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December 12-18, 2012

*Welcome
To*



MICHIGAN MOVES BACKWARDS
SEE PAGE 11



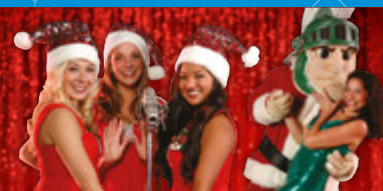
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Feedback

Broad, some suggestions

Bravo to the new Broad Museum! Shame on you that you are not accessible to art patrons who are blind or visually impaired. On December 2, I visited the museum for the first time with my granddaughter Jackelyn and dear friend Donna Rose who is totally blind.

The reception desk let us know that there was NOTHING accessible for Donna but she could buy an audio tape of the exhibits. Sighted: free, Blind: cost. MSU always has blind and visually impaired students. Look it's almost 2013, there are many technologies avail-

able to make the Broad available to EVERYONE.

Suggestions:

Create a scale replica of the museum. The unusual architecture is part of the wonder. Have a Braille explanation. The MSU Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities can help.

Make a docent available at a scheduled time every week for a personal tour of the museum for people who are blind.

Create an audio tape with exhibit descriptions and walking directions so that someone who is blind can independently enjoy the museum.

Have at least one exhibit that can be touched other than the outside metal tree.

Have some exhibits "printed in 3D technology" on the rapid prototyping machines already on campus.

Have a Braille tour of the museum printed.

My first choice was to speak to someone at the museum. However, I did not receive a return call from Stephanie Kribs, Facilities and Operations Mgr, message left December 4, or Alson Gass, Curator, message left on December 6.

— Suellen Hozman
Lansing

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.)

CityPULSE

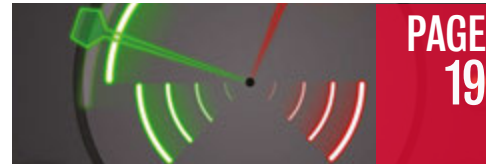
**VOL. 12
ISSUE 18**

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Two cases taken up by the U.S. Supreme Court could have major implications for same-sex partners in Michigan



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Local startup hopes to go viral with addictive new videogame app



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Williamston bistro impresses with eclectic menu



**COVER
ART**

MICHISSIPPI by CRAIG HORKY

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CITY PULSE ON THE AIR

THIS WEEK

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero

Jay Kaplan, staff attorney for Michigan ACLU LGBT Project



Editor & Publisher
Berl Schwartz

7 p.m. Wednesdays

IMPACT 89FM

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

the bipartisan adventures of...
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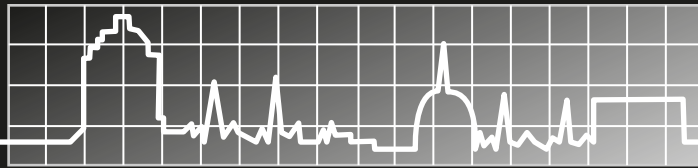
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--ON THE NEED TO CUT SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE!

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PULSE



news & opinion

Consolidation petition

Petition opposes merger of Cristo Rey Community Center with St. Vincent Catholic Charities; two Council members concerned

A group of citizens opposed to a proposed consolidation of Cristo Rey Community Center with St. Vincent Catholic Charities is circulating a petition against the merger and pondering further action.

The group wants to meet with Lansing Bishop Earl Boyea, who is seeking the merger, and has asked the Catholic Diocese of Lansing for information on the center's finances and management, but has not gotten an answer from the diocese on either count, according to group members Lorenzo Lopez and Al Salas.

Michael Diebold, communications director for the diocese, said he was "not aware" of any plans to meet with the citizens group and didn't know whether a meeting with the bishop has been requested.

"I'm not the bishop's secretary," Diebold said.

Diebold explained that several months ago, Boyea asked the boards of Cristo Rey and St. Vincent Catholic Charities, "both of which are entities of the Diocese of Lansing, to come up with a consolidation plan."

"That's basically where we're at," Diebold said. "The bishop's wishes remain the same."

However, members of the Hispanic community have publicly opposed consolidation for fear that doing so would compromise the cultural history of the community center.

Salas and Lopez said the diocese is "stalling" the citizens group until the merger is a fait accompli.

"We want to put pressure on them," Salas said.

The petition calls for Cristo Rey to continue as a "free-standing Latino agency, maintaining its original concept of Latino control and self-determination," with "appropriate Latino leadership" and "a safe work environment for employees, clients and volunteers." The center's interim director, Robert Vogel, is not Hispanic and does not speak Spanish.

Diebold brushed aside these con-

cerns, explaining that the bishop put a codicil on his request for consolidation directing that "a strong Hispanic ministry continue."

Also, at least three members of the center's board were unaware that Vogel, 65, has a criminal record for embezzlement from 1989 when City Pulse contacted them for a story in mid-November. Vogel, an attorney at the time, pleaded guilty to embezzling more than \$250,000 from estates pending in probate court, according to the Attorney Discipline Board of Michigan. Vogel's law license was revoked.

On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, long-time Latino community leaders Rudy and Elva Reyes discussed the community center's status with Cristo Rey Pastor Fred Thelen.

"It was more or less to try and clear up some of the fog, but it didn't really help that much," Elva Reyes said.

Reyes said Thelen told her the consolidation was ordered by the diocese, but declined to serve as intermediary in arranging a meeting between the citizens' group and the diocese.

"Everybody wants to see some kind of transparency with that merger," Reyes said. "That was one of the questions we posed to Father: Why weren't the questions answered? They're not outrageous questions. They're legitimate."

First Ward City Councilwoman Jody Washington said she "understands" the community's concerns.

"They started [Cristo Rey], they want it to continue, and it's kind of like being ripped out from under them," Washington said. "They're having a lot of difficulty getting together with people from the Diocese."

Washington said she visited Cristo Rey on Nov. 19.

"The whole thing seemed a little off to me," Washington said. "I looked around and it seemed like just another social service agency, without a Latino feel. For decades, it's been an anchor for the Latino community."

Washington said she was disappointed when Vogel told her the Hispanic and Latino community was

"doing much better" and had largely moved to the suburbs.

"Are you kidding me? I grew up in the area, and Cristo Rey was always about the Hispanic community," Washington said.

Lopez said the citizens' group wanted to revive a longstanding Cristo Rey tradition of holding a dance and distributing fruit baskets to area seniors before Christmas.

About two weeks ago, at the request of the group, Councilwoman Carol Wood wrote a letter to Cristo Rey, asking to use the gymnasium and kitchen for the event.

Wood said she met with MaryLou Mason, chairwoman of the Cristo Rey Board of Directors, at City Hall and Mason told her it would cost too much to leave the center open and the center would not be available. As a result, Lopez said, the seniors' event will not take place.

Wood said she is taking the group's concerns seriously. She considers it significant that former Lansing Mayor Tony Benavides has offered to help Cristo Rey at no charge.

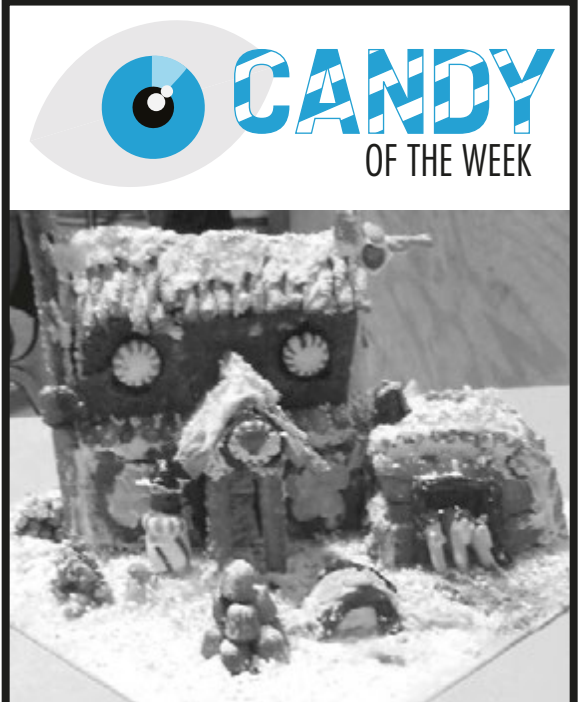
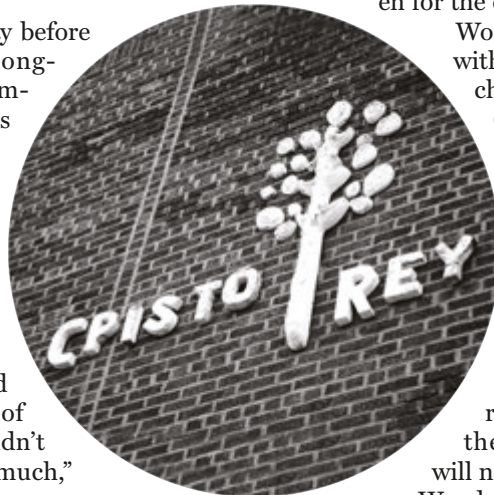
"For the years that Tony and I were serving together on Council, he was director over there," Wood said. Benavides was Cristo Rey's director from its founding in 1968 to 2003. "He had several connections, people he could go to that were donating services and money."

"If you've got a segment of the community that is stepping up and saying, 'We'll help be responsible,' maybe that's something that should be looked at before you look at merging," Wood said. "There's a real desire out there to make the center successful and have it continue to be the anchor it has been in North Lansing."

Lopez said the citizens' group is planning to seek financial and management structure information on Cristo Rey through the state Freedom of Information Act, at Wood's recommendation.

Wood said the information would help determine whether there is a realistic alternative to the merger.

— Lawrence Cosentino



Property: The winning gingerbread house from a competition Saturday at the City Market
Owner: Katie and Frank Chipman-Bergsma

This week, our eye candy is actual candy! The Lansing City Market held a gingerbread house competition on Saturday. Seven different teams came to battle with their gingerbread, icing and gumdrops on hand.

Katie Chipman-Bergsma and her 2-year-old son, Frank, of Lansing won the competition by building a two-story gingerbread palace. The architecture of this house is what sets it apart from the others. A beautiful porch, complete with pretzel pillars, roof and a wreath, gives the house a sophisticated feel. It stands tall at two stories, with enough stability to stay up despite the frosting snow on top of the thatched pretzel roof. It even has great landscaping — gumdrop shrubberies covered with powdered snow brings out the holiday warmth. And there's a garage with black licorice detail? This gingerbread man has it all.

Judges included Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero, Evan Pinsonnault of WLNS TV and Nick Yorke, son of City Councilwoman Jessica Yorke.

Not in the running but worthy of note: a collapsed house — whose quick-thinking creator dubbed it a victim of Hurricane Sandy.

— Andrea Raby

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

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Finally

The U.S. Supreme Court takes up same-sex marriage equality — and it could have major implications for Michigan's prohibitive laws against the LGBT community

Depending on how a case before the U.S. Supreme Court turns out, Amy Hunter may change her birth certificate.

Hunter, who was born a male but now identifies as female, has not changed the gender listed on her birth certificate since she married her partner, Cindy Hunter, in 2006, before her transition. On paper, the Hunters are a heterosexual couple. Amy Hunter, a Kalamazoo resident, has avoided the change so the two can continue to file joint federal income taxes, she said.

Last week, the U.S. Supreme Court announced that it would take up two

major cases in the coming months related to marriage equality and same-sex partner benefits.

One case challenges the constitutionality of the federal Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage as between a man and a woman and bars states from recognizing same-sex marriage in other states. It also prevents the federal government from giving same-sex married couples the same federal benefits as opposite-sex couples.

While Hunter said striking down DOMA would “at least” make their marriage “theoretically” recognized in the nine states that allow same-sex marriage, she said it would also mean that she could change her birth certificate to reflect her female gender without giving up being able to file joint income tax returns. At that point, the couple — and all other

See Supreme Court, Page 9

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Hosted by
Berl Schwartz

Virg Bernero
Lansing Mayor

on consolidation, budget and
right to work

Comcast Ch. 16 Lansing: 11 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 16

Comcast Ch. 30 Meridian Township: 11:30 a.m. and 11:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16; 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16, through Saturday, Dec. 22; and 11:30 a.m. and 11:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE CONTINUES ON PAGE 8

**City of Lansing
Counties of Ingham and Eaton, State of Michigan**

AN ORDINANCE ENACTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF ACT 94, PUBLIC ACTS OF MICHIGAN, 1933, AS AMENDED, AUTHORIZING AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFUNDING A PART OF THE OUTSTANDING SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS, AND TO PAY CERTAIN COSTS RELATING THERETO; PROVIDING THAT THE REFUNDING BONDS SHALL BE OF EQUAL STANDING AND PRIORITY OF LIEN WITH OUTSTANDING SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY ISSUED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF ACT 94, AND ORDINANCES No. 29-A, 31-A, 35-A, 838, 873, 993, 0544 AND 2010-423 OF THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR THE RETIREMENT AND SECURITY OF THE REFUNDING BONDS HEREIN AUTHORIZED, AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATIVE THERETO.

WHEREAS, the City of Lansing, Counties of Ingham and Eaton, State of Michigan (the "City") by Ordinance No. 29-A, as amended and supplemented by Ordinances No. 31-A, 35-A, 838, 873, 993 0544 and 2010-423 (the "Outstanding Bond Ordinances"), has provided for the issuance of the City's Sewage Disposal System Revenue Bonds; and

WHEREAS, the City has heretofore issued and sold Sewage Disposal System Revenue and Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2003, dated as of December 18, 2003 (the "2003 Bonds") in the original aggregate principal sum of \$39,880,000 under the provisions of the Outstanding Bond Ordinances, for the purposes of providing funds to equip, improve, rehabilitate, acquire, construct and install certain improvements to the City's Sewage Disposal System (the "System") and to refund certain Sewage Disposal System Revenue Bonds which were outstanding at that time; and

WHEREAS, Stauder, Barch & Associates, Inc. (the "Financial Consultant"), has advised the City that it may be able to accomplish a net savings of debt service costs by refunding a portion of the outstanding 2003 Bonds through the issuance of revenue refunding bonds in an aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$26,000,000 (the "Refunding Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, Section 19 of Ordinance No. 29-A authorizes the issuance of revenue bonds of equal standing and priority of lien with the outstanding bonds authorized by the Outstanding Bond Ordinances as follows:

(b) For refunding a part of the outstanding Bonds and paying costs of issuing such Additional Bonds including deposits which may be required to be made to the Bond Reserve Account. No Additional Bonds shall be issued pursuant to this subsection unless the maximum amount of principal and interest maturing in any operating year after giving effect to the refunding shall be less than the maximum amount of principal and interest maturing in any operating year prior to giving effect to the refunding.

AND WHEREAS, the City will issue the proposed Refunding Bonds only if the maximum amount of principal and interest of the Refunding Bonds maturing in each operating year will be less than the maximum amount of principal and interest of the 2003 Bonds being refunded (the "Refunded Bonds") maturing in such operating year, and thereby permit the City to meet the requirements of Section 19 of Ordinance No. 29-A; and

WHEREAS, all things necessary to the authorization and issuance of the Refunding Bonds under the Constitution and laws of the State of Michigan, and the Charter and Ordinances of the City and particularly Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended, and the Outstanding Bond Ordinances have been done or will be done, and the Council is now empowered and desires to authorize the issuance of the Refunding Bonds.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF LANSING ORDAINS:

Section 1. Definitions. All terms not defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in the Outstanding Bond Ordinances and whenever used in this Ordinance, except when otherwise indicated by the context, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) "2003 Bonds" means the outstanding Sewage Disposal System Revenue and Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2003, dated December 18, 2003.

(b) "Authorized Officer" means the Finance Director or Interim Finance Director.

(c) "Escrow Agreement" means the Escrow Agreement described in Section 6 of this Ordinance to provide for payment of principal of and interest on the 2003 Bonds to be refunded.

(d) "Escrow Fund" means the Escrow Fund established pursuant to the Escrow Agreement to hold the cash and investments necessary provide for payment of principal of and interest on the 2003 Bonds to be refunded.

(e) "Outstanding Bonds" means the outstanding 2003 Bonds and the outstanding Sewage Disposal System Revenue Refunding Bond, Series 2010, dated as of December 28, 2010.

(f) "Outstanding Bond Ordinances" means Ordinance No. 29-A as supplemented by Ordinance No. 30-A, Ordinance No. 31-A, Ordinance No. 35-A, Ordinance No. 838, Ordinance No. 873, Ordinance No. 993, Ordinance No. 0544 and Ordinance No. 2010 423.

(g) "Refunded Bonds" means the maturities of the 2003 Bonds or portions thereof refunded with proceeds of the Refunding Bonds.

(h) "Refunding Bonds" means the Sewage Disposal System Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2012 authorized by Section 3 of this Ordinance for the purpose of refunding a portion of the 2003 Bonds.

Section 2. Conditions Permitting Issuance of Additional Bonds: Necessity. Pursuant to Section 19 of Ordinance No. 29-A, the City Council hereby determines that Refunding Bonds shall be issued and sold only if the maximum amount of principal and interest of the Refunding Bonds maturing in each operating year will be less than the maximum amount of principal and interest of the Refunded Bonds maturing in such operating year. If sale of the Refunding Bonds will accomplish savings after payment of costs of issuance of the Refunding Bonds, then it is hereby determined to be necessary for the public health and welfare of the City to refund a portion of the 2003 Bonds through issuance of the Refunding Bonds.

The City Council hereby determines that the 2003 Bonds maturing from May 1, 2015 through May

1, 2028, inclusive, were entirely allocated to financing to equipping, improvement, rehabilitation, acquisition, construction and installation of improvements to the System and were not allocated to refunding prior bonds.

Section 3. Refunding of 2003 Bonds: Refunding Bonds Authorized. To pay costs of refunding all or any portion of the 2003 Bonds maturing from May 1, 2015 through May 1, 2028, inclusive, including the payment of the costs of legal, financial, bond insurance, underwriter's discount and other expenses incident thereto and incident to the issuance and sale of the Refunding Bonds, the City shall borrow the sum of not to exceed Twenty-Six Million Dollars (\$26,000,000) as finally determined upon the sale thereof, and issue the Refunding Bonds therefor pursuant to the provisions of Act 94. The Refunding Bonds shall have equal standing and priority of lien with any Outstanding Bonds which are not refunded pursuant to this Ordinance.

Section 4. Refunding Bond Data. The Refunding Bonds shall be designated SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2012 and shall not be a general obligation of the City but shall be payable solely out of the Net Revenues. If the Refunding Bonds are sold or delivered after December 31, 2012 then the Authorized Officer may change the series designation of the Refunding Bonds to reflect the year in which they will be sold or delivered. The Refunding Bonds shall be issued in fully-registered form in the denomination of \$5,000 or integral multiples thereof, not exceeding the amount of bonds maturing on the same date such bond matures, and shall be numbered in consecutive order of authentication from 1 upwards. The Refunding Bonds shall be dated as of the date of delivery thereof or such other date as may be determined at the time of sale of the Refunding Bonds, and shall mature serially or as term bonds on May 1 in the years to be determined by the Authorized Officer at the time of sale.

The Refunding Bonds shall bear interest at a rate or rates to be determined at the time of sale, payable initially on such date as approved at the time of sale, and semi-annually thereafter on May 1 and November 1 of each year, by check drawn on the transfer agent and mailed to the registered owner at the registered address, as shown on the registration books of the City maintained by the transfer agent. Interest shall be payable to the registered owner of record as of the fifteenth day of the month prior to the payment date for each interest payment. The date of determination of registered owner for purposes of payment of interest as provided in this paragraph may be changed by the City to conform to market practice in the future. The principal of the Refunding Bonds shall be payable at a bank or trust company to be designated by the Authorized Officer as a registrar and transfer agent.

The Refunding Bonds may be subject to redemption prior to maturity at the times and prices determined by the Authorized Officer at the time of sale. In the event that any of the Refunding Bonds shall be issued as term bonds, the mandatory redemption requirements for such term bonds shall be specified at the time of sale.

The Refunding Bonds shall be signed by the manual or facsimile signature of the Mayor and countersigned by the manual or facsimile signature of the City Clerk. The Refunding Bonds shall have the facsimile corporate seal of the City printed or impressed thereon. No Refunding Bond shall be valid until authenticated by an authorized officer of the transfer agent. The Refunding Bonds shall be delivered to the transfer agent for authentication and be delivered by the transfer agent to the purchaser in accordance with instructions from the Authorized Officer upon payment of the purchase price therefor in accordance with the bid therefor when accepted. Executed blank bonds for registration and issuance to transferees shall simultaneously, and from time to time thereafter as necessary, be delivered to the transfer agent for safekeeping.

The Refunding Bonds may be issued in book-entry-only form through The Depository Trust Company in New York, New York ("DTC"), and the Authorized Officer is authorized to execute such custodial or other agreement with DTC as may be necessary to accomplish the issuance of the Refunding Bonds in book-entry-only form and to make such changes in the bond form within the parameters of this Ordinance as may be required to accomplish the foregoing. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Refunding Bonds are held in book-entry form by DTC, payment of principal of and interest on the Refunding Bonds shall be made in the manner prescribed by DTC.

Any Refunding Bond may be transferred upon the books of the City maintained by the transfer agent by the person in whose name it is registered, in person or by his duly authorized attorney, upon surrender of the bond for cancellation, accompanied by delivery of a duly executed written instrument of transfer in a form approved by the transfer agent. Whenever any Refunding Bond or Bonds shall be surrendered for transfer, the transfer agent shall authenticate and deliver a new Refunding Bond or Bonds, for like aggregate principal amount. The transfer agent shall require the payment by the bondholder requesting the transfer of any tax or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to the transfer. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if Refunding Bonds are held by DTC in book-entry form, the transfer of Refunding Bonds shall be made in the manner prescribed by DTC.

Upon payment by the City of all outstanding principal of and interest on the Refunding Bonds, the registered owner thereof shall deliver the Refunding Bonds to the City for cancellation.

Section 5. Applicability of the Outstanding Bond Ordinances. Except to the extent supplemented or otherwise provided in this Ordinance, all of the provisions and covenants provided in the Outstanding Bond Ordinances shall apply to the Refunding Bonds issued pursuant to provisions of this Ordinance, such provisions of the Ordinances being made applicable to the Refunding Bonds herein authorized, the same as though the Refunding Bonds were originally authorized and issued as a part of the Outstanding Bonds issued pursuant to the Outstanding Bond Ordinances.

Section 6. Refunding Bond Proceeds. Upon receipt of the proceeds of sale of the Refunding Bonds, the accrued interest, if any, shall be deposited in the Redemption Fund and used to pay interest on the Refunding Bonds on the first interest payment date, and the City may take credit for the amount so deposited against the amount required to be deposited in the Redemption Fund for payment of the next maturing interest on the Refunding Bonds. At the discretion of the Authorized Officer, all or a portion of any premium received upon delivery of the Refunding Bonds may be deposited in either the Redemption Fund or the Escrow Fund.

There shall next be deposited in the Bond Reserve Account from proceeds of sale of the Refunding Bonds an amount, if any, designated by the Authorized Officer at the time of sale of the Refunding Bonds as necessary to meet the requirements of the Outstanding Bond Ordinances.

There shall be deposited to the Escrow Fund from proceeds of sale of the Refunding Bonds monies which shall be invested only as described in the Escrow Agreement and which shall be used solely to pay the principal of and interest on the 2003 Bonds being refunded. The amount to be deposited to the Escrow Fund shall be an amount which, taken together with amounts transferred to the Escrow Fund

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from the monies set aside for payment of the 2003 Bonds in the Redemption Fund, and the investment proceeds to be received from monies in the Escrow Fund, will be sufficient, without reinvestment, to pay the principal of and interest on the 2003 Bonds being refunded as they become due or upon call for redemption prior to maturity.

The Escrow Fund shall be held by an escrow agent in trust pursuant to the Escrow Agreement which shall irrevocably direct the escrow agent to take all necessary steps to pay the principal of and interest on the Refunded Bonds when due and to call such Bonds for redemption as specified in the Escrow Agreement.

The Authorized Officer is hereby authorized to transfer monies from the Redemption Fund to the Escrow Fund created under the Escrow Agreement, to be invested as provided in the Escrow Agreement and to be used to pay principal and interest on the Refunded Bonds. The Authorized Officer is hereby authorized to purchase, or cause to be purchased, escrow securities, including, but not limited to, United States Treasury Obligations – State and Local Government Series (SLGS), in an amount sufficient to fund the Escrow Fund.

The remaining proceeds of the Refunding Bonds shall be used to pay the costs of issuance attributable to the Refunding Bonds. At the option of the Authorized Officer the costs of the issuance of the Refunding Bonds may be paid from a fund established for that purpose in the Escrow Agreement.

The Authorized Officer shall designate a bank or trust company to serve as escrow agent under the Escrow Agreement. The Authorized Officer is hereby authorized to approve, execute and deliver the Escrow Agreement.

Section 7. Refunding Bond Form. The Refunding Bonds shall be substantially in the following form with such changes as may be necessary to conform the Refunding Bonds to the final terms of sale:

[FORM OF BOND TO BE COMPLETED AFTER BOND SALE]

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTIES OF INGHAM AND EATON
CITY OF LANSING
SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM
REVENUE REFUNDING BOND, SERIES 2012

Interest Rate	Date of Maturity	Date of Original Issue	CUSIP
Registered Owner:			
Principal Amount:			

The CITY OF LANSING, Counties of Ingham and Eaton, State of Michigan (the "City"), acknowledges itself to owe and for value received, hereby promises to pay, solely and only out of the hereinafter described Net Revenues of the Sewage Disposal System of the City (the "System") to the Registered Owner specified above, or registered assigns, the Principal Amount specified above, in lawful money of the United States of America, on the Date of Maturity specified above, unless prepaid prior thereto as hereinafter provided, with interest thereon (computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) from the Date of Original Issue specified above or such later date to which interest has been paid, until paid, at the Interest Rate per annum specified above, first payable on [date] and semiannually thereafter. Principal of this bond is payable upon presentation and surrender hereof at the designated corporate trust office of [transfer agent], [city], Michigan, or such other transfer agent as the City may hereafter designate by notice mailed to the registered owner of record not less than sixty (60) days prior to any interest payment date (the "Transfer Agent"). Interest on this bond is payable by check or draft mailed by the Transfer Agent to the person or entity who or which is as of the fifteenth (15th) day of the month prior to each interest payment date, the registered owner of record, at the registered address. For the prompt payment thereof, the revenues of the System, including all appurtenances, extensions and improvements thereto, after provision has been made for reasonable and necessary expenses of operation, maintenance and administration, are irrevocably pledged and a statutory first lien thereon is hereby created. This bond and the series of which it is one are of equal standing and priority of lien as the net revenues of the System with the City's outstanding Sewage Disposal System Revenue and Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2003, dated December 18, 2003, and Sewage Disposal System Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2010, dated December 28, 2010.

This bond is one of a series of bonds aggregating the principal sum of \$[principal], issued pursuant to Ordinance No. 29-A, as amended and supplemented by Ordinances No. 30 A, 31-A, 35-A, 838, 873, 993, 0544, 2010-423, and Ordinance No. [number] duly adopted by the City Council of the City, and under and in full compliance with the Constitution and statutes of the State of Michigan, including specifically Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended, for the purpose of refunding certain outstanding sewage disposal system revenue bonds of the City.

For a complete statement of the revenues from which and the conditions under which this bond is payable, a statement of the conditions under which additional bonds of equal standing as to the Net Revenues of the System may hereafter be issued and the general covenants and provisions pursuant to which this bond is issued, reference is made to the above-described Ordinances. Copies of the Ordinances are on file at the office of the City Clerk and reference is made to the Ordinances and any and all supplements thereto and modifications and amendments thereof, if any, and to Act 94 for a more complete description of the pledges and covenants securing the bonds, the nature, extent and manner of enforcement of such pledges, the rights and remedies of the registered owners of the bonds with respect thereto and the terms and conditions upon which the bonds are issued and may be issued thereunder. To the extent and in the manner permitted by the terms of the Ordinances, the provisions of the Ordinances or any resolution or agreement amendatory thereof or supplemental thereto, may be modified or amended by the City, except in specified cases, only with the written consent of the registered owners of at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the principal amount of the bonds then outstanding.

Bonds of this issue maturing on or prior to [date] are not subject to redemption prior to maturity. Bonds or portions of bonds in multiples of \$5,000 of this issue maturing on or after [date] shall be subject to redemption prior to maturity without a premium, at the option of the City, in such order as the City shall determine and within any maturity by lot, on any date on or after [date], at par plus accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

[Insert mandatory redemption provisions if term bonds are issued]

Notice of redemption shall be given by the Transfer Agent to each registered owner of bonds or portions thereof to be redeemed by mailing such notice not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date fixed for redemption to the registered owner at the address of the registered owner as shown on the registration books of the City. Bonds shall be called for redemption in multiples of \$5,000, and bonds of denominations of more than \$5,000 shall be treated as representing the number of bonds obtained by dividing the denomination of the bonds by \$5,000, and such bonds may be redeemed in part. The notice of redemption for bonds redeemed in part shall state that, upon surrender of the bond to be redeemed, a new bond or bonds in the same aggregate principal amount equal to the unredeemed

portion of the bonds surrendered shall be issued to the registered owner thereof with the same interest rate and maturity. No further interest on bonds or portions of bonds called for redemption shall accrue after the date fixed for redemption, whether the bonds have been presented for redemption or not, provided funds are on hand with the Transfer Agent to redeem the bonds or portion thereof.

Any bond may be transferred by the person in whose name it is registered, in person or by the registered owner's duly authorized attorney or legal representative, upon surrender of the bond to the Transfer Agent for cancellation, together with a duly executed written instrument of transfer in a form approved by the Transfer Agent. Whenever any bond is surrendered for transfer, the Transfer Agent shall authenticate and deliver a new bond or bonds, in like aggregate principal amount, interest rate and maturity. The Transfer Agent shall require the bondholder requesting the transfer to pay any tax or other governmental charge required to be paid with respect to the transfer. The Transfer Agent shall not be required (i) to issue, register the transfer of, or exchange any bond during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before the day of the mailing of a notice of redemption of bonds selected for redemption and ending at the close of business on the date of that mailing, or (ii) to register the transfer of or exchange any bond so selected for redemption in whole or in part, except the unredeemed portion of bonds being redeemed in part.

THIS BOND IS A SELF-LIQUIDATING BOND AND IS NOT A GENERAL OBLIGATION OF THE CITY AND DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN INDEBTEDNESS OF THE CITY WITHIN ANY CONSTITUTIONAL, STATUTORY OR CHARTER LIMITATION, AND IS PAYABLE BOTH AS TO PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST, SOLELY FROM THE NET REVENUES OF THE SYSTEM AND CERTAIN FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE ORDINANCES. THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON THIS BOND ARE SECURED BY THE STATUTORY FIRST LIEN HEREINBEFORE DESCRIBED.

The City has covenanted and agreed to fix and maintain at all times while any of such bonds shall be outstanding, such rates for service furnished by the System as shall be sufficient to provide for payment of the interest upon and the principal of all bonds payable from the Net Revenues of the System as and when the same become due and payable, and to maintain a bond and interest redemption fund (including a bond reserve account) therefor, to provide for the payment of expenses of administration and operation and such expenses for maintenance of the System as are necessary to preserve the same in good repair and working order, and to provide for such other expenditures and funds for the System as are required by the Ordinances.

It is hereby certified and recited that all acts, conditions and things required by law to be done precedent to and in the issuance of this bond and the series of bonds of which this is one have been done and performed in regular and due time and form as required by law.

This bond is not valid or obligatory for any purpose until the Transfer Agent's Certificate of Authentication on this bond has been executed by the Transfer Agent

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the City, by its Council, has caused this bond to be signed in its name with the facsimile signatures of its Mayor and Clerk, and a facsimile of its corporate seal to be printed hereon, all as of the Date of Original Issue.

CITY OF LANSING

[manual or facsimile

By _____ signature to appear here _____]

Mayor

(Seal)

Countersigned:

[manual or facsimile

By _____ signature to appear here _____]

City Clerk

Date of Authentication:

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION

This bond is one of the bonds described herein.

[Transfer Agent]

[City], Michigan, as Transfer Agent

By _____ signature to appear here _____]

Authorized Signature

[Insert standard form of assignment.]

Section 8. Non-Arbitrage Covenant. The City covenants and agrees with the Registered Owners of the Refunding Bonds that as long as any of the Refunding Bonds remain outstanding and unpaid as to either principal or interest, the City shall not invest, reinvest or accumulate any moneys deemed to be proceeds of the Refunding Bonds or the 2003 Bonds pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code in such a manner as to cause the Refunding Bonds to be "arbitrage bonds" within the meaning of the Internal Revenue Code. The City hereby covenants that, to the extent permitted by law, it will take all actions within its control and that it shall not fail to take any action as may be necessary to maintain the exclusion of interest on the Refunding Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes, including but not limited to, actions relating to the rebate of arbitrage earnings, if applicable, and the expenditure and investment of bond proceeds and moneys deemed to be bond proceeds, all as more fully set forth in the Non-Arbitrage and Tax Compliance Certificate to be delivered by the City with the Refunding Bonds.

Section 9. Negotiated Sale. The City hereby determines to sell the Refunding Bonds at a negotiated sale instead of a competitive sale for the reason that a negotiated sale will permit the City to enter the market on short notice at a point in time which appears to be most advantageous, and thereby possibly obtain a lower rate of interest on the Refunding Bonds and the most favorable price for purchase of securities to be escrowed for payment of the Refunded Bonds.

Section 10. Financial Consultant. The City requests Stauder, Barch and Associates to continue as Financial Consultant to the City to assist in preparation and planning for the sale of the Refunding Bonds.

Section 11. Managing Underwriter. Based upon the advice of the Financial Consultant, the City hereby selects Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated as senior managing underwriter for the Refunding Bonds. The City reserves the right to name additional co-managers and/or to develop a selling group. By adoption of this Ordinance the City assumes no obligations or liability to the underwriter for any loss or damage that may result to the underwriter from the adoption of this Ordinance, and all costs and expenses incurred by the underwriter in preparing for sale of the Refunding Bonds shall be paid from the proceeds of the Refunding Bonds, if the Refunding Bonds are issued, except as may be otherwise provided in the Bond Purchase Agreement for the Refunding Bonds.

Section 12. Bond Counsel. The City hereby requests that Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, P.L.C. continue to serve as the City's bond counsel notwithstanding representation by Miller, Canfield, in matters unrelated to the Refunding Bonds, of Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated and potential selling group members in connection with matters unrelated to issuance of the Refunding Bonds.

Section 13. Bond Ratings: Bond Insurance. The Authorized Officer is hereby authorized to apply for

Supreme Court

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same-sex partners in Michigan — could get married in a state that recognizes same-sex marriages and qualify for federal benefits. Michigan barred same-sex marriage in 2004.

But not so fast. The other case being heard by the Supreme Court involves a constitutional amendment passed in California in 2008 defining marriage between one man and one woman, which overturned a state Supreme Court ruling there allowing same-sex marriage. Lower courts have ruled Prop 8 unconstitutional. The Supreme Court could rule that all statewide bans on same-sex marriage are unconstitutional. Couples like the Hunters wouldn't have to marry out of state to get married — they could do so here.

"Right now I sort of balance on a knife's edge," said Hunter, who is the president of Equality Michigan Pride PAC, an organization advocating LGBT rights and supporting LGBT-friendly politicians. Should the court strike down the federal law signed by Bill Clinton in 1996, "I could feel much safer about changing my birth certificate."

Hunter's story reflects potentially

major changes that could affect same-sex couples throughout the country, including in Michigan.

Legal experts say there's a variety of outcomes — based on how narrow or broadly the U.S. Supreme Court rules — that could affect Michigan's LGBT community in June, when decisions on the two cases are expected.

Even though Michigan has a constitutional ban on same-sex marriages, striking down DOMA would mean the federal government recognizes such marriages if they were carried out in states or other countries that allow it, said Jay Kaplan, staff attorney for the Michigan American Civil Liberties Union LGBT Project. With that could come the ability to take advantage of federal programs and benefits. For instance, a Michigan same-sex couple who married in Massachusetts would be able to file joint income tax returns or social security, Kaplan said.

The DOMA case from New York, known as the Windsor case, involves a lesbian couple and inheritance rights. Edith Windsor and Thea Spyer married in Canada in 2007. Windsor inherited Spyer's property after she died in 2009. However, under DOMA, the Internal Revenue Service did not recognize Windsor as a beneficiary. Windsor not only was denied the property, but she also

faced a tax bill of \$360,000 that an opposite-sex beneficiary wouldn't have. Lower courts ruled in Windsor's favor, saying section 3 of the law — which defines marriage as between a man and a woman — was unconstitutional.

Also, a technicality in how the appellate court's ruled could also positively impact Michigan residents, Kaplan said. Should the high court rule that states that don't recognize same-sex marriages apply a "higher level of scrutiny" when deciding future cases, "The government has to show more justification to support

the constitutionality of discrimination," Kaplan said. "That certainly can benefit our state."

In February 2011, the Obama administration concluded that DOMA was unconstitutional and wouldn't defend

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bond ratings from such municipal bond rating agencies as is deemed appropriate, in consultation with the Financial Consultant, and, if the Financial Consultant recommends that the City consider purchase of municipal bond insurance, then the Authorized Officer is hereby authorized and directed to negotiate with insurers regarding acquisition of municipal bond insurance, and, in consultation with the Financial Consultant, to select an insurer and determine which bonds, if any, shall be insured.

Section 14. Preliminary Official Statement. The Authorized Officer is authorized to approve circulation of a Preliminary Official Statement describing the Refunding Bonds, and to deem such Preliminary Official Statement "final" for purposes of compliance with Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12 ("Rule 15c2 12").

Section 15. Sale of Refunding Bonds. The Refunding Bonds shall not be sold unless there shall be net present value savings equaling not less than 3.00% after payment of costs of issuance of the Refunding Bonds, and if the principal and interest of the Refunding Bonds maturing in each operating year will be less than the principal and interest of the Refunded Bonds maturing in such operating year. The true interest cost of the Refunding Bonds shall not exceed 3.50%. The first maturity of principal on the Refunding Bonds shall occur no earlier than May 1, 2013 and the date of the final maturity shall not be later than May 1, 2028. The underwriter's discount for the Refunding Bonds shall not be greater than 1.00% (\$10.00 per \$1,000 of bonds) of the principal amount of the Refunding Bonds. In making such determinations the Authorized Officer is authorized to rely upon data provided by the Financial Consultant or the underwriters.

The Authorized Officer is hereby authorized, on behalf of the City, subject to the provisions and limitations of this Ordinance, to negotiate sale of the Refunding Bonds to the underwriters, and to accept an offer by the underwriters to purchase the Refunding Bonds without further action by City Council. This authorization includes, but is not limited to, determination of original principal amount of the Refunding Bonds, the prices at which the Refunding Bonds are sold; the date of the Refunding Bonds; the schedule of principal maturities and whether the Refunding Bonds shall mature serially or as term bonds; the provisions for early redemption including mandatory redemption of term bonds, if any; the interest rates and payment dates of the Refunding Bonds, and the maturities of the 2003 Bonds or portions thereof which are refunded. The Authorized Officer is authorized to sign a Bond Purchase Agreement for the Refunding Bonds on behalf of the City. Approval of the matters delegated to the Authorized Officer under this Ordinance may be evidenced by execution by the Authorized Officer of a Bond Purchase Agreement or Official Statement for the Refunding Bonds.

Section 16. Final Official Statement; Continuing Disclosure. After sale of the Refunding Bonds the Authorized Officer shall prepare, execute and deliver a final Official Statement. The Authorized Officer shall execute and deliver, prior to delivery of the Refunding Bonds, a written continuing disclosure agreement to enable the underwriter of the Refunding Bonds to comply with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12.

Section 17. Verification Agent. The Authorized Officer is hereby directed to select an independent certified public accountant to serve as verification agent to verify that the securities and cash to be deposited to the Escrow Fund will be sufficient to provide, at the times and in the amounts required, sufficient moneys to pay the principal of and interest on the 2003 Bonds being refunded as they become due.

Section 18. Other Actions. In the event that the Authorized Officer is not available to undertake responsibilities delegated to her under this Ordinance, then an officer of the City designated by the

PUBLIC NOTICES

Authorized Officer or the Mayor is authorized to take such actions. The officers, administrators, agents and attorneys of the City are authorized and directed to take all other actions necessary and to facilitate issuance and sale of the Refunding Bonds, and to execute and deliver all other agreements, documents and certificates and to take all other actions necessary or convenient in accordance with this Ordinance, and to pay costs of issuance including but not limited to financial consultant fees, filing fees, rating agency fees, costs of printing the preliminary and final official statements, escrow agent fees, transfer agent fees, verification agent fees, bond counsel fees, and any other costs necessary to accomplish sale and delivery of the Refunding Bonds.

Section 19. Repeal, Savings Clause. All ordinances, resolutions of orders, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are repealed.

Section 20. Severability; Paragraph Headings; and Conflict. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the other provisions of this Ordinance. The paragraph headings in this Ordinance are furnished for convenience of reference only and shall not be considered to be a part of this Ordinance.

Section 21. Publication and Recordation. This Ordinance shall be published in full in the City Pulse, a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Lansing qualified under State law to publish legal notices, promptly after its adoption, and shall be recorded in the Ordinance Book of the City and such recording authenticated by the signatures of the President of the council and the City Clerk.

Section 22. Effective Date. As provided in Act 94, this Ordinance shall be effective upon its adoption.

Passed and adopted by the City of Lansing, Counties of Ingham and Eaton, State of Michigan, on December 3, 2012.

Signed: Brian Jeffries
President of the City Council
Signed: Chris Swope
City Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of an Ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Lansing, Counties of Ingham and Eaton, State of Michigan, at a Regular meeting held on December 3, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time, and that the meeting was conducted and public notice of the meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of the meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by Act 267.

I further certify that the following City Council Members were present at the meeting: Council Members Dunbar, Houghton, Jeffries, Quinney, Robinson, Wood and Yorke and that the following City Council Members were absent: Council Member Washington.

I further certify that City Council Member Dunbar moved adoption of the Ordinance, and that the motion was supported by All Present.

I further certify that the following City Council members voted for adoption of the Ordinance: All Present, and that the following City Council members voted against adoption of the Ordinance: None.

I further certify that the Ordinance has been recorded in the Ordinance Book and that such recording has been authenticated by the signatures of the President of the City Council and the City Clerk.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk

Supreme Court

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it in court. In May, President Obama announced his support for same-sex marriages.

The case challenging Prop 8 in California has a potentially much broader impact than the Windsor case: It could end all same-sex marriage bans in 31 states. However, it could also have a demoralizing effect should the Supreme Court overturn a lower court decision.

In 2008, California voters approved a ballot initiative defining marriage as between a man and a woman after the California Supreme Court ruled that same-sex couples were allowed to marry. Federal District Judge Vaughn Walker's August 2010 ruling and an appellate court ruling upholding Walker's decision

to overturn Prop 8 were stayed, meaning same-sex partners have been unable to get married in California since Prop 8 passed, pending appeal.

Kaplan said there's three potential outcomes of the Prop 8 case: the Supreme Court makes it about marriage equality in general and strikes down same-sex marriage bans in all states, making Michigan's unconstitutional; the court rules only on the referendum in California, saying it took away the legal right for same-sex partners to marry; or the court rules that states have a right to deny gay couples the right to get married and ballot initiatives — like Michigan's in 2004 — are constitutional.

Melanie Jacobs, a professor at Michigan State University's College of Law, says a lot hinges on the court decisions.

"What I think is interesting and maybe relevant is: This could mean a lot or it

could mean nothing," she said. "Living in Michigan, we're kind of in a wait and see mode."

At the heart of these cases is whether gays and lesbians who seek to marry are afforded equal protection under the Constitution as opposite-sex partners. Jacobs believes that a "social tide change" seen throughout the country — statewide and national polls now suggest a majority of Americans support same-sex marriage — will lead to the court striking down DOMA.

As for Prop 8? "Several years ago, I sat in a classroom with a group of professors around the university talking about the California case. I believe I did predict the Supreme Court would recognize the right of marriage equality," she recalled. She's keeping her bet. "I don't know if I should bet my house on it — it may just be wishful thinking. But I'm an optimist."

Either way, Kaplan called the U.S.

Supreme Court's decision to take the cases "momentous and historic."

"It's definitely a turn of the tide," he said.

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope, who married his partner, Brad Rakowski, eight years ago in Canada, echoes the importance of the cases and for their possibility to affect him personally. Should DOMA be struck down, he said, they might qualify for federal benefits like inheritance rights and not paying taxes on health insurance — the same protections afforded to straight couples.

Upon hearing the announcement Friday, Swope said he was "surprised and excited."

"I'm hoping they will broadly expand the rights of gay couples," he said. "Clearly our society has come around."

— Andy Balaskovitz

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF EAST LANSING

ORDINANCE NO. 1280

CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY ELECTRIC FRANCHISE ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE, granting to CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY, its successors and assigns, the right, power and authority to construct, maintain and commercially use electric lines consisting of towers, masts, poles, crossarms, guys, braces, feeders, transmission and distribution wires, transformers and other electrical appliances on, under, along and across the highways, streets, alleys, bridges, waterways, and other public places, and to do a local electric business in the CITY OF EAST LANSING, INGHAM AND CLINTON COUNTIES, MICHIGAN, for a period of thirty years.

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. GRANT TERM. The CITY OF EAST LANSING, INGHAM AND CLINTON COUNTIES, MICHIGAN, hereinafter City, hereby grants the right, power and authority to the Consumers Energy Company, a Michigan corporation, its successors and assigns, hereinafter called the "Grantee," to construct, maintain and commercially use electric lines consisting of towers, masts, poles, crossarms, guys, braces, feeders, transmission and distribution wires, transformers and other electrical appliances, hereinafter referred to collectively as electric lines, for the purpose of transmitting, transforming and distributing electricity on, under, along and across the highways, streets, alleys, bridges, waterways, and other public places, and to do a local electric business in the CITY OF EAST LANSING, INGHAM AND CLINTON COUNTIES, MICHIGAN, for a period of thirty years.

SECTION 2. CONSIDERATION. In consideration of the rights, power and authority hereby granted, said Grantee shall faithfully perform all things required by the terms hereof.

SECTION 3. CONDITIONS. Except in cases of emergency, no work requiring any excavation in, opening in or tunneling under any highway, street, alley, bridge, waterway or other public place shall be commenced by said Grantee without first obtaining a permit for said work from the City. Except in cases of emergency, no work requiring the obstruction of any portion of any right of way for longer than one day shall be commenced by grantee without first obtaining a right of way permit from the City. In cases of emergency, the required permits shall be obtained as soon as practicable after commencement of the work. No highway, street, alley, bridge, waterway or other public place used by said Grantee shall be obstructed longer than necessary during the work of construction or repair, and shall be restored to the same order and condition as when said work was commenced. All of Grantee's structures and equipment shall be so placed on either side of the highways as not to unnecessarily interfere with the use thereof for highway purposes. All of Grantee's wires carrying electricity shall be securely fastened so as not to endanger or injure persons or property in said highways. The Grantee shall have the right to trim trees if necessary in the conducting of such business, subject, however, to the supervision and reasonable control of the City's Department of Public Works and Environmental Services or its successor.

SECTION 4. HOLD HARMLESS. Said Grantee shall at all times keep and save the City free and harmless from all loss, costs and expense to which it may be subject by reason of the electric lines hereby authorized. In case any action is commenced against the City on account of the permission herein given, said Grantee shall, upon notice, defend the City and save it free and harmless from all loss, cost and damage arising out of the electric lines. Provided, however, that Grantee's obligations under this Section 4 shall not apply to any loss, cost, damage or claims arising solely out of the negligence of the City, its employees or its contractors. Furthermore, in the event that any loss, cost, damage or claims arise out of the joint negligence of the City, its employees or its contractors, Grantee's obligations under this Section 4 shall not apply to the proportional extent of the negligence of the City, its employees or its contractors.

SECTION 5. EXTENSIONS. Said Grantee shall construct and extend its electric distribution system within said City, and shall furnish electric service to applicants residing therein in accordance with applicable laws, rules and regulations.

SECTION 6. FRANCHISE NOT EXCLUSIVE. The rights, power and authority herein granted, are not exclusive.

SECTION 7. RATES. Said Grantee shall be entitled to charge the inhabitants of said City for electric furnished therein, the rates as approved by the Michigan Public Service Commission, to which Commission or its successors authority and jurisdiction to fix and regulate electric rates and rules regulating such service in said City, are hereby granted for the term of this franchise. Such rates and rules shall be subject to review and change at any time upon petition therefor being made by either said City, acting by its City Council, or by said Grantee.

SECTION 8. REVOCATION. The franchise granted by this ordinance is subject to revocation at the will of the City Council or Grantee and upon sixty (60) days' written notice by the party desiring such revocation.

SECTION 9. RIGHT OF REGULATION. The Grantee shall be and remain subject to all charter provisions, ordinances, rules and regulations of the City now in effect, or which are subsequently adopted for the regulation of land uses or for the protection of the health, safety and general welfare of the public; provided, however, that nothing herein shall be construed as a waiver by Grantee of its existing or future rights under State or Federal law.

SECTION 10. USE OF STREETS. The franchise granted by this ordinance is subject to the right of the City to use, control, and regulate the use of its streets, alleys, bridges, and public places and the space above and beneath them. The Grantee and its contractors and subcontractors shall, at Grantee's own cost and expense, relocate or remove Grantee's facilities from streets, alleys, bridges, and public places whenever (i) the use of such streets, alleys, bridges, and public places by the public for the installation or repair of public improvements, such as, but not limited to, drains, sewers, water mains or pipes, road construction, grading or repair, or (ii) the vacation of any street or public right of way, necessitates such relocation or removal; provided, however, that nothing herein shall be construed as a waiver by Grantee of any of its existing or future rights under state or Federal law. Nothing herein shall restrict or impair Grantee's rights under any statutes or laws regarding the vacation or relocation of public streets. Grantee shall permit joint use of, or attachment to, its poles and other appurtenances located within the streets, alleys and other public places of Grantor in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Michigan Public Service Commission and the Federal Communication Commission, as applicable.

SECTION 11. MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION JURISDICTION. Said Grantee shall, as to all other conditions and elements of service not herein fixed that fall within the jurisdiction of the Michigan Public Service Commission, be and remain subject to the rules and regulations of the Michigan Public Service Commission or its successors, applicable to electric service in said City.

SECTION 12. REPEALER. This ordinance, when accepted and published as herein provided, shall repeal and supersede the provisions of an electric ordinance adopted by the City on June 3, 1968 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE, granting to CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY, its successors and assigns, the right, power and authority to construct, maintain and use electric lines consisting of poles, masts, towers, crossarms, guys, brace, feeders, transmission and distribution wires, transformers and other electrical appliances on, along, across and under the highways, streets, alleys, bridges and other public places, and to do a local electric business in the CITY OF EAST LANSING, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

and amendments, if any, to such ordinance whereby an electric franchise was granted to Consumers Energy Company.

SECTION 13. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall take effect upon the day after the date of publication thereof; provided, however, it shall cease and be of no effect after thirty days from its adoption unless within said period the Grantee shall accept the same in writing filed with the City Clerk. Upon acceptance and publication hereof, this ordinance shall constitute a contract between said City and said Grantee.

We certify that the foregoing Franchise Ordinance was duly enacted by the City Council of 4th day of December, 2012.

Marie E. McKenna
City Clerk



Sam Inglot/City Pulse

On Tuesday evening, Republican Gov. Rick Snyder followed through on a pledge he made last week that he would sign legislation making Michigan the 24th right-to-work state in the country. It came a few hours after the state House had approved the legislation. On Thursday, Senate Democrats took to the rotunda after the RTW legislation passed the chamber. “Thank you, Dems!” was being chanted as they hugged and shook hands with protesters inside the Capitol. State Sen. Gretchen Whitmer, D-Lansing, made a brief speech, looking up to the protesters in the rotunda (right). Her message was clear: the fight against right to work is not over.

RIGHT TO WORK JUST PART OF MICHIGAN'S BIG RIGHT TURN

By **KYLE MELINN**

Sorry, Democrats.

Gov. Rick Snyder and his Republican elves in the legislature are leaving no presents under your tree this Christmas.

The way things are shaking out this lame duck, the GOP gang is more prone to pull a Grinch — shoving the tree, the trimmings and the roast beast back up the chimney to be piled into a sleigh that's shoved over a cliff.

It's just not right to work. The ultimate political assault on organized labor and Democrats aside, Snyder & friends are gearing up a Christmas list chocked full of goodies for their business buddies, Bible-hugging conservatives and Tea Party subscribers.

We're talking another big tax cut. Another try at emergency manager legislation. Guns in more places. More abortion regulations. More tinkering with struggling school districts.

Think tanks like the Center

Michigan Future argue that bringing Michigan's laws closer to other low-wage states like Mississippi, where the standard of living and the investment in quality of life public services is lower, chases away young talent

looking for jobs in the knowledge-based economy.

An agenda that disinvests from its people and public offerings makes Michigan a low-prosperity state, they argue.

The state's politically minded business leaders, however, have a different vision. Emboldened by an Election Day that was good for Republicans in the places it mattered, party high-rollers Dick DeVos, Ron Weiser and their ideological soulmates have convinced lawmakers and Snyder that now is the time to clear the bucket list.

Why put off the tough decisions when they'll only get tougher over time?

Voters just turned down Proposal 2, organized labor's collective bargaining ballot proposal, by 16 percentage points. Six Republican House members lost their re-election bids, giving them a free pass to vote conservative without any fear of political repercussions. The Supreme Court is arguably friendly to the cause.

Every day that goes by is another day closer to Nov. 4, 2014, and re-election day for Snyder and three-quarters of the state Senate, making any tough vote just a little bit tougher to pull off.

The Democrats? Why worry about them? Why bother working with them? As far as the Republicans are concerned, who needs them?

They fought the new Corporate Income Tax and the R's other business friendly changes to project labor agreements, unemployment insurance reform, workers compensation and insurance premiums/benefit contributions for public workers.

Blasting through a blatantly partisan

business and social agenda in the waning days of the 96th Legislature without them after advancing an aggressive business agenda in 2011 would seem automatic.

In numerous meetings since Nov. 6, labor begged Snyder, House Speaker Jase Bolger and Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville for anything but right to work.

But labor couldn't sell its soul completely enough for Republicans. And right to work, et al., will be the result.

The following is a breakdown of the menu of conservative red meat being force fed through the legislative meat grinder in lame duck — little, if any, of which the Democrats have the power to stop

1. Right to work — The literal and symbolic slap in the face to the birthplace of the organized labor movement, this policy gives workers the ability to stop paying union dues in union shops. This weakens labor's leverage at the bargaining table while cutting off a percentage of funding to the union itself. That limits labor's ability to assist their members and fund future Democratic political candidates.

2. Personal property tax repeal — The tax local governments are allowed to place on manufacturing equipment would go away under a plan being pushed by Lt. Gov. Brian Calley. The replacement funding mechanism isn't 100 percent, though. That's a problem for local governments, which claim to have swallowed more than \$4 billion in state cuts for the last decade or so.

The complicated funding formula and local taxing assessment being created as a replacement aside, locals want full replace-

ment. The Snyder administration claims there isn't enough money in the budget for that.

3. New emergency manager law — Voters said they didn't want P.A. 4, the state's emergency manager law that gave these gubernatorial appointees the power to break union contracts in cash-strapped local gov-

IT'S JUST NOT RIGHT TO WORK. THE ULTIMATE POLITICAL ASSAULT ON ORGANIZED LABOR AND DEMOCRATS ASIDE, SNYDER & FRIENDS ARE GEARING UP A CHRISTMAS LIST CHOCKED FULL OF GOODIES FOR THEIR BUSINESS BUDDIES, BIBLE-HUGGING CONSERVATIVES AND TEA PARTY SUBSCRIBERS.

ernments and municipalities.

But with Detroit teetering on the brink of bankruptcy, Snyder is pushing a P.A. 4 alternative that would give the voters in these troubled areas the choice of four options: an emergency manager who can break union contracts; mediation; a binding consent agreement; or bankruptcy.

4. Education Achievement Authority — Snyder used an interlocal agreement to create an authority to oversee Detroit's struggling school district, which hasn't been making the grade under any standard for years. Now, he wants to expand the EAA in statute for the state's lowest performing schools, which would appear to include

See Big Right Turn, Page 12

WHY RIGHT TO WORK MAKES NO SENSE
BY WALT SORG

SEE PAGE 12

TUESDAY'S PROTEST COVERAGE

SEE PAGE 13

Big Right Turn

from page 11

Lansing.

The rub is that existing teacher labor contracts in these schools would be thrown out the window and public school buildings could be sold or leased to charter schools without the OK of local officials. The degree of untested change being allowed to happen in these EAA-managed districts also have administrators concerned their students will be turned into “lab rats.”

5. Abortion clinic regulations — The last time a chamber took up a bill requiring stepped-up inspection and licensing of abortion clinics, Michigan made national news when Rep. Lisa Brown was censured for saying “vagina.”

These Right to Life- and the Michigan Catholic Conference-supported bills do more than say fetal remains can't be tossed in a dumpster while screening out pregnant women being coerced into an abortion. They create a licensing and regulatory environment pro-choice activists are concerned are meant to shut down abortion clinics.

6. Concealed weapons — Forget about libraries. Gun owners who undergo the right amount of training can carry their concealed weapons into schools, churches, bars, daycares, college dorms, hospitals and stadiums under legislation that's passed the Senate. New restrictions are being put on those who can open carry, but the net result would appear to be more guns in more places.

7. 'Religious liberty and conscience' — The final passage of legislation giving doctors and health facilities a legal out if they deny to a patient any procedure they morally object to isn't as clear as the rest. This recycled legislation scores one-chamber victories periodically. Could this be the year it goes all the way?

8. Medical malpractice — Bills protecting doctors from enormous medical malpractice settlements create a tighter framework under which patients can sue. Despite being fought by the state's trial lawyers, these bills being pushed by Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman and physician Roger Kahn seem to have critical mass.

9. Gray wolf hunting — Upper Peninsula farmers are tired of their livestock disappearing in the middle of the night, so a bill giving the DNR the power to set a wolf hunting season is in the works. Environmentalists and Indian tribes are appalled that the once endangered species is moving into hunters' crosshairs.

10. Election recall reform — You want to get rid of a legislator early for any of this stuff? Recalling a state representative is made harder under legislation that limits legislative recalls to a one-year window in the middle of the lawmaker's two-year term. It also requires the reason for a recall to be “factual,” according to a county election commission.



Sam Inglot/City Pulse

Several media reports said upwards of 12,000 people rallied at the Capitol on Tuesday, protesting right-to-work legislation. Gov. Rick Snyder was unmoved: Hours after the Legislature approved a pair of bills, he signed them into law, making Michigan the 24th right-to-work state in the country.

WHY RIGHT TO WORK MAKES NO SENSE

By **WALT SORG**

(Background music: “The Twilight Zone” theme)

Narrator: *Imagine, for a moment, a state law that makes paying taxes voluntary. Why, backers successfully argued, should people be forced to pay for services they don't need or want? It is, after all, an issue of personal freedom.*

You've just crossed into the Twilight Zone. (Theme music up and out.)

This never-to-be-produced TV script is an extension of the “script” being followed by Michigan's right-to-work backers: a belief that unions can continue to negotiate on behalf of workers (it is their right under federal law), but having workers pay for that advocacy should be optional.

Roland Zullo, a researcher at the University of Michigan's Institute for Labor and Industrial Relations, notes that while “politicians may debate the level of tax, how taxes are collected, or how taxes are spent ... there is no question that it would be a disaster to allow the payment of taxes to be optional. Compulsory taxation is necessary to ensure the adequate financing of public services. With too many “free riders” ... the collective becomes resource-starved, causing it to under-perform or fail.”

The same economic principle applies to unions and right to work laws.

THE IMPACT ON WORKERS

Opponents of right-to-work laws derisively label the statutes as “Right to Work for Less.” The facts support their rhetoric.

A February 2011 study by the nonprofit Economic Policy institute concludes:

- Wages in right-to-work states are 3.2 percent lower than non-right-to-work states, the equivalent of about \$1,500 annually (a figure verified by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics)

- Workers in right-to-work states are 2.6

percent less likely to have employer-sponsored healthcare insurance

- Workers in right-to-work states are 4.8 percent less likely to have employer-sponsored pensions

THE IMPACT ON UNIONS

Concerns about “free riders” are very real. Under the 1947 Taft-Hartley Labor Act, “whenever a union has been certified as a bargaining agent for a group of employees, the union has a duty of fair representation for everyone covered by the contract regardless of whether they are a member,” according to Michigan State University Professor John Revitte.

“The union represents everybody, member or non-member. They can't treat them differently.” The mandate extends even to representation in a grievance proceeding.

The right-to-work battle is increasingly a battle over public employee unions. Since 1964 public sector employees have enjoyed collective bargaining rights, the result of bipartisan legislation approved nearly unanimously by the state Legislature and signed by Republican Gov. George Romney.

Since then, Michigan's unionized workforce has dropped from nearly 50 percent to 18.3 percent, the bulk of them in the public sector. Nationally, only 7.6 percent of private-sector workers are union members compared to more than 40 percent of government workers, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

THE ECONOMICS

The rationale for Gov. Rick Snyder's flip-flop on right to work is Indiana's new right-to-work law, the first in the Midwest. Crushing unions is the latest tactic in the Hoosier state's highly unsuccessful economic strategy of cutting costs for businesses, (The strategy has seen Indiana's per capita income drop from 33rd to 42nd

among states over the last decade.)

Backers of right to work in Michigan say Indiana's law makes it imperative Michigan follow suit, arguing that the change will bring good-paying jobs. Economic development experts are not convinced.

“There's no evidence that being a right-to-work state encourages great growth of good paying jobs coming into your area, but there is evidence that right to work brings lower wages and lower benefits,” Revitte says.

Michigan State University economist Charles Ballard concurs.

“If what we want to do is do a little bit better at attracting certain kinds of low-wage jobs, I think this may help,” Ballard said. “But it's an awful lot of political blood to be spilled for something that will not galvanize Michigan's economy.”

In an earlier incarnation, Snyder also questioned the correlation between right to work and job growth. He told Crain's Detroit Business earlier this year that automotive executives at a recent North American International Auto Show expressed regret about locating plants in the the mostly right-to-work southern states “because they weren't getting the skilled workforce the same way that they would in Michigan.”

Richard Longworth, senior fellow at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, blogged about the legacy of retiring two-term Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels, saying Daniels' race-to-the-bottom policies are impoverishing his state:

“The businesses who are most concerned about saving money on taxes and wages are low-cost, low-wage businesses that care only about costs, not quality,” he writes. “Businesses looking for nothing except low costs have already found them — in Mississippi, Mexico or China.”

Right To Work

from page 12

BLS statistics suggest that right to work neither strengthens nor weakens a state's economy:

- Six of the 10 states with the highest unemployment rates in December 2011 had right-to-work laws, including national unemployment leader Nevada (12.6 percent).

- Seven of the 10 states with the lowest unemployment also are right-to-work states.

- Seven of the 10 states with the highest household incomes do not have right-to-work laws.

- Three of the 11 states with the largest growth in gross domestic product in 2011 were right-to-work states.

Ballard suggests that other factors, such as education levels, worker skills, climate and utility costs are far more significant in business location decisions. In the past, Snyder has concurred. His economic program targets businesses that have little or no unionization: science, engineering, math, technology and other knowledge-based industries.

THE IMPACT ON POLITICS

Why pass the bill now? Despite GOP claims to the contrary, it is likely the right-to-work bills are being jammed through the "lame duck" legislative session because the 2013 Legislature probably would not approve the bill.

It's political math: Republicans lost five state House seats in November's election. It takes 56 votes to pass a bill in the state House; right to work received 58 votes last week. With the net loss of five GOP seats it is likely there would only be 53 votes for right to work in the new Legislature — three votes short of passage.

A similar right to work law in Ohio was rejected by voters 61 percent to 39 percent. Michigan won't have a similar experience. The pending law takes advantage of a state Constitution provision that prevents a voter referendum on the law by including an appropriation.

Revitte speculates the \$1 million appropriation may be more than a just a way to circumvent a referendum. He suspects the money could fund an "education" campaign to tell workers "the union has to negotiate and enforce a contract for you regardless of whether you are a member, so you might as well get out."

Regardless of the true purpose of the appropriation, Republicans are right to be wary of a public vote. A new EPIC/MRA poll shows that citizens oppose the concept 51 percent to 42 percent once they have heard both sides of the issue.

The same poll shows a political price to be paid by Snyder and legislative Republicans. By a 39 percent to 27 percent margin, voters are less likely to vote for a legislator who supported right to work. For Snyder, 40 percent are "less likely" to support his

reelection, just 24 percent "more likely" because of right to work.

Snyder and Republicans can rest easier, however, knowing that right to work will no doubt mean a huge financial hit for public-sector unions. This will cripple a major source of financial support for Democratic candidates and Democrat-backed ballot proposals.

Snyder's carefully honed image will take a major hit. The soft-spoken, constantly smiling governor has cast himself as the "Mr. Rogers" of Michigan politics, a relentlessly cheery nerd who has (until now) maintained an image of a data-based, nerdy technocrat who eschews hard-core partisan politics.

"IF WHAT WE WANT TO DO IS DO A LITTLE BIT BETTER AT ATTRACTING CERTAIN KINDS OF LOW-WAGE JOBS, I THINK THIS MAY HELP. BUT IT'S AN AWFUL LOT OF POLITICAL BLOOD TO BE SPILLED FOR SOMETHING THAT WILL NOT GALVANIZE MICHIGAN'S ECONOMY."

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIST
CHARLES BALLARD**

Those days are over. He has been slammed in newspapers across Michigan that previously had supported him.

The Detroit Free Press said Sunday that the governor has betrayed the trust placed in him by the people of Michigan.

"Michigan voters who provided Snyder's margin of victory in 2010 feel betrayed, and they have every justification. If he was ever serious about being the governor who brought Michiganders together, Snyder has just sent himself back to Square One."

Even the more conservative Lansing State Journal took Snyder to task for the way Republicans pushed the right-to-work measures through the Legislature without a hearing.

Snyder's weakened political and editorial support may also end any hopes he has of getting legislative Democrats to support any of his legislative initiatives, including the International Bridge, transportation funding and establishing a state insurance exchange.

A BITTER FUTURE

Right-to-work bills (as this is written) are on the verge of going to Snyder's desk, and will likely be signed into law within days. Language for ballot proposals to overturn the laws is being drafted, and multiple lawsuits challenging the laws will be filed.

The debate, the controversy, the bitterness and the anger will continue and likely escalate. At the end of the battle (probably years from now), Michigan could well be in a position to become the "Mississippi of the Midwest" with declining incomes, deteriorating educational institutions and an eroded quality of life for its citizens: the Snyder legacy.



Sam Inglot/City Pulse

A heavy police presence greeted protesters Tuesday morning at the Capitol and played a major role throughout the day. Three were arrested for disorderly conduct.

TAKING UP THE FIGHT

By SAM INGLOT

By 5 p.m., it seemed like there were more Michigan State Police troopers on the Capitol grounds than protesters.

As organized labor supporters chanted, marched, sang, sat-in, got arrested, faced pepper spray and tore down tents of their opponents, the more than 10,000 estimated protesters at the Capitol Tuesday could do little to stop Right to Work legislation from moving easily through the Legislature and onto Gov. Rick Snyder's desk to be signed into law. By 5:45 p.m., Michigan became the 24th Right to Work state in the nation; the law takes effect in 90 days.

After thousands of protesters marched from the Lansing Center to the Capitol Building at about 9 a.m., the day quickly went from calm to chaotic. Once protesters reached the Capitol, it wasn't long until the building was at capacity and no one was allowed inside. Within the halls of the building, protesters chanted and banged on railings. The crowd moved smoothly through the building as the State Police controlled foot traffic. Protesters were not allowed to stop on the stairs or in the MSP-made walkways through the crowd of people. At one point, the Capitol was at capacity. It took about 90 minutes for people to be allowed back inside by order of the state fire marshal.

Dozens of Michigan State Police troopers were on the scene and were posted at every entrance and on every level of the Capitol, many of them clad in riot gear with riot batons on their hip. East Lansing Police and Michigan State University Police were also at the Capitol, but they had very little interaction with the crowds.

Shortly before noon, a tent smack dab in the middle of the protest hosted by the Michigan chapter of Americans for Prosperity — a main Right to Work supporter — was torn down by protesters. Police marched in, accompanied by several mounted units. The police formed a baton line and forced protesters off the remnants of

the tent. Americans for Prosperity President Scott Hagerstrom was led off the grounds by union marshals as people heckled him from behind. (Visit www.lansingcitypulse.com for a video interview with Hagerstrom as he's being heckled.)

Shortly after noon, the House got moving. By a 58-51 vote, it passed HB 4003, giving public-sector employees the option to pay union dues, excluding police and firefighters. The bill then headed to Snyder's desk. The Senate (which adjourned at about 11:30 a.m.) had passed it on Thursday with amendments that needed to be approved by the House.

About 90 minutes later, the House passed SB 116, giving private-sector employees the same option to pay union dues. All that stood in the way of Michigan's becoming the nation's 24th Right to Work state was Snyder's stroke of the pen.

Upon learning that the House had passed the legislation, dozens of protesters sat down in the middle of the rotunda. For about four hours after the first bill passed, the crowd both inside and outside of the Capitol was peaceful but still energetic with persistent chants and rants of "Snyder's a rat!"

Around 4 p.m., protesters outside turned their attention to the Romney Building, where Snyder's office is on the second floor. Several protesters tried to rush past state troopers on the scene but were stopped. Two arrests were made initially; a third came later. All three were charged with misdemeanor disorderly conduct, State Police spokesman Kevin Sweeney said.

By 5 p.m., after protesters continued to crowd the Romney building and unfolded sleeping bags to try blocking a driveway, downtown Lansing was quiet again — perhaps in shock that in less than a week, like a cannonball, the Right to Work debate launched and blew up collective bargaining as we've known it.

(Freelance reporter Patrick Lyons contributed to this story.)

Arts & Culture

art • books • film • music • theater

Least Minute Gift Guide

**ALL GIFTS
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Compiled by Hélène Dryden and Andrea Raby



1 OADE'S BIG TEN PARTY STORE

Add a little extra cheer to anyone's holiday season with a gift set from Oades. After all, who couldn't use some holiday spirits? Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, Oade's offers 15 percent off a build-your-own six-pack and 10 percent off a four-pack (with the rest of the week having 10 percent and 5 percent off, respectively.) And with the Michigan liquor law allowing sales on Dec. 24 and 25 now, you can actually buy your present en route. 314 S. Clippert St., Lansing. (517) 332-4551. 7:30 a.m.–1:30 a.m. Monday–Saturday; 12 p.m.–midnight Sunday.



2 AMERICAN EAGLE SUPERSTORE

Need something for the repairman in the family? What about your crazy uncle Louie who collects dragon figurines? American Eagle has them, plus a large array of fireworks, knick-knacks and children's toys. There's a wide selection of products marked under \$20, including the "Seen on TV" Ped Egg and the fashion joke, Trendy Top. Walk in with an open mind and you're sure to find something for someone. 901 N. Larch St., Lansing. (517) 482-3765. 8 a.m.–8 p.m. Monday–Friday; 9 a.m.–8 p.m. Saturday; 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Sunday.



3

3 CRAVINGS GOURMET POPCORN:

With exotic flavors like spicy dill pickle and apple cider cinnamon, popcorn lovers will delight at this gift. One-gallon bags of each of the store's 15 flavors go for \$6.50. Add in a gift tin for the true popcorn connoisseur for \$30. Gift sets of unpopped popcorn, complete with different seasonings, run from \$9 to \$13. Different mixes are also available. 1220 Turner St., Lansing. (888) 210-0720. 11 a.m.–7 p.m. Monday–Friday; 9 a.m.–7 p.m. Saturday; noon–5 p.m. Sunday.

4 CURIOUS BOOK SHOP:

Your resident bookworm will appreciate that hot new book or even that old, out-of-print one. Curious has a multitude of new releases and classics with various prices, but their best assets are their 50 cent and \$1 book carts. Right outside the store, two carts are stocked full of books from any thinkable genre. Search around for a little while and you can find a book for anyone. 307 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 332-0112. 10 a.m.–8 p.m. Monday–Saturday; 12 p.m.–5 p.m. Sunday.



5

5 CAMPBELL'S SMOKE SHOP:

Legend says that the world's first stocking stuffer was a cigar (don't look that up). Campbell's has a huge array, making that aficionado on your list feel like a kid in a candy store. Cigars start at \$3.50, but they also carry pipes and many different types of tobacco, including a Christmas blend. They offer a pipe tobacco sampler for \$20. 207 M.A.C Ave., East Lansing. (517) 332-4269. 9:30 a.m.–6 p.m. Monday–Thursday, Saturday; 9:30 a.m.–7 p.m. Friday; closed Sunday.

6 WORLD MARKET:

For the eclectic decorator or world traveler, World Market has a ton of gift ideas, including wine, scarves, jewelry and anything between. There is a large array of distinctive giftwrap for \$4.99, perfect for any gift you're giving. Also, to keep anyone squeaky-clean, there is organic soap that comes in many different smells for \$4.99. 427 Mall Ct., Frandor, Lansing Township. (517) 337-1100. 9 a.m.–10 p.m. Monday–Saturday; 9 a.m.–9 p.m. Sunday.



7

7 LA BODEGA:

There's no way you can go over budget at this eco-friendly fair trade store — everything is just \$15 or less ... although that may just convince you that you "need" everything. From clothing to mukluks, to handcrafted jewelry to spa products and incense, La Bodega has many colorful worldly gifts. There's nothing wrong with getting something for yourself while you're shopping for others, right? 619 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 333-1711. 11 a.m.–6 p.m. Monday–Saturday; 12 p.m.–5 p.m. Sunday.

8 FLAT, BLACK, AND CIRCULAR:

No, those aren't funny-looking Frisbees — they're what they used to call "records," and it's how cavemen used to listen to music. With FBC's bargain bin, you can choose some used classics or some completely random albums that you buy simply for the cool artwork. Either way, you're golden. CDs and videos in the bin are \$3.50 each or 4 for \$10. 541 E. Grand River, East Lansing. (517) 351-0838. Saturday–Thursday 12 p.m.–6 p.m., Fridays 12 p.m.–8 p.m., closed Sunday.



4



6



8

FBC Bargain Bin

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(4 or more are \$2.50 each)

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For more information about our businesses visit iloveoldtown.org and click on Business Directory at the top of the page.

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- \$10** Townie-in-training (student membership)
- \$25** True Believer - Old Town Discount Card
- \$50** Old Town Lover - Old Town Discount Card & Old Town Bandana
- \$100** Old Townie - Old Town Discount Card & I Love Old Town T-Shirt
- \$150** Old Town Festival Fanatic - Old Town Discount Card, I Love Old Town T-Shirt and 2 festival tickets
- \$250+** Townie For Life - Old Town Discount Card, I Love Old Town Hoodie and 2 festival tickets

If you are interested in becoming an Old Town supporter please fill out the info below and send it along with your donation to:

*Old Town Commercial Association
1232 Turner St., Lansing MI 48906*

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Please make checks out to Old Town Commercial Association. Cut out and send to OTCA.

For more information visit iloveoldtown.org/member-benefits or call 517.485.4283



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Keeping the Sun from setting

Williamston movie theater turns to crowdsourcing to leap into 21st century

By RICH TUPICA

There's a flickering cinematic nostalgia that hits moviegoers when they take in a movie at the Sun Theatre in downtown Williamston. It's a virtual 1950s time warp of a structure, complete with a metal-panel facade and a wide, V-shaped marquee that extends above the entrances.

Unlike most chain multiplexes, the family-owned, one-screen theater still shows movies the old-fashioned way: with a large projector and a colossal 35 mm reel of film — a bulky, archaic method in today's tiny-tech obsessed world.

But those days are numbered — Hollywood is going 100 percent digital. By the end of 2013, a server and a download will replace the soon-to-be extinct reel. Sun owners Dan and Lisa Robitaille, who have been married for 16 years, say they must upgrade to digital to survive.

The Robitailles, who work day jobs while also managing the Sun, launched an online fundraiser at savethesun.net with a goal of \$80,000. The cost would cover the costs for the high-tech equipment needed for the projection and sound upgrade. As of Tuesday, the Sun had raised \$19,000.

"Change sucks," said Dan Robitaille, standing in the projection room next to a

reel of "Argo." "The movie's called a flick for a reason — you've got a light shining through frames and it creates this flickering effect. You won't have that anymore with digital."

Hollywood is rushing to ditch film not only to improve the picture quality, but likely to save some dough, according to Lisa Robitaille.

"It costs (distributors) about \$1,500 to print one film, and then you have to pay for it to be shipped here," she said. "You also have to put it together, tear it down and ship (the reel) back. Now they can make it digital for \$150 and just send us a download."

For hundreds of locals, it's a night out on the town for a \$4 ticket. For example, there sitting in their usual seats in the back row of the "Argo" screening is the Fillwock family. Louie Fillwock, 80, of Williamston, has been catching movies at the historic building since his high school days. His son Ken Fillwock, sitting beside him, chimes in: "Well, it's our hometown. We'd like to see the theater keep going. It's nice not having to drive into Lansing."

The Sun has a long history in Williamston. It was built in 1947 and operated for decades by the late Dick Montgomery. Later, it was sold to Gary Wright, who sold it in turn in 1979 on a whim to Russ Robitaille,



Rich Tupica/City Pulse

Dan and Lisa Robitaille outside the Sun Theatre in Williamston. The owners face a costly digital conversion process.

Dan's father.

"It was a joke when my dad bought it," he said. "He was in a barber shop when the previous owner came walking in. My dad asked,

'What are you going to do with that theater of yours?' And he answered, 'Why, big shooter, you want to buy it?' The two walked next door to a lawyer's office, sealed the deal, then returned and finished their haircuts. My dad came home that evening and asked my mother, 'Hey, you know that movie theater in town?' She said, 'That eyesore? Someone ought to burn it down.' And he said, 'I hope not, because we own it.'

Soon the family was working to whip the dilapidated building into shape, including Dan, who was just a teen at the time.

"My entire family would get up at 4 a.m. and start gutting it," he said. "We reupholstered all the seats and painted everything. We fixed up all the seats that were torn up because (the previous owner) had rock concerts here. There was some bizarre stuff we found as far as paraphernalia in the seats. But it was all just our family. We couldn't afford other employees."

The reins were passed from father to son in 2000, and today the Sun employs around eight workers and is open seven days a week. So far, Dan Robitaille says the support has been tremendous from locals and former residents.

"We just got a Christmas card from an 89-year-old lady who remembers the Sun as a high school hangout," he said. "She made a donation and wrote us a two-page letter talking about who she was and how many generations of her family had passed through here.

"There's a lot of history in this theater."

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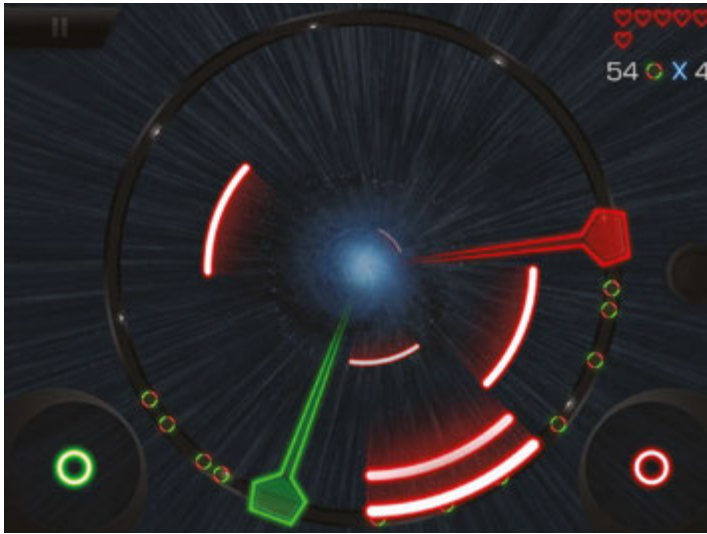
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Courtesy Photo

ShadowArc is the debut game by the Okemos-based mobile app design company Free the Robots. Since it was released last month, over 7,000 people have downloaded either the free or the pay version.

We, Robots

Local startup hopes to go viral with addictive new videogame app

By ALLANI ROSS

If you've ever lost a day's work slinging ornery-looking cardinals at grimacing green pigs, you should probably stop reading right now — this story could cost you several hours of productivity. But hey, at least you could say you're supporting a local startup.

Meet Dan Latterner and Dave Cheng, co-founders of Free the Robots, a videogame app company that launched in August 2012. The pair worked for the better part of a year on an Apple iOS app game called ShadowArc that was released last month. And although their early numbers may not point to an "Angry Birds"-level success, how many first-time games do?

"We're really happy with the numbers so far, especially given the limited marketing we've been able to do," says Latterner, 28. "It's given us the momentum to keep moving forward, both with the upgrades to this game and the development of new ones."

In ShadowArc, the player controls two paddles that move circularly around a set of expanding waves that originate from a point in the center of the screen. The goal is to keep the waves from "escaping" off the sides of the screen.

"I'd been experimenting with mobile technology, and I thought it would be fun to make a Guitar Hero-type game," he said. "Originally, we were trying to sync up the arcs to music, but we found it was incredibly difficult to get that kind of technology to work on phones."

Videogame music was actually what hooked Latterner on the medium in the first place. He went to the University of Michigan for performing arts technology, a program that focuses on the synthesis of digital music production.

"Growing up, I played every videogame I could get my hands on," says Latterner. "My mom couldn't turn me away. And I always loved the music. In high school, I wrote music for DVD games. That's what got me started."

After college, Latterner sent a demo version of a game he'd been tinkering around with to TechSmith Corp. in Okemos, a software development company specializing in content capture tools. They hired Latterner as a user interface designer, creating workflow and graphics to increase the usability of the company's product. It was there that he met Cheng, a programmer, and after each expressed an interest in developing a mobile app videogame, they decided to give it a shot.

"The thing that motivated me was the advent of the app store," says Cheng, 32. "Someone can put together a game and sell it to the masses. You don't have to go through a publisher. I heard about a guy who made a game in three months and sold 20,000 copies. I thought, I can make a game better than that."

Cheng works remotely in Clarksburg, Md., a half-hour northwest of Washington. He said TechSmith okayed the move, which allows his kids to be closer to their extended family, who live in the area.

"Well, it took us about nine months to develop ShadowArc, and the due date we set just so happened to coincide with the birth of my third child," says Cheng. "In a very real sense, I look at ShadowArc as my other baby."

Videogames aren't just played by teenagers in basements anymore — or even in office cubicles by slacker employees. The rise of mobile apps has revolutionized the art of procrastination, turning coffee shops and DMV lines into de facto arcades. It's also given a shot in the arm to whole new set of developers looking for a piece of that \$14.5 billion pie.

Since ShadowArc's launch on Nov. 15, the free version has been downloaded about 7,000 times, with an impressive start of about 1,000 a day for the first week. You can find both free and pay versions at free-the-robots.com. The pay version costs \$2.99, with upgrade packets ranging from \$1 to \$10.

Latterner says he wants to switch gears so the team can "hit the ground running" to work on a new game, but they're going to come back continue to upgrade ShadowArc over time. So is ShadowArc their Italian plumber, providing ample room for sequels and spin-offs?

"We haven't found our Mario yet," he says with a laugh, "but we definitely want to find something we can come back to."

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CURTAIN CALL

'Almost' famous

By DANA CASADEI

Over the last few years, ensemble films with multiple characters and storylines and an overall theme have become increasingly popular. "Valentines Day" and its pseudo-sequel "New Year's Eve" are two of the more prominent examples. This weekend, the Lansing Community College Department of Theatre's adaptation of John Cariani's "Almost, Maine" takes that idea and brings it to the stage, as nine storylines follow a group of nearly 20 characters falling in and out of love in the mythical titular town.

The show, which broke box office records during its Portland, Maine, premiere, is one of the most produced plays in North American high schools. This makes it perfect for a first semester theater studio class, according to director John Lepard. He said "Almost, Maine" was ideal for his class of 16 students, all of



Sam Inglot/City Pulse

Kayla Green (left) and Eddie Vandervennet in the opening scene to "Almost, Maine" which starts out sweet but devolves into an awkward, humorous situation.

"Almost, Maine"

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whom are trying to make theater their job in one way or another.

"It's almost like it's pre-made for these guys," he said. "It's a fun show."

With the variety of storylines, Lepard was able to work with each group and then smoothly move on to another, directing it in the same style to keep them all on the same page.

"There's not a lot of crossover (between characters)," he said. "Even though some of the characters do know each other."

The 10-minute vignettes don't have much in common except that they're all in the same place, the tiny city of Almost, Maine.

Much like the Gennifer Goodwin rom-com "He's Just Not That Into You," this show's overall theme is about love and loss. According to Lepard, the show follows relationships in just about every stage, ranging from the giddy beginning with a couple just figuring out they like each other to a married couple that has sadly fallen out of love. It also covers breakups, such as a man that must finally get over his girlfriend, who's about to get married to another man.

"It's everything that you've been through in a relationship," Lepard said.

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Local nonprofits team up for annual charity event

By **ANDREA RABY**

The iPhone 5 and flat screen TVs are dominating many holiday wish lists this month, but sometimes all it takes is something small to really make a difference. In the spirit of the holiday season, WLNS TV-6 will host its sixth annual “Day of Giving” event Thursday throughout mid-Michigan. This daylong collection of non-perishable food, clothing and

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funds encourages viewers to help struggling mid-Michigan families. These donations will go to local charities that provide Lansing residents with basic needs yearlong.

Local philanthropic organizations involved include the United Way, the Salvation Army, the American Red Cross and the Greater Lansing Food Bank. All of these organizations are involved in supporting mid-Michigan households through the

funding of local food banks and shelters, which will help families that may need support after losing their homes due to the poor economy.

WLNS operations manager Gene Shanahan said the station is proud to devote a large portion of its broadcast day and resources to this cause. He said it is gratifying to see the amazing results and the viewers' generous gift giving.

The “Day of Giving” will start with WLNS's noon newscast. One-minute breaks will air every half hour to raise viewer awareness to the cause. The event will end with a one-hour special from 7-8 p.m. to recap the day's charitable results.

There are several different locations to donate: the WLNS studios at 2820 E. Saginaw St. in Lansing; the Allegiance Health Center at 205 N. East Street in Jackson; Capital Area Michigan Works at 331 W. First St. in Charlotte; and the Clinton County Chamber of Commerce at 1013 S. U.S. 27 in St. Johns. Viewers can also call into the phone bank at the WLNS studios to make cash donation. In previous years, about \$7,500 in cash donations was raised, plus several truckloads of food and clothing.

Many people in Lansing need basics like food and clothes, and this is just one opportunity to spread a little holiday love and cheer to those that really need it. And it gives mid-Michigan residents a chance to think about what they can give instead of what they can get.



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Portrait of the artist as a playful grandfather

East Lansing comic artist illustrates new children's book by James Joyce

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Bloomsday fans have reason to rejoice this holiday season — they are doubly blessed with a new biography of James Joyce as well as a never-before-published children's book by the acclaimed Irish author.

With "James Joyce: A New Biography," author Gordon Bowker has written the first significant biography of Joyce in more than 50 years, detailing the censorship, literary snobbery and failing health he dealt with his entire life. Bowker faced a daunting task in writing his book, since Michiganian Richard Ellmann wrote what has been called the definitive biography of the author in 1959. Both books are heady pieces and, like Joyce's own masterful work, are complex and meaty.

Joyce helped create the modern narrative style, which is noted for its irony, satire, stream of consciousness, fits of starts and stops and maximalist approach. Joyce's most famous book, "Ulysses," takes place on one day — June 16, 1904 — the day he met his wife-to-be. The novel's protagonist is Leopold Bloom — hence Bloomsday, which is celebrated worldwide every June 16 with

Casey Sorrow

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Joyce readings washed down with lots of Guinness. Of course Ellmann had a couple of things going for him, such as being able to interview many of Joyce's friends and fellow writers along with being a recognized scholar on Irish writers. Ellmann wrote a dozen books on Irish writers and won the National Book Award for his Joyce biography, along with a Pulitzer for his biography of Oscar Wilde.

Bowker, on the other hand, had access to the Internet, the new work of scores of James' scholars as well as to a trove of letters to and from Joyce.

But it's the other new book that returns the Joyce tradition to Michigan.

While visiting Denmark in 1936, Joyce

sent a letter to his 4-year-old grandson Stephen about not being able to find any cats in Copenhagen. (Joyce scholars believe that the letter was a follow-up to one he sent Stephen from Calvados to accompany a gift of candy hidden in a cat, which became the basis for the children's book "The Cat and the Devil.") The Danish letter disappeared until it was discovered in 2006, and it serves as the basis for a new 26-page children's book, "The Cats of Copenhagen." It has been illustrated by East Lansing artist Casey Sorrow and published for the first time in the United States by Scribners.

In this previously forgotten letter, Joyce whimsically tells his grandson "there are no cats in Copenhagen" and in his anarchistic style later adds "all the Danish policemen pass the day at home in bed." But it's Sorrow's clever drawings — somewhat of a cross between Theodor Geisel, Edward Gorey and R. Crumb — that carry the book, along with some non-traditional display of typesetting.

In one illustration Sorrow shows a fat cat policeman sitting on a pillow quaffing buttermilk and smoking a "big Danish cigar." In another, the slouching Joyce is shown with a cane and piece of luggage with a tail. He writes, "When I come to Copenhagen again I will bring a cat and show the Danes how it can cross the road without any instructions from a policeman."

Sorrow may be the perfect match for Joyce's letter, being an anti-establishment figure himself. While at Michigan State University, Sorrow and friend Eric Millikin wrote and illustrated the comic strip "Fetus X" for the State News. It was quite controversial, and Sorrow said the newspaper canceled it after a short run in 2000. It was not uncommon for the cartoon to show a psychedelic Jesus breakdancing with a fetus. Reports at the time indicate that a depiction of the Lord running over a puppy with a lawnmower might have been the ultimate blasphemy leading religious groups, especially the Catholic League, to vigorously oppose its publication. MSU's president at the time, Peter McPherson,



Courtesy Photo

An illustration by East Lansing illustrator Casey Sorrow from "The Cats of Copenhagen," a recent children's book based on a letter that acclaimed Irish author James Joyce wrote to his 4-year-old grandson.

wholeheartedly stood with the organization in wanting the cartoon banned.

"It was not long in the paper, if I remember correctly," Sorrow said. "I loved that strip, and tried to carry it online, but it was a lot of work for little reward."

Sorrow, who grew up in Holt, said he was interested in comics especially influenced by noted French science fiction and fantasy illustrator Moebius, who died earlier this year. He graduated from MSU in 1999, turning his art to illustration and completing freelance gigs while working as the manager of the Kresge Art Store at MSU for 13 years. The artist said the publisher of "The Cats of Copenhagen" was familiar with his work online and "asked me to submit some illustrations" which led to Sorrow being hired.

"The biggest challenge was communicating across the sea," he said. "It was a new way of working for me, going back and forth. I think it turned out amazing."

Sorrow said he was familiar with Joyce, and he's had a cat, Lazarus, for 17 years, which he "brought back from the dead" after it was found on the side of the road. He recalls once trying for two weeks to get through Ulysses and then "falling asleep for two weeks."

"Joyce is not easy to read," he said, "but the illustrations were easy to come up with."

Soon after the publication of a fine arts limited edition of "The Cats of Copenhagen," which preceded the American edition, The Guardian reported that the Joyce family estate was considering pursuing a copyright violation of the previously unpublished work. Joyce would have appreciated the irony that his first and last work both would be clouded by litigation, which he decried.

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OUT on the TOWN

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

DEC. 13

Older and bolder

This summer it seemed all anyone talked about was the Olympics. Will Michael Phelps become the most decorated Olympian of all time? Which country will take the gold in gymnastics? This Thursday, see a whole new kind of Olympics, one without Missy Franklin or Kerri Walsh Jennings, at the Lansing premiere of "Age of Champions." The documentary follows five senior athletes as they compete for the National Senior Olympics, which happens every two years. After the film, 28-year-old filmmaker Keith Ochwat will speak, as will Charlie Siracusa, a senior athlete competing in tennis at the Michigan Senior Olympics next summer. This event is sponsored by AARP's You've Earned a Say program. Seems some things just get better with age. 6 p.m. FREE Kellogg Center Auditorium, 219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. (877) 926-8300. ageofchampions.org.

AGE OF CHAMPIONS

WINNING NEVER GETS OLD



Courtesy Photo

Wednesday, December 12

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

After-School Youth Gardening Programming. Ages 11-17. 3:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

Swing Guitar Christmas. Guitar instruction by Ray Kamalay. Course Number- 43335. 6-7:30 p.m. \$139.

MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 483-1860.

Escape & Rejuvenate. Meditative movement & guided meditation. 12:15 p.m. FREE. ACC Natural Healing and Wellness, 617 Ionia, Lansing. massageandwellnesslansing.com, meetup.com/lansingbodymindspirit.

KRP Open Work Shop. Work on your bike or

See Out on the Town, Page 26

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DEC. 14-16

Fancy and dance-y

Moulin Rouge is one of the most famous cabarets to exist — that smoky atmosphere, those voices, those costumes. This weekend, there will be a different style of cabaret coming back to the Wharton, without Nicole Kidman or Zsa Zsa Gabor. The Greg Ganakas-directed show, "A Christmas Cabaret," will feature a variety of Christmas standards, some with a Michigan twist, such as "Yoopers Yuletide." There will also be some Broadway imports, including musical direction and arrangements by Keith Thompson, "Jersey Boys" conductor. The 90-minute show will feature performers from Broadway shows like "Rent" and "Evita," and bring home an Okemos native, Stephen Carrasco, who has starred in "Ghost" and "Billy Elliot." 8 p.m. Dec 14; 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. Dec. 15; 2 p.m. Dec. 16. \$48. Pasant Theatre, Bogue St. & Wilson Road, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

DEC. 16

Bringing the singing

This season, the Lansing Symphony Orchestra celebrates 83 years of classical music. This Sunday, the LSO will have its annual Holiday Pops concert with a few special guests who aren't even one-fifth that old. The MSU Children's Choir will be joining the symphony at Cobb Great Hall. The holiday concert will also be a very special evening for 11 selected student musicians, in grades 9-12, that will play in a side-by-side performance of Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite." The afternoon will also have a pre-concert with students from the Community Music School and Okemos Suzuki program at 2 p.m. and a visit from Santa Claus. Guest conductor Barbara Bean, winner of the LSO gift package at the reverse raffle event, will get to lead one song as well. 3 p.m. \$40, \$30, \$15. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center, East Lansing. (517) 487-5001. lansingsymphony.org.



Courtesy Photo

DEC. 17

Chilling and grilling

Time to face the fact that winter is upon us. No more outside BBQs or pool parties. It's time to bundle up with our warm coats and not leave the house. Next Monday, guests will get a taste of summer, with a little grilling, and fall, with a little hunting flare, at the Shiawassee Arts Center. Owosso resident Charlie Keenan will host a book signing and taste testing from his new cookbook "Charlie Keenan's Outdoor Cookbook." Hope you like venison — that's the cookbook's focus. This is the first of several cookbooks that will span from venison to cooking small game, wild turkey and fish. 6-8 p.m. FREE. RSVP required. Shiawassee Arts Center, 206 Curwood Drive, Owosso. (989) 723-8354. shiawasseearts.org.

TURN IT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

SAT. DEC. 15TH



RECORD LOUNGE HOSTS FREE PUNK SHOW

The Record Lounge, 111 Division, East Lansing, all ages, free, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The Record Lounge in East Lansing will host three local bands Saturday at a free in-store show. Making some demented ruckus are BerT, Total Hipster Crusher, The Plague Years and American Gothic. The ever busy BerT is continually dropping new sludgy doom records while playing a handful of stoned-out shows. Right now BerT is finishing a full-length album and starting work on an EP. Also Hydro-Phonic Records is doing a 12-inch vinyl release of the trio's 2011 "Stoner Boner" EP. The other side of the record will be the new "Shithawk" EP – the band expects a spring release date. For more information, visit The Record Lounge on Facebook.

HOLIDAY SING AT TEN POUND FIDDLE



FRI. DEC. 14TH

Unitarian Universalist Church, 855 Grove St., East Lansing. \$15 public, \$12 members, \$5 students, \$25 per family, 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

The 9th annual "Holiday Sing" at the Ten Pound Fiddle is open to all singers, from the talented to beginner. The event is hosted by folk music supporter and song leader Sally Potter. Lyric sheets are provided. Past events have drawn over 150 people to the Fiddle just for the fun of singing. The crowd will be led through holiday selections and songs surrounding solstice, winter and the changing seasons. Special guests include Doug Berch on hammered dulcimer, Rachel Alexander on cello, Sue Thomas on the grand piano and Ruelaine Stokes presenting seasonal spoken-word pieces.

CASH O'RILEY AT MAC'S



SAT. DEC. 15TH

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

For local cats who dig Sun Records-style Americana, jump blues, honkytonk and rockabilly, Cash O'Riley and the Downright Daddies might be worth a shot. O'Riley began doing his own thing on stage in 2000, when a band he was in, The Syko Billie Cadillac, bailed on a show. O'Riley, a Michigan-based guitar slinger, says his influences range from Ray Charles and The Ramones to Elvis Presley and Glenn Danzig. Since his start, he's released a couple discs: "Booze, Lust, Lies and Heartache" and "Get Lucky, Break Down or Die." In the pipeline are two new albums, including a spring release of "Heaven Sent, Hell Bent" and his first concept CD, "Jackson County Jail," which is being released Jan. 12.

BLUEGRASS JAM AT WOLDUMAR



SUN. DEC. 16TH

Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing, all ages, donation, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Mid-Michigan Bluegrass & Folk Jam has been plucking around Lansing for over 40 years, averaging 100 guests and about 50 pickers at each session. Three years ago, the jam series set up shop at Woldumar Nature Center and has stayed there ever since. Along with the rustic sounds from the main stage in the barn auditorium, there are workshops for beginners, spots for separate jams, and also free snacks and beverages. This particular session features a free beginner guitar workshop from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. This jam series runs the third Sunday each month from October through April. All donations go to Woldumar Nature Center.

THREE MEN AND A TENOR TURN 20



THU. DEC. 20TH

Wharton Center's Cobb Great Hall, East Lansing, \$20, 12 years old and under \$10, 7:30 p.m.

Three Men and a Tenor has been performing its brand of vocal pop and comedy for two decades, and now the Spartan alumni foursome return to the Wharton Center to celebrate their landmark anniversary with a two-hour concert. The group, which includes Paul Felch, Glenn Williams, Chuck Colby and Mark Stiles, perform vocal-based music from the Temptations, Elvis Presley, The Beatles and Bob Marley – along with some quick witted humor. 3MT describes itself as "The Rat Pack meets The Muppets meets The Mills Brothers." Since 1992, the group has performed across the map over 2,500 times and shared stages with the likes of Chuck Berry, Dionne Warwick and The Beach Boys.

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

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Bar 30, 2324 Showtime Drive	D.J. Skitzo, 10 p.m.	D.J. John Beltran, 10 p.m.	D.J. John Beltran, 10 p.m.	D.J. Skitzo, 10 p.m.
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.		D.J., 9:30 p.m.	Untamed, 9 p.m.	Untamed, 9 p.m.
Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St.	Open Mic Night, 8 p.m.	Mike Baldwin, 8 p.m.	Mike Baldwin, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.	Mike Baldwin, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Cloud Magic, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.		Tryst Thursdays, 8:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.
The Firm, 229 S. Washington Square		DnW Sound DJs, 9 p.m.	Various DJs, 9 p.m.	
Grand Café/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.		Kathy Ford Band, 7:30 p.m.	Karaoke with Joanie Daniels, 7 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 8 p.m.
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Stan Budzynski & 3rd Degree, 9:30 p.m.	Vegas Flu, 9:30 p.m.	Smoking Jackets, 9:30 p.m.	Squids, 9:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.		Doctor Jones, 8 p.m.	The Coop, 8 p.m.	80 Tons of Mercury, 8 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Various Artists, 5:30 p.m.	The Hair of the Dog, 7 p.m.	Mourning Wolf, 9 p.m.	Cadaver Dogs, 5:30 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic Night, 9:30 p.m.	Rob Klajda, 10 p.m.	Zydecrunch, 10 p.m.	Zydecrunch, 10 p.m.
Rookies, 16460 S. US 27	Sammy Gold, 7-10 p.m.	Water Pong DJ, 9 p.m.	Karaoke dance party with DJ Sassy, 9 p.m.	Live Bands with DJs & DJ Sassy, 9 p.m.
Rum Runners, 601 East Michigan Ave.	Open Mic Night, 9 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 9 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog & the Beeftones, 10 p.m.	Ronnie Hernandez Trio, 9 p.m.	Ronnie Hernandez Trio, 9 p.m.
Uli's Haus of Rock, 4519 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.		Another Lost Year, 7:30 p.m.	Wayland, 8 p.m.	Super Bob, 8 p.m.
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive		Mike Evia Quartet, 7 p.m.	Joe Wright, 7 p.m.	
Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert	D.J., 9 p.m.	D.J., 9 p.m.	D.J., 9 p.m.	Kris Hitchcock & Small Town Son, 9 p.m.

Sunday Karaoke, 9 p.m. Drag Queens Gone Wild, 11 p.m., Spiral Dance Bar; DJ Mike, 9:30 p.m., LeRoy's Bar & Grill; Open Mic, 5 p.m., Open Blues Jam, 7-11 p.m. Uli's Haus of Rock.
Monday Steppin' In It, 9:30 p.m., Green Door; Easy Babies funk trio, 10 p.m., The Exchange. Open-Mic Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Michigan Brewing Company-Lansing, Monday Funday, 9 p.m., The Firm.
Tuesday Tommy Foster & Guitar Bob, 9 p.m., The Exchange; Neon Tuesday, 9 p.m., Mac's Bar. Jazz Tuesday Open Jam, 9 p.m., Stober's Bar, 812 E. Michigan Ave.

Out on the town

from page 24

practice on others'. 6-9 p.m. FREE. Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. (517) 755-4174.

Christmas or Armageddon? Discussion. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.

EVENTS

Practice Your English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East

Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Las Posadas Service. Dinner & service. Reservations required. 5:30 p.m. \$7 adults, \$3.50 5-12, \$5 student, \$18 family. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-349-4220.

Fenner Nature Center Walking Group. 5 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. mynaturecenter.org.

Christmas Celebration. Performance by Italian crooner Gino Federici. Noon-2 p.m. Roma Bakery & Deli, 428 N. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 485-9466.

MUSIC

Jazz Wednesdays. Featuring new jazz artists

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

Wednesday Jam Session. Featuring Caroline Glaeser, Samuel Winterheimer, Judson Branam IV & Jordan Vale. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Hobbie's, 930 Trowbridge Road, East Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Baby Time. Books & songs for 2 years & younger, with a parent/caregiver. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 x3.

Thursday, December 13

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Yoga 2XL. Learn to move with confidence. 7:15-8:15 p.m. \$8 suggested donation. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

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

English Country Dancing. No partner necessary. 7:30-9 p.m. \$20 series, \$5 drop-in, \$2 students. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. people.alblon.edu/ram/lecd.

After-School Youth Gardening Programming. Kids time: activities on gardening, healthy recipes & games. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

Learning Keys & Navigating the Mouse. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 708-4393. iteclansing.org.

Knee High Naturalist. Hike, crafts & activities. 10-11 a.m. \$5 child per class. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

Water media. All levels welcome, with Donna Randall. Preregistration required. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$50 for 4 weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing.

Ingham County Genealogical Society Meeting. Bring dish to pass & table setting. 6 p.m. Vevay Township Hall, 780 Eden Road, Mason. (517) 676-7140.

EVENTS

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

Karaoke. With Atomic D. 9 p.m. LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 482-0184.

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

MUSIC

Thursday Night Jazz. Featuring Peter Nelson Quartet. 9 p.m. FREE. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E.

Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 490-3234.

MSU Community Music School Choir Auditions. 4-7 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 841-B Timberlane St., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661 ext. 10.

Marshall Music Drum Circle. Instruments provided. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700.

THEATER

"Ebenezer." Ebenezer Scrooge, 15 years after the Ghosts of Christmas visited. 8 p.m. \$20. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-7469.

"Almost, Maine." Short plays that explore love & loss. 8 p.m. FREE. LCC Black Box Theatre, Room 168 Gannon Building, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1546.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Storytime With Ms. Deb. Three books & a craft. 10 a.m. FREE. Barnes & Noble, Lansing, 5132 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing. (517) 327-0437.

Signing with Casey Sorrow. Illustrator of "The Cats of Copenhagen" by James Joyce. 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music Lansing, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495. schulerbooks.com.

Book Debut. "The Baseball Thesaurus," Jesse Goldberg-Strassler. 5-7 p.m. EVERYbody Reads Books & Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900.

Friday, December 14

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Escape & Rejuvenate. 12:15 p.m. ACC Natural Healing and Wellness, 617 Ionia, Lansing. (Please see details Dec. 12.)

Season of Light. Holiday customs that have astronomical connection. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 under 12. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4676.

Oil Painting. For all levels with Patricia Singer. Pre-registration required. 10 a.m.-Noon. \$50 for 4 weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing.

EVENTS

Salsa Dancing. Salsa lesson, 10 p.m. Dancing, 10:30 p.m. 10 p.m. \$5. Los Tres Amigos, 1227 East Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (616) 466-9435.

Nite Ride Around Town. 8-10 mile bike ride around Lansing, stop halfway for food and drinks. 5:30 p.m. FREE. Beaumont Tower, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 347-1689.

Fall Storytime. Stories, rhymes & crafts. Ages 2-5. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Stage Combat Open House. Noon. FREE. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N.

See Out on the Town, Page 27

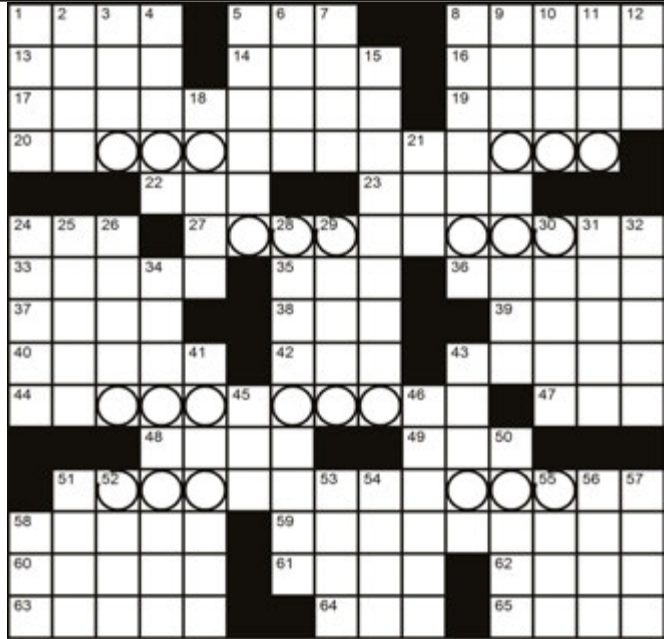
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Across

- 1 Word of surprise
- 5 Dreamworks ___ (movie studio)
- 8 Praiseful poet
- 13 LBJ daughter
- 14 ___ Plus (shampoo)
- 16 Place for concerts
- 17 Buck
- 19 School, in Quebec
- 20 PepsiCo beverage introduced in 2001
- 22 Sleepy cohort
- 23 Word before hog or rage
- 24 Angel dust
- 27 What Ali wore in a historic match against Liston
- 33 "You Be ___" (Run-DMC. hit)
- 35 Rival of LA
- 36 Big bucks
- 37 Check out the factory
- 38 Football coach Parseghian
- 39 Gas or elec., e.g.
- 40 Lot dwellers
- 42 "U just got pwned"
- 43 "___ a Letter to My Love" (1980 movie)
- 44 Used delaying tactics
- 47 Trite answer to "What's up?" (with "the")
- 48 Bog fuel
- 49 To catch a thief
- 51 "Mary Poppins" song refrain
- 58 Grim Reaper's

- collection
- 59 The world of Bond
- 60 Chicken, in a taqueria
- 61 "The Secret of ___ Inish"
- 62 Earth Day subj.
- 63 Party animal's secret
- 64 ___ Schwarz
- 65 Dick Tracy's love ___ Trueheart

Down

- 1 "Born Free" lioness
- 2 Judy Garland's real last name
- 3 Bust ___ (fire off rounds)
- 4 Cut into cubes
- 5 Toastmasters preparation
- 6 TV chef Graham
- 7 Pirate's drink

- 8 Pitching style
- 9 Like some trees or teeth
- 10 "Can I let you ___ a little secret?"
- 11 Be pouty
- 12 Swinger's stand
- 15 Return to keep kids safe
- 18 Documented
- 21 URL punctuation
- 24 Breads for hummus
- 25 Influence
- 26 Dwarf planet that Neil deGrasse Tyson helped demote
- 28 All riled up
- 29 Alpine region of Austria
- 30 Students take them
- 31 "Hogan's Heroes" colonel
- 32 Like soy sauce
- 34 They combat

- fatigue
- 41 Looks good on first inspection
- 43 It shares a 45-mile border with Canada
- 45 Female army enlistee, once
- 46 City in a Pauly Shore movie title
- 50 "The Devil and Daniel Webster" author
- 51 Not dorky
- 52 Dance with a story
- 53 "Time ___ the essence"
- 54 Org. that gives out ratings
- 55 "The Amazing ___"
- 56 They may get inflated
- 57 British pie contents
- 58 Number on a Banana Boat bottle

ERASER-FREE SUDOKU MEDIUM

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

TO PLAY

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

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

Answers on page 29

Out on the town

from page 26

Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1546.

Drag Show. DJ Aura pre-show. 7 p.m. \$5. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing.

Hispanic Christmas Symposium. Bring canned goods. 6-9 p.m. \$15. Cristo Rey Church, 201 W. Miller Road, Lansing. (517) 381-8804.

MUSIC

Grand River Radio Diner. Featuring Matt Moore. Noon- 1 p.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River, Lansing. (517) 483-1710. lcc.edu/radio.

Holiday Sing. With Sally Potter. 8 p.m. \$15, \$12, \$5. Unitarian Universalist Church, 855 Grove St. East Lansing. (517) 337-7744. tenpoundfiddle.org.

Karaoke Night. Sing, food & games. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.

Holiday Concert. Featuring Mason Orchestral Society. 7:30 p.m. FREE, donations. Okemos High School, 2500 Jolly Road, Okemos. masonorchestras.org.

Rookies Idol Finals. 9 p.m. FREE. Rookies Restaurant, 1640 S. US 27, Lansing. (517) 487-8686.

Master African Drummer Francis Kofi. 8 p.m. \$5 donation, FREE kids. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 853-0550.

THEATER

"Ebenezer." 8 p.m. \$25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. (Please see details Dec. 13.)

"The North Pole Radio Hour." 1946 Christmas radio show. 7 p.m. \$7 students & adults, \$5 preschool. Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. (517) 483-6686.

"Almost, Maine." 8 p.m. FREE. LCC Black Box Theatre, Room 168 Gannon Building, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. (Please see details Dec. 13.)

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Music & Movement Storytime. Dance and sing to music, learn to play with instruments. 1 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3.

Saturday, December 15

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Tai Chi in the Park. Meditation at 8:15 a.m. followed by Tai Chi at 9 a.m. 8:15 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

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

Staying Connected with Facebook. Set up an account. 10 a.m.-Noon. FREE. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 708-4393.

Becoming an Explorer of the World Wide Web. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 708-4393.

Season of Light. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 under 12. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (Please see details Dec. 14.)

Forest Bathing. Practice of shinrin-yoku. Walking & relaxing. 3 p.m. Lake Lansing North Park, 6260 E. Lake Drive, Haslett. (517) 420-5820.

Science Saturday: Hoop Gliders. 2 p.m. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840.

EVENTS

Reception. This month's featured exhibit. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130

Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014.

Beer & Wine Tasting. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Vine and Brew, 2311 Jolly Road, Okemos.

Family Friendly Holiday Event. Stories with Santa, 10 a.m. Horse & carriage rides, 3 p.m. FREE. Eastwood Towne Center, 3000 Preyde Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-9209.

Fenner Nature Center Walking Group. 8-9 a.m. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (Please see details Dec. 12.)

A Living Nativity. Cookies & refreshments. 5-7 p.m. FREE. Our Savior Lutheran Church, 7910 E. St. Joe Hwy., Lansing. (517) 582-0072.

Storytime with Mr. & Mrs. Claus. Cookies & milk. Cameras welcome. 10 a.m.-Noon. FREE. Schuler Books & Music Lansing, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd. Lansing. (517) 316-7495. schulerbooks.com.

MUSIC

Holiday Concert in Theater. Holiday music & greatest hits. 7 p.m. Price Varies. Lansing Mall Cinema, 921 Mall Drive, Lansing. (517) 886-3456.

MSU Community Music School Choir Auditions. 12:30-3:20 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 841-B Timberlane St., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661 ext. 10.

Garber Studio Violin & Viola Recitals. 2 p.m. & 4 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 841-B Timberlane St., East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.

The Cori Matsui Quintet. 8:30 p.m. \$5 donation. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 853-0050.

Performance. Fall rock camp & adult warriors rock bands. 1 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700.

Lange Choral Ensemble Christmas Concert. 7 p.m. \$10 adults, \$8 seniors & children. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 218 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. (517) 482-9454.

THEATER

"Ebenezer." 3 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$22 & \$25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. (Please see details Dec. 13.)

"The North Pole Radio Hour." 3 p.m. \$7 adults & seniors, \$5 pre-school. Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. (Please see details Dec. 14.)

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Christopher Walker. Author of "The Green Eyed

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Necklace." 1-3 p.m. EVERYbody Reads Books & Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900.

Sunday, December 16

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Meditation for Stress Management. 1-4 p.m. \$40 per session. Creative Wellness, 2025 Abbot Road, #200, East Lansing. (517) 351-9240.

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

Season of Light. 4 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors,

\$2 under 12. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (Please see details Dec. 14.)

Family Show. "George & Oatmeal Save Santa." 2:30 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 under 12. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4676. pa.msu.edu/abrams/.

EVENTS

Family Christmas Program. Children's play, concert & more. 5 p.m. FREE. Okemos Community

See Out on the Town, Page 28

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Out on the town

from page 27

Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 349-4220.
Capital Area Singles Dance. With door prizes. 6:30-10:30 p.m. \$8. Fraternal Order of Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 819-0405.
Dance Open House. LCC dance classes. 4 p.m. FREE. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1546.
All-you-can-eat breakfast. 8 a.m.-Noon. \$7 adult. Williamston Eagles Club, 835 High St., Williamston. (517) 655-6510.

MUSIC

Mid-Michigan Bluegrass. Live music & jam areas. 2-6 p.m. \$4. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing. (517) 322-0030.

THEATER

"Ebenezer." 2 p.m. \$22. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. (Please see details Dec. 13.)
"The North Pole Radio Hour." 3 p.m. Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. (Please see details Dec. 14.)

Monday, December 17

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Yoga Play Class. Educational tools of Kripalu Yoga. 5:45-6:45 p.m. FREE. Creative Wellness, 2025 Abbot Road, #200, East Lansing. (517) 351-9240.
Fall Babytime. For babies under 2. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.
Escape & Rejuvenate. 12:15 p.m. ACC Natural Healing and Wellness, 617 Ionia, Lansing. (Please see details Dec. 12.)

EVENTS

Monthly Luncheon. Bring lunch & drink. Speaker Rev. Martling. Noon. FREE. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 332-8693.
Peace Pot Luck. Bring dish to pass & place setting. 6-8:30 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Church, 855 Grove St. East Lansing. (517) 410-1243.

Tuesday, December 18

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Computer Class. Learn Excel. 7 p.m. FREE. Community of Christ, 1514 W. Miller Road, Lansing. (517) 882-3122.
Speakeasies Toastmasters. Become a better speaker. 12:05-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Bldg. 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. toastmastersclubs.org.
QIGong & Tai Chi classes. Light exercises for those with physical limitations, senior citizens or just need to unwind. 8 a.m. Up to \$8. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.
After-School Youth Gardening Programming. Kids time: activities on gardening, healthy recipes & games. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.
LinkedIn 101. Professionally network online. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 708-4393. iteclansing.org.
Seeking Safety. For people with trauma & PTSD. 1:30-3 p.m. FREE. JIMHO, 520 Cherry St. Lansing. (517) 887-4312.
Writer's Workshop. Discussion & peer critique. 6-9 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org.
Water media. All levels welcome, with Donna Randall. Preregistration required. 6-8:30 p.m. \$50 for 4 weeks.

Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing.
Intro to Computers. With professional instructors. 2:30-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area Michigan Works, 2110 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 492-5500.
Compassionate Friends of Lansing: Holiday Candle Lighting. Bring candle. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Salvation Army South Community Center, 701 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 410-9563.

EVENTS

DTDL Crafters. Bring own supplies. 2:30-4 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.
Fall Storytime. Stories, rhymes & a craft. Ages 2-5. 10:30-11:15 a.m. & 6:30-7:15 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

Lansing Christian School Christmas Concert. 7 p.m. FREE. South Church, 5250 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. (517) 882-5779.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Tuesday Morning Book Club. "On Strike for Christmas," Sheila Roberts. 10:15-11:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. dtld.org.

Wednesday, December 19

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Vietnamese Buddhist Temple, 3015 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 351-5866.
Community Yoga. Power yoga class. 6 p.m. FREE. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.
Nia Class. Martial arts, dance & healing arts. 5:45-6:45 p.m. FREE. Creative Wellness, 2025 Abbot Road, #200, East Lansing. (517) 351-9240.
After-School Youth Gardening Programming. 3:30-5:30 p.m. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (Please see details Dec. 12.)
Escape & Rejuvenate. 12:15 p.m. ACC Natural Healing and Wellness, 617 Ionia, Lansing. (Please see details Dec. 12.)
KRP Open Work Shop. 6-9 p.m. Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. (Please see details Dec. 12.)
Christmas Music. Discussion. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.

EVENTS

Fenner Nature Center Walking Group. 5 p.m. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (Please see details Dec. 12.)

MUSIC

Christmas Caroling. All ages. 7:15 p.m. FREE. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 349-4220.
Marshall Music Ukulele Play-A-Long. All ages & levels. Instruments provided or bring own. 6 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700.
Wednesday Jam Session. Featuring Caroline Glaeser, Samuel Winterheimer, Judson Branam IV & Jordan Vale. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Hobie's, 930 Trowbridge Road, East Lansing.
Jazz Wednesdays. Featuring new jazz artists each week. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Gracie's Place, 151 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-1100.
Christmas Concert. Led by John Broughton. 7-8 p.m.

TAMAKI & TRIPLE GODDESS BOOKSTORE



Alan I. Ross/City Pulse

Tamaki Custom Sushi and Wraps opened recently in Frandor. It pairs sushi with the fast casual dining concept, a growing trend with sandwich shops.



By SAM INGLOT
and ALLAN I. ROSS

Sushi queue

I thought I had **Tamaki Custom Sushi and Wraps** clocked as soon as I walked in — the Subway of sushi. But you won't find any \$5 foot-long sushi rolls here. What you will find, says owner Frank Cheng, is a new take on sushi and Asian cuisinwe. Fresh, quality ingredients combined with fast service are the defining features of his new restaurant concept.

Tamaki opened about three weeks ago, and Cheng — who also owns **Xiao China Grille and Lounge** nearby — said things have been going "pretty good" since the soft opening.

The restaurant offers made-to-order sushi, rice bowls and wraps with the convenience of a sandwich-type ingredient bar. Here's how it's done: Choose your wrap or rice bowl, pick one of 14 proteins — ranging from spicy crab and tuna to smoked salmon and Bulgogi steak — and then choose your veggies (nearly two dozen to choose from) and any of the six sauces. You're then given a choice of seaweed wrap or, for the less adventurous, soy wrap to hold it all together.

Sushi is hot in mid-Michigan, and this concept

advances the Asian sensation into the realm of fast casual dining.

"There is a niche market for affordable sushi for Lansing," Cheng said. "There's no other place like (Tamaki) around town." Or in the state — Cheng said that the only other restaurant with a similar concept is located in Texas.

Cheng says that you'll find only "high end stuff" at Tamaki. Take the Bulgogi steak, for example: The steak is shaved Korean rib eye that is marinated in-house in a soy sauce base with Asian pear and pineapple juice.

The problem with sushi is that if you want it fast, you've got limited options. I have always been terrified of the prospect of buying prepackaged sushi from grocery stores, and most sushi places are sit-down restaurants. Tamaki makes sushi a quick-lunch option.

If you're a vegetarian and you're tired of always eating lettuce, tomato and onion sandwiches, Tamaki is the place for you, Cheng says. Where else can you find custom wraps with asparagus and several varieties of mushrooms? **SI**

Goddess among us

City Pulse has another new neighbor. Last week the Triple Goddess Bookstore relocated from its Okemos home for the last 19 years to 1824 E. Michigan Ave. in Lansing, tucked into the same building with the 3-month-old **Capital**

City Homebrew Supply. The move comes hot on the heels of the closing of its next-door neighbor, **Travelers Club International Restaurant and Tuba Museum.**

"We really depended on the Travelers Club to keep us busy," says Triple owner/operator Alan Coe. "Once that closed, our business died right off. Now, I can't even stand the thought of driving by there and seeing that empty space."

Triple Goddess (named for Coe's wife, Dawn, her mother and their late friend Sally) opened in 1993 specializing in New Age books and materials. Coe says that the move is good in many ways, with the biggest appeal being his closer proximity to his regular customers.

"Being right on the No. 1 bus route helps, too," he says. The size is about the same — roughly 800 square feet — but Coe says he's going to shift the focus from books and CDs (which he says are being largely ignored thanks to modern file downloading) to more gifts and service-oriented amenities such as tarot and astrology readings. **AIR**

Tamaki Custom Sushi and Wraps

310 N. Clippert St., Lansing
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(517) 483-2650
tamakiroll.com

Triple Goddess Bookstore

1824 E. Michigan Ave.
Lansing
11 a.m.-7 p.m. daily (hours may change)
(517) 883-3629
triplegoddessbookstore.net

Out on the town

from page 28

FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.
Celebrate Christmas. Featuring Gracewood Singers. 2 p.m. FREE. Burcham Hills Retirement Community, 2700 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. (517) 485-1363.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

DTDL Book Club. Bring recent favorite. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.
Baby Time. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (Please see details Dec. 12.)

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Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsny

December 12-18

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Can you manage to be both highly alert and deeply relaxed? Could you be wildly curious and yet also serenely reflective? Can you imagine yourself being extra hungry to crack life's secrets but also at peace with your destiny exactly the way it is? If you can honestly answer yes to those questions, you'll get a lot of help in the coming week. The universe may even seem to be conspiring to educate you and heal you. You will receive a steady flow of clues about how to get closer to living your dreams.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): In the coming week, you would be wise to deal with your vulnerability, your fallibility, and your own personal share of the world's darkness. If you refuse to do that, either out of laziness or fear, I'm worried that you will reinforce a status quo that needs to be overthrown. You may end up rationalizing your mistakes, clinging to false pride, and running away from challenges that could make you smarter and stronger. Don't do that, Taurus! Be brave. Be willing to see what's difficult to see. There will be big rewards if you choose to explore the weaker and less mature parts of your personality.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In the 1968 Olympics, Bob Beamon broke the world record for the long jump. His leap was so far beyond the previous mark that the optical device designed to calculate it didn't work. Officials had to resort to an old-fashioned measuring tape. After that, the word "Beamonesque" came to signify a feat that vastly outstripped all previous efforts. According to my analysis, you Geminis will have an excellent chance to be Beamonesque in 2013. I expect that you will at least surpass your own peak levels of accomplishment. If you have not yet launched your ascent, get started now.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The fire ants that invaded the southern U.S. back in the 1930s are an annoyance. They swarm and bite and sting. The venom they inject makes their victims feel like they've been burned. Two communities have decided to make the best of the situation. Auburn, Georgia and Marshall, Texas both stage annual Fire Ant Festivals, with events like the Fire Ant Call, the Fire Ant Round-Up, and the Fire Ant Chili Cook-Off. (To win the latter, your dish must contain at least one fire ant.) Maybe their example could inspire you, Cancerian. Is there any pest you could develop a more playful and festive relationship with? Could you possibly turn into the equivalent of a Fire Ant Whisperer?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): While reading William Kittredge's book *The Nature of Generosity*, I learned about the oldest known sentence written in ancient Greek. It was inscribed on a wine jug that dates back to 740 B.C. Translated into English, it says, "Who now of all dancers sports most playfully?" Another possible translation is "Which of these dancers plays most delicately?" I'd love to make something like that be your mantra in the coming week, Leo. The time is right for you to do more dancing and playing and sporting than usual — and to seek out companions who'd like to help you achieve record-breaking levels of those recreational activities.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In the movie *Groundhog Day*, Bill Murray plays a man who gets trapped in a timeloop. Over and over again, he experiences the same 24 hours. When he wakes up each morning, it's still February 2. At first it drives him crazy, pushing him to the verge of suicide. But eventually he decides to use his time wisely. He becomes a skilled pianist and a fluent French-speaker. He does good deeds and saves people's lives. He even learns what he needs to do to win the heart of the woman he desires. This transformation turns out to be the key to gaining his freedom. Near the end of the film, he escapes to February 3. A comparable opportunity is looming for you, Virgo. You have a chance to break a spell you've been under or

slip away from a rut you've been in. Generosity may play a major role.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Events in the immediate future may have resemblances to reading a boring book that's packed with highly useful information. You might feel that there's a disjunction between the critical clues you need to gather and the ho-hum style in which they are offered. It's OK to be a bit disgruntled by this problem as long as you promise to remain alert for the partially disguised goodies. Don't fall asleep in the middle of the unspectacular lesson.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "Instinct tells us that sharks are more deadly than delicious fatty foods," writes Jason Daley in *Discover* magazine. But "instinct is wrong," he adds. In fact, eating food that tastes good but is actually bad for us is a far greater threat than shark bites. That's just one example of how our uneducated urges can sometimes lead us astray. I invite you to keep this possibility in mind during the coming week, Scorpio. It's by no means certain that you will be misled by your natural inclinations, but it is crucial that you monitor them with acute discernment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): For the last six decades of his life, Pablo Picasso created art that was adventurous and experimental. He didn't invent abstract painting, but he was instrumental in popularizing it. And yet in his early years he was a master of realism, and had an impressive ability to capture the nuances of human anatomy. Commenting on Picasso's evolution, travel writer Rick Steves says that when he was young, "he learned the rules he would later so skillfully break." I suspect you're in a phase of your own development when you could profit from doing the same thing. So I ask you, Sagittarius: What are the rules that are so ripe for you to bend and twist as you graduate to a more mature level of self-expression?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Through some cosmic intervention, a sad or bad or mad story will get tweaked prior to the final turn of the plot. Just as you're getting ready to nurse your regrets, an X-factor or wild card will appear, transforming the meaning of a series of puzzling events. This may not generate a perfectly happy ending, but it will at least result in an interesting and redemptive climax. What is the precise nature of that X-factor or wild card? Perhaps a big secret will be revealed or some missing evidence will arrive or a mental phony will crumble. And it's likely that you will have an epiphany about how valuable your problem has actually been.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be honest. Have you had any of the following symptoms? 1. Lack of interest in trivial matters and a yearning for big, holy mysteries. 2. Unfamiliar but interesting impulses rising up in you and demanding consideration. 3. Fresh insights into people and situations you've known a long time. 4. An altered sense of the flow of time. 5. Out-of-the-blue recall of long-forgotten memories. If you haven't experienced any of the above, Aquarius, I must be totally off in my analysis and this horoscope isn't for you. But if you've had even two of these symptoms, you are on schedule to get what those of us in the consciousness industry call a "religious experience."

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You just might be able to teach a statue to talk this week — or at least coax a useful message out of a stone-like person. You could also probably extract a delicious clue from out of the darkness or wrangle a tricky blessing from an adversary or find a small treasure hidden in a big mess. In short, Pisces, you now have a knack for accessing beauty and truth in unexpected sources. You can see what everyone else is blind to and love what everyone else has given up on. You're practically a superhero. Use your powers wisely, my friend. Be benevolently unpredictable.

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From Pg. 26

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 26

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HE ATE

SHE ATE



Williamston bistro impresses with eclectic menu

Resolving a conundrum

BY MARK NIXON

If cooking is art, then the beauty of cooking is that each meal presents the artist with a blank canvas.

Therein lies the wonder — or the curse — of many a bistro. Cooking can so easily devolve into widget-making. It becomes a daily slog for kitchen habitués, and soon after, attention to detail fades to black.

The customers eventually notice: The droopy lettuce, the overcooked steak, the soup simmered down to the consistency of wallpaper paste (you can almost hear the parched chowder begging for water).

Fortunately, there are restaurants around us where people in the kitchen do give a damn, and care enough to create something memorable, night after night.

That's my kind of place — Tavern 109 is my kind of place.

More bistro than tavern, Tavern 109 is ensconced in a turn-of-the-century storefront close to Williamston's four corners. Its high ceilings, exposed brick and planked wooden floors evoke comfort and coziness.

Belly up to the bar, as we did on our first visit, and dive into the detail-driven menu. If you like smoked fish, don't pass up the sumptuous smoked whitefish chowder. Its richness is based on good stock, creamy but not begging for liquid like the aforementioned paste.

Salads: I sampled my companion's and devoured my own. Both were excellent. I recommend the baby spinach with apple, pecans, bacon and feta cheese, topped with champagne vinaigrette. The vinaigrette sparkles the way a sturdy vinaigrette should.

Appetizers: Here is a personal conundrum. I have abhorred grits on the theory that this lye-soaked corn mush isn't really food. Southerners insist it is food, and I believe this is why the South lost the war.

My dinner companion ordered Shrimp and Grits (\$12), which uses locally raised shrimp, bacon, sun-dried

See He Ate Page 31

Please sir, I want some more

BY GABRIELLE JOHNSON

Going to Williamston during the holiday season makes you feel like you're in a Charles Dickens novel (the good kind, not the kind where orphans beg for more gruel or the French government guillotines its citizens). Grand River Avenue is lined with little shops, an old-fashioned movie theater, and surprisingly cosmopolitan restaurants. As quaint as it feels walking down the street, that all changes when you walk through the doors of Tavern 109.

Tavern 109 is sleek. The exposed brickwork and butcher paper-covered tables give the interior a big-city feel, which is accented by the intriguing three dimensional fireplace fixture hanging from the wall.

A friend and I met for dinner on a recent Friday evening and watched the place become packed while we enjoyed our meal.

We started with the Tavern Trio, an appetizer platter with bowls of hummus, "pub cheese" and spinach-artichoke dip. The dips are accompanied by crackers, carrot and celery sticks and jalapeno/garlic toast that didn't taste at all like jalapeno but would keep vampires away. Our server informed us that the pub cheese was a blend of white cheddar, cream cheese, ale, green onions and parsley. I found it to be the most tasteless item on the platter and concentrated my efforts on the crispy and flavorful garlic toast.

We chased the appetizer platter with salads and were happy to see that they were a mix of fresh greens and cherry tomatoes. The ingredients were crisp and the salads were small, the perfect size to whet an appetite and prevent a diner from becoming stuffed before even catching a whiff of their entrée. My champagne vinaigrette was tangy and fragrant.

I knew I was going to go home with boxes, since my eyes constantly dwarf my stomach, and I lost all self-control after one look at the menu. I ordered both the chicken and waffles and the pear pizza, which I had been impressed with during previous visits

See She Ate, Page 31

Tavern 109

115 E. Grand River Ave.
Williamston

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11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Wednesday

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He Ate

from page 30

tomatoes, white wine and a generous glob of, you know, that stuff. I grudgingly took a bite.

Lo, a Christmas miracle! Was there a star shining in the East?

No, the star was right on the table. The grits are blended with cheddar cheese and, when paired with a daub of hot sauce and broiled shrimp, result in a flavor-unfolding wonder. OK, conundrum solved. Grits are food, and they can be great in the hands of a pro.

During the course of three visits, I tried nine different entrees. All had something original to offer. My favorite was Mustard Crusted Whitefish (\$20) with garlic mashed potatoes and a ragout of tomato, mushroom and sage. There's plenty of Michigan's famed whitefish on Tavern 109's menu, including ale-battered whitefish (playfully served in a square metal baking pan) and a smoked whitefish dip. If whitefish is your thing, try one of these.

Lobster mac and cheese was the priciest entree — \$22. Small yet substantial chunks of lobster were tossed into a blend of fontina cheese, pasta, chipotle and panko crumbs. Nicely done. My least favorite (but still good) was the 10-inch pear pizza. It had the right mix of salt, sweet, pungent and spicy: roasted pears, walnuts, gorgonzola, bacon and cracked black pepper. Still, I can't get over the pear's sweetness as the leading role. If it were possible for Tavern 109 to serve a mini-pizza, as an appetizer or dessert, I bet it would be a hit.

For dessert, I chose a pumpkin cheesecake parfait, served in a half-pint jar. Again, attention to detail: Subtly spiced, not overly sweet, light and silky the way a parfait should be. Yum. (This may be a seasonal treat, since it's not currently a dessert option on the restaurant's website).

I noted earlier that Tavern 109 is more bistro than tavern. That said, this place offers a dozen craft beers on tap, many originating from Michigan. There's also a very respectable wine list, and a number of alcohol-infused

fruits that find their way into boutique martinis. And men, if the beer requires a trip to the restroom, carefully read the eye chart on the wall — courtesy of Mark Twain.

On our final visit, I complimented the server on the quality of the food, and asked how the kitchen had developed the menu. Her reply: Since opening last January, Tavern 109 had hired a "restaurant consultant" who

recommended changes. Let's hope it wasn't TV chef/bully Gordon Ramsay. Whoever it was, and however Tavern 109 made the final call, they made it click. I've worked in restaurants. I know a bit about stress in the kitchen. I can only surmise, based on what comes out of Tavern 109's kitchen, that someone back there loves to create; loves to bring an "oh-my-God-this-is-good" grin to a diner's face.

She Ate

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and wanted to reexamine more closely. Just as I remembered, the pear pizza is a marvel. The thin crust is loaded with a gorgonzola blend, big chunks of bacon and walnuts and hunks of roasted lightly roasted pear, and finished with olive oil and cracked pepper. It's a sweet dish with a lot of strong flavors thrown together, but the chewy, crispy crust and lack of any red sauce let it retain its lightness. The pears aren't roasted to death and provide a welcome textural complement to the walnuts.

The chicken and waffles came to me on a tray lined with parchment paper meant to soak up the grease. To my delight, there was nothing greasy to be found. Six boneless pieces of battered and fried chicken were nestled next to four wedges of golden-brown, powdered sugar-dusted waffles. The dish was finished with ramekins of maple syrup, butter and a thick honey mustard complete with slivers of bacon. The chicken should be put into buckets and sold on its own. It was juicy, a little spicy, and I loved that it was battered, not breaded. The waffles were standard, but the star of this show was the outstanding chicken.

My companion, who in horror watched me tear through my food like I was preparing for hibernation, loved his lobster macaroni and cheese. His

initial hesitation at the \$22 price was unfounded after he saw the bite-sized chunks of lobster, of which there were so many that some remained after he stuffed himself. And this is no small dude — plus he's in the military. The chipotle peppers gave a bit of heat but didn't make him drain his water glass. The fontina cheese was used sparingly, and all the components of the dish retained their separateness — that is to say, everything didn't become a melted-together mess. This mac and cheese isn't creamy, but if you really want to eat a melted brick of cheese, then why don't you just stay home and save yourself \$20?

During our meal, the manager came over and mentioned a hook under the table where I could hang my purse. With those magical words she stole my heart.

We finished our feeding bonanza with bread pudding, a seasonal item that wasn't on the menu. I'm no great lover of raisins, and this was chock full — information that would have been nice to know before we ordered.

I could wax poetic about a Sunday brunch during which a girlfriend and I gorged ourselves on apple-oatmeal pancakes and breakfast pizza. Suffice it to say that Thanksgiving was the official opener of my eating season, and if you need me you'll find me on a treadmill. I hope I can find you heading toward Williamston with visions of thin-crust pizza dancing through your head.

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