (guitar, vocals), James Hegmegee (bass), and Devyn Rice (drums), draws influence from the likes of Black Sabbath, Electric Wizard, Nirvana and The Black Keys.

**Saturday, July 28 @ Blackened Moon Concert Hall, 3208 S. Martin Luther King Blvd., Lansing, 18 and over, \$10, doors at 6:30 p.m., music at 9 p.m.**

## SWIMSUIT ISSUES AT SPIRAL

If you love to break out the swimming suit whether there's a pool around or not, you're in luck. Spiral Video & Dance Bar is hosting "Pool Party" Saturday night. While there is no actual pool, guests are encouraged to show up in their finest swimwear. "It's simple, wear your swimsuit," the flier states. It's the best of all worlds: no prune fingers, no harmful UV rays, no yellowjackets, plenty of skin. Loud Top 40 tunes spun by DJ John Cruz will pump up the beach-party vibe. Also, for those 21 and over, admission is free (and \$1 off everything) before 11 p.m.

**Saturday, July 28 @ Spiral Video & Dance, 1247 Center St., Lansing, 18 and over.**

## DAGWOOD'S HOSTS OPEN MIC

Looking to perform your music in front of a live audience? Tuesday Night Open Mic at Dagwood's might be the spot. Jen Sygit, a veteran local singer/songwriter, hosts the event, which is open to sea-



Courtesy Photo

## Cursive

soned musicians as well as rookies. Depending on the night, you might hear folk, blues, bluegrass, old-time, swing, jazz or folk-rock. Artists sign up for three songs (or 15 minutes, whichever comes first). People are required to bring their own instruments, but a four-channel PA and two microphones are supplied. For more information visit: dagwoodstavern.com.

**Tuesday, July 31 @ Dagwood's Tavern & Grill 2803 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.**

## CURSIVE AT THE LOFT

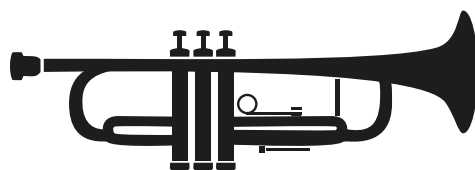
Saddle Creek Records recording artists Cursive plays an all-ages show Tuesday at The Loft along with opener American Opera and The Playback. Cursive, an Omaha-based band, recently released its seventh LP, "I Am Gemini," on the post-hardcore band's long-time label Saddle Creek, which was co-founded by their friend, songwriter Conor Oberst, aka Bright Eyes. Cursive has been playing classic-emo-inspired indie rock since 1995.

**Tuesday, July 31 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, all ages, \$13 advance, \$15 at door, doors 7 p.m.**

# UPCOMING SHOW?

POST IT AT

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TURNITDOWN



# LIVE & LOCAL

To be listed in Live and Local, e-mail your information to [liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com) by Thursday of the week before publication.

## 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.			Group Therapy, 9 p.m.	Group Therapy, 9 p.m.
Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St.		Mike Bobbitt, 8 p.m.	Mike Bobbitt, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.	Mike Bobbitt, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Mighty Medicine, 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.	Karaoke with Joanie Daniels, 9 p.m.	The Alligators, 8 p.m.
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Dewaynes, 9:30 p.m.	Big Willy, 9:30 p.m.	Global Village, 9:30 p.m.	Global Village, 9:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.	Cello Fury, 7 p.m.		DJ Jay Arthur, 9 p.m.	
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Jason and the Punknecks, 9 p.m.	Language, 9 p.m.	I Set My Friends On Fire, 5 p.m.	
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic Night, 10 p.m.	Lonesome Wyatt & the Holy Spooks, 10 p.m.	Those Delta Rhythm Kings 10 p.m.	Lincoln County Process, 10 p.m.
Rick's American Cafe, 224 Abbott Road	DJ Dan, 10:30 p.m.	ICE DJ's, 10:30 p.m.	Nature Boys, 10:30 p.m.	Nature Boys, 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.	Capital City Groove, 9 p.m.	Capital City Groove, 9 p.m.
Uli's Haus of Rock, 419 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.		Eye Empire & Hollow Drive, 8 p.m.	Ground Effect & Traverser, 9 p.m.	Pugatory Grove, 9 p.m.
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive		Mike Evia 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.	Six Mile Creek, 9 p.m.
Zepplin's, 2010 E. Michigan Ave.			Tens, Flour & Elephant Celedes, 9 p.m.	Oeno & To Fear the Wolf, 9 p.m.

**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.

## Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsny

July 25-31

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): In your personal chart, the planet Uranus symbolizes those special talents you have that are especially useful to other people. Which aspects of your soulful beauty are potentially of greatest service to the world? How can you express your uniqueness in ways that activate your most profound generosity? If you learn the answers to these questions, you will make great progress toward solving the riddle that Uranus poses. I'm happy to report that the coming years will provide you with excellent opportunities to get to the bottom of this mystery. And now would be a good time to launch a concerted effort.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): In the coming weeks, I'm afraid there's only a very small chance that you'll be able to turn invisible at will, shapeshift into an animal form and back, or swipe the nectar of immortality from the gods. The odds of success are much higher, though, if you will attempt less ambitious tasks that are still pretty frisky and brazen. For example, you could germinate a potential masterpiece where nothing has ever grown. You could legally steal from the rich and give the spoils to the poor. And you could magically transform a long-stuck process that no one thought would ever get unstuck.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Are there are any weaknesses or problems in your approach to communication? They will be exposed in the coming weeks. If you're even slightly lazy or devious about expressing yourself, you will have to deal with the karmic consequences of that shortcoming. If there's more manipulativeness than love in your quest for connection, you'll be compelled to do some soul-searching. That's the bad news, Gemini. The good news is that you will have far more power than usual to upgrade the way you exchange energy with others. In fact, this could be the time you enter into a golden age of communication.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): If you narrow your focus now, the world will really open up for you in the second half of October and November. To the degree that you impose limitations on your desire to forever flow in all directions, you will free up creative ideas that are currently buried. So summon up some tough-minded discipline, please. Refuse to let your moodiness play havoc with your productivity. Dip into your reserve supply of high-octane ambition so you will always have a sixth sense about exactly what's important and what's not.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): The state of Maine has a law that prohibits anyone from leaving an airplane while it is flying through the air. This seems like a reasonable restriction until you realize how badly it discriminates against skydivers. Legal scholars will tell you that examples like this are not at all rare. Laws tend to be crude, one-size-fits-all formulations. And as I'm sure you've discovered in your travels, Leo, one-size-fits-all formulations always squash expressions of individuality. In the coming weeks, be extra alert for pressures to conform to overly broad standards and sweeping generalizations. Rebel if necessary. You have license to be yourself to the tenth power.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): I propose that you try to accomplish the following clean-up projects in the next four weeks: ten bushels of weeds yanked out of your psychic landscape; 25 pounds of unused stuff and moldering junk hauled away from your home; ten loads of dirty laundry (especially the metaphorical kind) washed free of taint and stains — and not blabbed about on social media; at least \$5,000 worth of weird financial karma scrubbed away for good; a forgotten fence mended; and a festering wound tended to until it heals.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Philosopher William Irwin Thompson says that we humans are like flies creeping along the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. We literally cannot see the splendor that surrounds us. As a result, we

don't live in reality. We're lost in our habitual perceptions, blinded by our favorite illusions, and addicted to beliefs that hide the true nature of the universe. That's the bad news, Libra. The good news is that every now and then, each of us slips into a grace period when it's possible to experience at least some of the glory we're normally cut off from. The veil opens, and previously undetected beauty appears. The weeks ahead will be the closest you've come to this breakthrough in a long time.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Can you guess which European country has the best military record in the last eight centuries? It's France. Out of the 185 battles its soldiers have engaged in, they've won 132 and lost only 43. Ten times they fought to a draw. Of all the signs of the zodiac, Scorpio, I think you have the best chance of compiling a comparable record in the next ten months. Your warrior-like qualities will be at a peak; your instinct for achieving hard-fought victories may be the stuff of legends years from now. But please keep in mind what the ancient Chinese military strategist Sun Tzu said in his iconic text *The Art of War*: The smart and powerful warrior always avoids outright conflict if possible, and wins by using slyer means.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): After consulting the astrological omens, I've concluded that during the next three weeks, you will deserve the following titles: 1. Most Likely to Benefit from Serendipitous Adventures; 2. Most Likely to Exclaim "Aha!"; 3. Most Likely to Thrive While Wandering in Wild Frontiers and Exotic Locales; 4. Most Likely to Have a Wish Come True If This Wish Is Made in the Presence of a Falling Star. You might want to wait to fully embody that fourth title until the period between August 9 and 14, when the Perseids meteor shower will be gracing the night skies with up to 170 streaks per hour. The peak flow will come on August 12 and 13.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may have to travel far and wide before you will fully appreciate a familiar resource whose beauty you're half-blind to. It's possible you'll have to suffer a partial loss of faith so as to attract experiences that will make your faith stronger than it ever was. And I'm guessing that you may need to slip outside your comfort zone for a while in order to learn what you need to know next about the arts of intimacy. These are tricky assignments, Capricorn. I suggest you welcome them without resentment.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): My daughter Zoe has been writing some fine poetry these last few years. I regard it as professional-grade stuff that has been born of natural talent and developed through discipline and hard work. You might ask, quite reasonably, whether my evaluation of her literary output is skewed by fatherly pride. I've considered that possibility. But recently, my opinion got unbiased corroboration when her school awarded her with the "All-College Honor" for her poetry manuscript. I predict you will soon have a comparable experience. Your views or theories will be confirmed by an independent and objective source.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): The critic Dorothy Parker didn't think highly of Katherine Hepburn's acting skills. "She runs the emotional gamut from A to B," said Parker. I realize that what I'm about to suggest may be controversial, but I'm hoping you will be Hepburn-like in the coming week, Pisces. This is not the right time, in my astrological opinion, for you to entertain a wide array of slippery, syrupy, succulent feelings. Nor would it be wise to tease out every last nuance of the beguiling vibes rising up within you. For the time being, you need to explore the pleasures of discerning perception and lucid analysis. Get lost in deep thought, not rampant passion.

## Out on the town

from page 28

Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468. midmeac.org.

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

**Comfort Measures during Pregnancy.** Prenatal massage and more with Molly Kozlowski. 7:15-8:30 p.m. FREE. Play, 4972 Northwind Drive, East Lansing. www.capitalareabirthnetwork.com.

### MUSIC

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

**Concert in the Park.** 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 (SaGoBa).** 80s pop-rock. 7-11 p.m. FREE. Rookies Restaurant, 1640 S. US 27, Lansing. (517) 487-8686. www.reverbnation.com/sammygold.

**Music in the Park.** Final performance of the 2012 Music in the Park season. With Blue Water Ramblers. 7 p.m. FREE. Central Park, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 347-7300.

**Molly Fillmore.** A big-screen preview of the great performances at the Met production of "Satyagraha." 7 p.m. FREE. WKAR television studios, at MSU Com. Arts building. (517) 353-5982.

### THEATER

**"Othello."** One of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies where layers of understanding unfold about what it means to be a woman. 7 p.m. \$10 preview. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. www.lcc.edu/cma/events.

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Baby Time.** Books and songs for ages 2 years and younger. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 x3.

**Lansing Area Science Fiction Association Meeting.** New location. Informal dinner and conversation every week. 7 p.m. FREE. Buddies Grill, 2040 Aurelius Road, #13, Holt. (517) 402-4481.

**Open Mic Poetry Slam.** Featuring poetry, art, and live music, a public venue for poets to recite. 10 p.m. FREE. Adado Riverfront Park, 531 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. geophespen@gmail.

## Thursday, July 26

### 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.

**Eating Disorders Anonymous Meeting.** For people recovering from eating disorders who talk about recovery. 7-7:45 p.m. FREE. CADL Mason Library, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 899-3515.

**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.

**Lansing Area South Codependent Anonymous Meeting.** A fellowship with the common purpose to develop healthy relationships. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Community Mental Health Building, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 672-4072.

### EVENTS

**Youth Service Corps.** Eastside 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.

**Mid-day Movies.** Watch recent releases on the big screen. 2 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing

See Out on the Town, Page 31

## Lansing Community Pharmacy

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## ERASER-FREE SUDOKU

## MEDIUM

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

### TO PLAY

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

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](http://www.SundayCrosswords.com)

Answers on page 32

# Out on the town

from page 30

Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363.  
**Spanish Conversation Group.** Both English & Spanish spoken. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Lansing Walkability Audit.** 5:30-8 p.m. FREE. Gier Community Center, 2400 Hall St., Lansing. (517) 292-3078. cityoflansingmi.com.

**South Lansing Farmers Market.** Locally produced food, youth activities and educational opportunities. 3-7 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 482-5750.

**Lowe's South Side Cruise-In.** Open to classic cars and trucks, hot rods and classic motorcycles. 6-11 p.m. FREE. Lowe's, S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 699-2940.

**Colonial Village Walking Group.** Walks are 30-45 minutes. 7 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

**Teen Wii Gaming.** For teens 6th-12th grade. 1 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. www.dewittlibrary.org.

**Moonlight Film Festival.** Outdoor movies on the big screen. Featuring "Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey." 9:30 p.m. FREE. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Court, East Lansing. www.cityofeastlansing.com.

**Sierra Club field trip.** Trip to Dewitt Nature Center, showing ancient trees threatened to be logged. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Dewitt Junior High School, 2957 W. Herbison Road, Dewitt. (517) 487-6467.

## MUSIC

**Sound & Sights.** Performances take place outdoors at multiple spots throughout downtown Chelsea. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Downtown Chelsea, Chelsea Manchester Road & Middle Street, Chelsea. www.chelseafestivals.com/soundsights.

**Concerts at the Shell.** Featuring a different music act each week, 7-9 p.m. FREE. McCormick Park, located at N. Putnam and High Streets, Williamston. (517) 655-4973.

**Dixon's Violin: Special Concert.** A symphony violinist, digital master, and now music shaman. 8:30 p.m. \$10. Scene Metrospace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 332-5523. www.dixonsviolin.com.

**Deacon Earl.** Live blues, half-off nachos. \$3 Corona bottles and margaritas. Several beers on tap. 8-11 p.m. FREE. Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave., East Lansing. (517) 337-0200.

**Music in the Garden.** With Delilah DeWylde and the Lost Boys. 7 p.m. FREE. Veterans Memorial Gardens Amphitheater, 2074 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-2135.

## THEATER

**"Othello."** 7 p.m. \$10 preview. (Please See Details July 25)

## LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Storytime With Ms. Deb.** Three books will be read on a new topic each week. 10 a.m. FREE. Barnes and Noble, 5132 W Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. (517) 327-0437. www.bn.com.

**Morning Storytime.** All ages welcome for stories, songs, rhymes. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014.

## Friday, July 27

### 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.

**Summer Night Hike.** Search for signs of nocturnal life, and learn about adaptations of creatures of the night. 7-9 p.m. \$5, members FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. www.mynaturecenter.org.

**Village Summit Fundraiser.** With snacks, beverages and a cash bar available. 5-7:30 p.m. \$30. Gone Wired Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 853-0550. www.villagesummit.org.

### EVENTS

**Alcoholics Anonymous.** Open meeting for family and friends with American Sign Language interpretation. 8 p.m. FREE. Alano Club East, 220 S. Howard St., Lansing. (517) 482-8957.

**Storytime.** Stories, rhymes and a craft for ages 2-5. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Alcoholics Anonymous.** A closed women's meeting. 7:30 p.m. FREE. St. Michael's Episcopal Church,

6500 Amwood Drive, Lansing. (517) 882-9733.

**Colonial Village Walking Group.** Walks are 30-45 minutes. 10 a.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

**Kids Time: Ages 5-11.** 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

**Drop in Craft Project.** Each week will feature a different craft. 1-5 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156.

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

## MUSIC

**Grand River Radio Diner.** Live performance featuring Hand in the Ocean and Mike Mains & the Branches. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1710.

**An Evening of Smooth Jazz.** With Eric Darius, 496 West and the Al McKenzie Band. 7:30 p.m. \$38. Margaret Livensparger Theater, Holt Performing Arts Complex, 5885 W. Holt Road, Holt. (517) 372-7246.

**Country Love & Gospel Concert.** Enjoy country love songs and old-time Southern gospel with Carol and George Kline. 7 p.m. FREE. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 349-4220.

**The Summer Concert Series.** Featuring Ray Kamalay. 7-9 p.m. FREE. East Plaza, Corner of Charles Street & Albert Avenue, East Lansing. www.cityofeastlansing.com.

**Sammy Gold.** 80s Pop-Rock. 9 p.m. FREE. Buddies Grill, 2040 Aurelius Road, #13, Holt. (517) 699-3670.

## THEATER

**"Othello."** 8 p.m. \$15 adults, \$12 students and seniors. (Please See Details July 25)

**"Red, White and Tuna."** Aral Gribble and Wayne David Parker portray an entire population of the town in this quick-change comedy. 8 p.m. \$25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston.

(517) 655-SHOW. www.williamstontheatre.org.  
**"Getting Near to Baby."** After her baby sister has just died, Willa Jo is shipped off to an aunt who can't show love to or please a child. 8 p.m. \$14, \$12 seniors or students. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700.

## LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Teen Book Club.** Ages 13-18. Read and discuss Gabrielle Zevin's "All These Things I've Done." 4-5 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3.

## Saturday, July 28

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Beginner Tai Chi.** Can build strength and reduce stress. 8-9 a.m. \$8. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave.,

See Out on the Town, Page 32

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5:00-7:00p :: August 1

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- \$5 Garlic Herb & Cream Cheese Dip w/Pita Chips

\$2 Drafts  
\$3 House Wine  
Free Appetizers



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## SaveLansing.com

## Out on the town

from page 31

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 east Kalamazoo Street, Lansing. Contact Bob Teachout (517) 272-9379.

**Overeaters Anonymous.** 9:30 a.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-6003.

**Parenting Group.** Lecture and group discussion each week. 10-11 a.m. Call to Register. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

### EVENTS

**Occupy Lansing.** General assembly meetings. 1 p.m. FREE. Reutter Park, Corner of Kalamazoo & Townsend streets, Lansing. www.occupylansing.net.

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

**Call for Vendors.** The Haslett Community Yard Sale with local retailers. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. \$38-\$25. Haslett High School, 5450 Marsh Road, Haslett. (517) 339-9387.

**Fuller's British Beer Sampling.** Beer & Wine Tasting. Try free samples. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Vine and Brew, 2311 Jolly Road, Okemos.

**Urbandale Farm Stand.** Purchase fresh, local produce. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. 700 block of south Hayford Avenue, Lansing. (517) 999-3916.

**Haslett Community Yard Sale.** With a DJ, bounce house for the kids, clog dancers, Capital Area Humane Society pet adoption and more. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Haslett High School, 5450 Marsh Road, Haslett. (517) 339-9387.

**East Lansing Film Festival Rummage Sale.** Will accept office equipment, books, CDs, DVDs, furniture and more. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE to attend. 510 Kedzie St., East Lansing. (517) 980-5802.

### MUSIC

**The Summer Concert Series.** Featuring Kathleen Bolthouse. 7-9 p.m. FREE. East Plaza, Corner of Charles Street & Albert Avenue, East Lansing. www.cityofeastlansing.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. www.eatataltus.com.

### THEATER

**"Othello."** 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$15 adults, \$12 students and seniors. (Please See Details July 25)

**"Red, White and Tuna."** 3 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$22 matinee, \$25. (Please See Details July 27)

**"Getting Near to Baby."** 8 p.m. \$14, \$12 seniors or students. (Please See Details July 27)

## Sunday, July 29

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

#### Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous.

Meets on the third floor. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300. www.cadl.org.

**The Family Show.** "Space Chase," for children from preschool through grade 3 and their families. 2:30 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.

**Called to Care.** Lunch followed by a session led by the Rev. Kris Abby from Hospice of Lansing. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434. www.PilgrimUCC.com.

**Overeaters Anonymous.** In conference room F, 2nd floor. 2-3 p.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 332-0755.

### EVENTS

**Salsa Dancing.** DJ Mojito spins salsa, merengue & Bachata. 7 p.m.-Midnight. \$5 21, \$7 under 21. Fahrenheit Ultra Lounge, 6810 S. Cedar St., Lansing.

**Alcoholics Anonymous.** Closed meeting for those who desire to stop drinking, with American Sign Language interpretation. 9 a.m. FREE. Alano Club East, 220 S. Howard St., Lansing. (517) 482-8957.

**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.** Fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, crafts, activities and more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Court, East Lansing.

**Stewardship Work Days.** Families with children and community members can volunteer for a couple hours helping 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 will be open and fully stocked. Noon-4 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460.

### THEATER

**"Othello."** 2 p.m. \$15 adults, \$12 students and seniors. (Please See Details July 25)

**"Red, White and Tuna."** 2 p.m. \$22, \$10 student. (Please See Details July 27)

**"Getting Near to Baby."** 2 p.m. \$14, \$12 seniors or students. (Please See Details July 27)

See Out on the Town, Page 33

## SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 30

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

## CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 27

H	A	S	B	R	O	C	A	R	B	A	P	O	P						
I	N	G	E	A	R	Q	U	A	A	L	U	D	E	S					
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						N	E	C	K		U	B	B	I					
X	T	C		K	A	B	I	L	A	T	C	P							
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## MARU SUSHI & GRILL



City Pulse Staff

Customers can't get enough of the Asian cuisine at Maru Sushi & Grill, so the restaurant is opening new locations on Lake Lansing Road and in Grand Rapids.



### By ALLAN I. ROSS

The big scoop this week is that **Maru Sushi & Grill** is branching out with not one but two new locations, becoming the latest Lansing business success story. Owner/operator Robert Song confirmed that he will open another restaurant by the end of winter 2013 in the spot recently abandoned by the Middle Eastern restaurant Ali Baba — previously, it was the site of the upscale American eclectic All Seasons Bistro — in the plaza located at 1500 Lake Lansing Road on the corner of Coolidge Road.

This will be the third location for the 4-year-old Okemos-based sushi restaurant, following Maru's forthcoming expansion in Grand Rapids, which is scheduled to open within the next six weeks.

So things must be pretty good, right?

"'Pretty good' is an understatement," says Song, a Michigan State

University graduate. "I'm a growth-minded businessman, so I've been thinking about expanding for awhile. I've worked hard to assemble a good group of people and if I stop growing, I stop giving the opportunities that might be available to my team members."

Song says he wanted to start his East Lansing expansion last year, but a lack of ideal locations led him to look to the west side of the state first. While the Grand Rapids location is new construction, the East Lansing spot, near US-127 and the bustling Eastwood Towne Center, will see some significant reworking of the existing building.

"This is going to be an epic construction," Song said. "New bar, new kitchen, new dining room. Even the landlord isn't going to recognize it when we're done."

Song is continuing to develop his original location as well.

With its massive open-air patio facing Meridian Mall, Maru was already the only place in town for al fresco sushi dining. But Song recently acquired an outdoor liquor license as well. He said he's also

planning to add some shaded areas to the patio, and an outdoor music permit (still pending) will allow diners to sip wine and listen to live jazz over their specialty Soy Joy or Mahalo rolls.

So, are there more Marus twinkling in Song's eyes?

"Obviously, we'll wait and see how the new locations do before we jump into anything else, but yes, that's the plan," Song said. "As we continue to expand, we may come up with different concepts, but core values will stay the same: quality, freshness and a desire to give the best service possible. By the beginning of next year, we'll probably be able to decide whether we feel self-sufficient to continue to grow. And really, I'm prepared to go anywhere. The sky's the limit."

### Maru Sushi & Grill

5100 Marsh Road, Suite A1, Okemos  
Lunch is served 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.  
Monday-Thursday; 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
Friday and Saturday  
Dinner is served 4-9:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 3-9:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 4-9 p.m. Sunday  
Sushi happy hour (with half-off specials) is 4-5:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 3-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 4-9 p.m. Sunday  
(517) 349-7500  
www.marurestaurant.com



# Out on the town

from page 32

## Monday, July 30

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Divorced, Separated, Widowed Conversation Group.** For those who have gone through loss of a spouse due to death or divorce. 7:30 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272.

**GriefShare Seminar.** A DVD series, with group discussion. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 490-3218.

**Overeaters Anonymous.** 7 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (989) 587-4609. www.stdavidslansing.org.

**Chronic Pain Support Group.** For those experiencing any level of chronic physical pain. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

### EVENTS

**Euchre.** 6-9 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

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

**Monday Morning Movie.** Get your film fix at the library. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014.

**Westside Farmers Market.** Get fresh produce and more. 4-7 p.m. FREE. 743 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. www.nwllansing.org/wfm.html.

**Colonial Village Walking Group.** Walks are 30-45 minutes. 10 a.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

**Kids Time: Ages 5-11.** 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

## Tuesday, July 31

### 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.

**Schizophrenics Anonymous.** A self-help support group for those affected by the disorder. 10 a.m. Room 215-F, Community Mental Health Building, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 485-3775.

**Yoga 40.** For those in their 40s, 50s, 60s and be-

yond. 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.

**Schizophrenics Anonymous Self-help.** For persons with schizophrenia and related disorders. 5:30 p.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-3775.

**Overeaters Anonymous.** 7 p.m. FREE. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 505-0068.

**Intro to Computers.** Professionals from Career Quest teach the basics. 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 in a positive, informative format. 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. \$10. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 349-9536.

**Speakeasies Toastmasters.** Become a better speaker. 12:05-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Bldg., 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. 1926. toastmastersclubs.org.

**QiGong & Tai Chi classes.** Light exercises for those who have 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.

**Coupon Swap.** Meet other coupon enthusiasts, exchange coupons, and discuss deals and strategies. 6-7:45 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014.

**Make Your Home Healthy and Safe.** On identifying and managing issues such as lead paint, mold and asbestos. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3924.

### 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.

**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.

**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.

**Game On.** Play a variety of board and video games. 3-5 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 x3.

**Morning Storytime.** All ages welcome for stories. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014.

**Storytime.** Stories, rhymes, songs and a craft for ages 2-5. 10:30-11:15 a.m. & 6:30-7:15 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Tuesdays at the Park.** Join for stories, songs, and more. Bring a blanket and picnic lunch. 1 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. www.facebook.com.

**Colonial Village Walking Group.** Walks are 30-45 minutes. 7 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

**Save the Independent Bookstore Deadline.** Submit a fiction or non-fiction story focused on the importance of the local bookstore. Noon. \$10. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900.

### MUSIC

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

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Tuesday Morning Book Club.** Reader's Choice. Bring a recent favorite to share and discuss. 10:15-11:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.

## Wednesday, August 1

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

**Comm. Yoga.** 6 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

### EVENTS

**Overeaters Anonymous.** 7 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

**Kids Time: Ages 5-11.** 10:30-11:30 a.m. (Please See Details July 25)

**Allen Street Farmers Market.** 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

**Colonial Village Walking Group.** 10 a.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

**Animal Magic with Marc Rosenthal.** Family fun. 1 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey

Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. www.dewittlibrary.org.

### MUSIC

**Jazz Wednesdays.** 7-10 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

**Concert in the Park.** 7 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

**Concerts in the Park.** Featuring Tejano Funk. 7 p.m. FREE. Frances Park, 2600 Moores River Drive, Lansing. (810) 347-4820.

**Sammy Gold (SaGoBa).** 7-11 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

**Let's Jam.** Teenagers & adults can participate in music activities. 7:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 841 Timberlane St., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661.

### THEATER

**"Othello."** 7 p.m. \$15 adults, \$12 students and seniors. (Please See Details July 25)

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Baby Time.** 10:30 a.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

**Lansing Area Science Fiction Association Meeting.** 7 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details July 25)

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## GRANDSTAND LINE-UP

Grandstand events are included in Gate Admission

**MONDAY 7:00pm**  
Texaco Country Showdown

**TUESDAY 7:30pm**  
USA Auto-Enduro-Run-Derby Auto Enduro

**WEDNESDAY 7:30pm**  
USA Demolition Derby & Figure 8

**THURDAY 7:30pm**  
USA Demolition Derby & Figure 8

**FRIDAY 7:00pm**  
Wolverine Tractor Pullers

**SATURDAY 9:00am**  
Michigan Tractor Pullers  
Antique Tractors

## DAILY ADMISSION PRICES

General Admission (Adult).....	\$8.00
Children (3 to 12).....	\$5.00
Children age 2 & under.....	FREE
Senior Citizens (62 & over).....	\$5.00
Season Passes.....	\$35.00

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**GRANDSTAND EVENTS ARE INCLUDED IN GATE ADMISSION!**

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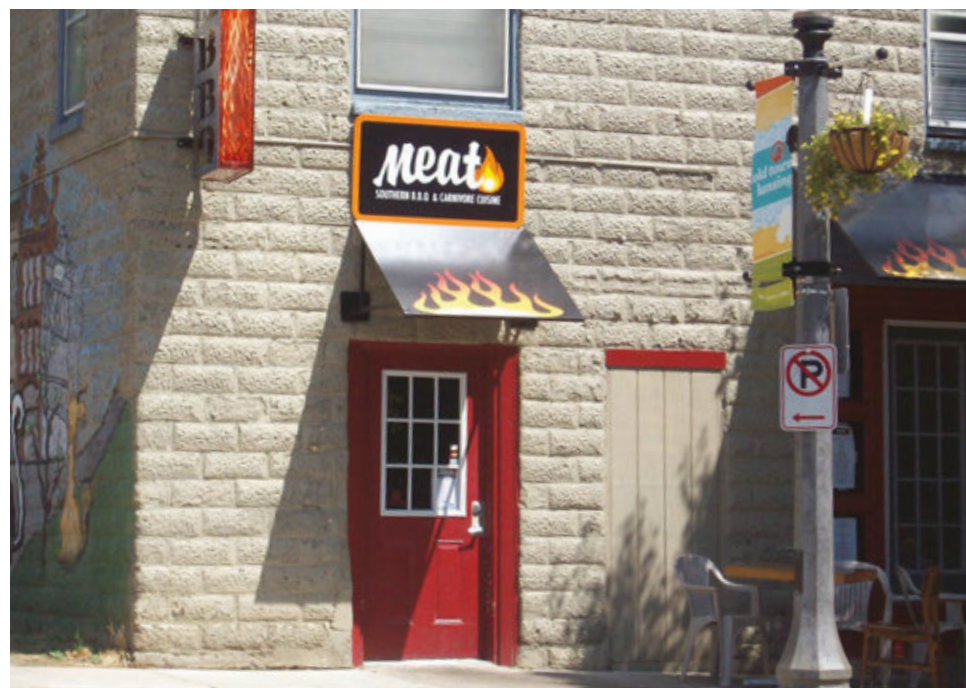
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Joe Torok/City Pulse

Old Town's Meat Southern B.B.Q. & Carnivore Cuisine, a recent addition to the dining scene, purchases its stock from Mert's Meats, a specialty meat shop in Okemos.

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Mayor Virg Bernero

## Meat, period

**Old Town's den of smoke and flesh pleases slobs and snobs alike**

By JOE TOROK

Throw a brick of charcoal in any direction during the summer and chances are you'll hit an earnest barbecue critic. I'm not one of them.

I've never been to Memphis or Kansas City, west Texas or North Carolina. So for those of you entering competitions with whole chickens, racks of ribs and a handful of butts, take my word with a grain of seasoning salt.

For the rest of you who are just looking for really good food, heed this: Meat Southern B.B.Q. & Carnivore Cuisine in Lansing's Old Town is worth a visit any time of year.

I decided to visit the buzzed-about restaurant, which, if you inspect closely, has a period after its name. (I'm leaving it out so readers won't think I'm chanting the word "meat" as part of some barbarian ritual.)

Meat is serious about meat — so serious, our server told us, they buy all of their meat from Mert's Meats, a specialty meat shop in Okemos.

Shiny picnic tables and thick-topped wood tables offer diners casual, comfortable seating. Little clear globes on strings softly light the interior from the ceiling. Nearly everything is painted black with blazing orange accents here and there. Chalkboard menus announce the meat deal of the day.

Our server further explained the mission of Meat: the specials menu changes

often. The chef is always on the hunt, working with what's available, divining inspiration from the woody smoke of the barbecue, or listening to the hum of feedback from the dining room.

If the menu were etched onto a rack of ribs, it would not have surprised me or my dining companion — there's little else on it but meat. We went with a combo plate that included two sides (\$16.50) and a specialty chopped brisket "meatwich" (\$9).

I wasn't especially tempted by the mac & cheese, so I was happy to see a starchy alternative in the bleu cheese and bacon potato salad. It's a cold salad that lets the ingredients do the work (as opposed to those over-mayoed, vinegary varieties found at pot lucks). The sharpness of the bleu cheese gave the chunks of potatoes a bit of creaminess without turning them into porridge. And the little chewy bites of bacon added a nice salty touch. The bourbon baked beans were even heartier than the potato salad and provided a welcome warm contrast.

The meat is why we came, though, and we had plenty on our combo plate. The wings, like all of the meat we had at Meat, were tender and smoked to a delicious char. They were juicy, too, so we didn't have much need for the caddy of homemade sauces that was delivered to our picnic table.

**Meat Southern  
BBQ & Carnivore  
Cuisine**

1224 N. Turner St., Old  
Town, Lansing  
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-  
Saturday  
(517) 580-4400  
www.meatbbq.com

See Meat, Page 35

# Meat

from page 34

The pulled pork was the least satisfying of the three meats in the combo. It was tender, sure, but for us perhaps a bit too soft — the meat kind of came together in the mouth, giving it a bit of a mushy sensation. With the house barbecue sauce, though, we were convinced enough to eat it all.

As for the Texas hot link, we're talking actual sausage here, the kind that has real ground meat in it instead of some homogenized pink goo that's been sterilized, colorized and squeezed into a fake casing. We happily sampled each of the five sauces with the hot link, which was a bit dryer than the chicken. Our favorite was the "Cherry Bomb," a cherry-based sauce that starts out slightly tart, slightly sweet and finishes with a spicy lick of chipotle that tingles ever so subtly.

The "BueBBQ" sauce was a bit sweet for us, but we went crazy for the dijon honey mustard. The mustard flavor is mild, so those looking for a kick may be

disappointed. But I thoroughly enjoyed the touch of sugar and fresh herbs.

It was our sauce of choice for the boot string cut French fries, which were cooked to a perfect golden brown and sprinkled with salt and cracked pepper.

The fries came with a brisket sandwich called the "Adamizer." Like the pulled pork and hot link, the brisket was a tad dry, but that didn't pose much of a problem with so many sauces at hand. The sandwich came with a spicy mayo and generous slices of avocado. Roasted red pepper added an extra touch of summer flavor to a top-notch sandwich.

While we ate, we overheard diners at a neighboring table talk about the 5-star quality of the food and a desire to shake the chef's hand. Later on, we heard a patron chat with a server about the finer points of barbecuing, offering suggestions to be relayed to the chef and maxims about how sauce or smoke can't hide meat that's not quite cooked right.

I won't be offering the chef barbecuing, smoking, brining or braising advice anytime soon. But I will give this tip to anyone who'll listen: find your way to Old Town and follow your nose to Meat.



## Congratulations grill giveaway winner...

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## Meet Lera.

An economics student, professional dancer and avid Yoga-doer from Ukraine, she began modeling for American Apparel after submitting her photos to [model@americanapparel.net](mailto:model@americanapparel.net). Her first gig with us was at Magic Tradeshow in Las Vegas, and she's been one of our regulars ever since. She is wearing the High Cut One-Piece and Leslie Pump.

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