

FREE

CityPULSE

a newspaper for the rest of us

October 28-November 3, 2015



COCKTAIL CULTURE

The second annual City Pulse Bar Issue

County official fired over ethics
City Pulse probe leads to dismissal, p. 5

Close encounters
Lansing looks back on
'The War of the Worlds,' p. 9

AMERICAN FESTIVAL

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JOE LULLOFF, GRIFFIN CAMPBELL
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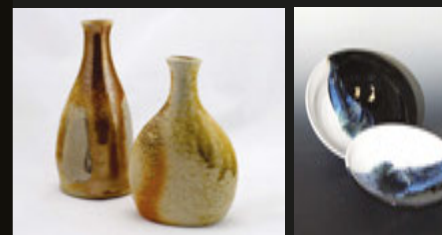
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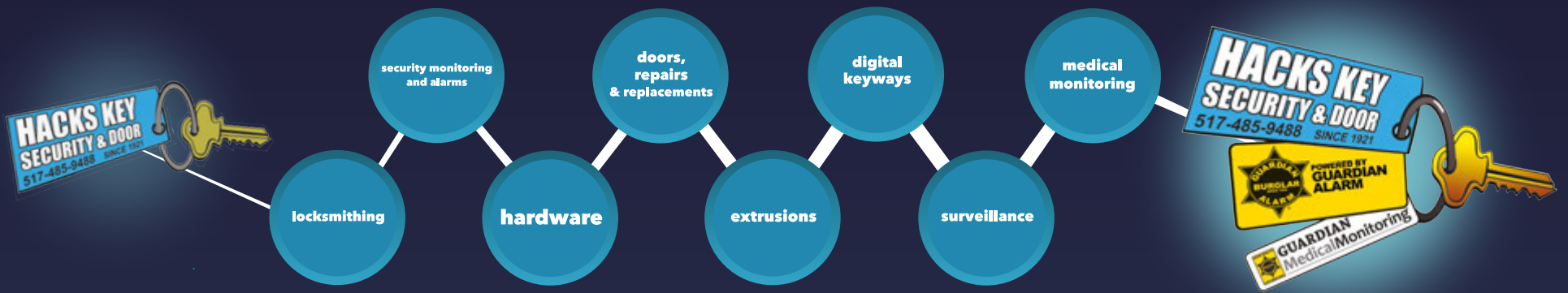
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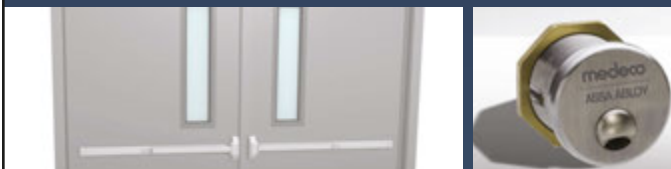
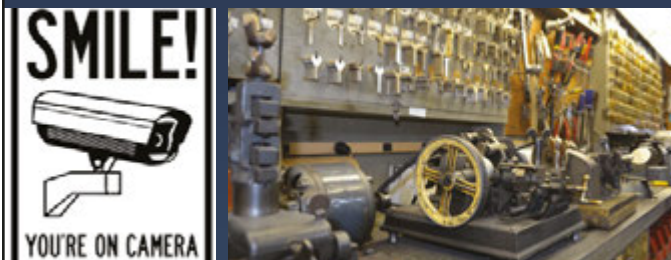
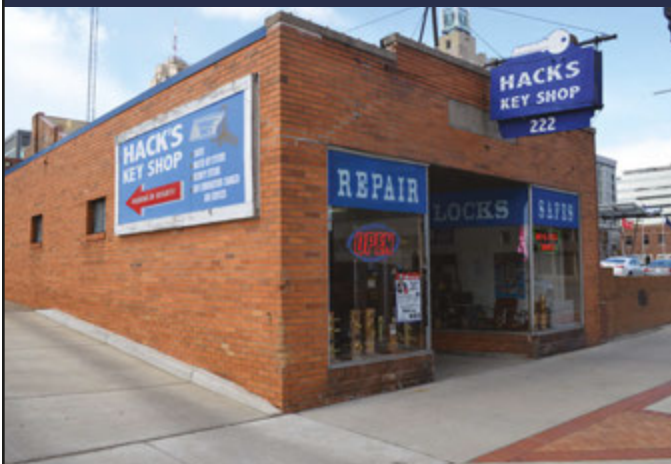


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cylinders and doorways. We have partnered with Michigan's own Guardian Alarm Co., one of the oldest security companies in Michigan. (Their alarm systems are monitored right here in our home state.) Guardian Alarm has been serving Michigan since 1930. Our trusted team at Hack's will install the alarm systems and be there to service your needs locally. We have also added a new door department that can repair or replace most commercial doors and hardware. Plans are to have an extensive showroom with parts and products in stock for your convenience. Customers can count on Hack's to be in the downtown area for some time to come. Hack's is an old-time business deserving of care and respect, and it is an honor to carry on its reputation of service and integrity. Expanding this nearly-century-old business is a labor of love and care for a business that has served Lansing's homes and businesses for so long.



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Feedback

Sparrow to blame for Boles' bad checks

Upon reading your article I learned that the Councilwoman had closed a bank account. And Sparrow kept trying to get money from her closed bank account. It sounds like Sparrow was writing bad checks.

— John Rooney
Lansing

Elect people to 'outvote' Woods, Triplett

This November's election is an important one for East Lansing, but many who have not followed city council actions very closely may not realize that the incumbent councilmembers have already revealed their policies by their past votes. If East Lansing is to stop handing unnecessary subsidies to real estate developers, to start paying more attention to the backing-up sewers and broken pavements in the neighborhoods, and to reform a planning department that too often seems like a fifth column for redevelopment interests, we need councilmembers who will outvote Susan Woods--and Nathan Triplett should he happen to be re-elected--and who will keep outvoting them again and again as long as necessary.

—John Kloswick
East Lansing

Defeat Nathan Triplett

Affable and articulate Ronald Reagan famously asked voters "Are you better off now than you were four years ago?" Let's pose the same question to residents of East Lansing.

While claiming to be the "City of the Arts," East Lansing still has the same downtown blighted buildings it has had for years. We have a water treatment plant that allowed mercury poisoning and unsanitary conditions to threaten workers and result in thousands of dollars of state fines (and an increase in our rates). Crumbling roads and sidewalks. Sewer backup in our basements following heavy rain. A glutted student housing market and several new downtown bars, but no new downtown housing for senior citizens.

Unattractive development with inadequate parking at Trowbridge and Harrison, with a popular locally

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

Now you have two ways to sound off:

- 1.) Write a letter to the editor.
• E-mail: letters@lansingcitypulse.com
• Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
• Fax: (517) 371-5800

- 2.) Write a guest column:
Contact Berl Schwartz for more information:
publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or (517) 999-5061

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

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF INGHAM PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING FILE NO. 15-1412-GA In the matter of Michael Whitcomb. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: Michael Whitcomb Jr. whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on November 16, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI before Judge R. Garcia for the following purpose: Guardianship hearing for incapacitated adult.

Date: 10/26/15

DeAnn Moreno 5303 S. Cedar St. Lansing, MI 48911 (517) 887-9664

CP#15-271

owned grocery store thrown out.

Triplett implies the city's AAA bond rating is his accomplishment. Nonsense. Market conditions, not the mayor, are mostly responsible. Triplett says East Lansing city debt has gone down during his tenure. True only if you ignore the city's unfunded pension liability.

If the affable and articulate Mayor Triplett asked auditor Dan Block of independent financial auditing firm Plante Moran the Reagan question, Block would likely reply what he reported at the Jan. 20, 2015 City Council meeting: "You have a city debt of about \$186 million, and a very significant amount of unfunded liability in pensions and OPEB (other post -employment benefits)... Your net position will very likely not be positive anymore, and that will tell a story."

—Gordon Taylor
East Lansing

For Altmann and Ross

Erik Altmann and Steve Ross are well prepared to address the City of East Lansing fiscal crisis over the next four years and beyond. Altmann and Ross are clear and plain spoken about downtown and neighborhood issues and the City's ability to deal with fiscal and development challenges. Fresh eyes, clear heads, new courage: a fresh start for East Lansing; a new path for transparency.

Recent East Lansing reports on legacy costs (retirement and health care), bonded debt, across the board infrastructure challenges, and tax subsidies (TIFs) demonstrate the escalating fiscal burden the city faces. Legacy costs are akin to bonded debt; they are not discretionary. Deferring infrastructure challenges only means higher prices in the future.

When the City Council approves a TIF, it is diverting new tax funds to the developer and away from the general fund. The developer pays no new taxes for public services. Then your taxes pay for public services from which the new, private properties benefit throughout the life of the TIF. Are more TIFs a good use of public dollars when in competition with basic public services, upgrading infrastructure, and meeting pension obligations to City retirees?

TIFs are discretionary and represent an incremental drain on the city's tax funds when they are initiated. All the candidates should know this. Have they, are they leveling with you?

Vote Altmann and Ross for East Lansing City Council on Nov. 3

—Ralph Monsma
East Lansing

Bashing City Pulse endorsements

City Pulse yearns so much for its hand-picked candidate to win that it neglected possible consequences of urging voters to vote or "plunk" only one of their two votes.

CityPULSE

VOL. 15
ISSUE 11

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



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Clifton Wharton answers questions



PAGE 10

Dia de los Muertos event honors Latino culture



PAGE 11

'The Diary of Anne Frank' delivers emotional punch



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CITY PULSE on the AIR NOW AT 10:30 A.M. SATURDAYS on WDBM IMPACT 88.9FM

THIS MODERN WORLD by TOM TOMORROW

THERE IS NO ESCAPE FROM... THE CAMPAIGN SEASON OF THE DAMNED BWAH HA HA HA HA HA!

FOOLISH MORTAL VOTERS! DO YOU THINK YOU CAN WITHSTAND THE ENDLESS TORMENT OF THE PERPETUAL CAMPAIGN? CANADA'S ELECTION LASTED ELEVEN WEEKS, START TO FINISH! THAT WON'T EVEN GET US TO THE IOWA CAUCUSES!

CAN YOU ENDURE THE TERRIFYING CACOPHONY OF DEMOCRATS WHO SUPPORT RIVAL CANDIDATES? YOOUUU... ARE A BERNIE-BRO...! YOOUUU... ARE A HILLARY-BOT...!

WILL THE HORROR OF THE REPUBLICAN FIELD PERVADE YOUR VERY SOUL? THE JEWS SHOULD HAVE PREVENTED THE HOLOCAUST! GLOBAL WARMING IS A HOAX! LIBERALS WANT TO HARVEST BABY BRAINS! NOOO!

DOES THE POSSIBILITY OF PRESIDENT TRUMP FILL YOU WITH BONE-CHILLING DREAD? WE'RE DOING THINGS MY WAY NOW, LOSERS AND HATERS!

WILL YOU SURVIVE THE DESCENT INTO REALITY-WARPING MADNESS WITH YOUR OWN SANITY INTACT? YOU REMEMBER HOW MY BROTHER KEPT US SAFE, DON'T YOU? DON'T YOU? BUT I--I DON'T REMEMBER THAT... AND AS SOON AS THIS ELECTION IS OVER...WE'LL GET STARTED ON THE NEXT ONE!

See Letters, Page 8

Wider probe underway Ingham County fires IT director for ethics violations

Ingham County's information technology director and chief information officer was terminated Thursday, less than 24 hours after City Pulse obtained thousands of pages of emails between him and various contractors.

Those emails reveal that Michael Ashton, 44, a county executive since 2012 who was paid \$110,824 a year, had accepted tickets and junkets from contractors to various professional sporting events in Detroit. The practice dates back to at least February 2013.

As a result of the ethics violations, the county is reviewing all IT contracts and contractors, said Tim Dolehanty, county controller and administrator to whom Ashton reported.

Dolehanty also informed county officials by email that he is turning over the emails to the "proper law enforcement agency for a follow-up criminal investigation. While I do not necessarily anticipate criminal charges will be forthcoming, it is best that we allow law enforcement experts to draw that conclusion."

Dolehanty said Tuesday he is turning over the documents to the Mason Police Department.

Ashton declined to comment Tuesday.

One contractor linked to Ashton is Information Systems Intelligence, based in Wyoming, Mich. The firm's contracts with Muskegon County were abruptly terminated in April after a review found that nearly half of \$11 million in contracts for computers and telephone systems had not been authorized by the Muskegon County Commission, The Muskegon Chronicle reported. ISI is also being investigated for alleged overcharges.

Ingham County entered into a contract for similar products with ISI. The company has been involved in controversial contracts in Poplar Bluff, Mo., where a criminal investigation is underway, according to newspaper reports.

Commenting on the Ashton firing, Dolehanty said, "There are thresholds that were crossed in this case that we felt rose to the level of requiring termination." He said he had spoken with Ashton about gifts and ethics, but Dolehanty denied any knowledge of the number and extent of the gifts Ashton was accepting.

"He and I have discussed directly what's accepted and what isn't both one-on-one and as well as in our department meetings," Dolehanty said. "Obviously, I wasn't clear enough."

This situation has raised questions about the county's ethics policy implementation and training as well as how effective the oversight of the county commission has been in the matter. (See related story on this page.)

In all, at least eight instances of Ashton's accepting junkets or sporting tickets were revealed in the emails. Those eight instances involved two county contractors: ISI and Comcast. The emails also reveal that Ashton often met with various county contractors for lunch. Those contractors picked up the tab.

ISI provides various services from installing new technology to support for that technology. It is unclear what IT support Comcast provides the county.

Accepting the gifts violated the county's 1995 ethics ordi-

See Ethics, Page 6



Ashton

From: Markatos, John [mailto:John.Markatos@cable.comcast.com]
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 3:39 PM
To: Ashton, Michael
Subject: RE: Can you call me

Michael,

Also, would you and any members of your team be interested in joining us in our suite for the Red Wings game on 3/26?

3/26/2015 Red Wings v. San Jose Sharks 7:30pm Joe Louis Arena Suite Detroit MI

If this date doesn't work, I can find a game that fits your calendar.

Let me know if you received this?

John Markatos
Strategic Enterprise Account Executive
Fiber and Metro Ethernet Services

Comcast Business Services

Michael Ashton received the above invitation via email from a Comcast executive to attend a Red Wings game and to bring his staff. He forwarded it to Frank Chain, a project manager. Chain asked if he could bring "Carter." (Chain declined to identify who Carter is when he was reached by telephone.) Ashton's response: "Just don't broadcast it was for free. I may be interested as well but have to decide if Andrew goes or Alexa." Ashton's Facebook page shows that their daughter's name is Alexa. Chain responded: "Not saying a word." Then Chain asks, "Are we going?" Replied Ashton: Yes we are it is a product review meeting."

Warning signs County clerk raised concerns about Ashton last spring

Ingham County officials said they were surprised by revelations that the former chief information officer and information technology director had been violating the county's ethics ordinance for years without detection.

An April email from Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum should have set off red flags.

The former employee, Michael Ashton, was fired Thursday after City Pulse launched an investigation into whether Ashton had violated the county's eth-

ics policy on accepting tickets and other emoluments from contractors.

Concerns were raised by Byrum following two separate meetings at the county. One dealt with recording equipment and technology upgrades for the circuit court; the other was about upgrading the technology and hardware to record and video county commission meetings. The meetings were supposed to be between circuit court staff and county clerk staff and the county's technology department, represented by Ashton.

But also participating in the meetings was a county contractor, Carousel Industries, which provides video and other

See Signs, Page 6

About this investigation

City Pulse began reviewing the relationships between the Ingham County technology staff and contractors in late August after it was learned Information Systems Intelligence was a contractor. ISI has been under investigation in Muskegon for being overpaid millions of dollars. From that and with numerous anonymous tips, City Pulse was able to pull together enough information to file a Freedom of Information Act request with the county. Many documents were released Wednesday; hundreds of more pages are expected to be released by the end of the month.



Power lines and trees
Everywhere

With autumn in full flush, one's eyes are naturally drawn upward to enjoy the resplendent colors of the season. Unfortunately, that view is diminished when the bright colors are pruned away to allow for the unrestricted distribution of utility lines.

Naturally, trees should not remain unchecked, if their growth interferes with the lines transmitting electrical power. Of course, if those lines were buried, there would be no need to butcher the trees. Conduit could be installed during the periodically scheduled repair and maintenance of streets, where it could remain — unused — until the utility undertakes repairs or upgrades to adjacent lines. The occasional power outages caused when limbs fall on lines would be simultaneously eliminated.

However, utility companies lack the ability to force the road building authorities to install conduit. Given the ongoing infrastructure funding issues witnessed throughout the state and region, governmental bodies are demonstrably reluctant to spend additional money on conduit, particularly when it may remain unused indefinitely.

If this issue is to be effectively resolved, individuals need to undertake a progressive effort and direct their governmental leaders to work with utility companies to make line burial a priority. More important, they must accept the additional costs this undertaking will require.

—Daniel E. Bollman, AIA

(Thanks to Doug Jester for his input on this article.)

"Eyesore of the Week" is our look at some of the seedier properties in Lansing. It rotates each week with Eye Candy of the Week. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call Berl Schwartz at 999-5061.

Ethics

from page 5

nance. It requires employees and commissioners to decline gifts from those doing business with the county that might look to the casual observer as though the gifts influenced the awarding of county tax dollars and contracts to the vendor. The ordinance was last amended in 1999.

The emails reveal that Ashton accepted an 18-hole golf game at Hawk Hollow from ISI on Sept. 24. He also participated in an August golf outing, along with his deputy, Vince Foess, at ISI's expense.

Foess, who has been appointed to replace Ashton on an interim basis, was docked eight hours' vacation pay for attending the golf outing, Dolehanty said. He will be paid \$96,643 a year, a nearly \$20,000 raise.

"As to the August 14 golf event, further in-



Dolehanty

investigation revealed Mr. Foess did attend this event at the direction of his supervisor," Dolehanty wrote in an email to CityPulse Friday. "Mr. Foess lodged a verbal protest to this directive, but did nevertheless attend as directed. I have adjusted Mr. Foess' accrued vacation leave by eight hours in recognition of his absence from the workplace on August 14."

In addition, in December 2013, Ashton participated in a junket to Ford's Field and a Detroit Lions game. That junket included "drinks/partybus/transport," according to the email from ISI staffer Chad Ordus.

"I am in," Ashton wrote Ordus in accepting that junket on Oct. 30, 2013.

In addition to those gifts from ISI, Comcast provided various gifts.

That included tickets to the July 1 Tigers game in Detroit. Comcast officials offered Ashton four tickets, and he requested and

received a fifth one so his mother could attend the game as well.

In March, he attended a special event with Comcast in Detroit to watch the Red Wings. Foess emailed Ashton about the event, noting it would be something he would be interested in attending.

"Just don't broadcast it was for free," Ashton cautioned in a Feb. 16 email back to Foess. The email revealed two others — unnamed — also attended the event. Dolehanty said Foess did not attend the Red Wings event.

Ashton also received tickets to at least two other Red Wings games from Comcast officials. In December 2014, he attended a special event at Joe Louis Arena where attendees got free food and the opportunity to watch the Wings practice. In February 2013, Ashton also accepted free tickets from Comcast to a Red Wings game. In that instance, an account executive offered the tickets to Ashton, who initially declined, but asked

how much it would cost.

"[The tickets] would be free to you," the account executive emailed back. Ashton then accepted the tickets, and Comcast over-nighted them to his office in Mason.

Dolehanty said the county's internal investigation was just beginning. "So far our internal investigations have not gone beyond that specific employee," Dolehanty said.

According to Ashton's LinkedIn page, he was a state employee for 17 years, serving as manager of the Program Management Office in the Department of Technology Management and Budget for 10 years before joining the county. A Port Huron native, he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Baker College in Flint. He is married and lives in Dewitt.

—Todd Heywood



Signs

from page 5

services and was representing Palo Alto Networks, which was seeking to sell firewall services.

That a contractor was present at these sessions seemed unusual to Byrum.

The meetings were preliminary discussions about technology upgrade needs for both departments, and no request for pro-

posals had yet been developed for the projects.

She followed the meeting with an email raising concerns that there had been no competitive bidding, and no other vendors other than Carousel Industries had been contacted for either project.

"The similarity in these two situations is concerning to me as to why this vendor seems to be so favored," Byrum wrote in an April 23 email to Brian McGrain, Ingham County Board of Commissioners chairman, and Commissioner Vince Celentino, chairman of the

county services committee. County services oversees county operations, including facilities and information technology issues.

The issue was raised as Bryum was struggling to get various technology issues addressed in her offices.

Two weeks later, staff from the clerk's office, including Byrum, were prohibited by Controller Tim Dolehanty from meeting with department heads without Dolehanty presence. That decision was made, according to an email to Byrum from Dolehanty, because she had expressed the sentiment that some staff — including Ashton — should be fired for incompetence.

Bryum declined to discuss her concerns with City Pulse.

Dolehanty said Friday he had no reason to believe Ashton had been violating the ethics ordinance and policies, despite acknowledging conversations with the former IT head "both one-on-one and as well as in our department meetings" regarding ethics. He said the county does not routinely monitor email from employees. As such, he said, there was no way county leadership could have had knowledge of the unethical relationship between Ashton and at least two contractors: Information Systems intelligence and Comcast.

As a result of the ethics issues surfacing with Ashton's tenure, the county plans to review its IT contracts and contractors. Also, it has asked law enforcement officials to investigate Ashton's actions.

McGrain said Bryum's email "wouldn't necessarily" trigger any sort of investigation.

Celentino said his committee took the clerk's concerns seriously. "We had him (Ashton) come in monthly to tell us what was going on," Celentino said. "Maybe we should have asked more questions."

Celentino said he was unaware of any other concerns, particularly as they related

to allegations Ashton may have been violating the county's ethics policy. Rumors of Ashton's close relationship with contractors have been circulating in the county for months before City Pulse submitted a Freedom of Information Act request. That request prompted county officials to terminate Ashton's employment for violating the policy. The emails released by the county show Ashton had been accepting gifts such as junkets and tickets to sporting events in Detroit ISI and Comcast. Officials said the FOIA request led directly to Ashton's termination.

"Some of the gifts — wow," Celentino said. "I was just surprised he didn't think he should go to the controller with those. I was shocked."

McGrain said he was "caught by surprise" in the revelations.

"I have no idea that these junkets, these trips, were happening," he said.

Dolehanty said he was also not aware of the situation until City Pulse made its request. He said he annually reminded department heads about the county policy on ethics as the holidays neared. However he said that since he began nearly three years ago, there had not been a county-wide training for all employees on the ethics ordinance.

"That is a concern," Celentino said of the lack of training. "We need to take a look at that. That's definitely going to be part of what we do as review this situation."

Celentino said county officials need to work harder on enforcing and following the policy.

"We have a policy. It's got to be a priority for use," he said. "I'm hoping the cause of adhering to high levels of standards (on ethics) is communicated (to staff). If it's not, we have to look at how we do it."

—Todd Heywood



PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE Rezoning #15050

Date introduced: October 20, 2015
Nature of the ordinance: A request to rezone approximately 9.07 acres located north of Grand River Avenue and west of Powell Road (1510 Grand River and adjacent undeveloped parcel) from PO (Professional and Office) to C-2 (Commercial)
Full text available at: Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road
Meridian Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Ct.
Haslett Branch Library, 5670 School Street
Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road
Snell Towar Recreation Center, 6146 Porter Avenue
The Township Website www.meridian.mi.us

ELIZABETH LEGOFF
SUPERVISOR

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#15-266

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN NOTICE OF POSTING OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

On October 21, 2015, the following minutes of the proceedings of the Meridian Township Board were sent for posting in the following locations:

Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road
Meridian Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court
Hope Borbas Okemos Branch Library, 4321 Okemos Road
Haslett Branch Library, 1590 Franklin Street
Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road
Snell Towar Recreation Center, 6146 Porter Ave.
and the Township Web Site www.meridian.mi.us

September 29, 2015 Special Meeting
October 6, 2015 Regular Meeting

ELIZABETH LEGOFF
SUPERVISOR

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#15_267

'Choose the weapons'

Former MSU President Wharton on racism and the loss of 'human capital'

Few Fortune 500 CEOs get the chance to weigh a loan application from a hotel where, a few decades earlier, they were nearly thrown out of the lobby for having the wrong skin color. Few executives are asked to join the board of directors of an oil company that wouldn't consider them for a job 40 years earlier for the same reason.

Dr. Clifton R. Wharton Jr.

World View Lecture Series
7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 2
Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall
\$23, free to MSU students, faculty, staff with ID

But Clifton Wharton is not like most people, and he has a lot of stories to tell. As president of Michigan State University from 1970 to 1978, he was the first African-American to lead a major U.S. university. It's hard to talk about Wharton without reciting his resume, but his tower of multifaceted careers casts a long shadow. He was chancellor of the huge State University of New York system, chairman and CEO of pension fund behemoth TIAA-CREF (making him the first black CEO of a Fortune 500 company), deputy secretary of state under President Bill Clinton and much more.

Wharton, 88, is in the mood to look back, having published a 500-page autobiography ("Privilege and Prejudice: The Life of a Black Pioneer," MSU Press) that runs to 1,700 pages in online form. He'll dip into his long and eventful life Monday night in a talk with MSU President Lou Anna Simon at the Wharton Center (named after Wharton and his wife, Dolores, in 1982). He talked with City Pulse in a phone interview last week.

How do the '60s protests you dealt with as MSU president differ from the Black Lives Matter protests of today? Is this a new moment of cultural change, pivoting on the issues of race and economic inequality?

It's not just the activity right now. It's a part of a long history. I'm a great admirer of Gordon Parks. He had a career as a photographer, he became a poet, author, filmmaker, musician. He composed. He produced those wonderful "Shaft" movies. He was a Renaissance man. He had a book I've always admired called "A Choice of Weapons." He pointed out that we blacks who have leadership positions — we need to choose the weapons of approach to attacking racism, using the skills that we have. There's no one way of going about it. In my case, it was my intelligence, my capacity to lead, to organize, administer and run. So I do it in my area. I don't do it marching on the streets. The people who do that — I admire them. I think it's necessary. But what I'm doing is also necessary.

You argue passionately in your book that we are "eating our seed corn" when it comes to "human capital." What do you mean by that?

When I was president, one-third of the cost of students' education was paid for by tuition. The other two thirds was paid for by the state and federal governments. Today, that proportion has been directly reversed. It's two-thirds tuition and one-third state and federal [money]. That has consequences that I point out when I say we're eating our seed corn. These changes in priority are having a negative impact on the capacity and ability of higher education to provide and invest in the future capital of the country.

It must break your heart when you consider the many talented people of limited means who are being excluded from the kind of opportunities you describe.

Yes, absolutely. One of the things I find



Wharton

amazing and disturbing is that recent studies show that if you have a family with an income level in the top quartile in the United States, the children of that family have an 85 percent likelihood of attending a college or a university. In the bottom quartile, you child would only have an 8 percent chance of going to college. That, to me, is completely impossible to consider. Here you have a major sector of society which is being denied the opportunity to

receive that education and to develop their individual capital, their intellectual capital, which would make a contribution to our society. It's not only a moral imperative, it's also national interest imperative. This is not only minorities. This is also rural people, low-income people and families who have students

who could make a major contribution.

It's very frightening when you think of 10, 20, 30 years from now, what the socioeconomic stratification will look like.

Exactly.

In your book, you write about the many forms that racism and discrimination have taken in your life.

Look at what I had to go through when I became the first black at the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins in Washington, D.C. Washington was segregated in those days. When I went to the dining room to eat, there were times when some of my classmates would get up and leave before I sat down. The dean of the school had a program where he invited some of the students to lunch. During that entire year, I was never invited to one of those lunches. Those are patterns of discrimination.




I was interviewed [for a job] by a representative from the Esso Oil Co., looking for

See Wharton, Page 8

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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, November 18, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Matthew Ao for Special Use Permit approval for the property at 301 M.A.C. Avenue to allow for a game room referred to as an "escape room" where participants work to solve puzzles as a group in order to win the game. The property is zoned B-3, City Center Commercial District.

Call (517) 319-6930, the Department of Planning, Building and Development, City of East Lansing, 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#15_268

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SLU-5-2015, 200 W. Edgewood Blvd.
Special Land Use Permit – Residential Care Facility

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 23, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, to consider SLU-5-2015. This is a request by Richard Postema Associates, P.C. on behalf of Vista Springs Living, LLC., for a Special Land Use to construct a new 28-bed residential care facility building (home for the aged) at 200 W. Edgewood Blvd.. Residential care facilities are permitted in the "DM-1" Residential district, which is the zoning designation of the subject property, if a Special Land Use permit is approved by the Lansing City Council.

For more information please call Lansing City Council at 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., Monday, November 23, 2015 at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

Chris Swope, City Clerk
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#15_269

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, November 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan to amend Chapter 402 ADOPTION OF THE MICHIGAN VEHICLE CODE, Section 402.01 ADOPTION OF THE MVC to the Lansing Codified Ordinances to add Manner of Parking, Parking in Front Yards and Parking in Driveways creating regulations on parking.

For more information please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., Monday, November 9, 2015, at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email clerk@lansingmi.gov.

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

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#15_270

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, November 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, to consider **Ordinance No. 1358**; an Ordinance to amend Section 26-52 - Prohibited Acts - of Division 2 - Disorderly Conduct - of Article II - Offenses Against Public Peace and Order- of Chapter 26 - Offenses - and Section 28-34 - Restrictions - of Article II - Use of Parks - of Chapter 28 - Parks and Recreation - of the Code of the City of East Lansing, to include arrows as items that may not be discharged within the city, bows as items that must be encased within the city and to make exceptions thereto as well as to make exceptions to the prohibition of hunting in parks within the city.

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

Marie E. Wicks, City Clerk

CP#15_265

Wharton

from page 7

people to work in Latin America. My field of specialization was Latin America. I was bilingual, knew Spanish, I graduated from Harvard in history, working with diplomatic history. The interviewer said to me, "I don't think you'd be happy." That's a code word for "you're not acceptable." Now fast forward. Many years later, I became friends with the chairman and CEO of Esso. He wanted me to go on his board of directors! I said to him that I couldn't, because I was already on the board of the Ford Motor Co. and that would make it impossible for me to go onto an oil company board. I told him the story of how I had been treated by the interviewer from his company. He was horrified. That is racism in its most serious form.

Have you ever been profiled or pulled over because of your race?

That's not relevant in my particular case. In my book, I point out that I have faced many forms of discrimination. When I was at the [Johns Hopkins] school in Washington, there was one very famous incident. I was one of the founders of the U.S. National Student Association. The young man who was president while I was secretary had gotten married. He and his bride were celebrating their honeymoon and came to Washington. He called me from the Willard Hotel and invited me to dinner. I forgot that I was in segregated Washington. I went to the Willard Hotel and I called him on the phone. They were not in their room, so I sat down in the lobby. The people in the lobby looked at me

and carried on. The clerk behind the desk came over to me and wanted to know what I was doing there, et cetera, and was ready to throw me out of the hotel. Just at that moment, my two friends came in through the revolving door, saw what was happening and we left.

Fast forward. When I became chairman and CEO of TIAA-CREF, at my very first real estate committee meeting, I looked at the agenda. It turns out that the Willard Hotel had been closed for 15 years. They wanted to re-open and they needed funding. Who did they apply to for the funding? I told my colleagues, "You would not believe this, but when I was a student, they wanted to throw me out of this hotel." Of course, we funded it. That's the kind of racism you're talking about in my life. There are many different aspects of it.

You are in a phase of life where you're getting many awards and honors and a great deal of praise. It's said that the Roman emperor had a man ride next to him in his chariot who whispered, 'You, too, are human.' Who, or what, is your most reliable reality check? How do you keep it real?

My greatest reality check has been my life partner, my wife, Dolores. She has been with me right straight through, she has been incredibly helpful and useful to me in my life, as well as having her own independent career. This has been a wonderful life we'd have together. The book starts as my autobiography but it's a love story. That's absolutely what it's all about.

—Lawrence Cosentino



Letters

from page 4

This could, inadvertently, result in Carol Wood, a diligent worker for Lansing's voters, losing her seat on Nov. 3. I understand the publisher's personal perspective and have no issue why he supports the candidate who ran Michigan Equality (LGBT-Lesbian Bi-Gay-Transgendered) More troubling is that enthusiasm for his candidate clearly clouded his creditability and he used "dirty politics" against another candidate. His candidate publicly asked Patricia Spitzley to sign a letter condemning negative robo calls. Patricia wouldn't sign it, explaining that the calls, although despicable, are legal. Patricia followed up on Oct. 8 (see <http://lansingcitypulse.com/print-blog-12212-permanent>).

html) stating: "unfortunately these activities are legal, and have withstood scrutiny by the highest court in the land, the United States Supreme Court." Patricia bravely had stood up for what was legally allowable.

City Pulse then completely mislead its readers in its Oct. 14 endorsement editorial by completely ignoring her explanation why she didn't sign: incredibly, it actually lied (by omission), saying only she had not signed that letter, which was "reason enough" not to support her!

And finally, in its desperation, City Pulse tried again to misrepresent Patricia Spitzley by association, labeling her a "Bernero candidate" which is unfounded and unsubstantiated. The truth is that Patricia Spitzley served on the BWL investigation committee, opposing the Mayor's wish to sell it.

—Suzanne Elms Barclay

Lansing

PUBLIC NOTICES

B/16/003 Refuse Removal Container Service as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the **CITY OF LANSING C/O LBWL, PURCHASING OFFICE, 1232 HACO DR., LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912** until 3:00 PM local time in effect on **Nov. 3, 2015** at which time the bids will be opened and read aloud. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Stephanie Robinson, CPPB at (517) 702-6197, or email: slr@lbwl.com, or go to www.mitn.info.** The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#15_264

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC • THEATER

SELLING THE DRAMA

Legends still surround 'The War of the Worlds'

By TY FORQUER

When Orson Welles and the Mercury Theatre on the Air presented the "The War of the Worlds" radio drama on Oct. 30, 1938, many were sucked in by the show's realism and wondered if the nation was actually under attack by aliens.

East Lansing resident Jack Bates and his family were among those tricked by the mock newscast.

"It was very, very real to us," he said.

Bates, 89, was only 12 when his family tuned into the infamous broadcast. While an announcement at the beginning of the show warned listeners that the program

was fictional, Bates and his family, like many listeners, joined the program late and missed the disclaimer.

"All we had was what we had tuned into," Bates recalled.

They didn't have a telephone ("We were too poor," Bates said), so they turned to another media outlet for answers.

"We lived at the corner of Capitol and Ionia," he said. "We weren't far from the old State Journal, so our mom took us and walked down there to try to find out what was happening."

When the family arrived, they found they weren't the only ones fooled by Welles' radio drama.

"There were already a lot of people outside waiting to see if they could get any information. Maybe 100 people," he said. "Somebody came out and made an announcement. They said it wasn't real."

Mason resident Dave Downing is hoping to tap into the show's legendary reputation. For the 77th anniversary of the broadcast, he is presenting a live reenactment of the program Friday at East Lansing's Pump House. The show will attempt to recreate the program as it would have been done in 1938, complete with voice actors, live sound effects and live music.

Downing, 62, has been doing audio theater performances for almost 40 years, including the 38 years he taught radio classes at Lansing Community College. He founded LCC's popular holiday-themed old time radio show — always presented the same evening as Lansing's Silver Bells in the City — which celebrates its 10th anniversary this December. For years, Downing thought about forming his own audio theater ensemble. This year, the timing felt right.

"Now that I'm retired, I thought, 'Why not?'" Downing said.

"I decided that we would try a couple of well known titles," Downing said. "I wanted to see if we could attract actors, and I wanted to see if we could attract an audience."

Downing launched Audio Air Force last month with a 1943 radio version of "Casablanca." When he saw Oct. 30 was open on the Pump House calendar, he instantly knew what he wanted to do.

"That had 'War of the Worlds' written all over it," he said.

Friday's performance will feature 10 voice actors, most doubling or tripling parts to cover the drama's 25 roles. With the exception of a few pre-recorded sounds, the sound effects — including the opening of the spaceship escape hatch — will be re-created on stage with props. The drama will not be broadcast.

It is designed to give audience members a behind-the-scenes experience.

"The idea of doing this is partially an educational thing," Downing said. "A lot of these original audio concepts are still being used today in movies, TV and video games."

While Downing has no problem with big-budget movies and immersive video games, he thinks there's a value in giving people a chance to use their imaginations.

"As a society, we've become so visually oriented," he said. "The theater of the mind is better than any computer graphics."

East Lansing resident A. Brad Schwartz, author of "Broadcast Hysteria, Orson Welles's War of the Worlds and the Art of Fake News," pored over some 2,000 letters that were sent to either the radio station or the FCC following the broadcast. He found that many, including a few listeners in Lansing, were fooled by the program.

(Schwartz will be the guest on "City Pulse Newsmakers" on My18 at 10 a.m. Saturday. Check lansingcitypulse.com for the online version of the show Friday.)

One letter to the FCC from "a thoroughly disgusted Lansing listener" echoes the complaints of many who tuned in that evening.

"The H.G. Wells drama which was altogether too realistically portrayed over station W.J.R. a few minutes ago had myself and friend most unnecessarily aroused," the writer says. "I can't imagine what kind of listeners could enjoy such hideous drama — even if they knew it to be untrue. The lame brain that developed the play did a marvelous job on realism, but certainly such ingenuity was, in this case, misdirected."

The writer compares the program to the fable of the boy who cried wolf, arguing that such realistic programming makes it difficult to discern between real emergencies and fictional reenactments.

"If such 'wolf-wolf' programs are allowed to continue on the air," the writer asks, "How do you expect us to listen in time of an actual crisis?"

But, Schwartz argues, the reports of mass hysteria often associated with the radio show were greatly overblown.

See War, Page 10



Public domain photo

A 1938 photo shows Orson Welles speaking with reporters after the broadcast of "The War of the Worlds."

Wake the dead

Dia de Los Muertos event celebrates Latino culture

By KEVIN McINERNEY

For most people, the days and weeks leading up to Halloween are spent party planning, picking out costumes and contemplating which type of candy to pass out to trick-or-treaters. For many descendants of Latino heritage, however, this time is spent preparing to celebrate the traditional Mexican holiday, Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead.

“Dearly Departed — Queridos Difuntos”

Dia de los Muertos exhibit
1 p.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 1-
Tuesday, Nov. 3

FREE
Old Town Marquee
319 E. Grand River Ave.,
Lansing
(517)-303-9832, malec-mi.org

For the holiday, observers build elaborate, colorful alters, called ofrendas, to remember the deceased. The most recognizable symbols of the holiday are the skull and skeleton, often decorated in bright colors, which appear on masks, candies, clothing and dolls.

This year, the Michigan Alliance for Latino Education and Culture will host “Dearly Departed.”

The three-day exhibit at Old Town Marquee will feature takes on traditional and modern Dia de los Muertos altars and memorials created by local Latino families and artists. Rosa Killips, executive director of the Michigan Alliance for Latino Education and Culture, believes “Dearly Departed” will serve a good purpose not just for Latino residents, but for the city as a whole.

“We wanted to host an event that had not typically been experienced by many people in the Lansing area. Before now, there had never really been any organization or group to put together a celebration, so I knew it should be something special,” she said. “There are so many references to the holiday throughout various cultures, we wanted to do something to educate people about why it is significant to the

Latino people.”

Traditionally, it is believed that the spirits of deceased family and friends return to the world of the living over a four-day span — Saturday through Tuesday — to visit with and be honored by their loved ones. For the holiday, observers build elaborate, colorful alters, called ofrendas, to remember the deceased. The most recognizable symbols of the holiday are the skull and skeleton, often decorated in bright colors, which appear on masks, candies, clothing and dolls.

“Day of the Dead and Halloween coincide fairly well due to the paranormal element,” Killips said. “But to me, it seems like aspects from Day of the Dead celebrations have continued to gain popularity not just in Latino communities, but across the world. I see it in the variations of sugar skull costumes, parades, even festivals.”

Spirits of the dead are enticed to return to the land of the living through offerings, such as the deceased’s favorite food or drink, family photographs or personal items, which are placed around the altars. The altars often feature prayer candles, decorative sugar skulls or marigolds — although paper flowers have taken the place of the traditional marigold.

the Air but assumed it had been preempted by a newscast.

Schwartz described the 1,400 letters to Welles as “overwhelmingly pro-Welles,” estimating that 90 percent were letters of encouragement. Of the 600 letters written to the FCC, Schwartz estimated that about 60 percent were anti-Welles, while the rest were in support of the program.

One letter to the FCC from Lansing resident Francis Donahue voices support for Welles and the controversial program.

“Far from taking any disciplinary action, I strongly suggest that you highly commend the Mercury Theater (sic) for a fine, artistic and thoroughly enjoyable program and one which was superbly presented,” he writes. “These are the sentiments of all persons I have spoken to about the program.”

Donahue says in the letter that he teaches creative writing at People’s University, a free adult education organization in Lansing. He has some harsh words for those who misunderstood the program.



Courtesy Photo

“Death at the Border,” created by Rosa Killips and Lorenzo Lopez, is one of the 13 ofrendas on display at “Dearly Departed.”

A variety of alters will be on display at this weekend’s exhibit.

“We have 13 local artists and Latino families who will be constructing altars for the event,” Killips said. “There will also be handmade sugar skulls for residents to purchase or just appreciate. Some of the less intricate ones will even be edible.”

The Michigan Alliance for Latino Education and Culture is a community-based nonprofit founded over the summer with a goal of “helping to improve the educational achievement of Latinos and providing high-quality cultural

events.” The group was organized by Rosa and Robert Killips, their son Nico, local activist Lorenzo Lopez and former Lansing Mayor Tony Benavides and his wife, Carmen.

The group intends to sponsor at least two major cultural events in the Lansing community each year, while also working to raise Latino student test scores through various education initiatives.

“The growing population of Latinos in this community prompted us to become active in the appreciation of Latino culture by this community” said Tony Benavides.

War

from page 9

“The show did not cause the kind of nationwide mass panic that we’ve been led to believe,” Schwartz said. “There was some initial outpouring of anger, but that dissipated very quickly.”

Based on listener survey and other documents from the time, Schwartz believes that a “vast majority” of listeners understood it to be fiction. He estimates that only a sixth of the listening audience initially thought it was real. Even in that fraction, he said, most quickly realized it was fiction.

After the opening disclaimer, the “War of the Worlds” broadcast began with a simulated musical variety show. Schwartz thinks that many people were scanning the radio and tuned in, thinking they had found an actual variety show. Others who tuned in late were expecting the Mercury Theatre on

“Those who objected to the program were certainly poorly read and illiterate persons, for the works of H.G. Wells are well known and widely read by high school and college students, and as masterpieces of literature they hold a high place in the esteem of all admirers of masterly writing,” he writes.

And while the realism of the show is what caused most of the panic, Donahue argues that the show’s realism is its greatest asset.

“We who listened to the program here in Lansing were most favorably impressed by the superb artistry of the program and feel that it has inaugurated a step forward in radio,” he writes. “We hope to hear more programs presented in as convincing and as artistic a manner. Most other programs are lifeless, stereotyped presentations periodically interrupted by an announcer with long and tiresome commercial announcements while the dramatic sketches themselves fail utterly in realism and similarity to real life.”



Courtesy photo

A statue in Grover’s Mill, N.J., marks the fictional landing site of the Martian spacecraft described in “The War of the Worlds.”

CURTAIN CALL

Haunting and emotional 'The Diary of Anne Frank' still powerful

By MARY C. CUSACK

When a literary work is classified as “important,” the connotation is that it is intellectually ponderous and pretentious. Riverwalk Theatre’s production of “Diary of Anne Frank” is an important work not because it is overly cerebral, but because it is an emotionally accessible look at the capacity humans have for both good and evil.

The story should be familiar to most. In 1942 Amsterdam, Anne Frank (Sally Hecksel) is forced into hiding with her family, another family and a friend. These eight people hid for two years in secret rooms above the former work place of Otto Frank (Todd Heywood) until they are discovered near the end of the war and shipped off to concentration camps. For-

tunately, Anne captured the experience in her famously insightful and intimate diary.

“The Diary of Anne Frank”

Riverwalk Theater
7 p.m. Thursday Oct. 29; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday Oct. 30-31; 2 p.m. Sunday Nov. 1
\$15/\$12 students, seniors and military Friday-Sunday; \$10/\$8 students, seniors and military Thursday
Riverwalk Theatre
228 Museum Drive, Lansing
(517) 482-5700,
riverwalktheatre.com

The script for this stage production was written by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett in 1955, just a decade after Anne’s death. The war wounds were still fresh, but, in an age before reality television, this play gave audiences the first realistic depiction of the desperation of people literally hiding for

their lives.

Two years are compacted into just over two hours, during which the squirrely, mischievous 13-year-old blossoms into a philosophical young woman yearning for her first kiss. Hecksel brings Anne to life with such unabashed energy that it drives home the tragic loss of this life-force. This is history, so it is no spoiler to remind audiences that Anne died in a concentration camp weeks before it was liberated. Fortunately, the script spares us the grim details.

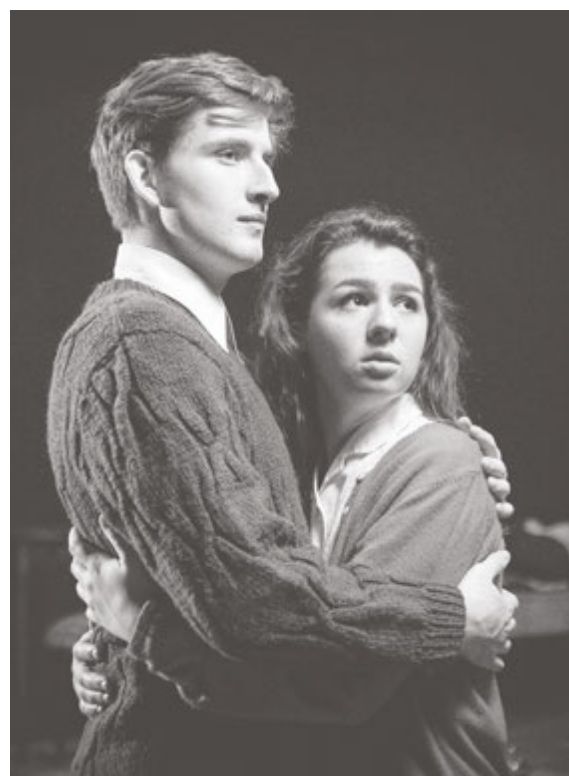


Photo by LukeAnthony Photograph

Michael Boxleitner, as Peter Van Daan, and Sally Hecksel, as Anne Frank, play two teenagers hiding from Nazis in 1942 Amsterdam.

Although the work was based on Anne’s diary, it is her father, Otto, who provides constancy. This is true for the narrative structure of the play. As the only survivor from the group, his appearance bookends

the play. But it is also true in terms of his quiet leadership. Through Anne’s eyes, Otto is the one who holds the group together. The role is played to perfection by Heywood. (Editor’s note: Heywood is a contributor to City Pulse.)

Whereas Heywood’s performance as Uday Hussein in last season’s “Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo” was a scenery-chewing tour de force, in “Diary,” Heywood is calm, steady and wise. His economy of movement carries the class and grace of a middle-aged businessman of the 1940s.

Tom Ferris’ set is at once both cozy and claustrophobic, as eight people are forced to politely — or not politely — circle each other constantly. The attention to detail by props crew Ray and Melody Kurtis is thorough, right down to the historically accurate red and white-checked diary.

Sixty years after its theatrical debut, the play remains an intensely compelling study of group dynamics and human intimacy. Camaraderie is tested, as when a small celebration turns hostile

over the size of a piece of cake. While Anne wants to continue to believe that “people are really good at heart,” the story of her life and death continues to be reminder that not all are.

Environmental art East Lansing artist prints native plants on invasive species

By KAYLA SMITH

An East Lansing artist prints the shadows of endangered plants on handmade paper crafted from the invasive plants that threaten them.

“I had been experimenting with shadows,” said Jane Kramer, explaining the project she calls “Foreshadowing: Endangered and Threatened Plant Species.”

When she was selected as one of four Michigan artists to present their work for the 2014 Art from the Lakes art exchange program in Shiga, Japan, Kramer found an incentive to get serious about her shadow hunting.

The others chosen for the Japanese exchange were woodblock print artist Linda Beeman of Owosso, fiber artist Martha Liddle-Lamenti of Owosso and pastels artist Thomas Tomasek of Ovid.

In her work, Kramer transfers the shadows of endangered and threatened plants onto paper constructed from invasive plant pulp. Making the paper isn’t an easy task and is especially hard on her blender.

“I’ve broken two parts so far,” Kramer said.

The process is intensive. Kramer makes pulp from invasive plants, like phragmites



Left: A shadow of cream wild indigo printed on paper made from invasive phragmites. Right: Photographer Jane Kramer collects invasive plants wherever they grow, such as these phragmites stalks along a roadside.

stalks, garlic mustard, common buckthorn, reed canary grass and others. She boils the plants down, mixes them with soda ash and then blends the solution two to three times.

Kramer borrows an industrial-sized colander from the Out of Hand Papermaking Studio in Ann Arbor to strain the paper before drying it.

It’s time-consuming, but Kramer said,



Photos by Jane Kramer

“It’s so rewarding when you pull your paper from the screen. It’s like working in the darkroom.”

Hunting down the perfect plant shadows is another challenging aspect of her project, she said. To get the best image there must be “no wind, full sun, good shadow weather and no shade from trees.” Many of the photographed species are endangered because

of invasive plants.

The University of Michigan’s Matthaei Botanical Garden and Michigan State University’s W.J. Beal Botanical Gardens offer the easiest viewings of endangered plants, she said.

Kramer finds that private property owners, such as plant enthusiasts, have the best gardens to photograph. They generally have multiple plants of one variety, and Kramer can manipulate the plants. Finding them is a challenge because many gardeners keep their plants secret in fear of poaching, she said.

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She is partnering with the Michigan Nature Association to provide educational pamphlets about planting native plants, properly disposing of invasive plants and conservation in general.

Kayla Smith writes for Capital News Service.

Jagged truth

Bonnie Jo Campbell writes stories of love, loss and sexuality

By BILL CASTANIER

"Mothers, Tell Your Daughters," the title of the Bonnie Jo Campbell's new book, prompts the question: Tell your daughters what?

Bonnie Jo Campbell

Author talk and book signing
7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5
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2820 Towne Center
Blvd., Lansing
(517) 316-7495,
schulerbooks.com

Should mothers tell their daughters about rape, incest, sexual abuse, scrapping for a living to feed the kids or about cheating boyfriends and husbands?

City Pulse caught up with Campbell by phone from Rite Bar and Li-
quor on Division Street in Chicago's Wicker
Park neighborhood. The neighborhood bar

is popular with the area's hipster crowd. Campbell had a short break in her a 30-city book tour and took a layover in the city to visit her uncle.

Campbell's enthusiasm for writing is infectious. She's creative, unpredictable and fun, and anyone who has been to one of her book readings will tell you she's a hoot. (Unfortunately, she's been so busy with her new book that she wasn't able to bottle any elderberry wine this season. In the past, she has shared a drink with her fans at book signings.)

In her new collection of short stories, Campbell has once again pulled out all the stops. She writes about women's relationships with each other, with men and with their own sexuality. The themes of her stories are like a country song gone mad.

The collection of 16 short stories will have you holding your breath as she explores flayed emotions, lost loves and a horny burn patient who is attended with a hand job. While the stories are about love and loss, they are not tender. As close as any of the stories get is in the title story, as a mother lies on her death bed, unable to talk, waiting for the end to come. In her head, she replays the times of her life that her caretaker daughter was disappointed in her — including when she let a boyfriend teach her daughter about sex.

"I thought his wanting to kiss you was one more test, one more hardship I had to endure," she writes. "A girl has to learn a little about men somehow, better just a kiss from a man you knew that all at once with a near stranger like it went for me."

She's not an apologist, and neither is Campbell. Campbell writes what has been most recently called "rural noir," which seems a more polite and scrubbed version of



BONNIE JO CAMPBELL

Courtesy photo

"Mothers, Tell Your Daughters," by Bonnie Jo Campbell, explores edgy subjects like rape, incest and sexual abuse.

the phrase it replaced: "trailer noir."

Campbell lives with her husband, burros and other assorted critters in rural southwest Michigan. She said that she gets her ideas while standing in line at the post office, pumping gas, getting her tires changed or from talking with people she knows. A few of the stories, like the "Greatest Show on Earth," were inspired by her own experiences. Campbell traveled with a circus for a short time as young woman.

"Some I get ideas from people I know, but

generally I get ideas from people in real life," she said.

Readers and critics have compared her writing to that of Flannery O'Connor, one of the famed short story writers who helped create Southern Grottesque writing.

"I have a kinship with Flannery and also the minimalist writing of Raymond Carver and Richard Ford," Campbell said, but she noted that O'Connor, who wrote her acclaimed stories in the 1950s, "was writing in a more static social situation than I am."

She calls O'Connor's audience "smug white people."

So why do people read Campbell's tougher-than-nails stories, which can be upsetting to the quick?

"I believe readers like to take their own modest experiences and rub against those in the book, even if their lives are not as dramatic, she said. "We don't want to have all these experiences in the world."

Campbell has written five books: three short story collections, one poetry chapbook and one novel, "Once Upon a River." A stark take on girl-coming-of-age literature, "Once Upon a River" tells the story of a rural girl forced to fend for herself in wilds of Michigan. One of the most memorable scenes involves a penis that finds itself on the business end of a sniper's bullet.

"The resurgence in the short story genre is due to several factors, including the modern lifestyle," Campbell said. "There are also more people in writing programs, and short stories allow for more interesting characters. The form also allows for outrageous and experimental stuff," she said.

Included in the collection are a couple of pieces of "flash fiction" of 250 words or less. But Campbell makes it clear that short story writing is not for slackers.

"One story I edited for 20 years," she said.

For this collection, she said, couldn't write in her office.

"I wrote these stories in the kitchen along with dirty dishes and quarts of canned tomatoes," Campbell said.

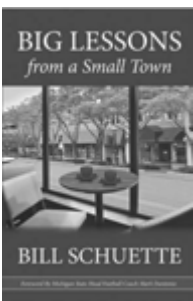
The author also wants to make it clear her short stories do not celebrate victimhood, nor are they meant to demonize men and boys.

"We are in it together," Campbell said. "And it's always good to talk about sex."

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National Book Award finalist Bonnie Jo Campbell: *Mothers, Tell Your Daughters*

Thursday, November 5 @ 7pm
Eastwood Towne Center location



Named by the Guardian as one of our top ten writers of rural noir, Bonnie Jo Campbell is a keen observer of life and trouble in rural America, and her working-class protagonists can be at once vulnerable,

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By TY FORQUER

The pumpkin spice invasion is everywhere. It's in lattes, cookies, milkshakes, cereal — and now it's come to the cocktail menu.

Patrons at Gracie's Place can belly up to the bar and order a Pumpkin Spice Martini. And while the autumnal version of this classic cocktail would make Agent 007's head spin, it's a hit among the Williamston bar's regulars.

"We've had a really good reaction to it," said Britton Auer, bartender and server at Gracie's Place.



Ty Forquer/City Pulse

Sanctuary Spirits' liquor offerings include Spirit of the Maple, a whiskey-like liquor made from maple syrup.

The bar is just one of several examples in Greater Lansing. While craft beer is of the budding craft cocktail movement the big economic driver in Michigan's



beverage industry — and soaks up most of the headlines — a growing number of bars and restaurants are offering high-end cocktails to cater to those looking for something different.

While Gracie's Place has several seasonal offerings, it has some standby craft cocktails as well. The Dude Abides, inspired by "The Big Lebowski," is its take on the classic White Russian. The Gracie's Place version uses a vodka that is infused with vanilla and espresso.

"We make our own twist on the classics," Auer said.

Bars

from page 1

House-made infused liquors are a growing trend in craft cocktails. Bartenders will take a base liquor — often vodka because it absorbs other flavors easily — and soak fruits, vegetable, herbs or other flavoring agents in the liquor. After some time, the flavoring agent is strained out and the remaining liquor has taken on a new flavor. Gracie's Place uses a jalapeno-infused vodka in its Bloody Marys and a bacon-infused bourbon in its not-so-old-fashioned version of an Old Fashioned. The seasonal cocktail menu includes drinks made with a vodka infused with candy corn.

"It's not something you can just go out to the store and buy," Auer said. "It gives us freedom to do some crazy, off-the-wall drinks."

As the weather turns colder, Auer is already thinking about the next season's cocktail possibilities.

"We try to do new things for every season," he explained. "Around Christmas we'll do more drinks with peppermint."

Keep it simple

Over on the west side, Karl Glarner and Tolin Annis prefer to keep it simple. The two owners of Grand Ledge's Sanctu-



Ty Forquer/City Pulse

Hiram Ghezzai, manning the bar at the Soup Spoon Café, mixes up a Corpse Reviver. The duo owners of Grand Ledge's Sanctuary Spirits prefer to let the liquor do the talking.

"Our liquors are designed to drink straight," explained Annis.

The original goal of cocktails, Annis explained, was to cover up the taste of low-grade liquor. Still today, many sickly-sweet cocktails on bar menus are designed to disguise the taste of alcohol. When you start with good liquor, the duo said, you don't need to hide behind the mixes.

"You don't want to cover up a great spirit," Glarner explained.

But they aren't afraid to mix it up, either. The tasting room offers classic cocktails like Gin and Tonics and Manhattans. The goal is to keep it simple and highlight the taste of the liquor, rather than mask it.

"It's not covering it up, it's compli-

menting it," Annis said. "It's a whole new class of mixed drinks."

The duo opened their distillery/tasting room in March. They bought the building, a former Seventh Day Adventist church, a few years ago with plans to open a brewery. When investors fell through, they rented out most of the building's space but began distilling liquor in a back room. Since then, they have taken over the whole space, turning it into a tasting room and lounge.

The distillery's offerings include Spirit of the Maple, a whiskey-like spirit made with maple syrup, and a grain-free vodka made from Michigan cherries. It also produces classic liquors like rum and gin, as well as flavored brandies and

See Bars, Page 4

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Ty Forquer/City Pulse

East Lansing's Red Cedar Spirits makes craft cocktails with its signature spirits, including whiskeys made from Michigan-grown rye and corn.

CURTAIN CALL

Haunting and emotional 'The Diary of Anne Frank' still powerful

By **MARY C. CUSACK**

When a literary work is classified as “important,” the connotation is that it is intellectually ponderous and pretentious. Riverwalk Theatre’s production of “Diary of Anne Frank” is an important work not because it is overly cerebral, but because it is an emotionally accessible look at the capacity humans have for both good and evil.

The story should be familiar to most. In 1942 Amsterdam, Anne Frank (Sally Hecksel) is forced into hiding with her family, another family and a friend. These eight people hid for two years in secret rooms above the former work place of Otto Frank (Todd Heywood) until they are discovered near the end of the war and shipped off to concentration camps. For-

tunately, Anne captured the experience in her famously insightful and intimate diary.

“The Diary of Anne Frank”

Riverwalk Theater
7 p.m. Thursday Oct. 29; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday Oct. 30-31; 2 p.m. Sunday Nov. 1
\$15/\$12 students, seniors and military Friday-Sunday; \$10/\$8 students, seniors and military Thursday
Riverwalk Theatre
228 Museum Drive, Lansing
(517) 482-5700,
riverwalktheatre.com

The script for this stage production was written by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett in 1955, just a decade after Anne’s death. The war wounds were still fresh, but, in an age before reality television, this play gave audiences the first realistic depiction of the desperation of people literally hiding for

their lives.

Two years are compacted into just over two hours, during which the squirrely, mischievous 13-year-old blossoms into a philosophical young woman yearning for her first kiss. Hecksel brings Anne to life with such unabashed energy that it drives home the tragic loss of this life-force. This is history, so it is no spoiler to remind audiences that Anne died in a concentration camp weeks before it was liberated. Fortunately, the script spares us the grim details.

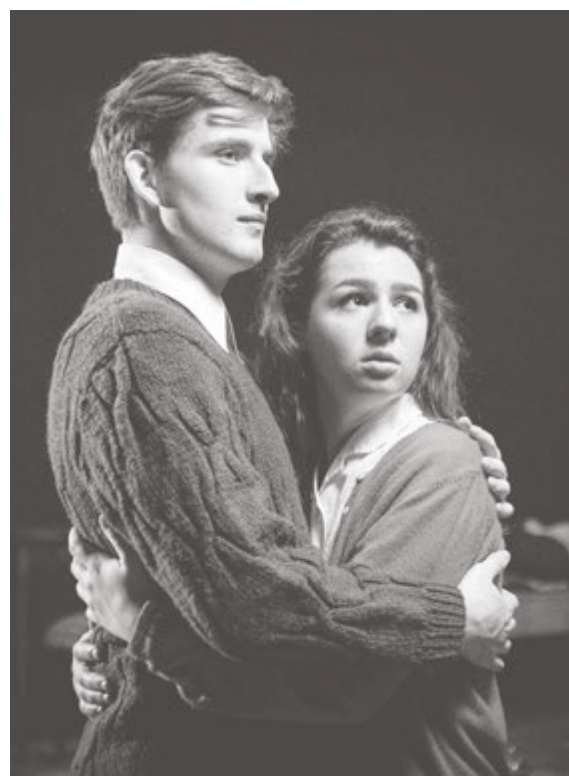


Photo by LukeAnthony Photograph

Michael Boxleitner, as Peter Van Daan, and Sally Hecksel, as Anne Frank, play two teenagers hiding from Nazis in 1942 Amsterdam.

Although the work was based on Anne’s diary, it is her father, Otto, who provides constancy. This is true for the narrative structure of the play. As the only survivor from the group, his appearance bookends

the play. But it is also true in terms of his quiet leadership. Through Anne’s eyes, Otto is the one who holds the group together. The role is played to perfection by Heywood. (Editor’s note: Heywood is a contributor to City Pulse.)

Whereas Heywood’s performance as Uday Hussein in last season’s “Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo” was a scenery-chewing tour de force, in “Diary,” Heywood is calm, steady and wise. His economy of movement carries the class and grace of a middle-aged businessman of the 1940s.

Tom Ferris’ set is at once both cozy and claustrophobic, as eight people are forced to politely — or not politely — circle each other constantly. The attention to detail by props crew Ray and Melody Kurtis is thorough, right down to the historically accurate red and white-checked diary.

Sixty years after its theatrical debut, the play remains an intensely compelling study of group dynamics and human intimacy. Camaraderie is tested, as when a small celebration turns hostile

over the size of a piece of cake. While Anne wants to continue to believe that “people are really good at heart,” the story of her life and death continues to be reminder that not all are.

Environmental art East Lansing artist prints native plants on invasive species

By **KAYLA SMITH**

An East Lansing artist prints the shadows of endangered plants on handmade paper crafted from the invasive plants that threaten them.

“I had been experimenting with shadows,” said Jane Kramer, explaining the project she calls “Foreshadowing: Endangered and Threatened Plant Species.”

When she was selected as one of four Michigan artists to present their work for the 2014 Art from the Lakes art exchange program in Shiga, Japan, Kramer found an incentive to get serious about her shadow hunting.

The others chosen for the Japanese exchange were woodblock print artist Linda Beeman of Owosso, fiber artist Martha Liddle-Lamenti of Owosso and pastels artist Thomas Tomasek of Ovid.

In her work, Kramer transfers the shadows of endangered and threatened plants onto paper constructed from invasive plant pulp. Making the paper isn’t an easy task and is especially hard on her blender.

“I’ve broken two parts so far,” Kramer said.

The process is intensive. Kramer makes pulp from invasive plants, like phragmites



Left: A shadow of cream wild indigo printed on paper made from invasive phragmites. Right: Photographer Jane Kramer collects invasive plants wherever they grow, such as these phragmites stalks along a roadside.

stalks, garlic mustard, common buckthorn, reed canary grass and others. She boils the plants down, mixes them with soda ash and then blends the solution two to three times.

Kramer borrows an industrial-sized colander from the Out of Hand Papermaking Studio in Ann Arbor to strain the paper before drying it.

It’s time-consuming, but Kramer said,



Photos by Jane Kramer

“It’s so rewarding when you pull your paper from the screen. It’s like working in the darkroom.”

Hunting down the perfect plant shadows is another challenging aspect of her project, she said. To get the best image there must be “no wind, full sun, good shadow weather and no shade from trees.” Many of the photographed species are endangered because

of invasive plants.

The University of Michigan’s Matthaei Botanical Garden and Michigan State University’s W.J. Beal Botanical Gardens offer the easiest viewings of endangered plants, she said.

Kramer finds that private property owners, such as plant enthusiasts, have the best gardens to photograph. They generally have multiple plants of one variety, and Kramer can manipulate the plants. Finding them is a challenge because many gardeners keep their plants secret in fear of poaching, she said.

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She is partnering with the Michigan Nature Association to provide educational pamphlets about planting native plants, properly disposing of invasive plants and conservation in general.

Kayla Smith writes for Capital News Service.

Bars

from page 2

other experimental spirits.

The pair have noticed a recent resurgence in interest in cocktails. Some of the interest is from an older crowd, who are getting back to the drinks they enjoyed when they were younger. Much of the interest, however, is among young professionals.

"The cocktail is coming back," Annis said. "There's a younger crowd that's picking up the cocktail culture."

"They're rediscovering the original mixed drinks," Glarner added. "Old is new again."

Mixology 101

Tucked away in the northeast corner of East Lansing, Red Cedar Spirits is doing its part to spread the gospel of the craft cocktail. Debbie Dell, a bartender in the distillery's tasting room, believes there is a strong educational component to her job.

"People who come here want to learn something," she said. "Many people don't know the difference between vodka and gin or think that everything is a different type of whiskey."

Fellow bartender Amber St. Andrew agreed that many people come into the tasting room with very little craft cocktail experience.

"I get lots of tables like that," she said. "I steer them in a direction to try something new. I like how excited people are."

It's appropriate that Red Cedar Spirits has an educational agenda; the distillery is a public/private partnership with Michigan State University. While state law prohibits the university from owning a commercial distillery, which was the original plan, it offers classes and other educational programs at the distillery.

The Red Cedar Spirits tasting room

offers its own twist on classic cocktails. It's Thyme Collins features gin, lemon, agave and thyme, and its Corn Mojito gets its unique taste from the distillery's corn whiskey.

But it also keeps things fresh with seasonal offerings and unique drinks created for special events. The bartenders have created signature cocktails for private parties or wedding rehearsals. Last week, the team was discussing Halloween-themed drinks for its upcoming "Beetlejuice" movie night.

Its fall offerings include the Gold Rush, made with bourbon, lemon and honey, and a Hot Spiced Cider with an alcoholic kick provided by apple brandy.

The tasting room team tries to set themselves apart by putting in some extra effort. All juices used in the drinks are fresh squeezed, and it makes its own flavored syrups and bitters. Stephan Peabody, one of the distillers, also creates many of the cocktails on the menu.

"It's a lot of trial and error," he explained. "It's about finding the mix that highlights the spirit without masking the flavor."

Peabody also brings others into the mix, taking drink suggestions from bartenders and other distillers.

"Collaboration is definitely important," he said. "Everyone's palate is different."

Raising the bar

The growing interest in craft cocktails has bars all over Greater Lansing creating their own high-end mixed drinks. In Old Town, Zoobie's trots out a line of Moscow Mule variations, all served in signature copper mugs, and the Creole serves up old-timey cocktails like the gin gimlet and gin fizz, the latter made with real egg whites. For years, Troppo has served classy cocktails to the downtown crowd. On the east side, Soup Spoon



Ty Forquer/City Pulse

Bartender Grieg Swanson pours a drink at the Red Cedar Spirits tasting room.

See Bars, Page 5

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Bars

from page 4

Café, known to the area's beer enthusiasts for its carefully curated collection of 12 Michigan beer taps, also boasts a substantial craft cocktail menu.

"We're always trying to do something new," said bartender Hiram Ghezzai.

The café's two-page cocktail menu is a mix of classic cocktails and mixed drinks designed by the bartenders or servers. Its liquor selection includes such Michigan-made offerings as Traverse City Whiskey and Lansing's own Hue Vodka. It also makes its own infusions and house-made syrups, including Ghezzai's favorite: a ginger-peppercorn syrup used to make Dark and Stormys and Moscow Mules.

"I actually buy the syrup to take home," Ghezzai confessed.

Even with the extensive and creative menu, Ghezzai said that people are drawn to the classics.

"The trends are always changing," she said. "But right now everybody's going back to the classics like the Sidecar and the Old Fashioned. You can't beat the classics."

Original Soup Spoon creations include the Corpse Reviver (pictured on this week's cover), a potent mix of absinth, Tanqueray, Cointreau, lime and simple syrup, and the Good Doctor, which mixes cognac, fernet, blanc vermouth, molasses, lemon and lime.

A little farther west, American Fifth Spirits, located in the Stadium District, is doing its part to push Lansing's cocktail culture.

"We're changing how some of the restaurants and bars are thinking of cocktails," said Chris Prather.

Prather is an "unmistakable advocate," the distillery's preferred title for bartenders. Wordplay abounds at American Fifth. Rather than managers, the tasting room has "ambassadors." The bar's vodka infusions, made from its Hue Vodka, are called "inHuesions." Playful drink names like Professor Plum and Sass-Quatch pepper the cocktail menu. Prather thinks Lansing's downtown crowd is warming up to the distillery's take on craft cocktails.

"When we first opened, it was an adjustment," he said. "But we've found a really good following. We have an eclectic mix of clientele. It's refreshing to see such a wide variety."

The distillery refreshes its cocktail menu on the fifth of each month, keeping some cocktails, retiring others and rotating in new creations. The staff meets every Wednesday for beverage development meeting, or "Bevdev," in American Fifth parlance.

"We have almost total freedom," Prather explained, noting that the one of the current inHuesions is a result of this freedom. "There's nobody else doing a roasted squash-infused vodka."

Prather thinks that this month's cocktail menu is one of the strongest the distillery has created.

"This is the best one we've done," he



A selection of house made bitters sits on a shelf at Red Cedar Spirits. Many Greater Lansing bars are creating their own syrups and bitters to create unique beverages.

said. "All of these drinks are really fantastic. This is the most fun we've had building the menu. It just clicked for us."

Kelsie Black, American Fifth ambassador, thinks that involving the staff in menu creation gives them a sense of

ownership in the distillery's mission.

"It's an artwork more than it's a job," she said. "It makes it more personal."

The distillery even invites the public to join in the Bevdev process. One of the current seasonal offerings, Cider con Chile, was created by an MSU food ser-

vice student. The cocktail mixes apple cider with a spiced apple-infused vodka. Black is excited about offering patrons the opportunity to get involved.

"Hopefully we can get more people to do this," she said. "We want everyone to do what we do."



Zoobie's Old Town Tavern serves up a flight of Moscow Mule variations in classic copper mugs.

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Peanut Barrel
El Azteco

BEST PUB/TAVERN

Zoobie's
Dagwood's
Crunchy's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

2015 TOP OF THE TOWN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

BEST SPORTS BAR

Buffalo Wild Wings
Crunchy's
Nuthouse

BEST COCKTAILS

Zoobie's
Houlihan's
Soup Spoon Café

BEST CRAFT BEER SELECTION

HopCat
Zoobie's
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BEST BARTENDER

Caitlan - Zoobie's
Craig - Mac's Bar
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Mixed drink glossary

All those terms on the cocktail menu that you pretend to understand but are too afraid to ask about

Agave

A large plant indigenous to Mexico that looks like a cross between a giant pineapple and a cactus. The plant is actually a member of the lily family. There are hundreds of varieties of agave, both cultivated and wild.

Aging

The process of storing wine and spirits in wood barrels to remove harsh flavor notes and add specific characteristics found in the wood.

Amaretto

Almond and apricot-flavored liqueur, originally made in Italy, but now made in other countries as well.

Aperitif

A drink before the main meal to stimulate the palate. Can encompass anything from wine (flavored, aromatized and fortified

wines) to cocktails and champagne.

Bitters

An alcoholic beverage made from citrus and herbs that is typically used as a flavoring in cocktails.

Blended Scotch Whiskey

A blend of single malt Scotch whiskeys and mixed grain whiskey. The whiskeys are aged separately then blended and aged together for several months in casks.

Blended Straight Whiskey

A minimum of 20% straight whiskeys at 50% alc./vol., blended with neutral grain whiskey or light whiskey.

Blue Agave Tequila

One-hundred percent blue agave tequila is distilled from the fermented sugars of the Weber blue agave plant only, and must be bottled in Mexico. Like all tequila, 100% blue agave tequila can be aged or unaged. Agave plants are related to the lily family. They take eight to ten years to mature to the point where they can be used for tequila production, so the tequila made from 100% agave is more expensive to produce than mixed or blended tequila.

Bourbon

American whiskey made from a mash of between 51 percent to 75 percent corn (which includes a small amount of barley; either rye or wheat fills out the rest), usually aged two years in charred oak barrels.

Brandy

Distilled spirit derived from fermented fruit.

Canadian whiskey

A whiskey made from water, yeast, corn, rye and barley grains. Canadian whiskey is distilled in accordance with the regulations governing the production of whiskey in Canada and is typified by its smooth taste.

Coffee liqueur

A sweet, coffee-flavored liqueur.

Cognac

A type of brandy named after the French district of Cognac.

Cordial (or liqueur)

Sweet liqueurs flavored with fruits, herbs, botanicals and spices. Most cordials are under 35 percent alcohol.

Crème de cacao

Liqueur made from cocoa beans and bottled in two styles, dark and clear.

Crème de cassis

A liqueur made from black currant.

Crème de menthe

Mint-flavored liqueur made in two colors, green and clear (white). The green is traditionally served frapped over crushed ice, and the white (clear) is an ingredient in classics like the Grasshopper.

Curaçao

A liqueur first made from small bitter, Curaçao oranges, it comes in white, orange and

See Glossary, Page 9



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Glossary

from page 8

blue — the color being the only difference. Curaçao matches well with rum, lime and juices.

Dark rum

These rums are typically pot distilled and made from molasses.

Dash

The smallest bar measurement, 1/32 oz.

Digestif

An alcoholic drink served after dinner. Common digestifs include brandy, sherry and port.

Dry (cocktail)

Indicates how much vermouth is in a cocktail. For example, a Dry Martini is prepared with less vermouth than a regular Martini.

Fizz

A word sometimes used in the name of a drink to indicate the cocktail has been made with a carbonated beverage, such as club soda.

Frappé

Drink served over snow or crushed ice.

Fruit Purée

Fruit broken down to liquid by a food processor. Restaurants often use flash-frozen fruit purees as the base for sorbet.

Garnish

A decoration, usually a sliced piece of fruit, served with a drink.

Gimlet

A popular cocktail made from gin and lime juice.

Gin

Grain spirit flavored with botanicals, specifically genévre or juniper, and other flavors, including coriander, lemon peel, fennel, cassia, anise, almond, ginger root, orange peel, angelica and others.

Ginger beer

A spicy soft drink, usually carbonated, made from ginger root. Originated in Jamaica.

Grenadine

Sweet, red syrup used in alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks. The original flavor base was pomegranate, but many brands use artificial flavor.

Infusion

A process similar to making tea, but on a bigger scale. In beer and whiskey making, the grains and malted grains are soaked in hot water several times, often with increas-

ingly high temperatures, resulting in a sweet liquid called wort. Infusion is also used in the production of fruit liqueurs, where fruit and other flavors are steeped in brandy for any extended time. After infusion, the mixture is strained and sweetened with sugar syrup. The proof is lowered with water and the mixture is bottled.

Irish whiskey

A triple-distilled whiskey from Ireland. Irish whiskey has a completely different character from Scotch whiskey, mostly because the malt is not kilned or toasted with peat, so there is no smoky quality in the flavor.

Jigger

A small, two-sided measuring cup. Most jiggers have a half-ounce measure on one side and a two-ounce measure on the other.

Julep

A julep is a popular American drink that originated in the late eighteenth century and is still popular today. It was originally made with Cognac and peach brandies, but evolved into a bourbon drink mixed with fresh mint and sugar, served in a frosted silver cup over shaved ice.

Layered

Maintaining separate visible layers in a drink by slowly pouring over the back of a spoon held inside the glass.

Maceration

Maceration in the preparation of alcoholic beverages is the steeping of herbs, botanicals or fruits in spirits of some kind for a period of time, after which the whole mixture may be distilled again. This process is used to flavor different types of spirits such as liqueurs.

Margarita

A popular cocktail made with tequila, orange flavored liquor, lime juice and margarita mix.

Manhattan

A popular cocktail made with whiskey and sweet vermouth.

Martini

The traditional martini is made from gin and vermouth, although many martinis are prepared with vodka instead of gin.

Mixer

A non-alcoholic drink (typically soda or fruit juice) that is mixed with a spirit.

Mojito

Originally from Cuba, the Mojito is made from rum, mint, sugar, lime juice and soda water.

Muddler

A wooden tool shaped like the grinding tool of a mortar and pestle (between six

and nine inches long) used to mash fruit and herbs with sugar or liqueur in the bottom of a bar mixing glass. Muddling is essential for making Mojitos.

Muddling

The technique of mashing ingredients with a muddler in a glass.

Neat

When an unmixed spirit is served in a glass without ice, it is served "neat" or "straight."

Old Fashioned

A classic cocktail made from whiskey, bitters, sugar and water.

On the rocks

When a spirit is served "on the rocks" it is served over ice without a mixer.

Orange bitters

Alcohol-based bitters flavored with orange

peel and other botanicals.

Rickey

A cocktail prepared with gin, lime juice and soda water.

Rose water

A food and beverage-flavoring agent made by steeping rose petals in alcohol. Used extensively in the Middle East. Good in lemonade drinks.

Rum

Made from molasses, sugar cane juice or syrup, it is considered the first spirit of the new world. First produced in Barbados and Jamaica, traditionally double distilled.

See Glossary, Page 10

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Glossary

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Rye

Whiskey aged two years, with 51-100% rye in the mash.

Sambuca

Anise-based Italian after-dinner liqueur often taken with coffee.

Sangria

A beverage originating in Spain made with red or white wine, sugar and fruits; garnished with fresh fruits and berries. There are lots of recipes for Sangria, but there should always be wine and fruits in them.

Schnapps

A Scandinavian and German term for

strong, colorless spirits. Today schnapps is a popular category of fruit and spice spirits.

Scotch

A malt-barley based spirit made in Scotland that has been aged in oak casks for a minimum of three years.

Shaking

The most common technique used by bartenders for mixing ingredients to make a cocktail. Shaking involves adding ingredients to a shaker, then vigorously shuddering the shaker before serving.

Simple syrup

Syrup made from mixing equal parts sugar and water. Made with a much more concentrated recipe for baking applica-

tions.

Single malt

A Scottish barley-based spirit produced by a single distillery in one season. Bottled straight or used as a blending agent in blended scotch.

Sour mix

A tart-tasting mixer made with equal parts simple syrup and lemon or lime juice.

Sours

Cocktails made with a strong, sweet and sour ingredient — typically sour mix.

Toddy

A hot beverage made of spirits, sugar and water.

Tonic

A carbonated water that contains quinine and sugar.

Triple Sec

An orange flavored liqueur used mostly as a mixer. Famous cocktail applications are the Cosmopolitan and Long Island Iced Tea.

Vermouth

Fortified and flavored wines made in sweet or dry styles, used in cocktails and as an aperitif. The word originated from the German word for the wormwood plant, wermuth.

(adapted from us.thebar.com)

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Brew in town

Lansing Brewing Co., the newest addition to downtown's Stadium District, opened its doors on Thursday. A line of beer enthusiasts stretched nearly a block, waiting for the brewery to open its doors.

"I think people are really excited about it," said head brewer Sawyer Stevens. "It's something that's missing here in downtown."

Photos by Ty Forquer



A line that stretched nearly a block waits for the opening of the brewery Thursday morning.



Many opening day patrons tried a flight of beers, sampling a variety of the brewery's options.



Patrons gathered in the brewery's 5,000-square-foot Rustbelt chic dining area.



The new brewery features several references to its defunct early 20th century namesake, including this mural with the phrase "100 years in the making."



Among the dozen beers on tap at the launch were several with Lansing-inspired names, including Spartan Dawgs Wheat Pale and Stadium Stout.



The brewery also sell its own line of merchandise, including pint glasses, mugs and "Lansing Made" shirts.



"Angry Mayor IPA this way" says a new billboard at the corner of Shiawassee and Cedar streets. A Virg Bernero-like figure points toward the brewery entrance.

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HE ATE

SHE ATE



LeRoy's delivers classic bar experience

Coney dog to the rescue

By **MARK NIXON**

Grasping for some morsel of mercy, I was prepared to begin this review with "Sometimes it's not about the food."

Then I remembered the note a former boss scribbled above an editorial I had written for the next edition: "You're playing with your food."

It was a polite way of saying, "Quit shilly-shallying and say what you mean." He was right.

This is a restaurant review and, dammit, it IS about the food.

The assignment: LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill on Lansing's south side. It gives me no pleasure to say the food at LeRoy's is classically pedestrian. Not awful. Just numbingly average, with menu items that might have sprung from a half-dozen equally mundane tavern kitchens in town. Only a Coney dog averted a total bust.

On three visits I sampled an overcooked olive burger (\$5.25), same-old onion rings (\$2.95), run-of-the-mill chicken wings (\$7.50) and an average-at-best corned beef on marble rye (\$4.95). I also sampled a BLT (\$6.25) and fish and chips (\$7.95). The best part

See She ate, Page 14

Hamburger Deluxe does not disappoint

By **GABRIELLE JOHNSON**

Lansing-area eaters, I've been waiting a long time to write this article. To be precise, I've been eagerly anticipating this for almost exactly three years — ever since I got a whiff of a burger from

LeRoy's Classic Car & Grill. I was in a photographer's studio in the John Bean building, just a bit north on Cedar Street from LeRoy's, and I was posing for the photo gracing the top of this page.

Our editor brought in a Styrofoam to-go container. The aroma sucker punched me in the nose, and my mouth started watering. I made a beeline to LeRoy's for lunch as soon as we were done with the shoot, and I've been going there for burgers ever since.

Although I grew up very close to LeRoy's, I didn't grow up eating there. But I've been making up for lost time — I even requested my birthday celebration dinner to take place on the back deck at LeRoy's last summer. What do I order? Without fail, a Hamburger Deluxe with fries. For the last three years, that is the only thing I have ever ordered from LeRoy's.

Here are some of my favorite things about LeRoy's: You can sit inside and

See She ate, Page 14

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He ate

from page 13

of the latter was the accompanying tartar sauce; not too sweet and laden with fresh dill. I'm yawning here, tired of searching for synonyms for average.

The one bright spot was the cheapest sandwich on the menu, a Coney dog for \$2. The hot dog had the correct "snap" of a Michigan-made Koegel's, which is rightly advertised with a neon sign above a doorway. The Coney sauce had the right cumin kick, the hallmark of a genuine Coney dog. The hot dog also had a slight smokiness, which I assume came from being lightly

browned on the kitchen grill.

I was going to try a bowl of soup, but was told they wouldn't start serving it until October. Fair enough. Soup is better in the colder months. But why not put a removable sticky note on the menu? "No soup for you!" to quote the Soup Nazi. At least, not yet.

And while I'm being nit-picky, LeRoy's could use a proofreader. They misspell Koegel's on their website menu. On signs near the bar trumpeting upcoming karaoke nights, karaoke is misspelled. Finally, this place should decide if LeRoy's has a capital R or a lower case r.

I worked in restaurants and bars long before the Internet was invented by Al Gore or most Americans had heard of karaoke. Food-wise, there are no sure paths

to success. But a common trait among successful establishments is that the owners single out one signature entree or sandwich and work it to perfection. It doesn't have to be fancy. They don't have to promise farm-to-table or only fresh ingredients. Just consistently deliver that one item that becomes synonymous with the place. Word of mouth will take it from there.

LeRoy's needs a signature, must-try menu item.

Now, let's assume for a bit this isn't a restaurant review but a more general bar review. That's a whole 'nother story.

Step inside, and you are invariably greeted with a "Welcome!" by the bartender. The servers are equally friendly, and the service was exceedingly prompt — even when a bustling Friday lunch crowd kept the solitary server hopping.

LeRoy's decorative centerpiece is the expansive, back-lit bar. Liquor bottles glisten like jewels. It's practically a work of art. Sitting on bar stools during one visit, we noticed under-the-bar-rail hooks for purses or hats. A nice touch. It reminded me of those little shelves on the pews in an old church.

For a long time, this place was known

as Gino's. It was a factory bar. From its raised back patio, one can still glimpse the swath of land in REO Town that was once home to the Diamond Reo Truck Co., and, before that, where Ransom Olds cranked out REO Motor Car Co. cars.

Vestiges of those factory days linger. LeRoy's still opens at 7 a.m. most days for those leaving the "graveyard shift." And while the interior is more polished than it was during the Gino's era, LeRoy's maintains the character of a neighborhood bar. There's an outsized area set aside for darts, and another for playing pool.

During our visits, I saw some in dusty construction clothes and others wearing business casual. Guys at the next table carried on a noisy but friendly debate over Obamacare. A woman flounced past, wearing a tiara. To my right, an over-40 couple were getting very friendly. I chuckled upon noticing our server wearing a T-shirt advertising a bar — but not LeRoy's.

In short, the vibe in LeRoy's is that of an unpretentious gathering place for regulars. Given how busy it was on each of our three visits, maybe they don't need to fuss over a menu upgrade.

On second thought: Yes, they do.

She ate

from page 13

watch your burger being made on the grill. Nothing to hide, no hidden vats of pink slime in the back, and I dig that. While you're waiting for your burger, you can survey the crowd, and this crew is motley as hell. On one of our last trips, the fiancé and I saw tables of middle-aged women enjoying their Friday happy hour, young professionals lining their stomachs for a night at the bar and my mother and her girlfriend having dinner. That's a true story. We walked in and ran into my mother.

The burger is nothing fancy, but it's well prepared, juicy, and not overwhelmed by seasonings. The toppings are straightforward — no barbecue sauce or Sriracha mayonnaise or frizzled onions here — and that's exactly how I like my burgers. If I'm going to completely forsake the wedding diet that I'm allegedly on (hey there, April nuptials), then I'm going to do it face first into a buttery, pillowy bun sandwiched around a delectably indulgent burger patty.

Unfortunately, the fries at LeRoy's don't win my heart. They're completely unseasoned, an oversight that really frosts the fiancé's cookies. Regardless, we both continue to order them every single time we go to LeRoy's because our options are limited. Strictly speaking, we aren't onion ring people. I find them to be perpetually greasy and overpowering, and the rings at LeRoy's are no exception. To be fair, if

there was a steamed broccoli option to have alongside my burger, I would order than in a second. (And I would be prepared to field the accusatory stares of my mother from across the bar.)

For the sake of research, my intended and I decided to branch out. I ordered the Half and Half Burger — ground beef, ham, American cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayonnaise. Remember the beloved Bonnie Burger from the defunct Bonnie's Place? This is the copycat version. And while imitation is a sincere form of flattery, I missed my standby Hamburger Deluxe. The ham on the burger was way too salty, and it didn't make for a cohesive sandwich.

He ordered the shrimp and fries basket and was overwhelmed with the amount of breading on the shrimp. The little guys were so heavily battered that the taste of shrimp was virtually unnoticeable. After dejectedly finishing our meals, we went home, lamenting our trip off the burger reservation.

I wonder about the history of LeRoy's — who the owner is, who shows up at 7 a.m. to eat the breakfast sandwiches that sound delicious and whose genius idea it was to build their fantastic back patio. Seriously, that back deck is one of the best in town, and, since it's largely enclosed, you can sit outside and enjoy a burger until winter really takes hold of us. Heed my advice and stick to the Hamburger Deluxe, unless someone tells me that the breakfast sandwiches are worth an early morning wake-up.



Gabrielle Johnson/City Pulse

LEFT: LeRoy's Half and Half Burger is a twist on the classic hamburger featuring ground beef and ham. ABOVE: The menu at LeRoy's features bar food staples like fried shrimp and French fries.

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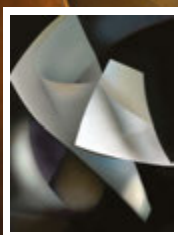
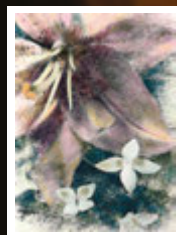
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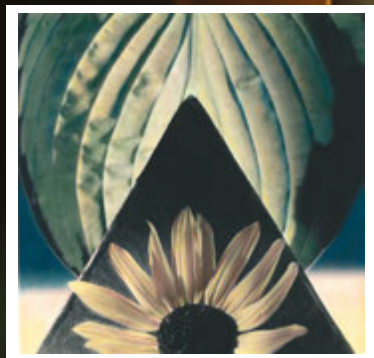
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CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Winterizing Your Home @ ANC. Senior Wednesday Discovery class series. FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 485-4279.

Story Art Time. Art, story time for preschoolers. 10-10:45 a.m. FREE. Donations appreciated. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

Mid-MI Genealogical Society. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. mmgs.wordpress.com.

Walk-In Wednesdays. Art activities for ages 5 and up. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE. Donations appreciated. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

Family Storytime. Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes and activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 367-6363.

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

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

Aux Petits Soins: Explorers 3. French immersion for babies/toddlers. 4:30 p.m. \$15/\$12 students. Mother and Earth Baby Boutique, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 643-8059.

Strategy Game Night. Ages 18 and up. 5-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130

See Out on the Town, Page 16

Mad skills



Courtesy Photo

The cast of Skildtrade, one of Lansing's newest improv comedy groups (left to right: Rico Bruce Wade, Kellie Stonebrook, Bruce Bennett and Angie Dill).

October 29

Back by popular demand, a new Lansing-based improv comedy group is making an encore appearance this week in Old Town. The four-members of Skildtrade are returning Thursday to Old Town Marquee, the venue where they performed for the first time as part of the Renegade Theatre Festival in August. Though they have performed together numerous times over the years, the members are making their relationship official and hope to begin a regular series of shows.

"We're very excited," said Rico Bruce Wade, creator of the group and a former member of the defunct Second City Detroit. "We're trying to do things that are unique."

After the success of August's performance, Wade felt that group's high-energy comedic style would be perfect for regular shows. He had been hoping to establish an improv group in Lansing for a while.

"Here we had people who were quick, smart, funny, with a unique point of view," Wade said.

The rest of the group comprises actor Bruce Bennett, actress and ventriloquist Kellie Stonebrook and actress Angie Dill. The quartet has

been rehearsing weekly since the group was formed. The Thursday performance marks the group's first show since deciding to make things official.

The members of Skildtrade have unique talents in their repertoire. Resident ventriloquist Stonebrook plans to use her puppets in the show.

"She's a really good vocal mimic," said Bennett, who has used his talents as a prop-maker to help construct Stonebrook's dummies. "She can turn into a lot of people."

The group also hopes to experiment with some "forward thinking" theatrical elements, Wade said. During the show, audiences are encouraged to send ideas to @skildtrade on Twitter, and the suggestions will be incorporated into the act. The group has even been known to give out relationship advice to lovelorn tweeters who ask for guidance.

"We take a lot of suggestions from the audience," said Bennett. "It's pretty great."

"It's kind of unusual. In most theater experiences, you're asked to put your phones away," said Wade.

The cast is also experimenting

with other forms of technology, including video and music, with a goal of "immersing the viewer." Bennett, who enjoys making videos, may create some video shorts for the shows. The group hopes to surprise viewers with the results of its hard work.

In addition to its regular lineup, the group plans to bring in guest artists. This week's performance will feature Jeff Fritz of ComedySportz Detroit and comedian Quentin Hegg, two of Wade's friends from the improv community.

"We wanted to add to the ensemble to add more voices to the show," Wade said.

Skildtrade and its guests promise an evening of nimble and witty humor with a healthy helping of audience participation and multimedia entertainment.

"Improv is all about telling stories spontaneously," Wade said. "It's going to be great fun."

Skildtrade Comedy Show

7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 29

\$10
Old Town Marquee
319 E. Grand River Ave.,
Lansing
ricoshow.com/skildhome.htm

—ALLISON HAMMERLY

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICHTUPICA



TUES. NOV 3RD

Big K.R.I.T.

BIG K.R.I.T. AT THE LOFT

Tuesday, Nov. 3 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$25, \$22 adv., 8 p.m.

Lansing gets a dose of major-label hip hop when Def Jam recording artist Big K.R.I.T. headlines Tuesday at the Loft. Openers are BJ the Chicago Kid and Jahshua Smith and the Race Card. Fans of classic Southern rap acts like UGK, Outkast or Scarface might want to check out Big K.R.I.T.'s latest full length LP, 2014's "Cadillactica." Big K.R.I.T., real name Justin Scott, is a 29-year-old Mississippi native who's appeared on tracks with the likes of Wiz Khalifa and Future. His groundbreaking 2010 solo debut, "K.R.I.T. Wuz Here," was quickly followed up by his critically acclaimed self-produced mixtape, "Return of 4Eva." The release featured Bun B, Chamillionaire and David Banner, among others. Earlier this month, he dropped a surprise 14-track mixtape, "It's Better This Way." The release features Warren G, Ludacris, K Camp and more.

MARK BATTLES AND DEREK LUH AT MAC'S BAR

Sunday, Nov. 1 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$15, \$12 adv., 8 p.m.

Emerging Los Angeles-based rapper Derek Luh (pronounced "Lou") headlines an all-ages show Sunday at Mac's Bar with fellow emcee Mark Battles. Opening the show are Ollie Joseph, Bizzair, Downright Kris & Galaxy X and Keonte Payton. Luh is on the road promoting his latest single, "It's Luh," off his new seven-song EP, "Hollywood Blvd." The album is a follow-up to his 2015 mixtape, "The Second Coming." Both were released via Battles' record label, Fly America. Luh, 21, tours year round and has been featured on collaborations with artists such as Wale, Dizzy Wright and French Montana. Luh first caught some buzz with the release of his debut mixtape, "LA Confidential." Released in late 2013 via Fly America, the disc included the indie hit "Blow It Out"—the music video has over 340,000 YouTube views.

SUN. NOV 1ST

Derek Luh

DAVID BROZA AT WHARTON CENTER

Thursday, Oct. 29 @ Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. \$15, \$12 seniors and youth, \$5 MSU students, 7 p.m.

Israeli superstar David Broza released his debut album back in 1977 and has since been compared to the likes of Leonard Cohen, Bruce Springsteen and Gordon Lightfoot. Thursday he brings his distinct sound to Wharton Center's Pasant Theatre. Broza's captivating and lively songs are a fusion of the places he's lived: Israel, Spain and England. His eclectic guitar style ranges from flamenco and rapid finger picking to straightforward pop and rock 'n' roll techniques. Aside from being hailed as the "Stevie Ray Vaughan of folk rock," Broza is also highly regarded for his commitment to humanitarian causes, especially the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. His hit song "Yihye Tov" has become an anthem for the peace movement, and "Together" was the official theme song for UNICEF's 50th anniversary celebration. His latest album is 2014's "East Jerusalem / West Jerusalem."

THUR. OCT 29TH

David Broza

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT RICHTUPICA AT RICHTUPICA@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM >>> TO BE LISTED IN LIVE & LOCAL E-MAIL ALLISON@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	Halloween Shindig, 9 p.m.	Spooky Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Past Tense, 8 p.m.
Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Rd.			Rob K., 8 p.m.	
Brookshire, 205 W. Church St.			Chriss Lasko, 6 p.m.	
Capital Prime, 2324 Showtime Dr.			Bob Schultz, 8:30 p.m.	
Center Stage, 1785 W State Rd				
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.		Wise Guys, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Blvd.		Open Mic w/Pat Zelenka, 9 p.m.		
Copper, 2874 E. Lake Lansing Rd.		Rachel Curtis, 6 p.m.		
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Fusion Shows Presents, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Champion's, 2240 Cedar St.	Karaoke with Jamie, 9 p.m.	Ladies' Night, 7 p.m.	Halloween Party, 7 p.m.	Wise Guys, 9 p.m.
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 7 p.m.	Skoryoke Live Band Karaoke, 8:30 p.m.	DJ Fudgie, 10 p.m.	Zombieoke with Jamie, 9 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Jam, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 9:30 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 9:30 p.m.
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.			Glamhammer, 9:30 p.m.	Soulstice, 9:30 p.m.
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave.			Rachel Curtis, 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.	Late Night Radio/Marvel Years, 8 p.m.	The Main Squeeze, 8 p.m.	Ribcage, 8 p.m.	Macpodz, 8 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Bobby Kuckles/Big Sherm, 8 p.m.	Harbinger, 8 p.m.	Halloween Thriller Party, 8 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.		Second Nature, 9 p.m.	Good Cookies, 9 p.m.	Dewaynes/Halloween Party, 9 p.m.
R Club, 6409 Centurion Dr.			Showdown, 8:30 p.m.	Showdown, 8:30 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road			Kathy Ford Band, 6 p.m.	
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27	Kathy Ford Band Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.		Jake Stevens, 6 p.m.	
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.			The Tenants, 6 p.m.	
Tavern and Tap, 101 S. Washington Sq.	Tavern House Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m.	DJ Don Black, 9:30 p.m.		
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.	Frog and the Beeftones, 8:30 p.m.	Frog and the Beeftones, 8:30 p.m.
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive			Joe Wright, 7 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.

LIVE & LOCAL LISTS UPCOMING GIGS! To get listed just email us at allison@lansingcitypulse.com or call (517) 999-5066. Only submit for the upcoming week's shows.

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1125 Allen Street
\$59,900

Agent: Mitch Crank
517.290.6885

Century 21 Looking Glass

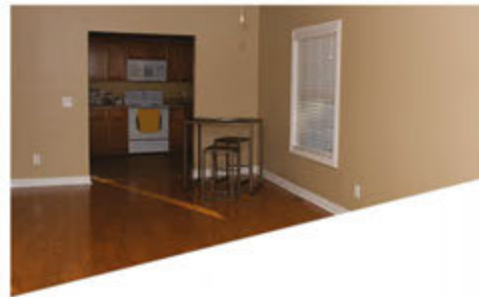
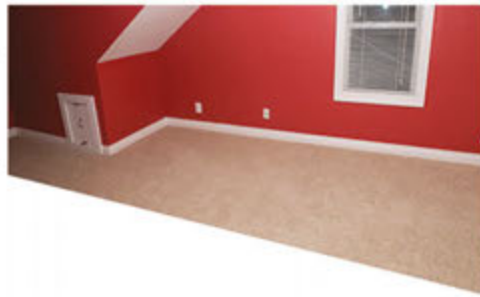


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Agent: Maggie Gerich
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Out on the town

from page 13

Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014, dtdl.org.
Practice Your English. Practice listening to and speaking English. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Open Workshop. Bike repair, bike safety and biking as healthy exercise. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Kids Repair Program, 5815 Wise Road, Lansing. (517) 755-4174.

EVENTS

Michigan Mysteries and Oddities. Author discusses historic oddities and museums. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi Branch, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. cadl.org.

Art for Charlie Pop-up Event. Preview of art show benefiting pediatric palliative care. 6-8 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Trunk or Treat. DJ, Bounce House, free hot dogs and candy. 5-7 p.m. FREE. Career Quest Learning Centers, 3215 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. (517) 318-3330.

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.

Teens After School. Programming for teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Strategy Game Night. Learn and share favorite games. Ages 18+. 5-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 (517) 321-4014 ext. 4, dtdl.org.

Paint a Pumpkin. Pumpkins/supplies provided. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 MAC Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Project Re-stART Installation Unveiling. New art unveiled. 4 p.m. FREE. Project Re-stART Installation, 3100 W. Saginaw St., Lansing.

MUSIC

Marshall Music Ukulele Play-Along. All ages and levels welcome. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700.

MSU Faculty Recital: Suren Bagratuni, cello. 7:30-9 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/FREE students. Fairchild Theatre, 220 Trowbridge Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.

Michael & Carrie Kline: Stories and Songs of Appalachia. 7 p.m. FREE. RCAF Auditorium in Snyder-Phillips Hall, Dormitory Road and Bogue Street, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-6690.

Fusion Shows presents. FREE. Crunchy's Pizza and Burgers, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2506.

Gardner LL&G Academy Giant Used Book Sale. Sale goes until Sat. 8:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Gardner LL&G Academy, 333 Dahlia Drive, Lansing. (517) 755-1120.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

MSU Creative Writing Group. All creative writers welcome. 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public

Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Thursday, October 29

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Family Storytime. Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes and activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300.
Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Community Mental Health Building, Room 214G, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Weigh-in 6 p.m., meeting 6:30 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 882-9080, stdavidslansing.org.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. 5:15 p.m. \$5. New Hope Church, 1340 Haslett Road, Haslett. (517) 349-9183, newhopehaslett.com.

Tarot Study Group. FREE. Triple Goddess New Age Bookstore, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 347-2112.

Shamanic Healing and Education Clinic. Shamanism talk and demos. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515 W. Mt. Hope Ave., Suite 3, Lansing. (517) 402-6727.

See Out on the Town, Page 17

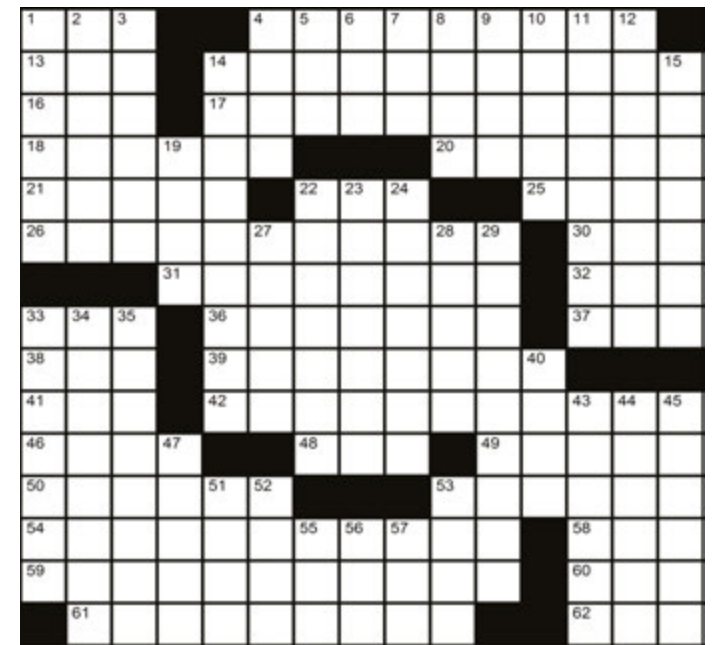
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Word Jubilee"—freestyle in action.
 Matt Jones

Across

- 1 TV room
- 4 Decider in a tennis match, perhaps
- 13 Shiba ___ (such breed. many doge. wow.)
- 14 Hexadecimal
- 16 "Charlie's Angels" director
- 17 #15 on AFI's "100 Years ... 100 Movie Quotes," from a 1982 film
- 18 Shake your hips
- 20 Drum kit components
- 21 Sluggish
- 22 Musical notes after mis
- 25 Dropbox files, often
- 26 Schwarzenegger movie based on a Philip K. Dick story
- 30 Tight-lipped
- 31 Sentiment akin to "Ain't no shame in that!"
- 32 Phrase in French cookery
- 33 Pkg. measures
- 36 Lets in a view of
- 37 Photographer Goldin
- 38 Coaching legend Parseghian
- 39 Hairpieces in old portraits
- 41 Type of card for a smartphone
- 42 Travel widely
- 46 Actor Lukas of "Witness"
- 48 "Can't Fight This Feeling" band ___ Speedwagon
- 49 Berkshire Hathaway headquarters
- 50 Skateboarding 101 jumps
- 53 Some Emmy winners
- 54 Ralph Bakshi movie that was the first X-rated animated feature
- 58 Arkansas governor Hutchinson
- 59 Long-term aspirations
- 60 D.J.'s dad, on "Roseanne"
- 61 Solid yellow line's meaning, on the road
- 62 "___ Came of Age" (Sarah Brightman album)



- 7 That thing, to Torquemada
- 8 Wrestling victories
- 9 Animals in the game "The Oregon Trail"
- 10 "___ to Be You"
- 11 Like some buildings with arches and columns
- 12 California city where Erle Stanley Gardner wrote his Perry Mason novels
- 14 Guides around the waistline
- 15 "WKRP in Cincinnati" news director Les
- 19 #696969, in hexadecimal color code
- 22 Djokovic rival
- 23 Poisonous plant also known as monkshood
- 24 "Oh yeah?"
- 27 Calcutta coin
- 28 Army officer below captain, in slang
- 29 Flowering ground-cover plants in the apt genus Pulmonaria
- 33 Clean
- 34 Dress rehearsal
- 35 2006 appointee, to friends
- 40 "Brave New World" feel-good drug
- 43 Best Western competitor
- 44 Some long-haired dogs, for short
- 45 Coca-Cola bottled water brand
- 47 Ground-based unit?
- 51 Cornell of Cornell University
- 52 Fr. holy women
- 53 "Consarnit!"
- 55 Some printers
- 56 He played "The Ugly" opposite Clint's "The Good" and Lee's "The Bad"
- 57 Monster container

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SUDOKU

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

BEGINNER

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 18

Out on the town

from page 16

willowstickceremonies.com.

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

Celebrate Recovery. For all types of hurts and hang-ups. 6:00 p.m. Donations welcome. Trinity Church (Lansing), 3355 Dunckel Road, Lansing. (517) 492-1866.

Ladies Figure Skating. Lessons and practice. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:20 a.m. \$5/\$2 skate rental. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (517) 574-4380, ladiessilverblades.com.

EVENTS

East Lansing's Great Pumpkin Walk. Children and families trick or treat throughout downtown East Lansing. 5-7 p.m. FREE. Downtown East Lansing. (517) 319-6931, cityofeastlansing.com.

Apparitions and Archaeology: A Haunted Campus Tour. Tour begins at Beaumont Tower. 7-8 p.m. FREE. MSU Campus, East Lansing. campusarch.msu.edu.

MSU Greek Life Safe Halloween. Trick or treating, games for kids and a costume contest. 5-7 p.m. M.A.C. Ave. between Burcham Drive and Elizabeth Street, East Lansing.

South Lansing Farmers Market. Local produce, delicious prepared foods and handmade goodies. 3-7 p.m. FREE. St. Casimir Catholic Church, 800 W. Barnes Ave., Lansing. (517) 374-5700.

Spanish Conversation Group. Both English and Spanish spoken. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Teens After School. Programming for teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

DynaMike the Magician. Magic and fun. 4:15-5:15 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi Library, 2078 Aurelius Road Holt. (517) 694-9351, cadl.org.

8-Ball Tournament. Bring your pool game to the Avenue. Call to confirm. 7 p.m. \$10. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 492-7403.

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

arachnoBROADia! Ghoulish games, bugs and scary snacks. 5-8 pm. FREE. Broad Art Museum, 547 East Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 884-4800, broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Howl at the Moon. Nighttime walk with dogs. 7 p.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Rd., Okemos. (517) 349-3866.

MUSIC

MSU Wind Symphony. 7:30-9 p.m. \$10 adults/\$8 seniors/FREE students. Wharton Center, MSU Campus East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, ow.ly/TLThG.

Karaoke. LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing.

THEATER

The Diary of Anne Frank. Stage version of often read historical diary. 7 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Rounding Third. Humorous story of Little League Baseball. 8 p.m. \$28. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Street, Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.

MSU Theatre Presents: Haunted Aud. Students

turn the MSU auditorium into a living nightmare. 9:30 p.m.-12:00 a.m., \$15. MSU Department of Theatre Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Road., East Lansing. (517) 355-6690.

Friday, October 30

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Aux Petits Soins: Explorers 1 & 2. French immersion for babies/toddlers. 9:30 a.m. (ages 2-4) & 10:30 a.m. (ages 0-2). \$15/\$12 students. Willow Tree Family Center, 3333 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 643-8059.

EVENTS

Storytime with Craft. Ages 3-6 years enjoy stories, songs and crafts. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Teens After School. Programming for teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Two Small Pieces of Glass. Program on the history of the telescope. 8-9 p.m. \$4. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.

Thrift/Rummage Sale. Household, books, clothes and more. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Mayflower Congregational Church, 2901 W. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-3139, mayflowerchurch.com.

Dia de los Muertos Cemetery Stroll. Guided cemetery walk. 6-8 p.m. \$3/FREE Fenner members. Mt. Hope Cemetery. (517) 483-4224, mynaturecenter.org/programs.

MUSIC

MSU Symphony Orchestra. 8-9:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/FREE students. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON.

THEATER

The Diary of Anne Frank. Stage version of often read historical diary. 8 p.m. \$15/\$12 seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

War of the Worlds On Stage. Classic alien invasion broadcast acted out. 7 p.m. FREE. The Pump House, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing.

Rounding Third. Humorous story of Little League Baseball. 8 p.m. \$28. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Street, Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.

MSU Theatre Presents: Haunted Aud. Students turn the MSU auditorium into a living nightmare. 9:30 p.m.-12:00 a.m., \$15. MSU Department of Theatre Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Road., East Lansing. (517) 355-6690.

'Land of Oz' at Wild Goose Inn. Costumed actors from East Lansing High School transform inn into the "Land of Oz." 5-7 p.m. The Wild Goose Inn, 512 Albert Ave., East Lansing. (517) 333-3334,

wildgooseinn.com.

Saturday, October 31

EVENTS

MSU Halloween Bug Open House. Costumes, candy and creepy crawlies. 1-4 p.m. Natural Science Building, 288 Farm Lane, building 24, East Lansing. (517) 355-4662, ent.msu.edu/bughouse.

Halloween Open House at Meridian Township

See Out on the Town, Page 18

THURSDAY, OCT. 29-31 >> HAUNTED AUD

The MSU Department of Theatre will once again transform the MSU Auditorium into a haunted estate with its seventh annual Haunted Aud fundraiser event. Visitors can explore a chilling, underworld-themed tour of the auditorium with MSU theater students dressed as demons running the show. This event is not recommended for kids under 12. 8 p.m.-midnight. \$15. MSU Auditorium, 149 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-6690, whartoncenter.com.

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Out on the town

from page 17

Police Dept. Families meet McGruff the Crime Dog, tour the station and enjoy treats. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE. Meridian Charter Township, 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos. (517) 853-4600, meridian.mi.us.

Make a Mini Halloween Pinata. Supplies provided. Ages 5+. 1-3 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 MAC Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Halloween Open House at Meridian Fire Stations. Tour any of three fire stations with Halloween-themed treats. 10 a.m.-1p.m. FREE. Station #1, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos; Station #2, 2140 Haslett Road, Haslett; Station #3, 3711 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 853-4600, meridian.mi.us.

Used Book Sale - Friends of the Haslett Library. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett.

15 Amazing Science-Superhero Edition. "Shocking" hands-on experiments. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 367-6355, cadl.org.

Halloween in the Village. Historical Village open for tours with Halloween treats. Meridian Historical Village, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 853-4600, meridian.mi.us

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

Zombie Zoo Brew. Potter Park Zoo's first ever 21+ Halloween party. 7-11 p.m. \$15. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4222, potterparkzoo.org.

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Domestic Violence Support Group. Noon-1:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163, womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org.

Gymnastics for Kids. Ages 2 and up. 3-3:30 p.m. \$10. Mother and Earth Baby Boutique, 4601 W. Saginaw Highway, Suite N, Lansing. (517) 977-7096.

Tai Chi at Allen Market Place. Instruction in Qigong, meditation and Yang style tai chi forms. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

Zumba for Kids. Ages 2 and up. 2-2:30 p.m. \$10. Mother and Earth Baby Boutique, 4601 W. Saginaw Highway, Suite N, Lansing. (517) 721-1868.

Aux Petits Soins: Explorers 1. French immersion class for babies. 9:30 a.m. \$15/\$12 students. Mother & Earth Baby Boutique, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

MUSIC

Deacon Earl. Blues, reggae, Americana and more. 2:30-5 p.m. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing.

Matt LoRusso Trio at Troppo. FREE. Troppo, 101 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 371-4000.

Halloween Metal Meltdown. Featuring Past Tense and more. 8 p.m.-2 a.m. \$7. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 Michigan Ave Lansing. (517) 853-0550, avenuecafelansing.com.

Halloween Show. Featuring three bands. 11 p.m.-2 a.m. FREE. El Azteco Westside, 1016 W. Saginaw St., Lansing.

THEATER

The Diary of Anne Frank. Stage version of often read historical diary. 8 p.m. \$15/\$12 seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Rounding Third. Humorous story of Little League Baseball. 3-5 p.m. \$28. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Street, Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.

MSU Theatre Presents: Haunted Aud. Students turn the MSU auditorium into a living nightmare. 9:30 p.m.-12:00 a.m., \$15. MSU Department of Theatre Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Road., East Lansing. (517) 355-6690.

Sunday, November 1

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. Third floor meeting room. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, cadl.org.

Spiritual Talk, Pure Meditation and Silent Prayer. 7 p.m. FREE. Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre, 7187 Drumheller Road, Bath. (517) 641-6201, selfrealizationcentremichigan.org.

Parents of LGBTQ kids. Weekly support group. All faiths are welcome. 3-4:30 p.m. FREE. Diversity Psychological Services, 1310 Turner St., Lansing. (720) 401-4214.

EVENTS

Perfect Little Planet. Show on the planets. 2:30-3:30 p.m. \$4. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.

Breast Cancer Support Group (WINS). 7-9 p.m. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-3775.

Dearly Departed: An Exhibit of Day of the Dead Ofrendas. Altar art. 1-6 p.m. FREE. Old Town Marquee, 319 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing.

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

'Sprout' Opening. Mixed media art show with artist Jane Reiter. 1-5 p.m. FREE. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. tanglewangler.wordpress.com.

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.

Potter Park Zoo's Pumpkifest. Animals feast on Halloween leftovers. 1-3 p.m. See web for prices. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4222, potterparkzoo.org.

MUSIC

MSU Faculty Recital. Anne Nispel, soprano,

and Harlan Jennings, baritone. 3-4:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/FREE students. Fairchild Theatre, 220 Trowbridge Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.

MSU State Singers and University Choral: Mozart in Salzburg. 7-9 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/FREE students. Fairchild Theatre, 220 Trowbridge Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.

Spartan Spectacular. Performances by MSU bands and ensembles. 3-5 p.m. Tickets start at \$10. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. 517-432-2000, ow.ly/TRIBI.

THEATER

Rounding Third. Humorous story of Little League Baseball. 2-4 p.m. \$25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Street, Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.

The Diary of Anne Frank. Stage version of often read historical diary. 2 p.m. \$15/\$12 seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517)

See Out on the Town, Page 19

SATURDAY, OCT. 31 >> ZOMBIE ZOO BREW AT POTTER PARK ZOO

For those who have outgrown Boo at the Zoo, why not try a brew at the zoo? Potter Park Zoo is hosting its first ever adults-only Halloween party, where adults 21 and older can dress up and enjoy an evening of zoo-filled fun with a drink in hand. Ticket price includes a meal. Craft beer and cider will be available for purchase, including a number of Halloween-themed local brews like Zombie Killer and Black Fang meads from B. Nektar Meadery. Live music for the event will be provided by Well Enough Alone and Steve Elgas of the Tenants. Guided tours and animal demonstrations will be offered, and party guests can also participate in a zombie costume contest. 7-11 p.m. \$15. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4222, potterparkzoo.org.

SATURDAY, OCT. 31 >> THE ART OF TASTING

The coffee connoisseurs at Bloom Coffee and MICA Gallery are collaborating on a flavor tasting presentation for those of you who aren't satisfied with the typical cup of joe. "The Art of Tasting," the latest installment in a series of food- and coffee-related happenings at MICA, will offer a crash course in the nuances of coffee's rich flavor varieties. Visitors will learn about the coffee flavor wheel and the various coffee flavor profiles used by brewing professionals. The event will also discuss food pairing options, including baked goods pairings and fruit and vegetable pairings with samples provided by Foods for Living. Proceeds from the event support food justice programming at the Cristo Rey Community Center. Noon-3 p.m. \$7. MICA Gallery, 1210 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600, micagallery.org.

SATURDAY, OCT. 31 >> 'NOSFERATU' AT THE GRAND LEDGE OPERA HOUSE

For those looking for some spooky film fun on Halloween, 1922 cult classic "Nosferatu," the German expressionist silent film adaption of Bram Stoker's "Dracula," will be presented at the Grand Ledge Opera House Saturday. The plot revolves around the mysterious vampire Count Orlok, who captures an innocent visitor to his remote Transylvanian castle. The prisoner must escape from Orlok's clutches to save his wife, who is Count Orlok's next intended victim. The silent film will be accompanied by organist Scott Smith on the Opera House's theater organ. Originally installed in downtown Lansing's Michigan Theatre, the organ was designed to accompany silent films and includes orchestral pipe tones and real cymbals and drums. This event is a fundraiser for the nonprofit Lansing Theatre Organ group to fund its Riverside Pops concert series. 3 p.m. \$15/\$12 adv. Grand Ledge Opera House, 121 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. (517) 627-1443, lto-pops.org.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 16

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 16

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Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsny

Oct. 28-Nov. 3

ARIES (March 21-April 19): In 1978, Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield began selling their new ice cream out of a refurbished gas station in Burlington, Vermont. Thirty-seven years later, Ben & Jerry's is among the world's best-selling ice cream brands. Its success stems in part from its willingness to keep transforming the way it does business. "My mantra is 'Change is a wonderful thing,'" says the current CEO. As evidence of the company's intention to keep re-evaluating its approach, there's a "Flavor Graveyard" on its website, where it lists flavors it has tried to sell but ultimately abandoned. "Wavy Gravy," "Tennessee Mud," and "Turtle Soup" are among the departed. Now is a favorable time for you to engage in a purge of your own, Aries. What parts of your life don't work any more? What personal changes would be wonderful things?

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Before he helped launch Apple Computer in the 1970s, tech pioneer Steve Wozniak ran a dial-a-joke service. Most of the time, people who called got an automated recording, but now and then Wozniak answered himself. That's how he met Alice Robertson, the woman who later became his wife. I'm guessing you will have comparable experiences in the coming weeks, Taurus. Future allies may come into your life in unexpected ways. It's as if mysterious forces will be conspiring to connect you with people you need to know.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Small, nondestructive earthquakes are common. Our planet has an average of 1,400 of them every day. This subtle underground mayhem has been going on steadily for millions of years. According to recent research, it has been responsible for creating 80 percent of the world's gold. I suspect that the next six or seven months will feature a metaphorically analogous process in your life. You will experience deep-seated quivering and grinding that won't bring major disruptions even as it generates the equivalent of gold deposits. Make it your goal to welcome and even thrive on the subterranean friction!

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Here's the process I went through to create your horoscope. First I drew up a chart of your astrological aspects. Using my analytical skills, I pondered their meaning. Next, I called on my intuitive powers, asking my unconscious mind to provide symbols that would be useful to you. The response I got from my deeper mind was surprising: It informed me that I should go to a new cafe that had just opened downtown. Ten minutes later, I was there, gazing at a menu packed with exotic treats: Banana Flirty Milk . . . Champagne Coconut Mango Slushy . . . Honey Dew Jelly Juice . . . Creamy Wild Berry Blitz . . . Sweet Dreamy Ginger Snow. I suspect these are metaphors for experiences that are coming your way.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The Beatles' song "You Never Give Me Your Money" has this poignant lyric: "Oh, that magic feeling, nowhere to go." I suggest you make it your motto for now. And if you have not yet begun to feel the allure of that sentiment, initiate the necessary shifts to get yourself in the mood. Why? Because it's time to recharge your spiritual battery, and the best way to do that is to immerse yourself in the mystery of having nothing to do and nowhere to go. Put your faith in the pregnant silence, Leo. Let emptiness teach you what you need to know next.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Should a professional singer be criticized for her lack of skill in laying bricks? Is it reasonable to chide a kindergarten teacher for his ineptitude as an airplane pilot? Does it make sense to complain about a cat's inability to bark? Of course not. There are many other unwarranted comparisons that are almost as irrational but not as obviously unfair. Is it right for you to wish your current lover or best friend could have the same "je ne sais quoi" as a previous lover or best friend? Should you try to manipulate the future so that it's more like the past? Are you justified in demanding that your head and your heart come to

identical conclusions? No, no, and no. Allow the differences to be differences. And more than that: Celebrate them!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): In the mid-19th century, an American named Cyrus McCormick patented a breakthrough that had the potential to revolutionize agriculture. It was a mechanical reaper that harvested crops with far more ease and efficiency than hand-held sickles and scythes. But his innovation didn't enter into mainstream use for 20 years. In part that was because many farmers were skeptical of trying a new technology, and feared it would eliminate jobs. I don't foresee you having to wait nearly as long for acceptance of your new wrinkles, Libra. But you may have to be patient.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Is it possible to express a benevolent form of vanity? I say yes. In the coming weeks, your boasts may be quite lyrical and therapeutic. They may even uplift and motivate those who hear them. Acts of self-aggrandizement that would normally cast long shadows might instead produce generous results. That's why I'm giving you a go-ahead to embody the following attitude from Nikki Giovanni's poem "Ego Tripping (there may be a reason why)": "I am so perfect so divine so ethereal so surreal / I cannot be comprehended except by my permission.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Regard the current tensions and detours as camouflaged gifts from the gods of growth. You're being offered a potent opportunity to counteract the effects of a self-sabotage you committed once upon a time. You're getting an excellent chance to develop the strength of character that can blossom from dealing with soul-bending riddles. In fact, I think you'd be wise to feel a surge of gratitude right now. To do so will empower you to take maximum advantage of the disguised blessings.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You are slipping into a phase when new teachers are likely to appear. That's excellent news, because the coming weeks will also be a time when you especially need new teachings. Your good fortune doesn't end there. I suspect that you will have an enhanced capacity to learn quickly and deeply. With all these factors conspiring in your favor, Capricorn, I predict that by January 1, you will be smarter, humbler, more flexible, and better prepared to get what you want in 2016.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): American author Mark Twain seemed to enjoy his disgust with the novels of Jane Austen, who died 18 years before he was born. "Her books madden me so that I can't conceal my frenzy," he said, even as he confessed that he had perused some of her work multiple times. "Every time I read 'Pride and Prejudice,'" he wrote to a friend about Austen's most famous story, "I want to dig her up and beat her over the skull with her own shin-bone." We might ask why he repetitively sought an experience that bothered him. I am posing a similar question to you, Aquarius. According to my analysis, the coming weeks will be an excellent time to renounce, once and for all, your association with anything or anyone you are addicted to disliking.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The Sahara in Northern Africa is the largest hot desert on the planet. It's almost the size of the United States. Cloud cover is rare, the humidity is low, and the temperature of the sand can easily exceed 170° F. (80° C.). That's why it was so surprising when snow fell there in February of 1979 for the first time in memory. This once-in-a-lifetime visitation happened again 33 years later. I'm expecting a similar anomaly in your world, Pisces. Like the desert snow, your version should be mostly interesting and only slightly inconvenient. It may even have an upside. Saharan locals testified that the storm helped the palm trees because it killed off the parasites feeding on them.

Out on the town

from page 18

482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Monday, November 2

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Adult Rape Survivor Support Group.

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

Job Seekers Support Group.

Finding the right career. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163, womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org.

Support Group. For the divorced, separated & widowed. 7:30 p.m. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272, stdavidslansing.org.**Carpal Tunnel Presentation.** Presentation on treatment and prevention. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.**Holiday Card Making Class.** Workshop for card-making techniques. 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \$10. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.**Learn to Meditate.**

8:15 p.m. Donations. C. Weaver Physical Therapy Exercise Studio, 1720 Abbey Road, East Lansing. (517) 272-9379, cweaverphysicaltherapy.com.

Wharton Center Presents: Dr. Clifton R.**Wharton, Jr.** Former MSU president speaks. 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$20. Wharton Center, 750 E Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON, whartoncenter.com.

EVENTS

Mac's Monday Comedy Night. Hosted by Mark Roebuck and Dan Currie. 9:30 p.m. FREE. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795, macsbar.com.**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.**French Club.** French listening, speaking practice. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.**BabyTime.** 0-24 months. Meeting at church. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Rd. East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.**Computer Club @ MSC.** From 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.**Homework Help.** MSU students tutor younger students in a group setting. 5-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.**Scratch Coding Club.** Learn how to use Scratch 2 and create animations. 7-8 p.m. FREE, registration required. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 MAC Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Better Living Book Club. "Measure of a Man" by Sidney Poitier. 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Tuesday, November 3

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 5:45-6:45 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.**Speakeasies Toastmasters.** Improve listening, analysis, leadership and presentation skills. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (616) 841-5176.**Take Off Pounds Sensibly.** Have a support system, lose weight. 7 p.m. FREE to visit. Eaton Rapids Medical Center, 1500 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. (517) 543-0786.**Not So Happy Endings Support Group.** For women ending relationships. 5:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 896-3311.**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.**Capital City Toastmasters Meeting.** Learn public speaking and leadership skills. 7 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300, cadl.org.**Overeaters Anonymous.** Support for weight loss efforts. 7 p.m. FREE. Okemos Presbyterian Church, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 290-5163.**Mommy and Me Gymnastics Class.** 10-10:30 a.m. \$11. Mother and Earth Baby Boutique, 4601 W. Saginaw Highway, Ste. N Lansing. (517) 977-7096.**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.**H.E.R.O. Class- Home Winterization.** Home improvement class. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980, glhc.org.**Restorative (Chair) Yoga.** 3-4:15 p.m. \$10 drop-in/\$7 members. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.**Transgender Support Group for Parents.** Safe discussion of hurdles faced by families. Call for locati on. 7:15-9 p.m. FREE. Location to be announced. (517) 927-8260.

EVENTS

Bible and Beer. Discussion of Scripture's power in daily events. 6 p.m. Midtown Brewing Co. 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 482-0600, bibleandbeer@ccclansing.org.**Knitting and Crochet Group.** All ages and levels welcome. 11 a.m.-noon FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.**Lunch @ MSC.** Register day before. Noon-1 p.m. \$5.75/\$3 ages 60+. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.**Reflexology.** 10:20 a.m.-noon \$14/\$12 members. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.**ToddlerTime.** Ages 18-36 months listen to stories and music. 10:15-10:45 a.m./11-11:30 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.**Sporcle Live! Trivia.** Team based. Win Crunchy's gift certificates. 7 p.m. FREE. Crunchy's Pizza & Burgers, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing.

MUSIC

Karaoke. 8 p.m.-midnight. FREE. Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-9910.

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7th ANNUAL HAUNTED AUD HELLRAISER FUNDRAISER

OCTOBER 29th, 30th & 31st
8:00PM-MIDNIGHT

The MSU Auditorium Building
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*All proceeds will assist student
organizations and initiatives.*

GENERAL ADMISSION: \$15



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STAGE DOOR

By Edna Ferber and George S. Kaufman

NOVEMBER 13-22, 2015
PASANT THEATRE

Directed By Rob Roznowski



Out on the town

from page 19

THEATER

Twyla Tharp Dance: 50th Anniversary in Dance. Award-winning dancer performs. 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$20. Wharton Center, 750 E Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON, whartoncenter.com.

Wednesday, November 4

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Story Art Time. Art and story time for preschoolers. 10-10:45 a.m. FREE. Donations appreciated. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

Walk-In Wednesdays. Art activities for ages 5 and up. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE. Donations appreciated. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

Introduction to TEI. Lesson on Text Encoding Initiative. 1-2:30 p.m. MSU Library, 100 Main Library MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700, ow.ly/TRYkX.

Line Dancing @ MSC. All levels welcome. No partner necessary. 3:15-4:15 p.m. \$10 drop-in/\$7 members. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

EVENTS

Teens After School. Programming for teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

BroadPOP Studio. Stamp-making workshop. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum,

547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Memory Screenings @ MSC. Short series of questions to identify possible areas for medical follow-up. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

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

Open Workshop. Bike repair, bike safety and biking as healthy exercise. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Kids Repair Program, 5815 Wise Road, Lansing. (517) 755-4174.

Sachet Making Workshop. Make an easy, nice smelling sachet to give as a gift or keep for yourself. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 MAC Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Suits and the City November Event. LGBT professional networking event. 5:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. The Beer Grotto, 500 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 371-1080, gaylansing.org.

Teen Advisory Board: Arm-Knit Scarves for Charity. Learn how to arm-knit cozy winter scarves that will be donated to charity. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

Marshall Music Ukulele Play-Along. All ages and levels welcome. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700.

Together, Let's Jam. Music for all ages. 6:30-7:30 p.m. \$5/FREE Capitol Area Down Syndrome members. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Rd., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661, ow.ly/TSeOJ.

TUESDAY, NOV. 3 >> TWYLA THARP DANCE AT THE WHARTON CENTER

Twyla Tharp Dance is returning to the Wharton Center in celebration of its 50th anniversary. Twyla Tharp, founder of Twyla Tharp Dance, has choreographed over 160 works, from evening-long dance performances to movies and Broadway shows. Throughout her career, she has received critical acclaim for her choreography and has earned several prestigious awards, including a Tony Award and two Emmy Awards. Her works are known for their creativity, wit and streetwise nonchalance. Twyla Tharp's fierce band of dancers will perform a program designed to celebrate the group's 50th anniversary, set to music by John Zorn, J.S. Bach, jazz trumpeter Steve Bernstein and MSU alum Henry Butler. A preview talk will be held at 6:45 p.m., and an after-performance chat will directly follow the performance. 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$37. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

TUESDAY, NOV. 3 >> CONCERT MUSIC BY JEWISH COMPOSERS

Join Rabbi Michael Zimmerman of Lansing's Congregation Kehillat Isreal for a whirlwind international tour of Jewish composers across the centuries, from the madrigals of the Gonzaga court during the Italian Renaissance to recent works by young Jewish composers. The class is the first in a three-week, Tuesday night series that explores the contributions of Jewish musicians to classical music. The other two classes will discuss Jewish operas (Nov. 10) and Jewish ballets, choreographers and dancers (Nov. 17). 7 p.m. FREE. Congregation Kehillat Israel, 2014 Forest Road, Lansing. (517) 882-0049, kehillatisrael.net.

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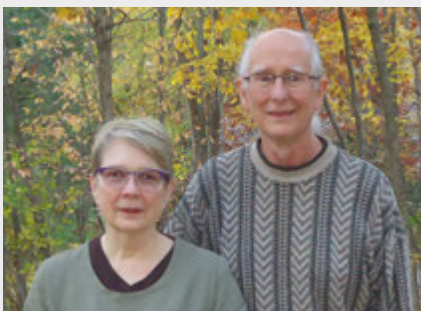
MACKEREL SKY

Kevin McInerney/City Pulse

Mackerel Sky, which is celebrating 25 years in business, has featured over 150 formal exhibitions over the years.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

Skeptics can scoff at the seeming bandwagon attitude of East Lansing's recent rebranding as "the City of the Arts," but the moniker is actually the capping of a long, slow march toward citywide art appreciation. And it was fueled in part by Linda and Tom Dufelmeier, who, in 1990, helped organize the first First Sunday Gallery Walk. That was the same year they opened **Mackerel Sky**, their fine craft gallery in downtown East Lansing, which this month celebrates 25 years of business.



Alan I. Ross/City Pulse

Linda and Tom Dufelmeier, owners of Mackerel Sky, at their home in Williamstown Township.

The Dufelmeiers had been buyers for Brother Gambit, a now defunct leather goods shop that also dealt in furniture, when they decided to strike out on their own.

"At the time, there was nobody in town selling ceramics,

glass or jewelry," said Linda Dufelmeier. "So we started to focus on crafts. The only rules were: Only things made in America and no leather goods or furniture. We didn't want to appear to be in competition."

The name Mackerel Sky is a nod to the change of working for themselves. In the 1985 movie "Plenty," Meryl Streep looks up and remarks on the "lovely mackerel sky." Tom Dufelmeier said he'd never heard that phrase before. When he looked it up, he learned that it was a term for patterns in the sky that happen when higher clouds interact with lower clouds, producing a scaled texture.

"It seemed fitting," he says. "Mackerel skies are transitional cloud formations, and we were transitioning to owning our own space. And we liked the way it sounded."

The Dufelmeiers, both 66, met in 1967 when they both arrived at MSU's McDonel Hall from different parts of the state — he's from Flint, she's from Detroit. She was studying speech and theater, he was studying pre-law. Two years later, they got married. They formed a singing duo — aptly named Tom and Linda — and lived and worked in downtown East Lansing.

"It was a real town then," she said. "There was a hardware store, there were two pharmacies. One had a pharmacist who would give you Coke syrup if you had a hangover. We bought our first piece of furniture from the antique store owned by (longtime East Lansing resident and former City

Councilwoman) Beverly Baten. I remember carrying that cupboard like a coffin down Grand River Avenue. You don't see that anymore."

In the '80s, the Dufelmeiers became partners with Brother Gambit. When that situation "fell apart," they opened the first incarnation of Mackerel Sky in the former Hicks Building in the Ann Street Plaza. (Mackerel Sky moved to its present location in 2010, after the Hicks Building was razed to make way for the St. Anne Lofts.)

"At the time, the American-made (craft business) was just a twinkle in the eye," Linda Dufelmeier said. "Most things were imported. But we saw this community of people emerging. Fine boxes and beautiful ceramics weren't mainstream at all."

"Like they are now," Tom Dufelmeier added sardonically, and they shared a chuckle.

"Over the years, we've become acutely aware of what the community is interested in," she said. "It's a matter of survival. Trying to sell a leather purse during a recession is like trying to sell a refrigerator. You can't have things people aren't buying. Well, you can if you're a museum, but we're not a museum. We don't charge admission and we don't sell beer — these are the constraints of good quality and creativity."

She said it was important from the get-go to dedicate two-month exhibition space for featured artists, a time-frame that allowed enough time for the community to take it in. Over the years, Mackerel Sky has featured 150 exhibits, including shows by breakout local artists Mark Chatterley (sculptor), Kim Kauffman (photographer), and Craig Mitchell Smith (fused glass).

"Craig actually did one of his first exhibits with us," she said. "Shortly after (we featured him), he made a gigantic glass leaf and then he really took off. He's in Sri Lanka right now. Kim recently had an exhibit in China. I keep telling Mark he needs to get famous so we can retire off what we own of his."

Looking ahead, Dufelmeier says she and her husband haven't made any decisions past 2019, which is when their lease ends.

"I don't think I want to keep doing this forever," she said. "For us to still be in business is astounding. But I'm always learning. And we're dedicated to the community. We love this city, and we love what I do. Then again, maybe we're stuck in a rut."

Mackerel Sky

211 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing
11 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
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(517) 351-2211, mackerelsky.com

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High brow high

Cannaisseur offers upscale marijuana experience

While exploring north Lansing, I found a somewhat new provisioning center called Cannaisseur. A simple sign out front displayed its black and yellow logo. When I pulled into the parking lot, I found out that there is parking on both sides of the building. The entrance is on the south side, and there is a small wooden ramp to get to the door, making it wheelchair accessible.

When I walked into the waiting room, I was stunned to find that what had once been a biker club has been transformed into an elegant provisioning center. It had a clean and pleasant smell. I presented my ID and Michigan medical marijuana card through a security window, and then I was buzzed into the back room through a metal door.

Once in the back, my eyes were drawn to the left wall, and I started reading a few of the T-shirts on display. I then noticed

Cannaisseur
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday
3200 N. East Street, Lansing
(517) 580-7602,
cannaisseurclub.com

the pipes, papers, paraphernalia and smoking accessories. I always like when a shop carries all the things I could need for my medical cannabis use in one place.

Next, I noticed the several glass display cases featuring over 20 selections of flower buds. There were a couple high-CBD choices, as well as some old-school strains like Acapulco Gold. I was thrilled to see about 30 different edible selections, including many that are rare, like CBD-rich candy suckers, and healthy options like flax seed chocolate bars and cannabis-infused salad dressing.

The variety didn't stop there. The shop offers 15 extracts types, promising something for everyone. Some examples include CO2 oil (extracted using CO2 gas) and THC- or CBD-rich Rick Simpson oil, as well as taffy, wax and shatter consistencies.

One of the my favorite things about this shop is that the management were growers first, and that shines through. The staff was very knowledgeable about the flowers they carried and answered every question I had with confidence and clarity. I like a shop where you can learn something while you are shopping.

Overall, the experience was very professional and informative, while still fast

and accurate. The green room space was large enough for a small group of patients or to comfortable move around with a wheelchair. The shop itself did not overly smell of cannabis, but, after smelling 10 or so jars, I felt like the odor lingered around me for over an hour.

I decided to purchase a couple of the shop's most popular strains. Skywalker Kush is a highly sought after strain in the state right now, and the buds at Cannaisseur were definitely grown right. It had a strong OG taste that was uplifting, euphoric and helped me feel positive and happy. I found it helped a lot with my PTSD symptoms, relieving my stress and anxiety. It had a strong earthy-pine scent with woody and spicy undertones and an aroma that is certainly unique to OG Kush varieties.

Wreck Recon, the other strain I picked up at Cannaisseur, burned clean with beautiful white ash. This strain was bred by Kevin Pybus, a co-owner of Cannaisseur.

"I bred it when I lived in Colorado," Pybus said. "It's the strain Recon from DNA Genetics crossed with a cut of Trainwreck — also known as the Sunset cut. Wreck Recon was sold for years in Colorado dispensaries under the name Cannalope Kush. I changed the name in 2014 when DNA Genetics released their own version of Cannalope Kush. Their version is Cannalope Haze and OG Kush. To avoid any confusion, we just changed the name."



Steve Green/City Pulse

Skywalker Kush, available at Cannaisseur, is a highly sought after strain in Michigan.

Steve Green, who writes this column every two weeks, uses marijuana to prevent seizures. He has no business ties to any dispensaries or products.

THE GREEN REPORT



STEVE GREEN



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

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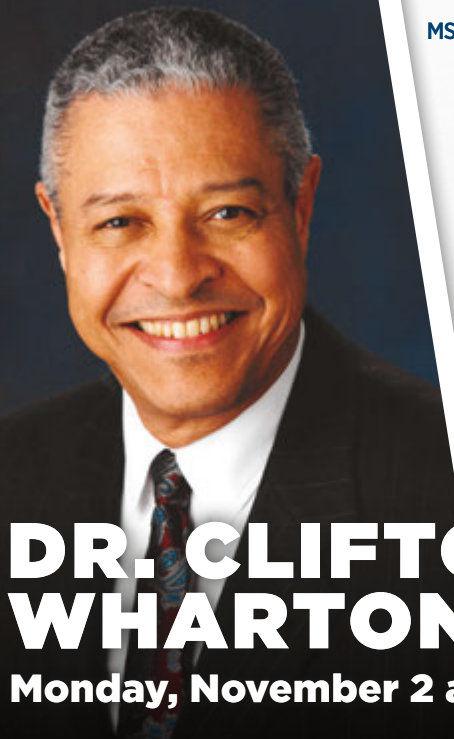


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