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CityPULSE

a newspaper for the rest of us www.lansingcitypulse.com April 20-26, 2016

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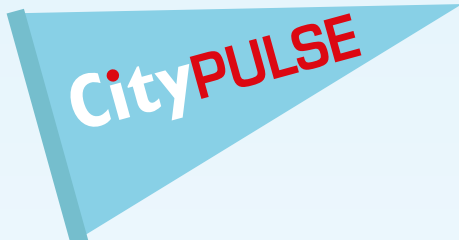


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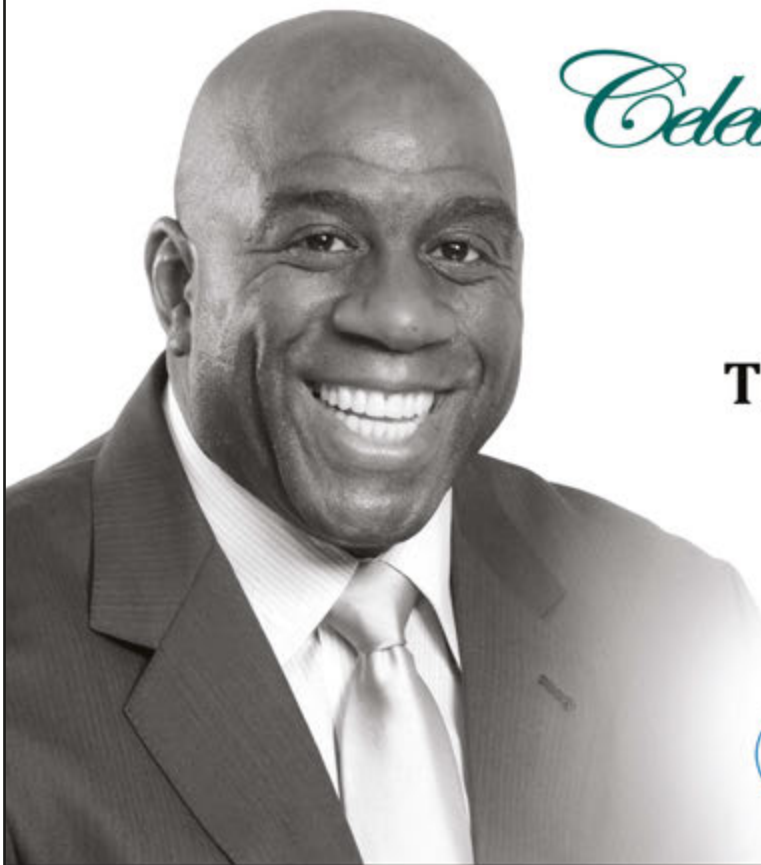
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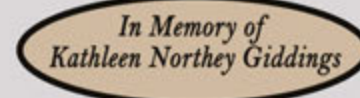
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This space is donated in part by **CityPULSE**

Summer of Art update

Area artists have embraced our plan to run original art on our covers this summer. Thus far, we've received 12 submissions, ranging from well known to not-yet-famous creative souls.

To remind you, beginning May 25, our cover art for 15 weeks will comprise original works of area artists.

Here's what's up: City Pulse and the Arts Council of Greater Lansing are cosponsoring this project. If an artist's work is selected for the cover, the artist agrees to give the work to the Arts Council, which will auction it off at its annual Holiday Glitter fundraiser. From the proceeds, the artist will receive a 30 percent commission. It's a win-win-win: City Pulse's readers get to see some great art, the Arts Council gets some dough, and the artists makes a little geld too plus earn some recognition.

We're looking for the best 15 works of original art we can garner. All but three can be whatever artists dream up. For three issues we have themes — within which, let your imagination roam. Those three are: Beginning of summer; July 4th;

End of summer.

All submissions need to be entered at lansingarts.org, where you can check out the rest of the rules. It's open to anyone, Arts Council member or no.

One request: Abide by the rules. While we've received a dozen submissions, we're unable to use several because of the dimensions. The available space is 10.25 inches wide by 6.5 inches high. Your art need not be exactly that — but it needs to be a rectangle of roughly those proportions for us to make it work. We can blow it up or shrink it.

Feel free to think outside the box. One well-known sculptor submitted a photo of his work. We presume he will auction the photo, not the sculptures.

We don't have a firm end date in mind for submissions. But we'd like to know sooner rather than later that we have at least 15 qualified submissions. So please — get crackin'!

— Berl Schwartz



CityPULSE

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Goodrich customers reunite at Whole Foods



Inside "Top Gun" co-writer Jim Cash's East Lansing home



Thai Princess gives eaters the royal treatment



by JONATHAN GRIFFITH

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PUBLIC NOTICES

**CITY OF LANSING
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

2016 LOCAL STREET PROJECT

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

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of East Lansing at the Office of the Director of Public Works, up to 11:00 A. M., Monday, May 16, 2016, at which time and place proposals will be publicly opened and read for the furnishing of materials, labor and equipment for curb and gutter replacement, sidewalk replacement, pavement milling, pavement crushing & shaping, storm sewer and water main installation and bituminous paving on Glenmoor Road, Highland Avenue, Oak Ridge Avenue and West View Avenue in the City of East Lansing. Proposals may either be mailed to the Director of Public Works at 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 or hand delivered to the Office of the Director of Public Works located at 1800 E. State Road, East Lansing, Michigan.

The Contract Documents, including Specifications, Plans and Bidding Forms may be obtained at the Director of Public Works' Office, located at 1800 E. State Road, East Lansing, Michigan, by paying a Thirty Dollar (\$30.00) non-refundable preparation fee.

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

Prevailing wages are required for this project.

The City will apply its Local Purchasing Preference Policy, Policy Resolution 2009-3, in making the award of this contract.

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

CITY OF EAST LANSING
Marie Wicks
City Clerk

CP#16-109

THIS MODERN WORLD
by TOM TOMORROW

STILL MORE PRIMARY PHENOMENA
AN ONGOING SERIES THAT WON'T BE OVER ANY TIME SOON

CAMPAIGN TRAIL KABUKI
BERNIE THINKS SUBWAY RIDERS STILL USE **TOKENS!**
HILLARY HAD TROUBLE WITH A **METROCARD!** HOW WILL VOTERS **REACT** TO THESE STUNNING GAFFES?
Action McNews Network

TRIAL BY FOLLOWERS
I SAW AN **EXTREMELY UNPLEASANT TWEET** FROM A RANDOM "BERNIE BRO" THE OTHER DAY!
WELL, THAT PRETTY MUCH **DISCREDITS THE ENTIRE SANDERS CAMPAIGN!**

CLEAR-EYED REALISTS
WE HAVE TO BE **PRAGMATIC!** WE CAN FIGHT ENDLESS WARS--
--OR WE CAN **FUND EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE!** OKAY THEN-- **ENDLESS WAR IT IS!**

AN INCOMPREHENSIBLE MYSTERY
WHY OH WHY DOES ANYONE CARE THAT BIG BANKS PAID HILLARY ENORMOUS SUMS OF MONEY FOR SOME **SPEECHES?**
SHE WAS A **PRIVATE CITIZEN!** WHO MIGHT HAPPEN TO BE PRESIDENT SOMEDAY.

ALL-KNOWING EXPERTS
THE MATH IS ENTIRELY CLEAR! THE OUTCOME OF THIS CONTEST IS A **FOREGONE CONCLUSION!**
I DON'T KNOW WHY WE EVEN BOTHER **HAVING ELECTIONS!**

DELICATE SENSIBILITIES
I AM **APPALLED** BY THE DREADFUL INCIVILITY OF THE CANDIDATE I DO NOT SUPPORT!
WHAT IS THIS WORLD **COMING TO,** WHEN POLITICAL RIVALS ARE SOMEWHAT COMBATIVE?

RESISTANCE IS FUTILE
A REPUBLICAN CONGRESS WILL **NEVER** WORK WITH BERNIE.
UM--OR **HILLARY!** BUT **HER UNREALIZED GOALS** WILL BE **MUCH MORE SENSIBLE!**

THE SHOCKING TWIST ENDING
AS IT TURNS OUT, WE ARE TRAPPED IN A **TIME LOOP--DOOMED TO REPEAT THIS ELECTION CYCLE FOR ALL ETERNITY!**
ALSO THIS VOTER GUIDE IS REALLY A **COOKBOOK.**
TO SERVE AN **INFORMED ELECTORATE**

© 2016 TOM TOMORROW

Politics are behind cover-up Time for Bernero to come clean on McIntyre payout



MICKEY HIRTEN

In February, when Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero first said the \$160,000-plus departure payout to his city attorney served the best interest of the city, it seemed plausible, though extravagant.

But the inept cover-up — and it is a cover-up — that he and his lawyers have orchestrated too hide the reasons for Janene McIntyre's fat golden parachute by now seems only to serves his political interests.

Bernero during his years as mayor has been able to bull his way through controversies,

often because his instincts and plans helped the city. But this business with McIntyre is different and isn't going away. The secrecy, the missing documents and tortured legal justifications only reinforce the obvious: There are serious problems in City Hall and for Bernero, who expects to run again for mayor in 2017.

Uncharacteristically, he did not respond to a request to address the McIntyre controversy. Consider that there is nothing Bernero likes more than a fight, with the City Council, Lansing Township, county commissioners, Repub-

licans, the press. He isn't America's Angriest Mayor by accident.

He would never open up the city's check book to a disgruntled city attorney except to protect someone or something in his administration. The Bernero response to a disgruntled McIntyre would be: "You don't think things are working out? Too bad. Get back to work. We've got a lot going on."

No organization, government or business, makes large severance payments to departing

See Hirten, Page 7

Traffic stop gone bad

Eaton Co. deputy resigns to avoid disciplinary hearing

One Eaton County deputy sheriff resigned, a member of the command staff received a written reprimand and a 28-year-old Grand Ledge man is negotiating a settlement with the county after his video showed an abusive and improper arrest during a June 2014 traffic stop.

The video raises a series of questions about the deputy's improper actions, filing false information in a police report and failing to wear and use a body-worn video camera in violation of a command order. Similar videos across the country have sparked outrage.

"It is important to know that the deputy did not spend one more minute on the road after the command staff became aware of that video," Eaton County Undersheriff Jeff Cook said.

The discredited traffic stop resulted in the arrest of Todd Michael Brenizer for resisting and obstructing a police officer. But based on video he shot on his cell-phone, the charges were dropped.

Greg Brown, the deputy shown on the video throwing open the driver's side door and aggressively trying to remove Brenizer from the car, resigned just weeks before he faced a final disciplinary hearing that would have likely resulted in his firing, Sheriff Tom Reich said.

The incident happened on June 16, 2014, at about 2:40 p.m., according to an incident report filed by Brown and obtained by City Pulse through the Freedom of Information Act.

Brown wrote that he stopped Brenizer's dark-colored Pontiac Sunfire because a tail light was out.

Brown alleged in his report Brenizer was "agitated and upset and requesting why I stopped him." Brenizer produced his driver's license and registration, but he was unable to locate his proof of insurance. Brown took the registration and license and ran the then 26-year-old through criminal databases to make sure there were no outstanding warrants — a standard procedure during a traffic stop.

He then wrote a Brenizer ticket for the broken tail light and lacking proof of insurance.

While Brown was writing the ticket and running Brenizer through state criminal databases, Brenizer pulled out his cell phone, placed it on the steering wheel and began recording himself and the driver's side window of his vehicle. City Pulse obtained the Brenizer cell-phone video through a FOIA request as well.

The entire traffic stop should have been recorded by Brown, but wasn't. He had been ordered to wear the camera based on a previous incident.

"There was concern about his treatment — verbal treatment — of someone, so he was ordered to wear a body-worn camera particularly on traffic stops,"

Cook said.

The video shot by Brenizer contradicts much of what Brown filed in his report on the incident.

Brown stated that he told Brenizer he had the right to ask the deputy questions, but "I told him the vehicle was blocking traffic and I needed him to move the vehicle."

The video showed no such exchange. Brown wrote that he moved to the back of the vehicle because he did not "feel safe" with the driver "screaming and yelling."

Brenizer's cell phone video indicates that he was agitated, but not screaming and yelling.

It showed Brown delivering the ticket. Brenizer asked questions of the deputy about the stop and asked for Brown's name and badge number.

"It's on the ticket," Brown said. "Take the ticket."

Brenizer took the ticket; the deputy turned away.

"I have a question for you sir," Brenizer said as Brown turned and took a step away. Brenizer leaned out the window and said, "I have a question for you officer."

"Get out the road or I'm going to arrest you right now," Brown replied, as he came back to the driver window.

"For what?" Brenizer asked.

"That's it. Get the fuck out the car," Brown said, opening the driver's side door and reaching into the vehicle and placing his hands on Brenizer.

"Whoa, get the fuck — why are you touching me? I haven't done anything

wrong," Brenizer said as Brown grabbed Brenizer's wrist, then his head and attempted to pull him out of the vehicle. Brenizer resisted; Brown pauseed, called for backup, then struggled with Brenizer some more. He then removed his taser. He ordered Brenizer from the vehicle. Brenizer complied, and was handcuffed.

"This is bad, bad, bad," Sheriff Reich said his response was to the video.

In Brown's version of the incident, he wrote that he hoped Brenizer would exit the vehicle and come and speak with him. When Brenizer did not, Brown said he "advised" him to leave.

"At this point he would not leave the scene and I walked back to the driver's side door and proceeded to open the door and told him to step out of the vehicle," Brown wrote.

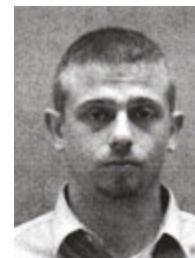
"At that point Brenizer said he did not want to step out of the vehicle and follow my commands. I then gave him loud verbal commands to step out of the vehicle and follow my directions, at which point he did not. At that point I grabbed hold of Brenizer's left wrist to escort him out of the vehicle. Brenizer then grabbed one of my wrists and pulled me into the vehicle with him."

Brown wrote that he struck Brenizer to "disengage" him then, fearing for his safety and concerned Brenizer would "take off in the vehicle," he stepped back and removed his taser. He threatened to

See Arrest, Page 7



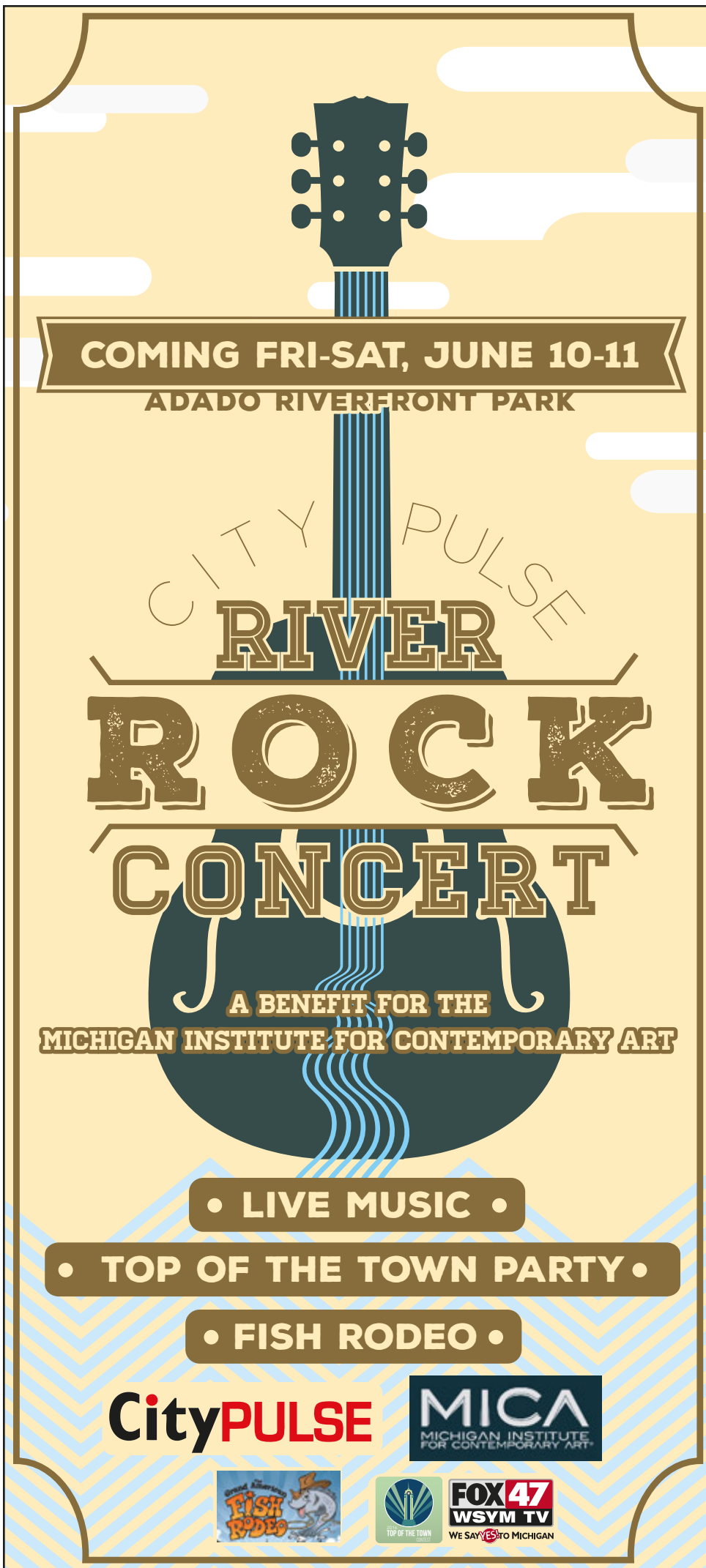
Brown



Brenizer

For a video of the arrest, please see
lansingcitypulse.com/eatonarrest







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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF ELECTION
CITY GENERAL ELECTION
TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2016

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing, Delta Charter Township and the City of East Lansing

Notice is hereby given that the City of Lansing will conduct the Election for Lansing School District voters in the City of Lansing, Delta Charter Township and the City of East Lansing on Tuesday, May 3, 2016. **Polls will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will remain open until 8:00 p.m.**

For the purpose of voting on the following proposal:

- Lansing School District Bonding Proposal

Voting Precincts and Polling Places are:

Lansing Ward 1

Pct. 1 – Gier Park Community Center
Pct. 2 – Grand River Head Start
Pct. 3 – Post Oak School
Pct. 4 – Fairview School
Pct. 5 – Foster Community Center
Pct. 6 – Pilgrim Congregational Church
Pct. 7 – Pilgrim Congregational Church
Pct. 8 – Bethlehem Temple Church
Pct. 9 – Board of Water and Light
Pct. 10 – South Washington Office Cplx.
Pct. 45 – Foster Community Center

Lansing Ward 2

Pct. 11 – South Washington Office Cplx.
Pct. 12 – Lyons School
Pct. 13 – Cavanaugh School
Pct. 14 – Gardner School
Pct. 15 – Mt. Hope School
Pct. 16 – Parker Memorial Baptist Church
Pct. 17 – Kendon School
Pct. 18 – Gardner School
Pct. 19 – North School
Pct. 20 – North School
Pct. 21 – Forest View School

Lansing Ward 3

Pct. 22 – Southside Community Center
Pct. 23 – Woodcreek School
Pct. 24 – Attwood School
Pct. 25 – Attwood School
Pct. 26 – Southside Community Center
Pct. 27 – Pleasant View School
Pct. 28 – Elmhurst School
Pct. 29 – Tabernacle of David Church
Pct. 30 – Averill School
Pct. 31 – Lewton School

Lansing Ward 4

Pct. 32 – Elmhurst School
Pct. 33 – Lewton School
Pct. 34 – South Washington Office Cplx.
Pct. 35 – First Presbyterian Church
Pct. 36 – Letts Community Center
Pct. 37 – Letts Community Center
Pct. 38 – Willow Elementary School
Pct. 39 – Emanuel First Lutheran Church
Pct. 40 – Willow School
Pct. 41 – Cumberland School
Pct. 42 – Transitions North
Pct. 43 – St. Stephen Lutheran Church
Pct. 44 – St. Casimir Catholic Church

Delta Charter Township

Precinct 1 – St. Stephen Lutheran Church
Precinct 16 – Averill School

City of East Lansing

Precinct 1 – Foster Community Center
Precinct 5 – Post Oak School
Precinct 17 – Post Oak School

All polling places are accessible and voting instructions are available in alternative formats of audio and Braille. An accessible voting device is also available.

To see if you are registered or to find your polling location, check the Secretary of State Voter Information web site at www.michigan.gov/vote.

Photo Identification OR Affidavit Required to Vote:

Under a Michigan law upheld by the Michigan Supreme Court, ALL voters will be asked to show photo identification to vote at the polls. Voters without identification will be required to fill out and sign an affidavit in order to receive a ballot.

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

Registered voters can get an Absent Voter Ballot for any of the following reasons:

- You are 60 years of age or older
- You are physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another
- You expect to be absent from the City of Lansing for the entire time the polls are open on Election Day
- You cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of your religion
- You are an appointed precinct worker in a precinct other than the precinct where you reside
- You cannot attend the polls because you are confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial

We must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at www.lansingmi.gov/Elections or by calling 517-483-4131.

The Lansing City Clerk's Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave., 9th Floor, will be open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to issue absentee ballots to qualified electors.

The Lansing City Clerk's Election Unit, 2500 S. Washington Ave (rear entrance), will be open

- Weekdays beginning February 8 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.;
 - Sunday, April 24 from 12 noon to 4 p.m.; and
 - Saturday, April 30, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- to issue absentee ballots to qualified electors.

Monday, May 2 at 4 p.m. is the deadline to request an absentee ballot. Ballots requested on Monday, May 2 must be requested and voted in person at the Clerk's Office at 124 W. Michigan Ave, 9th Floor or 2500 S. Washington Ave.

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

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#16-104

Hirten

from page 5

employees unless it has to. They negotiate settlements for cause, to compensate for a hostile work environment.

Incredibly, Bernero has characterized the McIntyre payout as “a pittance” and during an interview with the Lansing State Journal said the city has paid out other and larger departure payments. This would be a pattern that is both troubling and expensive.

What makes all of this unfathomable is Bernero's outrage over the Lansing Board of Water & Light's \$650,000 payout to its discredited CEO, J. Peter Lark. Proclaiming “never again,” he pushed for a city Charter amendment to cap executive-level payments to officials like McIntyre.

That was then. His deal with McIntyre exceeds the limit he insisted on. Bernero now calls the money paid to the city attorney a “separation agreement,” not a severance payment. The law firm he hired to negotiate the McIntyre settlement cooked up an opinion parsing the difference between separation and severance, in effect, neutering the

charter amendment.

Referencing the departure document negotiated by Bernero and McIntyre, the city claims the agreement “is not an employment contract. It is a Separation Agreement and Release. The two legal concepts are separate and distinct. Section 6.401 of the City Charter is not applicable to the instant Separation Agreement and General Release.”

As a legal document, the reference to employment contracts is unavoidable. But was there even a contract with McIntyre?

In its “The-Dog-Ate-It” defense, Bernero and his staff just can't seem to find it. Negotiating McIntyre's separation deal without a copy of her employment contract would seem an incredible failure of the city's fiduciary obligation. The employment contract should be the starting point for discussions.

Clearly, Bernero knew that offing his city attorney was a dicey affair. He laundered the dirty work through the local law firm Dykema Gossett, which cobbled together a settlement and offered legal cover for his actions.

But the missing contract is just too convenient, too Nixonian. And there are other missing documents related to McIntyre's separation that raise questions

about the timing of the settlement and the payments to Dykema Gossett.

One of the firm's attorneys, Gary Gordon, portrayed himself as representing Bernero in a voicemail to City Council President Judi Brown Clarke. He later said he meant he and his firm represented the city. But when the city responded to the State Journal's Freedom of Information Act filing for Dykema Gossett's billing invoices, there were no charges for Gordon's work. And the first two pages of the invoice were missing. Finance Director Angela Bennett, who approved the payment, wouldn't discuss the billing issues and referred LSJ's questions to the mayor.

Finally, there is the non-disparagement provision agreement that Bernero has used to stonewall inquiries about what happened with McIntyre and why.

It applies to key city officials and to McIntyre and prohibits them from any action dealing with the employment relationship that “disparages, damages, or could disparage or damage the reputation or goodwill, business, or standing in the community of the Employer (the City of Lansing) or the Employee (McIntyre).”

It seals the secrecy with a \$10,000 damage payment to the aggrieved party.

But this offers Bernero an out if he really believes that buying off McIntyre was in the city's best interest. If she was an awful employee, an inept attorney, and impediment to his administration, Bernero can say it and deal with the \$10,000 penalty.

Considering that he's already termed the \$160,000 payment a pittance, what's another \$10,000 to put all of this behind him? To come clean. If there is nothing to hide, why not do it.

There is another, more treacherous option to pierce the cone of silence. The disparagement provisions are waived if testimony is required in a legal proceeding.

Brown Clarke said she may ask Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette to investigate the payment and cover-up. If he smells a cover-up, he just might. City Council members also have discussed hiring a lawyer to pursue an independent investigation, since Bernero has declined to provide any meaningful information about McIntyre's departure to the city's elected legislators. It would need outside funding for this, but very likely could fine it.

A suggestion for Virg: Tell it all and tell it yourself. This issue isn't going away.

Arrest

from page 5

tase Brenizer.

The video showed Brown pulling his taser and pointing it at Brenizer, but Brown at no point warns the driver he would be tased. Instead, he ordered Brenizer to get on the ground, which he did.

“A person that's yelling some questions out the window at an officer does not constitute a reason to arrest someone for resisting and obstructing,” Cook, the undersheriff, said.

Despite the obvious contradictions in his report from what Brenizer recorded, Brown was never charged with either assault or filing a false police report.

Eaton County Prosecutor Douglas Lloyd did not respond to phone calls and an email seeking comment on this case.

Cook said that following the internal investigation of Brown's conduct, a sergeant in the department was given a written reprimand for failing to bring the video to the attention of command staff sooner.

Facing dismissal from the job, Brown resigned on June 30. He has since been hired by the Lenawee County Sheriff's Department.

“I think the sheriff was fully aware of what happened here,” Reich said of

Lenawee County Sheriff Jack Welsh. “I was told that personally by the sheriff in Lenawee.”

“We're not saying he saw the video,” Cook added.

Welsh declined to comment, citing personnel issues.

But Reich said he personally would not have hired Brown if he had seen the video.

“If I saw that — I'd have been very irritated. I would have been very upset,” Reich said. “He wouldn't have been hired here.”

— By Todd Heywood



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www.LAHRonline.org

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing City Council on Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, to consider the following:

A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1357, an ordinance to amend section 50-156 of Division 4 – Alternative Energy Generation Systems – of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to allow for carport solar energy systems.

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

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#16-108

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on **Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

A public hearing will be held for the purpose of reviewing the proposed 2016-2022 Capital Improvements Program.

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

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

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#16-107

Honey and bite

The Whole Foods 'experience' brings pot of competition to a boil

The long-awaited opening day of Whole Foods in Meridian Township last week was big entertainment and serious business. Some sharp repartee at the cheese counter summed it up.

A customer listened politely as the cheese man handed him a wedge of Gabriel Coulet, a French Roquefort.

"Put honey over it and it cuts through the bite," he told the customer. "King Charlemagne loved this cheese."

"Charlemagne is dead," the man shot back.

"Yeah, but it wasn't the cheese that killed him."

One of the corporate tenets of Whole Foods, the Texas-based chain of 431 stores, is to make shopping an experience.

For those who braved the opening, it was that and then some. Shaking up a crowded local health food market, Whole Foods is slathering a lot of honey over a potentially bone-deep market bite.

As I circled the jammed parking lot, and the jammed lot next door, a lady called out to me: "Good luck."

The inventory is a healthy-cop, decadent-cop workover of epic proportions. If I had to pick one item to represent the entire store, it would be Laura's Wholesome Junk Food, a line of sweet treats "made of ingredients you can pronounce." Over 200 locally sourced

items, a brew pub, coffee shop and criss-crossing hordes of eager "team members" kept the 45,000-square-foot store swarming with people all weekend.

"Team members" from Ann Arbor, Chicago and other established stores were brought in to support the regular staff of about 135 for opening week. The entire regular staff, except half a dozen experienced team leaders, are local hires.

Near the entrance, a woman was slicing and frying shiitake mushrooms. Republic of Tea Double Green Matcha tea was brewing nearby. A wine expert served up samples of super-sweet ice wine at \$17 a bottle. A genial chef from Easy Artisan Bread of Tecumseh, sporting a felt pizza hat, demonstrated how to make pizza from his "premium grain" mix.

"Go extra thick with the portabello because they shrink," he told a knot of onlookers.

Many customers were surprised to see D.J. Jaskowski, the store's wine buyer, in his familiar reaching-for-a-bottle pose. Jaskowski was the wine buyer at Goodrich's Shop-Rite, an East Lansing institution since 1967 that was closed in 2014 and replaced by Arizona-based Fresh Thyme Market.

"It's like a Shop-Rite reunion," Jaskowski said on opening day. "I've already seen about 20 people I haven't seen since Shop-Rite closed."

One lady cried when she saw Jaskowski-



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Whole Foods wine buyer D.J. Jaskowski is a veteran of Goodrich's Shop-Rite, a much-loved, locally owned store that closed in 2014.

and declared that she had found her "new store."

The unforeseen Shop-Rite migration is one bubble in a pot of local competition Whole Foods is bringing to a boil. Two locally owned health food stores are within a Hail Mary parsnip throw of Whole Foods: Foods for Living, a block west on Grand River Avenue, and the East Lansing Food Co-op, at the other end of tiny Northwind Drive.

Once upon a time, national chains swamped mom-and-pop stores with low prices and fluorescent uniformity.

Whole Foods has mastered the art of making each store fun and local. Its Spartan-themed brewpub is paneled with boards from an old basketball court, complete with tape from the free throw line. A candy-red, refurbished cigarette machine from the 1950s will dispense "single serving pieces of art" crafted by Lansing's Reach Art Studios.

The big-but-local, healthy-but-fun formula drew an impressive mix of ages and races, men and women, suits and students. "Thank you so much for being here," a white-haired lady cried out to a woman behind the deli counter on Opening Day, as if she were thanking her cardiologist for a successful bypass. "This is so beautiful!"

Whole Foods team leader Sarah Tack, who moved from Troy in January, said there is room in the local market for everybody.

"They have their loyal customers and I don't think we're interested in taking that away," Tack said. "I think there's a place for all of us to exist."

Bruce Grambau, general manager of the 40-year-old East Lansing Food Co-Op, said, "It's hard for a small, community-owned business to go up against" 45,000 square feet, "and they have a beautiful store."

Business at the Co-op stayed the same most of last week but dropped off over the weekend, "which we pretty much expected," he said.

Grambau can't match the selection at Whole Foods, but he's proud that the co-op is owned by its customers, buys extensively from local farmers and keeps grocery dollars in the community. "That's our biggest strength against a brand new shiny store

across the street," he said.

Kirk Marrison, general manager of employee-owned Foods For Living, kept his usual air of bemused equanimity, Whole Foods hoopla notwithstanding. Marrison has worked at the store since 1998, a year after it opened. Business took a hit over the weekend, he said, but it seemed to be picking up Monday afternoon, with more than two dozen customers milling around.

"It's a shiny penny," Marrison said of Whole Foods. "People are going to want to check it out, but nobody knows what will happen after that."

With two years to prepare for the advent of Whole Foods, Foods for Living has been frugal and avoided "overextension," Marrison said.

A loyal base is clearly one of the store's biggest assets. Marrison warmly greeted half a dozen longtime customers in 10 minutes, including a man who drives in regularly from Jackson.

Marrison's sang-froid, despite the juggernaut across the street, is impressive. He's gone so far to calm down "furious rabids" who swear they'll never, ever go to Whole Foods.

"I tell them, 'It's OK, you can shop where you want,'" he said.

Debbie Schankler of Okemos, one of the customers who thronged Whole Foods on opening day, seemed to bear out the "shiny penny" theory. Ogling a wall-sized array of bon-bons, most of them involving sea salt, Schankler said she has lived in the Lansing area since 1985, and considers Whole Foods a novelty she would only indulge "a few times."

"I want to support Foods for Living and I want to support the Co-Op," she said. "When I moved here in 1985, the Co-Op was all we had."

Schankler is wary of any chain store, however loudly it proclaims health and sustainability values and localizes the décor, but she couldn't help being impressed on opening day. "They don't just point to what you want, they take you there," she said. "These people are up and ready."

—Lawrence Cosentino

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF LANSING PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST FOR THE TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2016 SPECIAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the public test of the program which will be used for tabulating the results of the Special Election to be held Tuesday, May 3, 2016 in the City of Lansing will be conducted at the City Clerk's Election Unit located at the South Washington Office Complex at 2500 South Washington Avenue on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

The public accuracy test is conducted to determine that the program used to tabulate the results of the election counts the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

Registered voters can get an Absent Voter Ballot for any of the following reasons:

- You are 60 years of age or older
 - You are physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another
 - You expect to be absent from the City of Lansing for the entire time the polls are open on Election Day
 - You cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of your religion
 - You are an appointed precinct worker in a precinct other than the precinct where you reside
 - You cannot attend the polls because you are confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial
- We must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at www.lansingmi.gov/Elections or by calling 517-483-4131.

The Lansing City Clerk's Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave., 9th Floor, will be open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to issue absentee ballots to qualified electors.

The Lansing City Clerk's Election Unit, 2500 S. Washington Ave (rear entrance), will be open

- Weekdays beginning April 4 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.;
 - Sunday, April 24 from 12 noon to 4 p.m.; and
 - Saturday, April 30, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- to issue absentee ballots to qualified electors.

Monday, May 2 at 4 p.m. is the deadline to request an absentee ballot. Ballots requested on Monday, May 2 must be requested and voted in person at the Clerk's Office at 124 W. Michigan Ave, 9th Floor or 2500 S. Washington Ave.

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

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#16-103

HAZY FUTURE for pot

Lansing, state officials wrestle
with regulating medical marijuana dispensaries

By TODD HEYWOOD

Despite being ruled illegal under Michigan's Medical Marihuana Act, dozens of provisioning centers have opened across Lansing in the last year, adding to the score or more that already existed. They're in abandoned gas stations or strip malls. They fill empty storefronts.

Residents and City Council members alike want to control their proliferation, but the interim city attorney, Joseph Abood, continues to run up against a hard legal fact in Michigan.

"The city cannot allow what the state prohibits," said Abood in an interview at the end of March, "and the city cannot prohibit what the state allows."

The city can, though, apparently declare a moratorium on new ones, which Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero called on the Council to do Monday.

"Enough is enough," Bernero said. "We have a sufficient number of medical marijuana dispensaries in the city to serve the needs of medical marijuana patients. Now we need a comprehensive system of regulations as soon as possible to govern the growing and distribution of medical marijuana."

State lawmakers are considering legislation — which is hung up in the state Senate's Judiciary Committee — that would legalize such provisioning centers, require testing and labeling of all product offered for sale, and would generate revenue to pay for the licensing inspections for the centers.

In addition to the move to legalize and regulate the provisioning centers, there are two ballot initiatives circulating in the state seeking authorization to legalize marijuana for recreational use and a bill pending in the House, introduced by State Rep. Jeff Irwin, D-Ann Arbor, which would legalize the drug for sale as a recreational item.

At the end of the day however, confusion reigns on the future of recreational marijuana and restrictions apply to the provisioning of medical marijuana. That makes the state of marijuana in Michigan "hazy" at best, as Steve Japinga, director of governmental relations for the Lansing Chamber of Commerce, put it.

Japinga and the Chamber announced last month that they supported a moratori-

um on new medical marijuana provisioning centers in Lansing until the city could adopt some form of regulations related to the centers. There are at least 50 such centers operating in Lansing right now, and that estimate could be as high as 60, according to neighborhood leaders who have petitioned the Council to regulate the businesses.

The centers operate with different models. One type is a location where a caregiver can deliver the medications to a registered patient. It prevents patients from having to travel to the homes of caregivers. Another is

operator operators favor.

"Everybody has to play by the same rules," said dispensary owner Tom Mayes of Greenwave Connection, which recently opened at 500 E. Oakland Ave.

In a "perfect world," he said, a system would establish specific rules dictating security measures, tracking of inventory employee education and testing of the marijuana.

Testing is key, said Mayes. State Sen. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge, concurred. He chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee.



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Emerald City Dispensary on Cedar Street is one of many such businesses popping up across the city. Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero wants a moratorium to stop the booming industry until a licensing and regulatory scheme can be created.

a provisioning center, or dispensary, acting as the caregiver. For these outlets, many different growers supply the product, and the dispensary then provides it to the patient. And yet another model combines caregiving and provisioning, but also includes a lounge where people use their medication.

The Chamber would like to see testing and proper labeling of all medical marijuana. "We want patients to have access to safe products," Japinga said.

That's something that provisioning cen-

Opposition to the legislation is "all over the board," he said of to the members of his own party on the Judiciary Committee.

"People don't like it for numerous reasons," he said. "They don't want to vote for anything with marijuana in it. Some don't want it taxed. Some think the current law is enough and the current dispensaries are acting outside the law, and we should just enforce the law."

Jones said he thinks cities like Lansing, which are seeing a boom of medical marijuana provisioning centers, should use their local authority to control those businesses through zoning regulations.

That's something Lansing city officials are working on, said Carol Wood, chairwoman of the Lansing City Council Committee on Public Safety. On March 31, Abood, the interim city attorney, provided a draft ordinance that would regulate the businesses using only zoning rules.

That's how the city of East Lansing does it, said East Lansing Mayor Mark Meadows. Under that law, Meadows said dispensaries would be subject to various limitations, just as many businesses like bars are. He said dispensaries are required to apply for a special use permit, just as liquor stores do.

"We treat it as a zoning issue," he said. "We have not had any applications for those businesses, but if we did we would treat them as we do any business."

However, Wood said the zoning proposal presented by Abood was dead on arrival.

"What we have heard, over and over again, is that people want a licensing process," she said. She noted that a zoning enforcement proposal would be difficult to enforce because of funding issues

"We have two people in zoning right now. There's no way they can investigate all those businesses to make sure they meet whatever zoning rules we adopt," she said. She noted that under a zoning proposal, there is no revenue generated until the department has determined there are violations. At that point, tickets and fines are issued.

A licensing proposal, she said, would be self funding for inspections and set rigid standards. Dispensary owners, the Chamber, Council members, and state lawmakers, have all agreed that medical marijuana should be tested and labeled. The testing should include the amounts of THC and cannabinoids and detect mold or pesticides.

"You want to be testing for microbials, like mold and mildew, as well as pesticide residue," Greenwave's Mayes said. "The only way to know about those things is testing."

Jones said the legislation bottled up in his committee would do exactly that, and it is part of the reason he supports it.

Wood said she expects a draft ordinance from Abood this week, which will be formally discussed on Friday at the Public Safety Committee meeting, that would have a licensing and regulatory scheme.

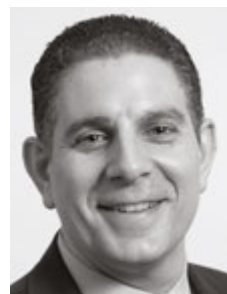
"I told him we wanted something that licensed as well as something that was en-

Sound off Do you support the legalization of marijuana for recreational use?

The majority of Michigianians support legalizing the recreation use of marijuana, says polling by EPIC MRA. In 2015, those for it numbered 53 percent — up from 50 percent the year before and 47 percent in 2014. How in touch with their constituents are our politicians? Here are some of their views:



East Lansing Mayor Mark Meadows:
"Yeah. I think I signed a petition for that. I support it because it's better to have it regulated than unregulated."



Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero:
"We're a lot better off bringing it out of the shadows and creating a regulatory framework as had to be done with alcohol. Legalizing it allows us to bring it out of the shadows; allows us to regulate it; allows you to get revenues out of it. This moves marijuana from an expenditure to a revenue."

See Sound Off, Page 11

Regulation

from page 9

forceable now," she said. She said Abood had previously indicated he was working on legislation that would piggy-back off the Senate log-jammed legislation.

"I don't want to wait for the Senate to act," Wood said. She's hoping to pass a licensing ordinance by July 1, the beginning of the city's fiscal year.

But Lansing already had such an ordinance on the books. Council in 2011 passed a licensing and regulatory framework for medical marijuana provisioning centers and dispensaries. But shortly after that passed, the Michigan Appeals Court ruled that such centers were in violation of the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act as passed by voters in 2008. That resulted in Brig Smith, the city attorney at the time, issuing a legal directive to City Clerk Chris Swope to stop

implementing the regulatory scheme. That directive also directed the clerk to return any funds paid to the city to pay for licensing under the scheme.

As a result, most of the city's more than 40 dispensaries shut down. But after time, dispensaries quietly reopened and many new ones did as well, perhaps from seeing a lack of prosecution and by knowing Bernero supports pot legalization. Many are appearing on the city's south side, and residents there have been complaining for months.

"We really want to make sure that we are controlling the numbers and making sure that these are safe establishments for people to get their medicine in," said Elaine Wolmboldt, facilitator for the community organization Rejuvenate South Lansing. "We don't want south Lansing to become the epicenter of where all the shops are."

To address that, Wolmboldt and other neighborhood activists circulated a petition calling on the City Council to act. That peti-

tion was presented in November.

At the time, there were more than 25 dispensaries between I496 and I96 on the south side, according to medical-marijuana expert Steve Green, who writes the Green Report for City Pulse biweekly.

Meanwhile State Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr., D-Meridian Township, said the state is struggling with regulating medical marijuana and potentially recreational pot.

"I'm concerned with our entire system," Hertel said. "Right now we have a prescription being treated differently than anything else. That state of Michigan has to decide if it's a drug, and regulate it that way, or if it is something else and regulate it that way. The medical marijuana legislation made it much, much worse. We need to do something to make appropriate regulations. The state has not done it yet."

For Joan Nelson, head of the Allen Neighborhood Center on Lansing's east side, the lack of action is "frustrating."

"It's making it all completely crazy," she said. "It's a mess. People really need to step up and address this." She said she can see the upsides of both proposed ordinances — one for licensing and one for zoning.

"There are health and safety issues, so licensing is important, but so is zoning," she said. "Zoning can help us place those businesses in places where they are not near religious affiliated groups or schools."

But Kathie Dunbar, a City Councilwoman at-large, said she has concerns about using the zoning laws to control the businesses.

"We don't regulate pharmacies to say they can only be so far away from schools or churches," she said at a March meeting of the Public Safety Committee. "I don't see how this is any different."

The Chamber's Japinga said he could see

where Dunbar was coming from and that's why his organization supports a moratorium.

"We need to figure this out," he said. "We need to have some regulatory framework in place."

Complicating this mishmash of legislative approaches are citizen ballot initiatives that could legalize marijuana for recreational use. The first is being driven by East Lansing lawyer Jeffrey Hank. He's the head of MIlegalize, a petition initiative that would not only legalize recreational use of marijuana but would include a regulatory process by which the state could tax marijuana. Most of the money raised from the proposal would be used for roads, education and local governments.

Hank and his group have until June 1 to turn in 253,000 valid signatures to place the initiative on the November ballot. On March 28, he told the Detroit Free Press that his organization had collected 250,000 signatures, but wanted to turn in 300,000 signatures in order to avoid falling short of the required signatures by having some rejected by the state as invalid.

A second petition drive is being run by the Midland group Abrogate Michigan. It requires 315,000 signatures because it calls for a constitutional amendment, unlike MIlegalize.

Buoying the hopes of legalization advocates is a March poll from Lansing-based EPIC MRA. That poll found 53 percent of Michigan voters would support legalization and taxation of marijuana. That's up from 47 percent in 2013 and 50 percent in 2014.

Legalization could result in a boon for state tax coffers as well. A report by Hillsdale College economist Gary Wolfram said the state could see as much as \$44.3 million

See Regulation, Page 11

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF EAST LANSING

EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING PUBLIC HEARING ON PRELIMINARY FY2017 BUDGET AND TAX RATE

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the proposed budget for the City of East Lansing is required by City Charter and the State Budget Law; and,

WHEREAS, a public hearing is required under the provisions of the Truth in Taxation Law; and,

WHEREAS, the general appropriations act must set forth the total number of mills to be levied and the purposes for the millage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of East Lansing does hereby establish the date of Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., in 54-B-Court Room 2, City Hall, 410 Abbot in East Lansing, Michigan, as the date, time, and place for the required public hearing; and be it further resolved that for the purposes of the hearing it shall be assumed that the total tax rate will be **22.2107 mills consisting of 17.5891 mills for operating purposes, 1.8250 mills for solid waste, 0.7966 mills for debt service, and 2.0000 mills for the Library pursuant to section 1 of 1887 PA164.**

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

The budget is available for public inspection at the East Lansing Library and City Clerk and Finance Office at City Hall; along with the City's website: cityofeastlansing.com under Finance.

Public comments, either oral or written, are welcome at the Public Hearing. The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at this meeting upon seven (7) calendar days' notice to the City of East Lansing. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should write or call: Shelli Neumann, Human Resources Department, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 319-6893, TDD (517) 337-0767.

This notice is published by: Marie E. Wicks, City Clerk, City of East Lansing, Michigan, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 319-6881.

CP#16-106

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing City Council on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, to consider **Ordinance No. 1370**; an ordinance to amend Sections 44-335, 44-336 and 44-341 of Chapter 44 - Traffic and Vehicles - of the Code of the City of East Lansing

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

Marie E. Wicks, City Clerk

CP#16-105

Sound off: from page 10



State Sen. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge, who chairs the Judiciary Committee, which would oversee such legislation.

"I personally don't want to see another social drug out there. I am completely supportive of medical marijuana."



Ingham County Clerk Bark Byrum:

"I am not necessarily opposed to it, but I would like to see any proposal and the regulations first."



Lansing City Councilwoman Carol Wood, who chairs the Committee on Public Safety: "No. I grew up — and I realize this is a generational thing — in an era where we were taught it led to harder drugs and issues. If that is what the public approves, however, then I will work as a legislator to address the regulation needs. Am I out there lobbying against it? No. Not at all."



State Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr., D-Meridian Township:

"Yes, as long as there are regulations in place."



State Sen. Steve Bieda, D-Warren, ranking Democrat on the Senate Judiciary Committee:

"In the longer term I would support legalization, although I prefer to use decriminalization. But we need to go in steps"

Regulation

from page 10

if lawmakers approve a taxation provision included in the legislative package stalled in the Senate Judiciary Committee. That proposal would include a 6 percent sales tax on medical marijuana sales at dispensaries, plus a 3 percent tax on gross sales for dispensaries every year.

But Wolfram's proposals could be a bit optimistic. They're based on an estimate that two-thirds of all medical marijuana users are obtaining marijuana through a dispensary. According to figures released by the state Department of Health and Human Services last month, in 2015 there were 1,018 patients in Clinton county, 2,527 patients in Eaton County and 6,982 patients in Ingham. Those same records show there are 232 patient caregivers in Clinton, 559 in Eaton and 1,434 caregivers in Ingham. Caregivers can provide marijuana to six patients or five and themselves. Those caregivers cannot have more than 12 plants per person at any one time. Individual patients can grow 12 plants each for personal use.

Jones said that provisioning centers or dispensaries are skirting the law, which allows only direct transfer of marijuana from a patient caregiver to a registered patient.

"Here's what's happening," Jones said. "Legal caregivers are growing for four, five patients, plus themselves. But they have an overage. So they are smuggling that to dispensaries and selling it there."

He said that is happening in "sanctuary cities" such as Lansing.

Jones may be right, but given his inability for over two years to move legislation to the floor for a vote, cities like Lansing and Detroit are left to their devices.

"We can no longer wait for the Legislature to do their job," Bernero said. "Even though the original medical marijuana law was approved by Michigan voters eight years ago, and after numerous court rulings that have only muddied the waters about the legal status of the medical marijuana industry, it is time for City Council to fill the void. That starts with a moratorium to stop any further expansion of dispensaries operating within the city limits."

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Blue lagoon of schmooze

A peek at screenwriter Jim Cash's East Lansing house

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Many houses tell a subtle, hidden story. This one doesn't.

The Tudor-ish pile at 1141 Southlawn Avenue in East Lansing tells a whopper that's brash and unsubtle enough for 1980s Hollywood.

The elevator pitch: At the height of the Reagan era, a huge, wood-paneled Aspen lodge with five fireplaces and a stone-grotto indoor pool is dumped onto an ordinary Midwestern ranch house by an Air Force transport. Let's try for Tom Cruise as the pilot.

Do we get a green light to flesh that into a treatment? Great.

The house belonged to MSU English professor and big-time screenwriter Jim Cash, co-author of "Top Gun," 1986's top-grossing film and a cult classic. Cash lived in the house from 1980 until his death in 2000 at age 59.

It's up for sale now; its latest owners moved out of town in January. The chance to peek inside Cash's stronghold — a lavish slab of Malibu packed into a tiny East Lansing lot with barely a fringe of yard to spare — was too much fun to resist.

Longtime friend Etta Abrahams met

Cash in the spring of 1963, when Cash was fiction editor of the Red Cedar Review, the campus literary journal.

"He was living the writer's life, meaning he was poor," Abrahams said.

As a grad student, Cash lived over the old Cunningham Drugs at Abbot Road and Grand River Avenue in a one-room apartment.

"He had the empty bottle of Chianti with the typical dripping candle in it, and he loved Hemingway," Abrahams said.

When MSU faculty blocked publication of a short story by Abrahams because it dealt with abortion and homosexuality, Cash quit the Review in protest.

One day in the early 1980s, when Abrahams was a professor at MSU, Cash excitedly burst into her office. He had just sold his first screenplay. "Izzy & Moe," a TV movie for "The Honeymooners" stars Jackie Gleason and Art Carney, aired on CBS in 1985.

"It enabled him to buy the house on Southlawn," Abrahams said. "It was a single-story, normal brick ranch house."

But not for long.

In the 1980s, Cash struck up a long-running screenwriting partnership with



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

An East Lansing house once owned by "Top Gun" screenwriter Jim Cash is on the market. The nearly 7,000-square-foot estate is in the city's Glencairn Neighborhood.

Jack Epps Jr., a former student. The team co-wrote "Legal Eagles," starring Robert Redford; "Turner & Hooch," starring Tom Hanks; "Secret of My Success," starring Michael J. Fox; and "Dick Tracy," featuring Warren Beatty and Madonna.

Epps had a knack for plot, while Cash excelled at dialogue. They rarely saw each other in their working years and collaborated long-distance, via computer.

The duo's biggest hit was "Top Gun." The success of the flag-waving Tom Cruise vehicle allowed Cash to triple the size of his house. He hunkered in with his wife, Cynthia, three kids and a menagerie of cats, dogs and even squirrels — in cages.

Cash's second-floor office alone is the size of a lakeside cabin, paneled in pine and featuring a massive stone fireplace. There's a City Council-sized, 12-foot-long table where he spent thousands of hours working, swiveling in a big red chair and looking out of the window at the surrounding Glencairn Neighborhood.

The room adjoins a walk-in library/closet, complete with a ladder on rollers. The library was packed with books and old magazines, many of them used to research the time periods depicted in his screenplays. The shelves still have Cash's alphabetized labels. (The library/closet was also his hiding place for pot,

according to sources who asked not to be named.)

"It's a poor kid's idea of what it means to be a rich kid," Abrahams said. "Before all that was built, he lived like a graduate student — boards and bricks and colored lights."

The downstairs indoor pool is a blue lagoon of schmooze in a cozy cave of stone and pine. Flat surfaces for drinks are nowhere more than a step or two away from the water.

The additions reduced Cash's lawn maintenance chores to a hilarious minimum in a neighborhood loaded with expansive landscaping.

Cash had more motivation than silver screen exuberance to maximize the interior. He suffered from mild agoraphobia and rarely left the house. Even his MSU screenwriting classes gathered at his second-floor office/den, where he screened films for them. Abrahams was one of Cash's students.

"He was an excellent teacher, very lively, gave us great criticism, great exercises," she said.

Every time a Cash/Epps opus came out, Cash threw a big party. The biggest was the "Top Gun" bash after the film's local premiere at the Campus Theatre in 1986.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Jim Cash's former home in East Lansing even includes an indoor grotto and pool.

See Cash House, Page 13

Cash House

from page 12

“Anybody who was anybody at the university or in the writing community was there,” Abrahams said.

The parties were lively, but not “The Day of the Locust” lively, despite the pot smoking. Cash and his wife both had a religious side.

At a reception at MSU’s Cowles House, Abrahams found him wearing a “huge crucifix” over a black turtleneck.

“My God, what is that?” she asked him.

“Well, you know, people change,” he told her.

“He got more conservative as he got richer, but I don’t think the money changed him,” Abrahams said. “He was always Jim.”

By 2000, the “Top Gun” days were past and Cash and Epps were happily slumming with screenplays for “Anaconda” (with Ice Cube and Jennifer Lopez) and “The Flintstones in Viva Rock Vegas.”

That year, Cash was hit with peritonitis.

“He didn’t know he had it,” Abrahams said. “He thought he had the flu. Six weeks later he was dead.”

The house sat empty and fell into disrepair for a while. Its next owner was Mary Ellen Sheets, founder of the Two Men and a Truck moving company. In 2011, Don Heller, then dean of MSU’s College of Education, and his wife, Anne Simon, took it over. They moved to California in January when Heller was appointed provost and academic vice president of the University of San Francisco.

Simon credits Sheets for fixing up the house and keeping many of its most characteristic features.

While professing “no belief or disbelief” in the hereafter, Simon said “there are certain things that happened in the house that are kind of odd.” She spent a lot of time alone at Cash’s old desk, going over household bills and other work, alone. Sort of.

“I’d have this overwhelming feeling somebody was looking over my shoulder,” she said. “Nothing sinister, not an evil feeling. It was almost like he left this earth too quickly and he was just checking in on his house.”



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Jim Cash’s upstairs den/office features a massive stone fireplace and a 12-foot-long writing table.

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Sending support

Letters of Love campaign raises funds, awareness for Syrian refugees

By NASEIM OMEISH

The Syrian refugee crisis has been driving headlines around the world for the past year, as over 4.5 million people have fled to neighboring countries to escape the war in Syria. While the brunt of the crisis has been felt in Europe, it has popped up in U.S. politics as well, with figures like Donald Trump and Gov. Rick Snyder calling for a ban on Syrian immigrants.

Heba Osman and Ahmad Elkhatib, graduate students in MSU’s College of Osteopathic Medicine, felt that not enough was being done locally to address this international humanitarian crisis. The duo started a campaign called Letters of Love, where locals can write letters of hope and love that will be sent to Syrian refugees.

The spark for the project came when Osman, a Canadian citizen of Egyptian descent, came back from a humanitarian trip that provided medical care for Syrian refugees in Jordan.

“I went with the Syrian American Medical Society to Al Zaatari refugee camp and other places in Jordan,” Osman said. “We provided them with medical care. A lot of them don’t have any money to see a doctor, money for medication — they don’t have money for anything.”

The shock of what she saw in the camp really sank in when she came back to the U.S.

“I don’t think anything hit me when I was there,” Osman said. “When I came back, everything started hitting me. Ahmad talked about wanting to do something for Syrian refugees, so that’s where Letters of Love was born.”

The campaign has a twofold purpose: raise awareness around the Syrian refugee crisis and raise money to help fund schools for refugee children. Osman and Elkhatib believe that education is the best opportunity for refugee children to build a better future for themselves and their country.

Participants to the campaign are asked to write a letter and include a small donation — \$5 for students and \$15 for faculty and community members. The letters will be translated to Arabic and read aloud to children between the ages of 6 and 15 years old in Al Zaatari refugee camp. The monetary donations will go directly to Al-Rahba Children Project, a nonprofit organization in Mafraq, Jordan, that aims to build schools for Syrian children. Project organizers will cover the cost of getting the letters and donations to Jordan.

While Elkhatib had been thinking about ways to help Syrian refugees, seeing Osman’s response to her trip is what really set things in motion.

“For the first week, she was zoned out,” Elkhatib said. “She was shattered and shocked at the circumstances that people



Photo by Heba Osman

MSU students Heba Osman (left) and Ahmad Elkhatib started the Letters of Love campaign to raise money for refugee schools in Jordan.

have to live in. She felt that whatever she did there wasn’t enough.”

“We were just giving them a Band-Aid,” Osman added.

For Elkhatib, who is now an American citizen, what is happening in Syria hits close to home.

“I am of Palestinian descent, but I was born in Lebanon,” Elkhatib said. “I always thought I was Lebanese until when I got older and noticed my passport said ‘refugee’ on it.”

There are an estimated 1.3 million Syrian refugees in Jordan, with a majority living outside official refugee camps. The United Nations Human Rights Council has 600,000 registered refugees in the country, and about 83,000 of those live in Al Zaatari camp. Living conditions for refugees in the camp are hard, and refugee children are the most vulnerable.

“They do have schools there, but they have around 20,000 children,” Osman said. “There is only space for half of them to go to school.”

Syrians who live outside of refugee camps don’t have it much better.

“In the morning the Jordanian children go to school, and in the afternoons they switch over and the Syrian children go to school,” Osman said. “But sometimes there isn’t a school nearby and you need money for transportation. A lot of the mothers, they wouldn’t eat so that they could afford to send their kids to school.”

Participants are asked to send letters and donations to Letters of Love, 965 Fee Road, Room C101 East Fee, East Lansing, MI 48824. As of now, there is no cut-off date for receiving letters.

Osman and Elkhatib created the Letters of Love campaign as a practical way for Americans to help a crisis that at times seems impossibly large.

“There are a lot of people who want to help with the Syrian refugee crisis, but they have not figured out how to help,” Elkhatib said. “This is one way to help.”

CURTAIN CALL

Still greasy after all these years

MSU breathes new life into 'Grease'

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

"Grease," as a cultural phenomenon, is inescapable. In 1978, a sanitized "Grease" film helped cement the musical's place in Ameri-

cana. More recently, Fox viewers were treated to "Grease Live," starring Julianne Hough, Vanessa Hudgens and Aaron Tveit. Before that was NBC's "Grease: You're the One That I Want," a reality competition show with starring Broadway roles on the line.

Since the original show by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey debuted in Chicago in 1971, adaptations of "Grease" have been per-

Review

"Grease"

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sitation of "Grease." It might seem that seeing yet another resurrection of the familiar play would be as fun as watching a rerun of a rerun.

Instead, the MSU production gave the well-known play a breath of fresh appeal — thanks in large part to its energetic, young, energetic, vocally astute, energetic, skilled dancing cast. The 22 members radiated an enthusiasm and charm that left no feeling of a winded redo. (Did I mention that they were energetic?)

Shelby Antel as Sandy, Lukas Jacob as Danny and Katelyn Wilson as Rizzo gave broadcast-worthy performances. The trio's singing and dancing really shined. A sparse-yet-stylish set allowed for room for them to

formed on Broadway, local theaters and high school auditoriums from coast to coast. We've been getting "Grease" jobs for over four decades. Versions of the play sometimes seem as common as round-shaped oats inside a Cheerios box.

Apparently, its teen angst, raw language, female sexuality and rock 'n' roll-infused themes warrant a never-ending life. MSU Department of Theatre's latest production is yet another resus-

wail and prance — even with the occasional appearance of a real car body.

Numerous scene-stealers — such as Josh Cassady as the nerdy Eugene and Bethany Heimlein as Patty-in-crutches — added their own individuality to the show. Blaine Mizer as Teen Angel, however, was the master pilferer of audience attention. His flamboyant, over-the-top stage delivery was a one-of-a-kind display. Mizer's ability to effortlessly reach ever-elevated and extended notes set a new bar for the role.

The youthfulness of the MSU cast and ensemble brought a welcome charm. So many versions of "Grease" force us to accept far-from-teen actors as high schoolers. The MSU actors, acting like hormone-addled, goofy, emotional, not-so-mature students of Rydell High, seemed more natural.

Jonathan William David, as Vince Fontaine, looked the part of an older DJ, complete with a shaved head and suit. David also deserved mention for his slick, vocally acrobatic "on air" inclusions. The seven-piece band conducted by Dave Wendelberger also merits special praise. Both the director and choreographer certainly earned kudos — the same person, Brad Willcuts, held both positions.

The production uses the script from the original, long-running Broadway version of "Grease." Be aware that some of those words are explicit, including sexual dialogue and frequently exploding "F-bombs" — the greasier stuff we never heard squeezed into a "Grease" movie or TV show.

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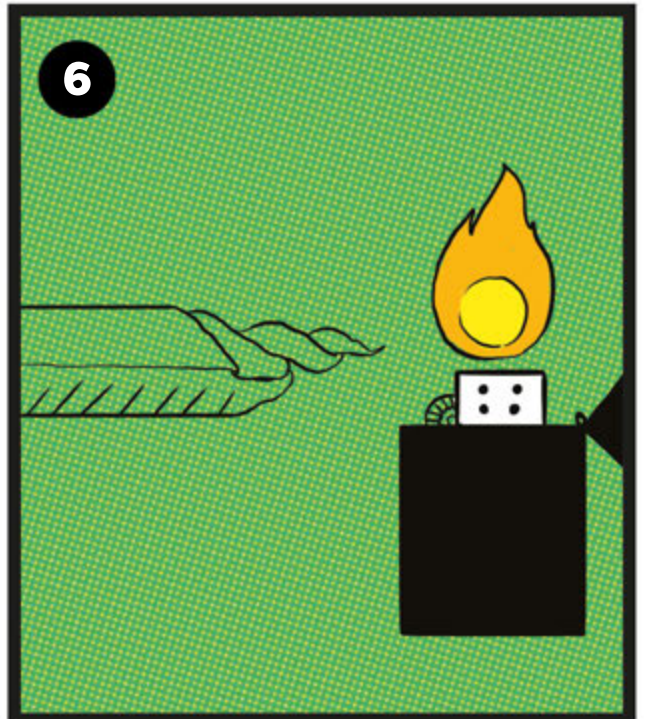
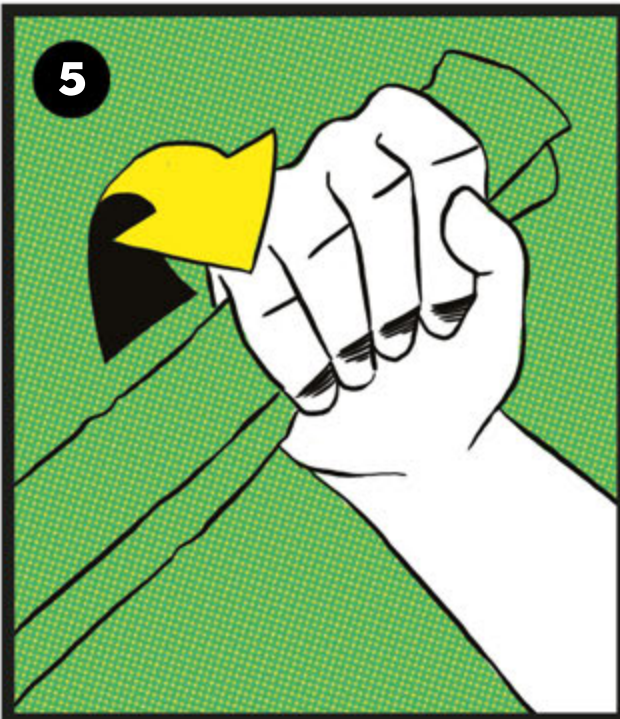
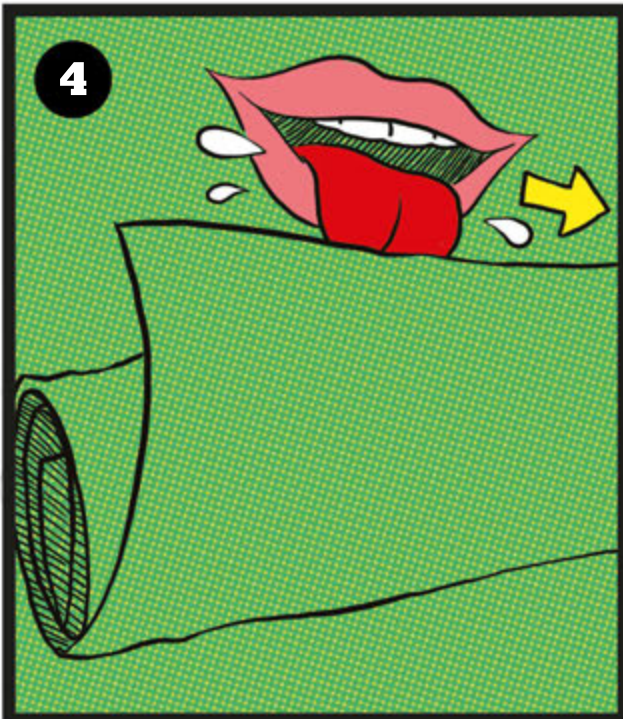
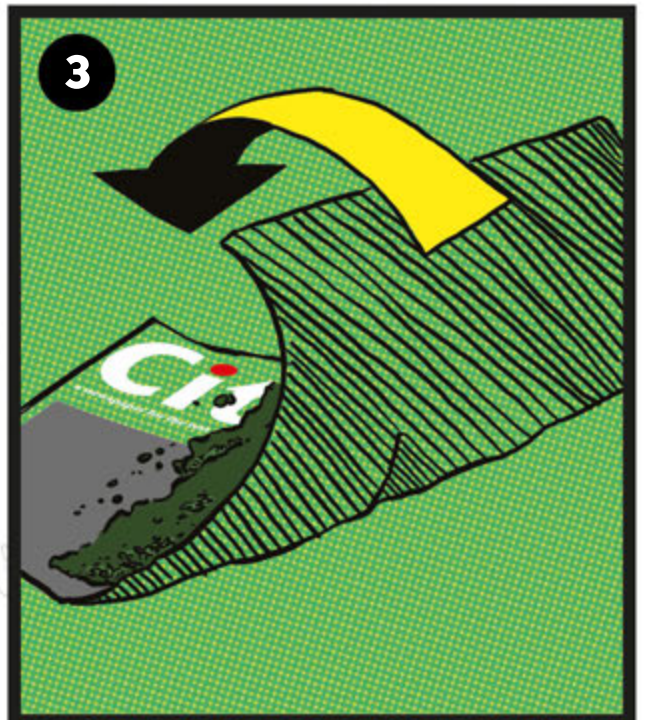
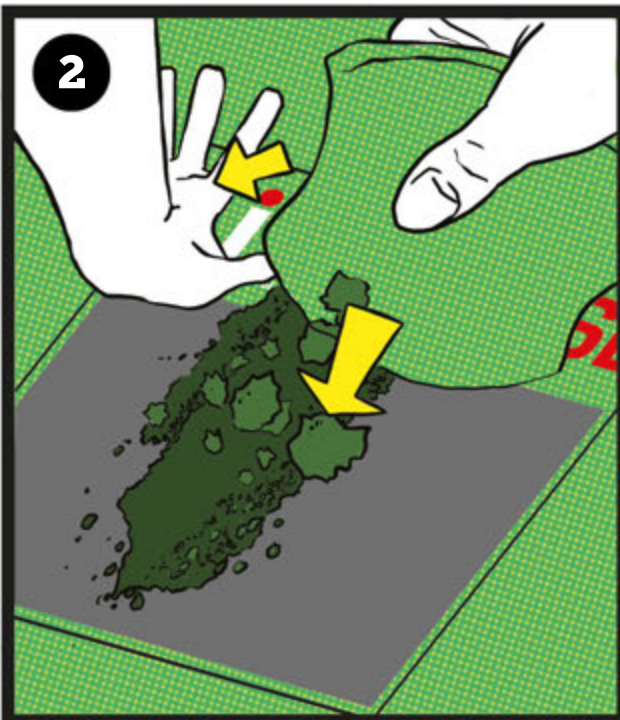
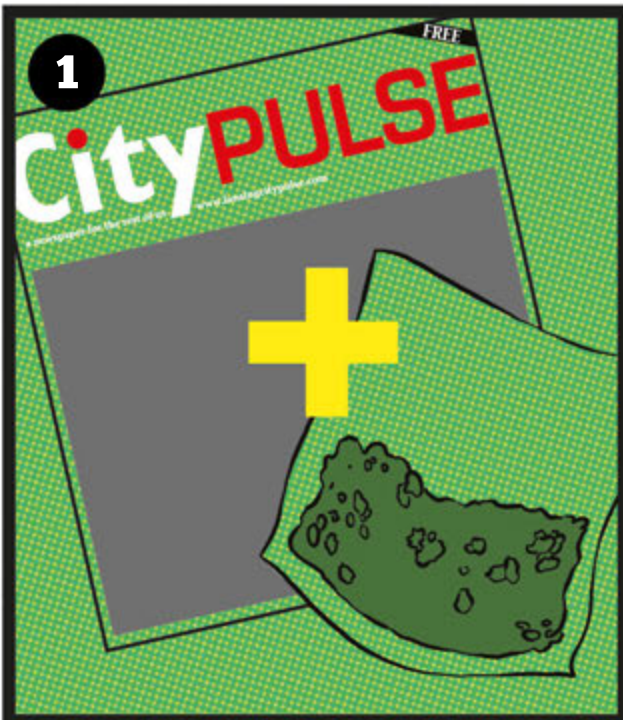
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.....42 SECTION





CITY PULSE'S 2016 420 SECTION



Looking for options

Michigan patients find relief in medical marijuana

By TY FORQUER

Editor's note: This article uses first names only for all subjects because of the complicated legal situation surrounding medical marijuana.

We all know the stereotypes. Those “medical marijuana” shops — the air quotes implied by the tone of voice — are full of stoners feigning medical conditions as an excuse to get high.

But that's not the case for Harriet,

who uses marijuana to treat her fibromyalgia. She turned to medical marijuana in desperation after prescription drugs failed to help her condition.

“I tried a lot of prescription meds,” she said. “One made me want to kill myself; another one made me want to kill other people. I couldn't handle it.”

Harriet, who has been a marijuana user for over 30 years, started smoking recreationally, but eventually realized that marijuana helped with her depression and anxiety. More recently, she started to experiment with different strains and products to address her fibromyalgia.

“I've been educating myself,” she said.

She has settled into a routine that includes smoking marijuana, as well as taking it in edible form. She also uses extracts such as RSO — short for Rick Simpson Oil, an essential oil made from marijuana plants — and CBD oil, a marijuana extract. Products like CBD (cannabidiol) oil allow patients to avoid THC (tetrahydrocannabinol), which is responsible for marijuana's psychoactive effects.

For Harriet, having access to dispensaries is a huge improvement over getting marijuana from dealers.

“The safety is the probably the biggest thing,” she said. “And everybody seems to have more knowledge.”

Jim, a 54-year-old marijuana user from Milwaukee, Wisc., agrees that dispensaries are a much safer option for marijuana users.

“When it's not legal, you don't have choices. You get whatever your guy has,”

he said. “And when you go to meet up at his apartment, there's a good chance there's a gun under the couch. It's unsafe on so many levels when it's not legal.”

Jim describes the marijuana laws in most of Wisconsin as “draconian,” but said that the fines for possession in Milwaukee are so low that it is practically decriminalized. Jim runs a travel agency that arranges trips to locations where marijuana use is legal. The trips include dispensary visits, tours of marijuana farms and other cannabis-centric perks. The most popular destination is Jamaica,

but he also arranges domestic trips to Colorado, Washington, Oregon and Alaska, where recreational pot is legal. (Michigan is not yet a prime marijuana tourism destination, he said, because of the hurdles associated with getting a Michigan Medical Marijuana Program card.) He harbors a bit of jealousy for states where dispensaries are legal.

“The ability to go into a place that's well lit and clean and talk to someone who is knowledgeable — that's huge,” he said. “You have a much better chance of getting what you paid for, and it won't be tainted or cut with something else.”

While he uses marijuana mainly for recreational purposes, Jim believes that marijuana has helped him sidestep some potential medical issues.

“My father died of heart failure, and my family has a history of diabetes and fibromyalgia,” he said. “I have none of those problems. I know there's still more

See Options, Page 18

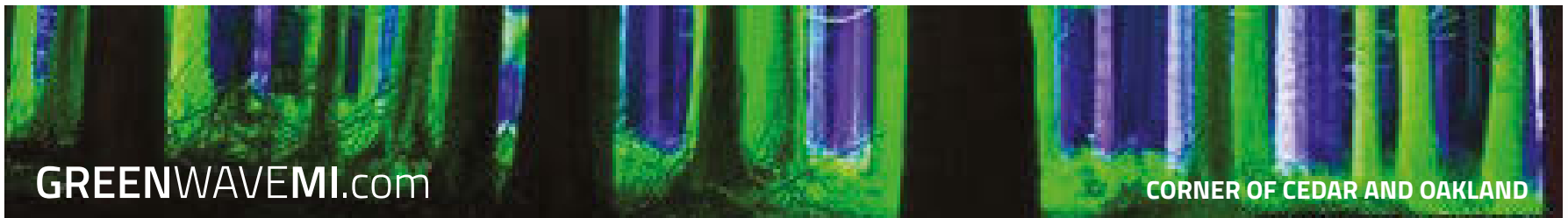


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Options

from page 16

research to be done, but, anecdotally, I believe cannabis has fended off those problems for me.”

Another major benefit of dispensaries, he said, is a larger array of options. Marijuana breeders have created hundreds of strains, each with different effects and benefits. There is also a wide variety of marijuana extracts, oils, topical salves and edible products, giving users a variety of ways to treat their medical conditions without having to light a joint or take a hit from a bong.

“It’s so much different in those legal states,” Jim said. “Most people don’t have that kind of access. You don’t have any choices.”

For Jessica, a 24-year-old medical marijuana user from Battle Creek, those options are important. She smoked marijuana in high school, but never liked the effects.

“I would freak out,” she said. “I had

complete paranoia.”

A few years ago, Jessica started getting recurring headaches that were so severe she couldn’t work.

“I tried a bunch of prescriptions, but nothing was helping,” she said.

At the suggestion of her boyfriend, she tried medical marijuana.

“It doesn’t stop the headaches, but it dulls the pain enough so I can function,” she said.

Access to dispensaries has given Jessica a chance to find a strain that better suits her needs. The two main strain families — indica and sativa — have contrasting effects. Indica strains generally produce a relaxing, sedated feeling, while sativa strains tend to produce an energetic, cerebral high. Hybrid strains, which combine the two, tend to fall somewhere between. Jessica finds that indica strains work best to treat her headaches, especially at night.

“Sometimes the pain was so bad at night it would wake me up,” she said. “Now I can sleep through the night. I don’t even take Aleve anymore.”

Some of these strains have names that date back to the hippies of the ‘60s and ‘70s. She giggled a little when she ad-

mitted that her favorite strain is named Granny Panties.

“I find it humorous, but at least I can pronounce it,” she said. “I couldn’t pronounce half the prescription drugs I was on before.”

Skepticism of traditional medicine runs deep in the medical marijuana community. Some see “big pharma” and the “medical industrial complex” as a monopolistic force that doesn’t want to see medical marijuana take a cut of its lucrative business. Others chalk up traditional medicine’s resistance to medical marijuana to cultural stigma or simple ignorance of its benefits.

Eric, who suffers from a combination of chronic back pain, PTSD and heart disease, reached his breaking point about three years ago. He was taking 16 prescription medications on a daily basis, including pills and inhalers.

“I was on ungodly amounts of pain pills,” he said. “I realized there was something wrong.”

When Eric moved to Michigan from Ohio a few years ago, he turned to medical marijuana out of desperation. He first used it to help with his PTSD and anxiety, but soon found it had other benefits.

His total cholesterol dropped from 386 to 172, and he didn’t need the array of pain pills he was taking.

“I didn’t need the meds anymore. I don’t even use my inhalers anymore,” he said. “But the first thing the doctor did was try to put me back on the meds.”

Eric’s daily routine is to smoke a combination of marijuana bud and wax, a concentrated, honey-like marijuana extract. He also ingests RSO.

He now takes two low-dosage pain pills in addition to his marijuana regimen and still carries an emergency inhaler.

Lisa, 33 of Taylor, uses marijuana to treat fibromyalgia, depression and anxiety. She picked up medical marijuana for similar reasons.

“I was on 22 medications,” she said. “Now I’m down to one medication. I feel normal again.”

Lisa, who is on disability, describes her last job as “totally corporate America,” with a hypocritical policy on medications. Her employer barred marijuana use, but didn’t object when she took 22 prescription drugs.

“They had no problem with me taking a bunch of pills,” she said.

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City Pulse's 2016

Wine Issue

Wednesday, April 27



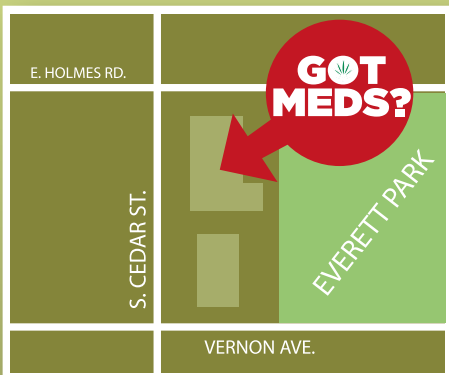
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Old trails

New books explores Michigan's forgotten authors

By **BILL CASTANIER**

A review in the January 21, 1960, edition of the State News said of MSU Professor Glendon Swarthout's "Where the Boys Are," "It's a funny book and a serious book and gets some important things said."

Oh, it did more than that. Swarthout's novel about a group of students reveling during spring break in Jacksonville, Fla., is credited with helping create the national phenomenon — or bacchanal — of spring break that we know today.

"Ink Trails II"

Meet the authors event
7-8 p.m. Thursday, April 28
FREE
Library of Michigan
702 Kalamazoo St., Lansing
(517) 373-1300, michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan

By the time Swarthout became popular as the author of "Where the Boys Are" in the 1960s, he was already an established writer of Westerns. Two of his books, "A Horse for Mrs. Custer" and "They Came to Cordura," were made into successful movies.

"Cordura" is a beautiful meditation of what courage is," Dave Dempsey said.

Swarthout is one of 17 Michigan authors profiled in a new book, "Ink Trails II: Michigan's Famous and Forgotten Authors," by brothers Dave and Jack Dempsey. It is the duo's second book on Michigan's lesser known authors.

The authors will talk about their new book, with special emphasis on authors with connections to Lansing and East Lansing, at 7 p.m. April 28 at the Library of Michigan. The event is sponsored by the Library of Michigan and the Historical Society of Greater Lansing.

Other authors and poets covered in the book with ties to mid-Michigan include Ray Stannard Baker, a Pulitzer Prize winner and Michigan Agricultural College graduate; Emma Shore Thornton, an MSU professor in American thought and language; and conservative writer Russell Kirk, who graduated from Michigan State College and later

taught at the university.

Baker, who wrote under the pseudonym David Grayson, became known for his nine volumes of fictional rural life stories, filled with tales of manual labor, beekeeping, and farming. MSU Library Special Collections holds some of Baker's rare beekeeping books.

Baker, writing as Grayson, lived something of a double life in literature. While he wrote fiction as Grayson, Baker was also one of the nation's leading muckrakers. He often wrote of the downtrodden and about unpopular issues such as lynchings and Jim Crow laws. He was a buddy of President Theodore Roosevelt and wrote the multi-volume "Woodrow Wilson: Life and Letters," which garnered him the Pulitzer Prize in 1940. Baker and his spouse, Jessie Baker, spent considerable time in East Lansing, and he was one of the founders of the Peoples Church.

In his chapter on Baker, Jack Dempsey points out that the author has been forgotten largely due to circumstances that had nothing to do with his writing.

"Baker's subjects did not have staying power," Dempsey said. "Wilson's presidency has fallen from favor in the rankings of historians, and Grayson's bucolic theme faded as the depression tore away any romance in the poverty felt in rural America."

The book profiles Ernest Hemingway, as well as Alan John Braitwaite Seager,



Courtesy Photo

"Ink Trails II," by brothers Dave and Jack Dempsey, profiles 17 authors with Michigan connections.

who the authors call the "forgotten Hemingway." While Hemingway fans may have an issue with lumping Hemingway in with the forgotten authors, the Dempseys felt they couldn't omit the literary giant.

"We at first resisted it, but he's a Michigan brand," said Dave Dempsey. "You could say it was in response to popular demand."

The book also includes two authors, James Beardsley Hendryx and Harold Titus, who were environmentalists. Dempsey notes that Titus' 1922 novel, "Timber," was considered the "first

novel of conservation anywhere" according to a leading conservationist of the time. The novel is a thinly disguised protest against clear-cutting and a call for reforestation, all wrapped around a boy-meets-girl tale. The silent film "Hearts Aflame," based on "Timber," was shown to the Michigan Legislature in 1922 to make the case for better forest fire protections.

Hendryx, a prolific writer of gold rush adventures, was also an avid hunter and fisherman. He fell in love with Michigan on a fishing trip hosted by Titus. Both authors lived in the Traverse City area for several years.

Another writer, Donald Goines, wrote about the underbelly of America — drug addicts and criminals — in his incred-

ibly popular urban novels. Books such as "Whoreson" and "Dopefiend" take place on the streets of Detroit.

"Donald Goines wrote 16 uncompromisingly gritty novels arising from those grim avenues," Jack Dempsey writes.

Goines completed those 16 novels in only four years, from 1971 to 1974. He and his spouse were found shot dead in the couple's apartment in 1974; the killer was never found.

"Goines dealt with a harsh reality in urban Black America and unquestionably set the table for rap/hip-hop," Dempsey said. "There was tragedy in the lives of both Baker and Goines, but they should be remembered for their roles in telling important stories of Michigan and the excellence they brought to those efforts."

So why do we forget our Michigan authors? David Dempsey suspects our Midwestern values play a role.

"We are kind of humble," he said. "Michigan is too modest about its literary heritage."

SCHULER BOOKS & MUSIC

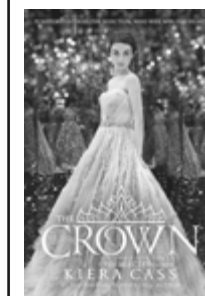
Launch for RICK RIORDAN'S *The Trials of Apollo*

Tuesday, May 3rd, all day
Meridian Mall location

We know fans are looking forward to the release of the new Rick Riordan book as much as we are, so stop by the Meridian Mall store any time on release day to buy your copy of *The Trials of Apollo Book One: The Hidden Oracle* and we'll have a fun in-store activity and a goodie-bag (while supplies last) with purchase!

#1 NYT-Bestselling Young Adult Author KIERA CASS

Friday, May 6 @ 6pm
Meridian Mall location



We are beyond excited to be able to present a talk and signing with young adult author Kiera Cass! The #1 NYT Bestselling *Selection* series captured the hearts of readers from its very first page. Now the end

of the journey is here. Prepare to be swept off your feet by *The Crown*—the eagerly awaited, wonderfully romantic fifth and final book in the *Selection* series. This will be a ticketed event. Please visit SchulerBooks.com for details.

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OUT ON THE TOWN

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

Wednesday, April 20

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Figure Drawing Seats Available. Email toni@lightiam.org to join. Location given upon registration. 6-9 p.m. \$15 not including supplies.

Using Financial Statements to Better Manage Your Business. 8 a.m.-noon. \$10/FREE to veterans and Fifth Third clients. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing. (517) 483-1921.

Walk the Walk, Talk the Talk. Public speaking class for grades 7-12. Register online. 5:30-6:30 p.m. FREE. Building Twentyone, 1288 N. Cedar St., Mason. (517) 889-5103, ow.ly/Yu9jH.

EVENTS

ICAGS Whisker Wednesday. Pet adoptions. All animals spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. Noon to 6 p.m. Ingham County Animal Control, 600 Curtis St., Mason. (517) 676-8370.

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

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

Allen Street Farmers Market - Indoors. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

Easy Origami. Ages 5 and up try simple origami. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. elpl.org.

Habitat Young Professionals Launch Party. Happy hour and information on volunteer opportunities. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Lansing Brewing Company, 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. (517) 374-1313, ow.ly/10hLu0.

Meet Author Eric Jerome Dickey. Author promotes and signs newest title, "The Blackbirds." 7-8 p.m. Schuler Books & Music, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing.

Minecraft Game Day. Ages 8-15 game together. Call to register. 4-5 p.m. FREE. CADL Williamston, 201 School St., Williamston. (517) 655-1191.

Safety on Tap. Learn about water sources and delivery systems from local experts. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. lansing.mi.lwvnet.org.

See Out on the Town, Page 30

Research meets rhyme scheme



Photo by Elizabeth Zabel

Lindsay Tigie, winner of the 2015 Iowa Poetry Prize, reads from "System of Ghosts" tonight at MSU's Residential College in the Arts and Humanities.

Wednesday, April 20

Though her most recent literary prize comes from Iowa and she lives in Georgia, poet Lindsay Tigie has plenty of Michigan in her blood.

Tigie, who grew up in Clarkston, graduated from MSU in 2007 with a bachelor's degree in English. She earned a master's degree in creative writing and environment from Iowa State University and is pursuing a doctorate degree at the University of Georgia while working as editorial assistant at the Georgia Review. Tigie returns to East Lansing today to read from her debut poetry collection, "System of Ghosts," for the MSU Residential College in the Arts and Humanities' Spring Poetry Festival.

"Most of ('System of Ghosts') was written as part of my master's thesis at Iowa State," Tigie said.

The book was published earlier this month by the University of Iowa Press. Last year, it was awarded the university's prestigious Iowa Poetry Prize.

"It took a couple of years to write and submit the manuscript," Tigie said. "That process can be quite long. I had been submitting for two years before I won and had been writing for probably two years before that."

The poems in the collection address the relationships that link human beings, from the easily defined to the complex.

"There are poems on family and romantic relationships, but it also extends beyond that," Tigie said.

And while she starts from intimate relationships, Tigie also explores broader topics.

"I'm interested in history and also the personal," Tigie said. "I was interested in facts and in personal stories and how they tie in to the interpersonal."

To sew together personal and academic narratives, Tigie immersed herself in careful research. She studied topics ranging from the humanities to the sciences, especially history.

"The research was a little more varied than academic research would normally be for a thesis or dissertation," she said. "It's sort of all over the map."

Tigie discusses her research process in a 3 p.m. presentation this afternoon. Her talk covers how to use research to strengthen a work — to perfectly craft the right metaphor about jellyfish and true love, for example — and writing accurate poetry about topics like

a historical event or scientific concept.

While she's in town, the recent award winner will be awarding a prize herself. Tigie is the judge for the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities' Annie Balocating Undergraduate Prize for Poetry and will announce the winner at tonight's reading.

While Tigie has returned to East Lansing a few times since graduation, this visit is special for her.

"It'll be great to be back to celebrate the publication of the book, because I have so many friends and family in the area," Tigie said. "I just want to walk back inside the library — I have so many memories of studying and working there."

Spring Poetry Festival: Lindsay Tigie

7 p.m. Wednesday, April 20
FREE

RCAH Theater, Snyder-Phillips Hall
362 Bogue St., East Lansing

Funneling Facts — Using Research in Poetry

With Lindsay Tigie
3 p.m.
LookOut! Gallery,
Snyder-Phillips Hall
362 Bogue St., East Lansing

— ALLISON HAMMERLY

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICHTUPICA

REVEREND HORTON HEAT AT THE LOFT

Sunday, April 24 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$28/\$25 adv., 7 p.m.



Legendary psychobilly guitar hero and vocalist Reverend Horton Heat headlines an all-ages show Sunday at the Loft. Openers are Nashville Pussy, Unknown Hinson and Lucky Tubbs. Reverend Horton Heat is one of the most notable names in psychobilly — a punked-out version of rockabilly — thanks to his scorching riffs and wily lyrics. Some might remember Beavis and Butthead fully flipping-out over his “Psychobilly Freakout” music video in one of their classic episodes. Since his 1990 debut, “Smoke ‘Em If You Got ‘Em,” on Sub Pop Records, he’s continued to release records on a string of labels, including Interscope and Yep Roc. In 2014, he dropped his most recent LP, “REV,” via Victory Records. The disc is a return to Reverend Horton Heat’s rugged early-rock roots.

SUN. APR. 24TH

Reverend Horton Heat

SIERRA DENAE AT MAC'S BAR

Sunday, April 24 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$10/\$8 adv., 6:30 p.m.




Lansing-based alt-rock singer/songwriter Sierra Denae headlines an all-ages show Sunday at Mac's Bar. Openers are Handsome Pete, Faultered Step and Hour 24. Citing influences like No Doubt, Evanescence and Alicia Keys, Denae's distinct, edgy-pop sound is showcased on her latest single, “Beautiful Mask (Robin Theatre Session)” — available now on iTunes. Denae's music experience comes from a series of recitals, talent shows, musicals and ensembles. In the summer of 2014 she released her self-performed and self-written EP, “I Still Exist.” Since then, she and her rhythm section have opened shows for Alien Ant Farm and Kaleido. Denae also performs solo acoustic sets for Michigan Chicks With Picks, an organization formed to support emerging female songsters.

SUN. APR. 24TH

Sierra Denae

APPLESEED COLLECTIVE AT THE ROBIN THEATRE

Saturday, April 23 @ The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. \$10, 8 p.m.



The Applesseed Collective, an Ann Arbor-based band, plays a mélange of Dixie-Gypsy and roots-music with a contemporary flair — what the band calls “progressive string swing.” Saturday, the band, led by guitarist and frontman Andrew Brown, brings that harmony-driven sound to the Robin Theatre in REO Town. The band is on the road promoting its new five-song EP, “The Tour Tapes,” released late last month. The four-piece Americana band has toured the country over the last six years, playing its signature mix of Americana-flavored tunes, throwback jazz, moody ballads and bluesy numbers. And the band knows all about rigorous touring, that's for sure. It has toured coast to coast promoting a series of releases, including 2012's “Baby to Beast,” 2014's “Young Love” and a live album, “Live At The Ark.”

SAT. APR. 23RD

Applesseed Collective

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT ALLISON@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL

| | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave. | Desmond Jones & Squirt, 9 p.m. | Old Shoe, 9 p.m. | The Starving Arts, 9 p.m. | Artronica Live Art Benefit, 8 p.m. |
| Black Cat Bistro, 115 Albert Ave. | | DJ Don Black, 9:30 p.m. | | |
| Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Road | | | The Tenants, 9 p.m. | Sarah Brunner, 8 p.m. |
| Capital Prime, 2324 Showtime Dr. | | | | |
| Champions, 2440 N. Cedar St. | Karaoke, 8 p.m. | | | |
| Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd. | DJ Trivia, 8 p.m. | | Blue Haired Betties, 9 p.m. | DJ, 9 p.m. |
| Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave. | Kevin Parker, 10 p.m. | Karaoke, 9 p.m. | Karaoke, 9 p.m. | Karaoke, 9 p.m. |
| Darb's, 117 S. Cedar St. | | Karaoke, 8 p.m. | | Mark Sala, 9:30 p.m. |
| Esquire, 1250 Turner St. | Karaoke with DJ Jamie, 9 p.m. | | Kamikaze Karaoke, 9 p.m. | DJ Fudgie, 10 p.m. |
| The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave. | Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 7 p.m. | Skoryoke Live Band Karaoke, 8:30 p.m. | The Knock Offs, 9:30 p.m. | Shorty and the Tall Boys, 9:30 p.m. |
| Gallery Brewery, 143 Kent St. | Artzy Pharty Night, 5 p.m. | Open Mic, 7 p.m. | Alistair, 7 p.m. | B Side Growlers, 7 p.m. |
| Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave. | Stagetime Open Mic, 7:30 p.m. | | Karaoke, 7:30 p.m. | Stagetime Concert Night, 7:30 p.m. |
| Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave. | "Johnny D" Blues Night, 9 p.m. | | Soulstice, 9:30 p.m. | Still Rain, 9:30 p.m. |
| Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave. | | | Sarah Brunner, 5:30 p.m. | |
| Leroys, 1526 S. Cedar St. | | Karaoke, 9:30 p.m. | | Karaoke, 9:30 p.m. |
| The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave. | | Tahnz and the Filthy Animals, 8 p.m. | Spektator Collectives presents Packy, 7 p.m. | Flint Eastwood, 7 p.m. |
| Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave. | One Without Reason, 8 p.m. | Dyno Gee, 7 p.m. | The Revenant/Tyrant, 8 p.m. | Lil Wyte, 8 p.m. |
| Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave. | Open Mic w/ Jen Sygit, 9 p.m. | Stella!, 9 p.m. | Good Cookies, 9 p.m. | Twyla Birdsong Band, 9 p.m. |
| Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road | | | Kathy Ford, 7 p.m. | Kathy Ford, 7 p.m. |
| Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27 | | | Life Support, 7 p.m. | Life Support, 7 p.m. |
| Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy. | Kathy Ford Band Karaoke, 7:30 p.m. | | Bobby Standall, 7:30 p.m. | Rush Clement, 7 p.m. |
| Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Square | Tavern House Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m. | | | |
| Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy. | | | Brian Lorente & the Usual Suspects, 8:30 p.m. | Brian Lorente & Usual Suspects, 8:30 p.m. |
| Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave. | | Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m. | The Rotations, 9 p.m. | The Rotations, 9 p.m. |
| Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd. | Trevor Compton, 7 p.m. | Dan Maclachlan, 8 p.m. | Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m. | Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m. |
| Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr. | Open Mic, 6 p.m. | The Strangers, 7 p.m. | Joe Wright, 6 p.m. | |

LIVE & LOCAL LISTS UPCOMING GIGS! To get listed email allison@lansingcitypulse.com. Only submit for the upcoming week's shows.

Out on the town

from page 28

Practice Your English. All skill levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

THEATER

Matilda the Musical. Family-friendly musical based on Roald Dahl novel. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$38. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Grease. Classic musical set in the 1950s. 7:30 p.m. \$17-22/\$10 kids. Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. theatre.msu.edu.

MUSIC

Stagetime Open Mic w/ a Twist. Hosted by Redbird and Nick Krzywonos. 7:30-10:30 p.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing.

Thursday, April 21

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Lunch at the Senior Center. Call the day before to order meal. Noon-1 p.m. \$5.75/\$3 suggested donation for ages 60 and up. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. All levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillsdale St., Lansing. crisisrfg.com.

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

Gentle Mat Yoga. Basic class. 9:45-10:45 a.m. \$56/\$40 members for seven weeks; \$10/\$7 members for one week. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

Chipmunk Story Time: Earth Day Birthday. Earth Day story and nature activities. 10-11 a.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

Foster Parent Support Group. Free training and

childcare. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Bldg., 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 775-2693, michigan.gov/fostercare.

How to Get a Business Loan. Course on getting a loan. Call or register online. 6-7 p.m. FREE. MSUFCU, 4825 E. Mt. Hope Road, East Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Weigh-in 5:15 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m. First meeting FREE. New Hope Church, 1340 Haslett Road, Haslett. (517) 927-4307.

MUSIC

Open Mic @ The Colonial Bar & Grill. Weekly bring-your-own-instrument open mic. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. The Colonial Bar & Grille, 3425 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. (517) 882-6132.

THEATER

Decade Dance. Journey of a couple living through the turbulent 1970s. 8 p.m. \$23/\$21 seniors and military/\$10 students. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.

Matilda the Musical. Family-friendly musical based on Roald Dahl novel. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$38. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Grease. Classic musical set in the 1950s. 7:30 p.m. \$17-22/\$10 kids. Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. theatre.msu.edu.

EVENT

Bath Township Farmers Market. Vendors and live music. 3-7 p.m. FREE. Bath Community Center, 5959 Park Lake Road, Bath. (517) 809-4433, shopbfm.org.

Earth Day Week Event. Topic: "Michigan and Climate Change: Does the UN Paris Agreement Go Far Enough?" 7-9 p.m. FREE. University United Methodist Church, 1120 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. (517) 896-2850, gluna.org.

Film Movement Series. Screening of French film, "Marie's Story." 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

Genealogy Seminar Part 1. Leslie historian and

See Out on the Town, Page 31

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Err Guitar"— definitely not a solid instrument.
Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Hoover, e.g.
- 4 He came back for a "Big Holiday" in 2016
- 10 Participates in an auction
- 14 Roswell craft
- 15 ___-Lorraine (area in northeast France)
- 16 "A Streetcar Named Desire" director Kazan
- 17 ___ de mer
- 18 Veteran Marine, in slang
- 20 Cold one
- 22 Corleone patriarch
- 23 A year in Paris
- 24 Lawsuit
- 26 Pair with a lot of pull?
- 27 Spherical treat that comes from a toroid
- 32 Bowler's place
- 33 Hockey Hall of Famer Cam
- 34 Kal Penn's costar John
- 37 Hitchcock title word
- 38 ___ au poivre
- 39 "The Grapes of Wrath" family name
- 40 Neither's partner
- 41 Graphics program included with Windows 1.0
- 42 Carried, as by the wind
- 43 Sprays some sticky stuff as a prank
- 45 Answer sharply
- 48 Plasma particles
- 49 Not mine, in bucolic comic strips
- 50 Carpenter's leveler
- 53 Autocorrect target



- 56 Poopo or Titicaca, e.g.
- 59 Empty (of)
- 60 About, formally
- 61 "I can't hear you!"
- 62 Four-color card game
- 63 King with three daughters
- 64 John Doe, e.g.
- 65 Part of rpm
- 9 Ultra-wide shoe size
- 10 He was associated with the Jets
- 11 "Mr. Belvedere" actress Graff
- 12 Vegetable cutter
- 13 Fermented rice drinks
- 19 Recover from a setback
- 21 Final Jeopardy! amount
- 25 Not forthcoming
- 26 Eleventh U.S. president
- 27 "Shoot!"
- 28 It's sold in bars and tubs
- 29 No later than
- 30 Pint-sized
- 31 Events at meets
- 34 Sweetener under recent scrutiny
- 35 Install in a gallery, maybe
- 36 Neruda works
- 38 Seasonal addition?
- 39 It usually gets rolled
- 41 Schroeder's prop
- 42 ___-country (2010s music genre)
- 43 Comparatively agile
- 44 Opportune
- 45 Emmy-winning title role for Sally Field
- 46 All's opposite
- 47 Tony-winning actress McDonald
- 50 Graceful swimmer
- 51 Xbox series since 2001
- 52 "Was ___ inside job?"
- 54 Maine's state tree
- 55 Paper factory side effect
- 57 Ft. Lauderdale locale
- 58 Aries' animal

FRIDAY, APRIL 22-24, APRIL 29-MAY 1 >> THUMBELINA

A tiny girl is kidnapped by a toad, befriends a mouse and contemplates marriage to a mole in All-of-us Express Children's Theatre latest production, "Thumbelina." The play, which opens Friday, is based on the classic tale by Hans Christian Andersen. Thumbelina, a girl no bigger than her mother's thumb, feels alone in the world because she believes she is the only person her size. Her life is turned upside down she is kidnapped by the toad. As she escapes and tries to find her way home, Thumbelina learns about life, love and friendship. 7 p.m. Friday; 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. \$7/\$5 children. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

FRIDAY, APRIL 22-23, APRIL 29-MAY 1 >> 'YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU' AT STARLIGHT DINNER THEATRE

We've all been embarrassed by our family at some point, but the Sycamore family takes it to a new level in "You Can't Take it With You," opening Friday at Starlight Dinner Theatre. The comedic play, written by George Kaufman and Moss Hart, premiered on Broadway in 1936. It tells the story of sweet-natured Alice Sycamore, who falls for a banker's son, Tony Kirby. But when she invites her snooty prospective in-laws to dinner, Alice finds her peculiar family might be too eccentric for the staid Kirbys. Friday and Saturday shows offer a pre-show dinner, May 1's matinee offers a dessert buffet. 7:30 p.m. \$20-\$36 for play and dinner, \$15-\$10 for play only, \$13-\$20 for May 1 matinee. Waverly East Intermediate School, 3131 W. Michigan Ave, Lansing. (517) 599-2779, starlightdinnertheatre.com.

SUDOKU

BEGINNER

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TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 33

Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsny

April 20-26

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "The writer should never be ashamed of staring," said Aries writer Flannery O'Connor. "There is nothing that does not require his attention." This is also true for all of you Aries folks, not just the writers among you. And the coming weeks will be an especially important time for you to cultivate a piercing gaze that sees deeply and shrewdly. You will thrive to the degree that you notice details you might normally miss or regard as unimportant. What you believe and what you think won't be as important as what you perceive. Trust your eyes.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The ancient Greek geographer Pausanias told a story about how the famous poet Pindar got his start. One summer day, young Pindar decided to walk from his home in Thebes to a city 20 miles away. During his trek, he got tired and lay down to take a nap by the side of the road. As he slept, bees swarmed around him and coated his lips with wax. He didn't wake up until one of the bees stung him. For anyone else, this might have been a bother. But Pindar took it as an omen that he should become a lyric poet, a composer of honeyed verses. And that's exactly what he did in the ensuing years. I foresee you having an experience comparable to Pindar's sometime soon, Taurus. How you interpret it will be crucial.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): "I measure the strength of a spirit by how much truth it can take," said philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche. Measured by that standard, your strength of spirit has been growing — and may be poised to reach an all-time high. In my estimation, you now have an unusually expansive capacity to hold surprising, effervescent, catalytic truths. Do you dare invite all these insights and revelations to come pouring toward you? I hope so. I'll be cheering you on, praying for you to be brave enough to ask for as much as you can possibly accommodate.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Göbekli Tepe was a monumental religious sanctuary built 11,600 years ago in the place we now call Turkey. Modern archaeologists are confounded by the skill and artistry with which its massive stone pillars were arranged and carved. According to conventional wisdom, humans of that era were primitive nomads who hunted animals and foraged for plants. So it's hard to understand how they could have constructed such an impressive structure 7,000 years before the Great Pyramid of Giza. Writing in National Geographic, science journalist Charles C. Mann said, "Discovering that hunter-gatherers had constructed Göbekli Tepe was like finding that someone had built a 747 in a basement with an X-Acto knife." In that spirit, Cancerian, I make the following prediction: In the coming months, you can accomplish a marvel that may have seemed beyond your capacity.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In myths and folklore, the ember is a symbol of coiled-up power. The fire within it is controlled. It provides warmth and glow even as its raw force is contained. There are no unruly flames. How much energy is stored within? It's a reservoir of untapped light, a promise of verve and radiance. Now please ruminate further about the ember, Leo. According to my reading of the astrological omens, it's your core motif right now.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Uh-oh. Or maybe I should instead say "Hooray!" You are slipping into the Raw Hearty Vivid Untamed Phase of your astrological cycle. The universe is nudging you in the direction of high adventure, sweet intensity, and rigorous stimulation. If you choose to resist the nudges, odds are that you'll have more of an "uh-oh" experience. If you decide to play along, "hooray!" is the likely outcome. To help you get in the proper mood, make the following declaration: "I like to think that my bones are made from oak, my blood from a waterfall, and my heart from wild daisies." (That's a quote from the poet McKenzie Stauffer.)

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): In many cultures, the

butterfly is a symbol of transformation and rebirth. In its original state as a caterpillar, it is homely and slow-moving. After its resurrection time in the chrysalis, it becomes a lithe and lovely creature capable of flight. The mythic meaning of the moth is quite different, however. Enchanted by the flame, it's driven so strongly toward the light that it risks burning its wings. So it's a symbol of intense longing that may go too far. In the coming weeks, Libra, your life could turn either way. You may even vacillate between being moth-like and butterfly-like. For best results, set an intention. What exactly do you want?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "I gladly abandon dreary tasks, rational scruples, reactive undertakings imposed by the world," wrote Scorpio philosopher Roland Barthes. Why did he do this? For the sake of love, he said — even though he knew it might cause him to act like a lunatic as it freed up tremendous energy. Would you consider pursuing a course like that in the coming weeks, Scorpio? In my astrological opinion, you have earned some time off from the grind. You need a break from the numbing procession of the usual daily rhythms. Is there any captivating person, animal, adventure, or idea that might so thoroughly incite your imagination that you'd be open to acting like a lunatic lover with boundless vigor?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "Difficulties illuminate existence," says novelist Tom Robbins, "but they must be fresh and of high quality." Your assignment, Sagittarius, is to go out in search of the freshest and highest-quality difficulties you can track down. You're slipping into a magical phase of your astrological cycle when you will have exceptional skill at rounding up useful dilemmas and exciting riddles. Please take full advantage! Welcome this rich opportunity to outgrow and escape boring old problems.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "When I grow up, I want to be a little boy," wrote novelist Joseph Heller in his book *Something Happened*. You have cosmic permission to make a comparable declaration in the coming days. In fact, you have a poetic license and a spiritual mandate to utter battle cries like that as often as the mood strikes. Feel free to embellish and improvise, as well: "When I grow up, I want to be a riot girl with a big brash attitude," for example, or "When I grow up, I want to be a beautiful playful monster with lots of toys and fascinating friends who constantly amaze me."

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In one of his diaries, author Franz Kafka made this declaration: "Life's splendor forever lies in wait around each one of us in all of its fullness — but veiled from view, deep down, invisible, far off. It is there, though, not hostile, not reluctant, not deaf. If you summon it by the right word, by its right name, it will come." I'm bringing this promise to your attention, Aquarius, because you have more power than usual to call forth a command performance of life's hidden splendor. You can coax it to the surface and bid it to spill over into your daily rhythm. For best results, be magnificent as you invoke the magnificence.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): I've got a controversial message for you, Pisces. If you're addicted to your problems or if you're convinced that cynicism is a supreme mark of intelligence, what I'll say may be offensive. Nevertheless, it's my duty as your oracle to inform you of the cosmic tendencies, and so I will proceed. For the sake of your mental health and the future of your relationship with love, consider the possibility that the following counsel from French author André Gide is just what you need to hear right now: "Know that joy is rarer, more difficult, and more beautiful than sadness. Once you make this all-important discovery, you must embrace joy as a moral obligation."

Out on the town

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genealogist shares info on gathering local family data. Call to register. 6-8 p.m. FREE. CADL Leslie, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400.

Ladies Silver Blades Figure Skating Club. Lessons and practice. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:20 a.m. \$5/\$2 skate rental. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing.

Mason Codependents Anonymous. A fellowship to develop healthy relationships. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Mason First Church of the Nazarene, 415 E. Maple St., Mason. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

Spanish Conversation Group. All ability levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Friday, April 22

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Dard Hunter Seminar. Presentation on arts-and-crafts designer, paper historian and private-press printer figure. 6 p.m. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700, lib.msu.edu.

Growing Your Internet Presence. Advice on website creation and social media for businesses. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

From Earth to the Universe. Planetarium show about the history of astronomy. 8-9 p.m. \$4/\$3 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4672, abramsplanetarium.org.

MUSIC

An Evening of Experimental/Punk Rock. Randie Strouse, the Jades and Overnoble. 7-9 p.m. \$5. Wilson Center Auditorium, 101 W. Cass St., St. Johns. (989) 224-8159, wilsoncenterauditorium.org.

Community Collage Concert. Patchwork of many musical styles. 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$10/\$9 seniors/kids FREE. East Lansing High School, 509 Burcham Drive, East Lansing.

International Chamber Soloists with Violinist Dmitri Berlinsky. Featuring works by Arensky and Tchaikovsky. 8-10 p.m. \$20/\$18 seniors/\$10 students. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, ow.ly/10nu2C.

Vocal Jazz & Pop Ensemble. 7:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing.

THEATER

Decade Dance. Journey of a couple living through the turbulent 1970s. 8 p.m. \$28/\$26 seniors and military/\$10 students. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.

Matilda the Musical. Family-friendly musical based on Roald Dahl novel. 8 p.m. Tickets from \$38. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Grease. Classic musical set in the 1950s. 8 p.m. \$17-22/\$10 kids. Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. theatre.msu.edu.

EVENTS

Howl at the Moon: Guided Night Walk. Leashed dogs welcome. 8-9 p.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

Minecraft Game Night. Ages 8-15 game together. Call or register online. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing, 401 S. Capitol Ave. Lansing. (517) 367-6363, cadl.org.

StoryTime. Ages 2-5 years enjoy stories and songs. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

ARTS

Folding Fan Craft with ACTION. Asian-style folding fan craft with local students. 3-4 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

Saturday, April 23

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Introduction to Nordic Walking. Course on low-impact workout. 1:30-3:30 p.m. \$15/\$20 to reserve poles. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

Tai Chi at Allen Market Place. Instruction in Qigong, meditation and Yang style tai chi forms. No class April 30. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Allen Market Place,

See Out on the Town, Page 32

SATURDAY, APRIL 23 >> TASTE OF EAST LANSING

Some of East Lansing's favorite dining spots will take over the 300 block of Albert Avenue Saturday to give visitors a taste of the city's culinary creations. The fifth annual Taste of East Lansing event offers food samples from 16 East Lansing establishments, including Beggar's Banquet, Espresso Royale, Sweet Lorraine's Fabulous Mac N' Cheez and Sapporo Ramen & Noodle Bar. The event also includes family activities and live music. 3-6 p.m. FREE, but food tickets (\$2 each) required for food samples. Downtown East Lansing. (517) 432-0125, wealllivehere.org.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23 >> MICHELLE HELD AND CARI RAY AT PUMP HOUSE CONCERTS

East Lansing will be visited Friday by a singer/songwriter from Nashville — Nashville, Ind., that is. Cari Ray, who hails from the small Indiana town, joins Detroit-based singer/songwriter Michelle Held Saturday at Pump House Concerts. Ray's musical style draws on blues, folk rock and old-time country. Meanwhile, Held has carved out a place in the Detroit music scene with her signature voice and guitar style. 7 p.m. \$15 suggested donation. Pump House Concerts, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. (517) 927-2100, facebook.com/pumphouseconcerts.

Out on the town

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1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

MUSIC

Percussion Ensemble. 7:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1488.

Stagetime 4th Saturday Show. Featuring the best acts from the open mic. Hosted by Redbird and Nick Krzywonos. 7:30-10:30 a.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Lansing.

THEATER

The Decade Dance. From 3-5 p.m. \$25/\$23 seniors and military/\$10 student. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. (517) 655-SHOW.

Matilda the Musical. Family-friendly musical based on Roald Dahl novel. 2 and 8 p.m. Tickets

from \$38. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Grease. Classic musical set in the 1950s. 2 and 8 p.m. \$17-22/\$10 kids. Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. theatre.msu.edu.

EVENTS

Fresh Tyme Connor Cook Gowing Away and Earth Day Party. With games, food, music and fun. Noon-4 p.m. Fresh Tyme, 940 Trowbridge Road, East Lansing. freshtyme.com/birthday.

2016 Spring Show Plant Sale. Theme: 'Hanging Gardens of Babylon.' 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Plant and Soil Science Building, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. msuhortclub.com.

Breaking the Silence: Confronting Race, Power and Privilege. Pax Christi Michigan's state conference. A discussion on dismantling racism. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. \$45. Cristo Rey Church, 201 W. Miller Road, Lansing. (517) 481-5280, ow.ly/10F07l.

Coffee with Rep. Andy Schor. And Ingham County Commissioner Victor Celentino. 9:30-10:30 a.m. FREE. Flap Jack, 1601 S. Waverly Road, Lansing. (517) 373-0826, bit.ly/26beoHV.

Doc McStuffins Book Party. Ages 2-8 bring a toy for evening of stories, activities and snacks. Call or register online. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Mason, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 676-9088, cadl.org.

Earth Friends Campfire. Campfire nature program, marshmallows and guided nature walk. 7-8:30 p.m. \$3/\$7 for family. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

Free Public Tours. 1 and 3 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

Make Your Own Birdfeeder. All ages make a

birdfeeder to take home. Supplies provided. 1-2 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Minecraft Scavenger Hunt. Ages 8-15 participate in competition for advanced players. Call to register. 2-4 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

Money Smart Storytime. Ages 3 and up learn about saving money and receive "Bunny Money" book. 11 a.m.-noon FREE. CADL Dansville, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511.

Petting Farm. All ages enjoy a story and pet farm animals. 1:30-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324.

Stewardship Morning. Special day for volunteers to help maintain the park. 9-11 a.m. FREE. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

Swing Dance. Dancing, lessons, refreshments and live music. 7-10 p.m. \$25/\$40 for couple. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 372-9163, womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org.

ARTS

Demo Day at Sunset Clay Studio. Michigan artists show their art and processes. Noon-6 p.m. \$10. Sunset Clay Studio, 1820 Sunset Ave., Suite 203, Lansing. (517) 282-9850, ow.ly/4mOFC8.

Drawing with Gijbert van Frankenhuisen. Drawing class for kids in grades 3 and up. 1-3 p.m. \$40. Eggleston Gallery, 14035 Webster Road, Bath. (517) 999-3343, egglestongallery.com.

Sam Van Aken Artist Demo. Artist demonstrates grafting process used in "Tree of 40 Fruit." 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing.

See Out on the Town, Page 33



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Out on the town

from page 32

Sunday, April 24

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Charlotte Yoga Club. Beginner to intermediate levels. 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \$5 annually. ALIVE, 800 W. Lawrence Road, Charlotte. (517) 285-0138, charlottetoyoga.net.

Juggling. Learn to juggle. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St., Lansing. (517) 485-9190.

Kendo at Westside YMCA. Learn about the Japanese martial art Kendo. 5:30-7 p.m. \$30 monthly/\$20 monthly students and kids. Westside Community YMCA, 3700 Old Lansing Road, Lansing.

THEATER

Decade Dance. Journey of a couple living through the turbulent 1970s. 2 p.m. \$25/\$23 seniors and military/\$10 students. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.

Matilda the Musical. Family-friendly musical based on Roald Dahl novel. 1 and 6:30 p.m. Tickets from \$38. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Grease. Classic musical set in the 1950s. 2 p.m. \$17-22/\$10 kids. Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. theatre.msu.edu.

EVENTS

2016 Spring Show Plant Sale. Theme: 'Hanging Gardens of Babylon.' 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Plant and Soil Science Building, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. msuhortclub.com.

Backyard Birding @ the Library. All ages learn about backyard birds with expert Gene Wasserman.

1-2 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Bird Watching in Our Parks. Guided bird watching walk. 8 to 9 a.m. FREE. Meridian Service Center, 2100 Gaylord Smith Court, East Lansing. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

Kidabaloo. Games, crafts, live entertainment from Disney Channel stars and more. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. \$6/\$11 kids/\$24 families/\$56 VIP. Summit Sport, 2650 East Grand River Ave., East Lansing. kidabaloo.com/lansing-mi.

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. A fellowship to develop healthy relationships. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

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

The Little Star That Could. Planetarium show for families. 2:30 p.m. \$4/\$3.50 seniors and students/\$3 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.

Tutu Cool, a Ballet Performance. With DANCE Lansing. 1-2 p.m. FREE. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600, micagallery.org.

Free Public Tours. 1 and 3 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

Monday, April 25

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

5 Elements Qigong. Exercise practice that conditions the body and quiets the mind. 6:30-7:30 p.m. \$10. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

General Cancer Support Group. Education, speakers and support. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 364-5471.

Homework Help. MSU students tutor grades K-8. 5-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Support Group. For the divorced, separated and widowed. 7:30 p.m. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272, stdavidslansing.org.

MUSIC

MSU's Musique 21. Exploration of the violent relationship between mankind and the earth. 7:30-9 p.m. FREE. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, ow.ly/10x1b0.

EVENTS

BabyTime. For ages 0-2 with adult. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Comics Crash Course. Kids of all ages learn the basics of comic-making. 12:30-2:30 p.m. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

Minute to Win It. All ages compete in minute-long challenges. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Foster, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185.

Out of This World Book Club. "His Majesty's Dragon" by Naomi Novik. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Pokemon, Magic, & HeroClix Tournaments. Card games and miniatures for kids. 12:30-5 p.m. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

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

Spring Sprouts. Ages 6-14 start own windowsill garden. 4-5 p.m. FREE. CADL Williamston, 201 School St., Williamston. (517) 655-1191, cadl.org.

After School Teen Program. For teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Tuesday, April 26

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. Learn public speaking and leadership skills. 7 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 775-2697, cadl.org.

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

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 5:45-

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

Overeaters Anonymous. Support for weight loss efforts. 7 p.m. FREE. Okemos Presbyterian Church, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 819-3294.

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

Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. All experience levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillsdale St., Lansing. crisisrfg.com.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Have a support system, lose weight. Wheelchair accessible. Weigh-in 6:30, meeting 7 p.m. FREE first visit. St. Terese Church, 102 W. Randolph St., Lansing. tops.org.

Teen Advisory Council. Leadership group for grades 9-12. Enroll online. 4-5 p.m. FREE. Building Twentyone, 1288 N. Cedar St., Mason. (517) 889-5103, ow.ly/Yu9ZM.

Working for Yourself. Course on self-employment. Call or register online. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

Yawn Patrol Toastmasters. Learn public speaking. 7-8:30 a.m. Studio 1210 Place, 1210 Turner St., Lansing. (989) 859-2086, yawnpatrol.com.

MUSIC

A Rose By Any Other Name. DeWitt Community Singers present wide variety of genres. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Dewitt High School, 13601 Panther Drive, Dewitt. (989) 640-9907.

Experimental Music Ensemble. 7:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1488.

Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5287.

MSU Symphony Band. 7:30-9 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/students FREE. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, ow.ly/10xLJW.

Stagetime Open-Mic w/ a Twist. Hosted by Redbird w/ Quentin & DJ. 6:30 p.m. sign ups; 7:30-10:30 p.m. show. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-4825.

EVENTS

3D Print It: Keychains. Ages 8-15 create personalized, 3D printed keychain. Call to register. 3:15-4:15 p.m. FREE. CADL Webberville, 115 S. Main St., Webberville. (517) 521-3643, cadl.org.

Bible and Beer. Discussion of scripture's power in daily events. 6 p.m. Kelly's Downtown, 220 S.

See Out on the Town, Page 34

SUNDAY, APRIL 24 >> MUSIC OF RECONCILIATION AND PEACE

If you need some relief from violence and war on the news and vitriol in the presidential campaign, the Lange Choral Ensemble offers a program entitled "Music Of Reconciliation And Peace" Sunday at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The ensemble will perform works by René Clausen, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Kurt Bestor and the group's director, Stephen Lange. The program also includes a setting of Psalm 46 composed by local attorney Douglas Austin, who also provides organ accompaniment for the work. The ensemble is accompanied by string quartet, trumpet, percussion, organ and piano. The evening will also feature soloists Abigail Grill, Ian Broughton, Nancy Lange, Victoria Walker, and Larry Clark. 7 p.m. \$10/\$8 students and seniors. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 218 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. lange.learnauge.com.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 30

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 30

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(517) 975-3301 | msucor@msu.edu | orthopedicresearch.msu.edu

Out on the town

from page 33

Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 482-0600, bibleandbeer@ccclansing.org.

Choose Your Own Adventure. Ages 10 and up engage in imaginative, interactive adventure. 4-5 p.m. FREE. CADL Leslie, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400, cadl.org.

LCC West Toastmasters. Public speaking lessons. 5-6:30 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. toastmasters.org.

Minecraft Game Night. Kids aged 8-15 game together. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Leslie, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400, cadl.org.

Natural Approaches for Spring Allergies & Colds. Herbalist explains how natural methods combat health problems. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Foster, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185.

ToddlerTime. Ages 18-36 months listen to stories, music and get moving. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Weekday Wildflower Walk. Naturalist-led walk to view wildflowers. 10:30-11:30 a.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

After School Teen Program. For teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Wednesday, April 27

EVENTS

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

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

Allen Street Farmers Market - Indoors. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

Money Smart Storytime. Ages 3-6 learn to save money. 9:30-10 a.m. FREE. CADL Foster, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185.

3D Print It: Keychain. Ages 8-15 create personalized, 3D printed keychain. Call to register. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Foster, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185.

Mid-MI Genealogical Society. Topic: Native American Genealogy. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. mmsg.wordpress.com.

Money Smart Storytime. Ages 3-6 learn to save money. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840, cadl.org.

Money Smart Storytime. Ages 3-6 learn to save money. 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Williamston, 201 School St., Williamston. (517) 655-1191, cadl.org.

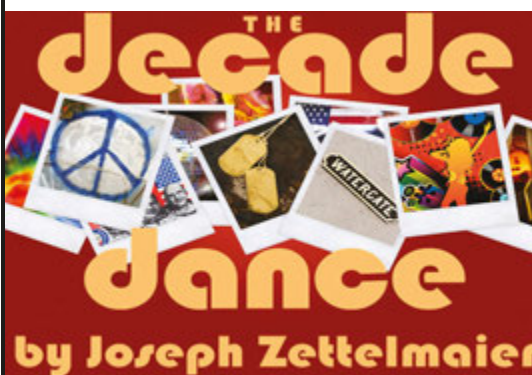
Money Smart Storytime. Ages 3-6 learn to save money. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324, cadl.org.

Money Smart Week - Make a Piggy Bank. Ages 8 and up use a sewing machine to make a piggy bank. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27 >> BRIA SKONBERG AT THE WHARTON CENTER

Trumpeter/vocalist Bria Skonberg returns to East Lansing Wednesday for an evening at the Wharton Center. The multitalented Canadian jazz musician, who was a headliner at last year's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival, draws inspiration from hot jazz artists like Louis Armstrong and Sidney Bechet. At 32, Skonberg has already performed in over 50 jazz festivals throughout North America, Europe and Asia. She has three albums under her belt and is accepting preorders for an upcoming, as-of-yet untitled album. 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$45/\$15 students. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

March 31 - May 1, 2016



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WE LOVE KIDS N DOGS / TINKRLAB

Alan I. Ross/City Pulse

We Love Kids n Dogs, a specialty pet supply and children's toy store in Meridian Mall, has slowly morphed into a maker space aimed at local creatives. This week the store announced a partnership with the Michigan Historical Museum.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

With the international maker movement in full swing, Metro Lansing tinkerers, inventors and "toy hackers" have no shortage of outlets for their creativity. Last October marked the second annual **Lansing Maker Week**, featuring its signature **How-To Halloween** event. In December, the nonprofit **Lansing Makers Network** moved from its temporary headquarters in the Old Town Temple Building to a permanent home at 2400 W. St. Joseph St. This week, **We Love Kids n Dogs**, inside Meridian Mall, made perhaps the biggest splash yet when it announced its partnership with the Michigan Historical Center.

"We were extremely excited when they reached out to us to help with their events," said Chris Allen, co-owner of We Love Kids n Dogs. "We're currently undergoing a rebranding effort to focus on the expanded classroom and workshop space inside our store, and this partnership will really raise the visibility (of the maker movement)."

That rebranding will include a renaming of Mini Maker, the classroom space inside the store. Starting next month, it will be known as **TinkrLAB**, and May 14 will be the first of the Second Saturday events that Allen's team will participate in at the museum.

"The Michigan Historical Center and TinkrLAB both believe in learning through experience," said Michigan Historic Center Director Sandra Clark. "This partnership combines the inspiration of our state's past inventors and tinkerers with TinkrLAB's focus on making the future. Each month we will collaborate to provide children and their families with a new, unusual experience."

We Love Kids n Dogs, launched in 2014, is an offshoot of store founder — and Allen's father-in-law — Joe Rabideau's invention, the Poochie Bowl. It's a pet food dish originally designed to keep dogs like basset hounds and Irish setters from getting their ears dirty as they ate. But thanks to its tight-fitting top, it caught on with pet owners as a travel-friendly bowl, and sales took off. The Lansing-manufactured item was recently picked up by national big box store Camping World and is carried in all 160 of its stores.

Now Allen is hoping to share that entrepreneurial spirit with the next generation of inventors.

"Our passion is to help people start their own business," Allen said. "The maker movement is good for that in that it encourages getting things done, turning ideas into reality."

All of the merchandise in We Love Kids n Dogs is

made in the U.S., mostly by small start-ups. Items include balance bikes, laser-cut wooden car kits and designer dog collars.

"We've gone from half-and-half kids and pets to about 60 percent kids and 40 percent pets," Allen said. "As we've added events like Take It Apart Tuesday, toy hacks and created a birthday party area, we've been inspired to focus on education. It's a natural progression for us — and definitely not one we initially planned for."

The Michigan Historical Center partnership seems odd at first blush — why would a museum focused on the past be so interested in a forward-thinking movement? —but it ties into Now It's Your Turn, a new theme the center is launching. Now It's Your Turn focuses on showcasing Michigan's manufacturing history and exploring how that history has shaped our culture.

"This is two community resources coming together to achieve a common goal," Allen said. "We're providing a hands-on experience that ties to history but is still relevant today."

TinkrLAB will provide all supplies for the May 14 Now It's Your Turn program and will host an open, drop-in session from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. The first event will be a toy hack class, which consists of disassembling things like Barbie dolls, dinosaur models and robots and Frankenstein-ing them back together.

"If you've seen 'Toy Story,' it's very similar to what Sid does," Allen said. "I don't know why they made him (an antagonist) in that movie. Hacking toys is fun and very creative."

Allen said Take It Apart Tuesdays have been a big draw for the store, bringing out kids — and parents — who get to disassemble everyday objects like hair driers and power tools to see what's inside. The shop's Build A Bot activity has also been a big hit. Both activities will make an appearance at the Michigan Historical Center in upcoming events. TinkrLAB has committed to five months of activities at the Michigan Historical Center.

"As a business, we're in a unique position," Allen said. "We don't go around saying we're an educational facility or an after-school program, but we're education focused. This partnership has opened up so many ways we can grow, the Michigan Historical Center can grow and (the maker movement) can grow. We don't want to relive history, we want to make history."

We Love Kids n Dogs/TinkrLAB (inside Meridian Mall)
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HE ATE

SHE ATE



Thai Princess gives diners royal treatment

Welcome to Thailand

By **MARK NIXON**

It says a good deal about a restaurant when “welcome” seems encoded in its DNA. I don’t mean the forced, smarmy friendliness of, say, certain presidential candidates. No, I’m talking about an unspoken and understated message: This is more than a business. Here is our home, our family. Welcome.

I felt that way when I first stepped into Naing Myanmar Family Restaurant on Lansing’s south side in 2014. I felt the same way when I entered Thai Princess a few weeks ago. It’s curious that both are located in somewhat anonymous-looking strip malls — about as un-homey as you can get.

The welcoming tone at Thai Princess manifested itself during one visit, when I watched a server bolt from the store and chase after a departing customer to hand her the leftovers box she had left behind. During our two visits, our servers were prompt without being pushy, helpfully navigating me through a menu that was a bit of a mystery to me.

So now we get down to stems and seeds, as we said in the hip-pie years: the menu. I sometimes fancy myself a worldly diner. I’ve eaten ant eggs and fried grasshoppers in southern Mexico, fermented shark in remote Iceland and raw squid in Japan. Yet I confess to being a stranger in a strange land when it comes to Thai food. My previous experiences with Thai cuisine can be summed up in two words: frickin’ hot! It’s a relief to say my experiences at Thai Princess left me with taste buds largely un-burned.

The food here orbits around a binary star of curry and mango. (There are outliers beyond the influence of those two stars, and we’ll visit them in a moment.) My recommendation is to start with a curry puff appetizer (\$5.99). These croissant-shaped goodies have a flaky pie crust exterior. Inside is a warm mix of minced chicken, potatoes, onions and a dash of curry. Think of a curry puff as a miniaturized Thai version of a Cornish pasty.

Next up, try the mango avocado salad (\$6.99). What makes this work is a slightly spicy lime dressing drizzled over shredded mango, cashews, avocado chunks and slivers of red onion. This salad is as good as it looks.

My mango-mania continued with Mango Delight (\$16.99), deep fried shrimp with chunks of ripe mango in a sweet-and-sour sauce. It’s similar in taste and texture to sweet-and-sour dishes found in Chinese restaurants. I’d rate this dish a 5 out of 10 scale.

Judy ordered the mango curry with pork (\$12.99): pork, mango and tomatoes in a broth spiced with red curry, basil and chili. The spice was toned down a bit upon request. Even so, the after burn was enough for me to demur after a few bites.

On a previous visit, we went the non-mango/curry route. My son, Andrew, is an avowed fan of Thai food. (San Francisco has the best, he says.) He started with a fried tofu appetizer (\$4.99). It came with a sweet tamarind sauce, which was the best part. The tofu looked and tasted as if it came out of a package. I prefer the Japanese take

See He Ate, Page 37

Fresh adventure

By **GABRIELLE JOHNSON**

People have suggested Thai Princess to me over the past few years, but I didn’t listen. Frankly, I don’t know much about Thai food. I know that peanuts are involved and that coconut milk and curry usually play a role. My ignorance was showing, so it was time for the fiancé and I to educate ourselves on this cuisine.

First of all, the interior of the Thai Princess is inviting and unique. Tables are lined up opposite a long bench with cushioned backs, and the architecturally interesting ceiling and walls lend an air of intimacy to the place. For our lunch, I chose the pineapple curry with chicken (\$14.99), but I had virtually no idea what to expect. It was a sort of stew, a spicy broth studded with chunks of pineapple, sautéed chicken and pieces of tomato. I spooned it over my white rice, which made me think of jambalaya. For my typical American palate, the level of spice was flirting with the limits of comfort. The dish is spicy, but it’s mercifully laced with coconut milk. The coconut milk cools the burn so only your nose runs and your head doesn’t explode.

He had pad Thai with chicken (\$8.99), one of his favorites. Eaters, don’t be off-put by the crushed peanuts in pad Thai. They add a great bit of crunch and saltiness to the noodles, chicken and cilantro.

On a return visit, we started with spring rolls (\$4.99), which arrived piping hot with sweet chili sauce, and curry puffs (\$5.99), little envelopes of chicken, curry, potato and onion with cucumber dip. The curry puff dough was buttery, delicious and messily flaky like a croissant. The cucumber dip perfectly complemented the curry.

My sesame noodles with chicken (\$11.99) were freshly prepared, and the bite of the accompanying Sriracha sauce was not overpowering in heat or taste. His pad Chinese broccoli (\$12.99) — again with chicken because we are more boring than I realized — was the star of the show. Upon reflection, I think that one of the reasons I don’t eat a lot of Asian cuisine is because I love vegetables, and I love them simply prepared and barely cooked. Give me a steamed carrot that is still crunchy, and I’m happy. But present me with the English favorite mushy peas, and I’m likely to sneak and feed it to the dog. Mushy vegetables, to me, are a tragedy.

The pad Chinese broccoli was perfectly prepared, with no mushy vegetables to be found. The broccoli stalks were beautifully sliced and crunched when you bit into them. To top it off, the accompanying white rice was presented on its own small

plate and pressed into the shape of a heart. We went home happy.

For our third visit, we started with fresh rolls with shrimp (\$5.99). The two fat rolls were cut in half, showing you what they’re made of — avocado, lettuce, carrot, cucumber and shrimp wrapped in an opaque chilled piece of rice paper and served with sweet chili sauce and crushed peanuts. They were served with spiralized nests of carrots and daikon radish and nestled atop bright purple cabbage leaves. The fresh vegetables, both the garnishes and the actual prepared ingredi-

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Left: The fresh rolls feature vegetables and shrimp wrapped in rice paper, accompanied by peanut sauce and spiralized vegetables. Right: Thai Princess’ pad Chinese broccoli features thinly sliced broccoli and is accompanied by white rice pressed into the shape of a heart.



Gabrielle Johnson/City Pulse

See She Ate, Page 37

He Ate

from page 36

on tofu, agedashi tofu. It's lightly breaded fresh tofu, pan-fried and served with a smoky soy sauce.

We had better success with the vegetarian coconut noodle entree (\$11.99). Ultra-thin rice noodles swim in a broth of coconut milk and bean sauce, accompanied by onions, scallions and bean sprouts. The flavor of coconut made this dish dance across my palate.

We also shared Fresh Rolls (\$4.99), rice paper wraps holding bean curd, bits of cucumber, avocado, lettuce, scallions and shredded carrot. "Fresh" is the operative word, and that's a good thing. The overall effect, though, was bland-

ness. The accompanying tamarind sauce came to the rescue — a little.

Artistry and eye appeal have a great deal to do with a dining out, and for no other reason than that, Thai Princess is worth visiting. Both on your plate and throughout the dining room, the hand of an artist — or artists — is at work.

Spiral swirls of thin radish and onion rise up from the plate. Delicate slivers of mango pose in still-life pirouettes.

The decor is equally inviting. Multi-colored glass bottles are splayed out horizontally on a wall partition. The drop ceiling is a parquetry of wood and opaque glass. There's a miniature dinghy where artificial roses bloom perpetually. And, we were told, the owner hand-made the back cushions on some of the bench seats.

All of the above say, "Welcome."

She Ate

from page 36

ents, put a smile on my face.


On a previous visit, we had been mistakenly delivered a plate of coconut noodles (\$11.99, again with the chicken), and my jaw hit the table before the waiter realized his mistake. This was a plate of pure color, with carrot, red cabbage and green onion towering over the thinnest noodles I've ever seen. I had to make them mine. On our next visit I did just that. This dish was a flavor explosion, and the herbs, vegetables, noodles, coconut milk and yellow bean sauce came together perfectly. We devoured it.

Other highlights include the chicken satay (\$6.99), which was fresh and pleasantly spiced, and the pad oyster sauce (\$12.99, and I went off the reservation and chose beef this time),

which also featured crunchy vegetables and heart-shaped rice. With the Rama noodles (\$11.99), however, we hit a snag. The vegetables this time were limp, floppy and room temperature. Disappointing. We drowned our sorrow in a pot of jasmine tea. Actually, we drank this tea on every visit — and would gladly drink it every day for the rest of our lives.

A noticeable theme was the pokeness of service. On more than one visit, we had to ask if we could finally order. It was not a big deal for us, because our evening plans generally consist of going home and hanging out with the dog (who, incidentally, also loves vegetables). But this could be an issue for workers trying to get back to the office after lunch. Also, curiously, we were never given chopsticks, only forks. But I'm not complaining. This made it easy to shovel the inevitable chicken dish into my mouth with minimal interruption.

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Wednesday, April 27 AT 7:30 PM
at the Wharton Center

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Cosmic Devils — Cosmos

Going to Cosmos and not getting pizza is something like going to the Louvre and not looking at the “Mona Lisa.” This

Cosmos

11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-10 p.m. Sunday
611 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing
(517) 897-3563, thecosmoslansing.com

Old Town joint is slinging the most delicious and inventive pies in the Greater Lansing area.

Just like I shouldn't have to tell you to check out the “Mona

Lisa” next time you're in Paris, I shouldn't have to tell you to check out Cosmos' pizzas. (If you want my recommendation, though, check out the rock shrimp version.) But I will use this space to direct you to a small but mighty entry on the menu.



Under the “Shareables” heading, you will find the Cosmic Devils (\$6). These are deviled eggs, but this isn't church potluck fare. These halved hard-boiled eggs are filled with a flavorful mustard mixture and topped with pickled onions and candied bacon. The candied bacon is the perfect salty/sweet complement to the mustard filling, and the pickled onion gives it just a little

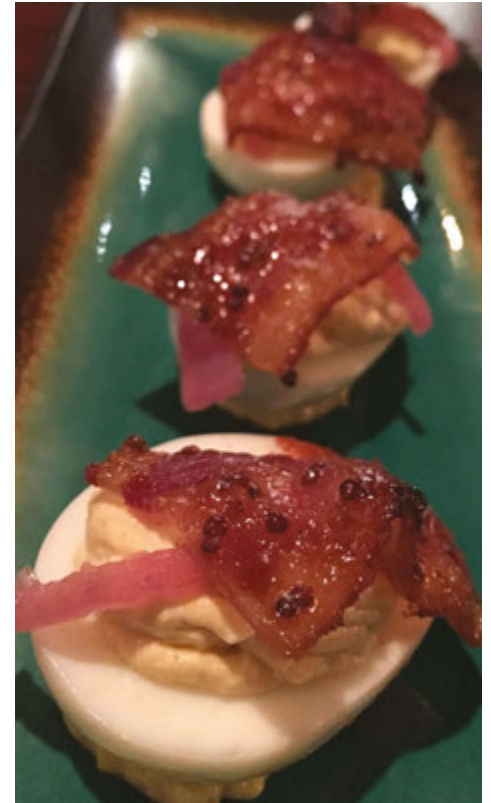
kick. It's a crazy taste journey in one bite. (And I definitely recommend putting them down in one bite. I tried to make it a two-biter and everything fell apart.)

I like to pair these with the Duck Fat Fries (\$6, and it's worth the extra \$1 to add parmesan and truffle oil). The pizza is the star of the show at Cosmos, but if you're looking for a tasty undercard before the main event, give these devils a shot.

—Ty Forquer

What's your favorite dish?

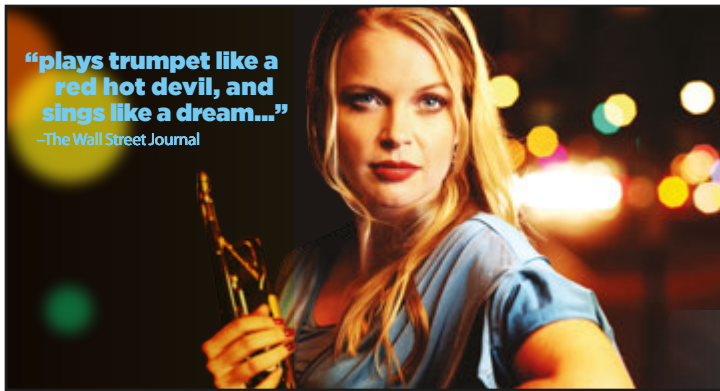
Do you have a go-to dish at your favorite local restaurant? We want to know about it. Email your favorite dish and a short explanation about why you love it to food@lansingcitypulse.com, and it may be featured in a future issue. If possible, please send a photo along with your description — a nice smartphone photo is fine. Cheers!



Appetizers

Want your Appetizer listed? **Contact Suzi Smith at (517) 999-6704 • PAID ADVERTISEMENT**

| | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
|  | <p>Eastside Fish Fry 2417 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing (517) 993-5988 eastsidefishfry.com</p> | <p>Eastside Fishfry serving the Greater Lansing area with a wide variety of fresh, deepfried or grilled chicken and fish and many more delicious items. #1 People's Choice Best Chicken Wings. We support our community! Delivery available! Let us cater your next event! Open Daily at 10am.</p> |  <p>Relli's Italian Restaurant 202 East Main St. Historical Downtown DeWitt (517) 669-9243</p> | <p>Relli's Sports Bar has served Authentic Italian Cuisine for more than 20 years! Enjoy the game with one of our award winning pizzas! We serve a bevy of hearty meals and fine drinks at lower-than-usual prices everyday: Mon-Wed 11am-12am, Thu 11am-1am, Fri-Sat 11am-2am, Sun 12pm-11pm.</p> |
|  | <p>Ellison Brewery and Spirits 4903 Dawn Ave. East Lansing (517) 203-5498 ellisonbrewing.com</p> | <p>Come on down to the clubhouse at Ellison Brewery + Spirits! Lansing's first brewery/distillery produces hand crafted specialty beers, spirits, wines and meads made with the finest, locally sourced ingredients. Relax in our open tap room and enjoy a pint of your favorite beer! Outside food is welcome!</p> |  <p>Spagnuolo's Restaurant 662 W. Grand River Ave. Okemos (just east of Van Atta Rd.) (517) 349-9605</p> | <p>Since 1991, Okemos' Spagnuolo's Restaurant has offered delicious authentic award-winning pizza and Italian dishes. Our family-friendly environment is perfect for larger parties. Let us make your event special by catering your party! Open Monday-Saturday 11am-10pm</p> |
|  | <p>Jersey Giant Subs 220 S. Washington Square Downtown Lansing (517) 203-5348</p> | <p>Jersey Giant Subs, in our 4th decade of bringing you authentic New Jersey Shore style subs. Bringing the Jersey Shore Boardwalk to Downtown Lansing. Delivery available in limited Downtown area. Call us for catering! Open Monday-Friday from 11am to 4pm. Jgsubs.com Like us on Facebook.</p> |  <p>The State Room Restaurant Inside Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center 219 S. Harrison Rd., MSU Campus East Lansing Reserve your table today by calling (517) 432-5049</p> | <p>Upscale Casual Dining Inside MSU's Kellogg Center - Expertly-prepared culinary delights featured on seasonal menus to reflect the best of local ingredients. Our extensive wine list earned "Best of Award of Excellence" for the last ten years from Wine Spectator magazine. Complimentary ramp parking available.</p> |
|  | <p>Jose's Cuban Sandwich & Deli 2315 E. Grand River Ave. Lansing, MI 48912 (517) 374-6832, (517) 367-6088 www.josescubansandwich.com</p> | <p>Home of the #1 rated Cuban Sandwich and made fresh daily right here in Lansing! Try one of our customers favorites: The Chicken Artichoke, Media Noche (Midnight), The Aurora Sandwich, Kevin Sandwich, La isla (The Island) and our deliciously famous, black beans and rice.</p> |  <p>Williamston Pub & Grill 132 W. Grand River Williamston (517) 992-5060 Williamstonpubandgrill.com</p> | <p>The go to neighborhood pub! Specializing in fresh handcrafted pub fair. Ranging from pub munchies, fresh hand pattied burgers, from scratch pastas, to the chefs authentic Mexican selection. Live bands, comedy, catering and private event space. Daily happy hour 3-7pm. Great food, great prices!</p> |
|  | <p>La Senorita 2706 Lake Lansing Rd. Lansing Across from EastWood Towne Center (517) 485-0166</p> | <p>Home of the 1/2 Off Happy Hour Mon-Fri. 3-6pm and 9-close. . . . A fun neighborhood cantina featuring daily food and drink specials. Menu offers Fresh made Mexican and American Fare. Open 7days a week. Call us for take out and catering and banquets! Like us on facebook-lasenorita.com.</p> |  <p>Zaytoon Mediterranean 940 Elmwood Rd. Lansing across from the Lansing Mall (517) 203-5728</p> | <p>Zaytoon eat good, feel good, toon on! Home of Authentic Chicken Shawarma! We offer an extensive Vegan and gluten free menu as well as traditional meat favorites. Zaytoon is a fast-casual restaurant, making us the HEALTHY alternative to fast-food! Open Monday-Saturday 11am-8pm. Catering Available.</p> |
|  | <p>Midtown Brewing Co. 402 S. Washington Square Downtown Lansing (517) 977-1349 midtownbrewingco.com</p> | <p>Midtown Brewing Company is your source for premium quality handcrafted beer. Our locally owned brewery uses neighborhood goods and food. With 45 local Michigan beers on tap, 8 of them our own brand, our beers complement all of our meals, adding that local flavor you love.</p> | <p>Advertise your Appetizer HERE!</p> | |



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www.lansingarts.org

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