

FREE

# City PULSE

a newspaper for the rest of us

www.lansingcity.com

September 12-18, 2012



## El corazón DEL BARRIO CHICANO

SEE PAGE 8



Rizzi Design  
takes over Perspective2  
see page 37

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10 TIL 4

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30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

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**It’s Time for Change**  
 in the Ingham County Sheriff’s Office!



**The election for Ingham County Sheriff in November is not about being a Democrat or a Republican; it is an opportunity for change.**

The choice is between a twenty-four year career politician with a political agenda and a responsible leader who will listen to the citizens and respond to their need for public safety. For years, instead of looking internally and being fiscally responsible, the current Sheriff has pointed his finger at everyone else as being the problem, including the Ingham County Board of Commissions.

As the number of deputies has continued to decrease, his politically appointed command staff (4 appointed positions) is maintained with increases in wages and benefits. At a time when there are a lot of unused patrol vehicles sitting in the parking lot, the Sheriff drives a new 2012 Chevy Traverse at taxpayers’ expense. And now, in the Sheriff’s 2013 budget, he is choosing to close yet another wing of the jail (57 beds) over reducing his administrative command staff. In contrast, in the last few years, the Lansing Police Department has gone from three Chiefs to one Chief and from five Captains’ to two Captains’ in order to reduce administrative costs and keep officers on the road.

The current Sheriff even recommended moving his grant funded traffic unit into the City of Lansing for traffic enforcement. In fact, the benefit to the City would have been very minimal and the Lansing City Council did not pursue the idea. It is apparent that this offer was made to secure votes rather than to responsibly consider the best interest of the overall County where there are now very few deputies on patrol.

**As your candidate for sheriff, I plan to implement much needed change by responding directly to the needs of Ingham County citizens.**

**My Plan includes:**

- Prioritizing Public Safety for all, not a Political Agenda
- Increasing road deputies and decreasing command staff
- Fiscal responsibility for the Sheriff’s Office
- Community Oriented Police services for all County Residents
- Crime and Accident Mapping to be shared with all
- Increasing funds recovered from jail inmates who are using jail resources
- Maintain an open door policy for all

**Elect Clyde Smith!**  
 Candidate for Ingham County Sheriff

**ClydeSmithforSheriff.com**

Paid for by Clyde Smith for Ingham Sheriff, P.O. Box 27482, Lansing, MI 48909

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*vin steel*

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Cruising into Michigan Aug. 27, 2012

Tot

# The case for 'Savage Love'

# CityPULSE

VOL. 12  
ISSUE 5



BERL SCHWARTZ

Dear readers:  
As you may have noticed, we've received a spate of letters about "Savage Love," our new, frank and at times profane column on sex and relationships. Overall, we've heard from some two doz-

en readers, most of whom do not want it.

In contrast, when we asked readers in our survey last December if they wanted "Savage Love," 150 people responded: 68 percent said yes and 32 percent said no.

Those starkly different results show once again that you cannot edit a newspaper by consensus.

That leaves judgment. Let me explain why I decided to carry "Savage Love."

First, Dan Savage is a leading figure in alternative journalism, which is City Pulse's niche. He's the editorial director of The Stranger, a weekly in Seattle that, like all alternative newspapers, can trace its roots to The Village Voice in New York. In the last few years, his celebrity has grown through contributions to various public radio programs and to "Real Time with Bill Maher" on HBO. He has an MTV show called "Savage U." And two years ago, inspired by a gay teen's suicide, he helped create the anti-bullying public service announcements called "It Gets Better." Savage has cred.

Secondly, his column, which he started writing 15 years ago, appears in these papers around the country:

- Baltimore City Paper
- Chicago Reader
- Las Vegas City Life
- Minneapolis City Pages
- Cleveland Scene
- Columbia City Paper

- Creative Loafing
- Dallas Observer
- Detroit Metro Times
- Dynasty Communications
- East Bay Express
- Eugene Weekly
- Fast Forward Weekly
- Georgia Straight
- Hartford Advocate
- LA Weekly
- Metroland
- Miami New Times
- Nashville Scene
- Nerve.com
- New Times Broward/Palm Beach
- NOW Toronto
- OC Weekly
- Off-Centre (The Daily Courier)
- Orlando Weekly
- Outlook Media
- Philadelphia Weekly
- Phoenix New Times
- Pittsburgh City Paper
- Riverfront Times
- Santa Fe Reporter
- See Magazine
- SF Weekly
- Snipe Magazine
- The Coast
- The Dig
- The Onion
- The Pitch
- Tucson Weekly
- Village Voice
- Washington City Paper
- Westword

The list demonstrates he has reader appeal. Yes, we're among the smaller markets, but we're a metro area of 460,000 people with diverse interests and standards and beliefs. Within that market, and within City Pulse, I believe there is an audience for "Savage Love."

See Savage, Page 5

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Romney could drag down state GOP



PAGE 11

Votapek launches Lansing Symphony season with rare two-concerto mission



PAGE 38

Sansu seduces diners with unique menu and dining room



COVER ART

GHAVEZ PLAZA by VINCE JOY

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## CITY PULSE ON THE AIR

THIS WEEK  
Actress and comedian Lily Tomlin  
Folk singer Todd Snider  
Timothy Muffitt, conductor of the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, and Ralph Votapek, LSO soloist



Editor & Publisher  
Berl Schwartz

7 p.m. Wednesdays



## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

WELCOME BACK TO THE ACTION NEWS WALL-TO-WALL COVERAGE OF THE POLITICAL CONVENTIONS!

SOME WONDER WHY IT'S NECESSARY FOR EVERY NEWS OUTLET IN THE COUNTRY TO COVER THESE EXCESSIVELY COVERED EVENTS--

--BUT THEY CLEARLY HAVEN'T SEEN OUR DISTINCTIVE COVERAGE!

OUR EXPERIENCED NEWS TEAM WILL PROVIDE INSIGHT YOU WON'T GET ANYWHERE ELSE--

--SUCH AS THIS EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH AN ACTUAL DELEGATE!

I SUPPORT OUR PARTY'S CANDIDATE!

OR THIS INTERVIEW WITH A MINOR PARTY FUNCTIONARY!

I, TOO, SUPPORT OUR PARTY'S CANDIDATE!

AND THEY SAY THERE'S NO NEWS HERE!

OF COURSE, JOURNALISTS OUTNUMBER DELEGATES FOUR TO ONE--WHICH IS WHY WE SENT CORRESPONDENT BETTY McBETTIE TO INTERVIEW ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PEOPLE AT THIS CONVENTION--HERSELF!

WHO BETTER TO ASK THE REALLY TOUGH QUESTIONS?

WE'LL HAVE HER FULL REPORT IN JUST A MOMENT!

AND OUR RESIDENT EXPERT GUY USUAL EXPERT GUY ACUMEN!

IN MY OPINION, THE MEMBERS OF THIS PARTY WANT THEIR CANDIDATE TO WIN!

YES--BUT THE OTHER SIDE ALSO DESIRES VICTORY!

SPEAKING AS AN EXPERT--ONLY ONE OF THEM CAN ACHIEVE THEIR GOAL!

ALSO--ACE INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER "SCOOP" WILLIAMS IS STANDING BY WITH A LIVE REPORT FROM A VIP PARTY WITH AN OPEN BAR!

IF THIS ISN'T THE REAL REASON WE'RE HERE-- I DON'T KNOW WHAT IS!

AND DON'T MISS OUR GROUND-BREAKING EXPOSE OF THE CRUMMY HOTEL WE GOT STUCK IN!

SOURCES SAY IT SUCKS!

FIRST THESE MESSAGES!

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### City of Lansing Notice of Public Hearing

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, September 17, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, Lansing, MI, for the purpose stated below:

To afford an opportunity for all residents, taxpayers of the City of Lansing, other interested persons to appear and be heard on the approval of a New Personal Property Exemption (PPE-2-12) requested by the applicant indicated below:

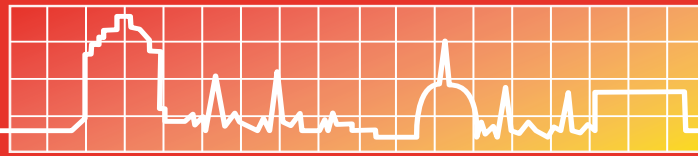
Applicant: Pratt & Whitney – Auto Air Inc.  
Location: 5640 Enterprise Drive  
Location of subject property:

LOT 12 EXC W'LY 230 FT MIDWAY INDUSTRIAL CENTER; LOT 13 MIDWAY INDUSTRIAL CENTER; THAT PART OF LOT 14 NW'LY OF A LINE 25 FT S'LY MEAS D AT RT ANG S & PARL TO A LINE COM ON NE'LY LINE SAID LOT 248.3 FT SE'LY OF N'LY COR SAID LOT, TH S 66DEG 56MIN W 482.36 FT, N 62DEG 33MIN 40SCD W 67 FT TO PT OF ENDING ON SW'LY LOT LINE 187.5 FT SE'LY OF W'LY COR LOT 14 MIDWAY INDUSTRIAL CENTER, 33-01-05-03-401-121, 33-01-05-03-401-111, 33-01-05-03-401-131

Approval of a New Personal Property Exemption (PPE-03-12) requested by Pratt & Whitney – Auto Air Inc. will result in the abatement of new personal property taxes located within the subject property. Further information regarding this application for property tax abatement may be obtained from Mr. Karl R. Dorshimer, Lansing Economic Area Partnership, 500 East Michigan Avenue, Suite 202, Lansing, Michigan, 48912, (517) 702-3387.

CHRIS SWOPE, LANSING CITY CLERK

# PULSE



## news & opinion

### Hotel Red Cedar

Hotels interested in Capital Gateway project, Parks Board chairman more optimistic of Red Cedar Golf Course plans

Major hotel chains are already interested in staking their claim to the Capital Gateway project, say the developers hoping to transform dozens of acres at the former Red Cedar Golf Course.

"We've received letters of interest from four or five major hotel groups representing a number of hotel franchise companies," said Chris Jerome, who is partnering with Lansing developer Joel Ferguson on a potentially major redevelopment of the 61-acre golf course and nearby properties. Their project is called the Capital Gateway, and on Nov. 6, voters will decide whether to authorize the city to sell up to 48 more acres of the park for redevelopment. Last year, voters approved the sale of about 12.5 acres along Michigan Avenue. Jerome's and Ferguson's vision is for the entire park as well as two former car dealerships owned by the Jerome family, one across Michigan Avenue to the north and one adjacent to the park to the east.

Jerome is not ready to publicly disclose specifics about the interested hotel groups — that likely won't happen before voters approve the sale. However, if the "project can move forward with the voters, there is no doubt there will be at least one, more likely two" hotels, he said.

Ferguson said on City Pulse's TV show last month a "major firm" of "high end" hotels that has "their main hotels at Harvard" flew in representatives to meet with him and Jerome. "They really want to be here." He added that across the street from the golf



Sam Inglot/City Pulse

Across the street from the Red Cedar Golf Course, this former car dealership property may be the future site of a hotel as part of a redevelopment plan for the golf course under consideration.

course at the old car dealership is the possibility of "another hotel that might not be as high end."

The nearest hotels from the site are the Kellogg Center at Michigan State University; a Quality Inn University on Saginaw Street north of Frandor in Lansing Township; and a Howard Johnson near Trowbridge Plaza on Trowbridge Road in East Lansing.

Project renderings show at least one hotel that could go on the Story Oldsmobile property on the north side of Michigan Avenue, a more than three-acre parcel owned by the Jerome family.

Jerome, with relentless positivity, stresses community collaboration, environmental stewardship and the importance of maintaining public green space when talking about the \$100 million project. At least one skeptic — Rick Kibbey, chairman of the city's Parks Board — is starting to come around to the expanded project.

The Parks Board sets policies on the operation and maintenance of Lansing's 100-plus

parks. Kibbey also was on the review team that looked at proposals put forth by developers interested in the original 12.5 acres of Red Cedar property. Of the five proposals, the Jerome/Ferguson project was selected for further consideration — and the only one that envisioned using more than 12.5 acres. Only one other proposal, by Lansing Township-based DTN Management, called for a hotel as part of the project.

Jerome then pleaded his case to the Lansing City Council that if he and Ferguson could have more land to work with, they could expand and better the development.

Entertainment venues, apartments, hotels, restaurants and green space are all part of the larger plan. The City Council voted 7-1 last month to put on the ballot the approval of the sale of up to 48 more acres of the Red Cedar parkland. Third Ward Councilwoman A'Lynne Robinson was the lone no-vote.

In an Aug. 29 interview on the City Pulse radio show, Kibbey said he supported the sale of the original 12.5 acres of Red Cedar parkland approved by voters last year. However, he thought the sale of up to 48 additional acres of land, which basically amounts to the entire park, and the added "flexibility" requested by the developers, deserved a lot more questions and critique.

"I'm very disinclined to sell parkland," he said on the show. "Even stronger than my disinclination to sell parks is my disinclination to sell river frontage."

After Kibbey attended a meeting between Jerome and the Eastside Neighborhood Association last week, he said some of his concerns were eased. The developers have

no interest in owning the property along the river, which was a major priority for him.

"The original move to expand beyond 12 acres came up and that is when my skepticism went up," Kibbey said in an interview Monday. "Now that they seem to be less interested in acquiring all the land ... my skepticism has softened a little. I'm encouraged."

Along with backing off the riverfront, Kibbey said Jerome expressed interest in maintaining parkland surrounding the development, even if it was publicly owned.

Jerome said maintaining the parkland around the development is worth discussion and makes sense from a business standpoint.

"If it's something the city is interested in, we're committed to doing whatever it takes. ... No sane investor would want to put over \$100 million into a project that bordered a potentially dangerous place, a place where there is no maintenance," Jerome said. "Everything has to work together, and that's why this project is so exciting. A beautifully maintained park is in the best interest of everyone, both public and private sector."

Kibbey still has some concerns about the sizeable parking lot on the west side of the development, which stretches along Clippert Street from Kalamazoo Street to Michigan Avenue. He hoped the developers would look into a "permeable" lot with drains, which would allow for water to percolate through the ground for easier storm water management and lowered environmental impact.

Jerome said right now everything in the plan is "conceptual" and they're in the early stages of going to the public for input. He said the idea of an environmentally low impact parking lot "makes a lot of common sense" and is one of the good ideas that could come from the community.

— Sam Inglot

### Savage

from page 4

Which brings me to the main reason City Pulse is carrying "Savage Love": its message. Dan Savage's views on sexual and relationship issues are ones of liberation, which is in keeping with City Pulse's. Secondly, "Savage Love" is inclusive, by which I mean GLBT folks will see themselves in his column, not just heterosexuals. That's more important than ever in Michigan, where our state government continues to undermine our rights.

Contrast that with the column it replaced, "The Advice Goddess," a staple of City Pulse since it began 11 years ago (and which still appears online). Few letters have ever appeared in it from non-straight

people. Its author, Amy Alkon, dismissed my concern about this lack of inclusivity by saying that "relationships are relationships." That's not true, as GLBT people know. For example, straight people don't have to worry about getting abused or stared at when they hold hands in public. Straight people don't have to worry about how to introduce a same-sex boyfriend or girlfriend to their parents when their parents don't even know they're gay (or have chosen not to know it). That's just the beginning of the differences.

Moreover, GLBT people want to see themselves in the media, just as other minorities do. "Savage Love" is a means to do so. It's not all about GLBT people, to be sure, but they don't take a back seat.

Which brings me to Dan Savage's language. I'm not a big fan of profanity. I was disappointed when The New Yorker, which I have been reading for nearly 50 years,

started using profanity in the 1990s. But, in the modern era, can you really reflect the world in which we live without employing profanity? I still read The New Yorker every week. Does Savage use it gratuitously? Not when he's describing a sex act, but other times yes. That's who he is — a big-city kid from Chicago. You've just got to overlook it (or laugh at it) if you're going to get his message. It's no different than it's always been with writers. Moreover, City Pulse's contract doesn't permit me to edit "Savage Love" for content. But I wouldn't tone it down anyway. I'm not running "Savage Love Lite."

Finally: children. I understand parents don't want children to see explicit language in City Pulse any more than they want them to see it — and much more — online. I understand we're a free newspaper that children can pick up (few do, but they can)

and that some parents even encourage their children to look at City Pulse. Well, sincerely, good luck with that. I can't edit the paper for children. Parents will have to struggle with this one on their own.

We're not the Journal. We're an alternative newspaper. I know some of you will forego reading us because of "Savage Love." I hope some people who feel strongly will give it a chance and see if the message doesn't overcome the profanity and explicit language for you — in the same way some of you overlook City Pulse's liberal viewpoint.

And if all else fails, please just turn the page.

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

# Romney trying to keep head up in Michigan

POLITICS



KYLE MELINN

Republican officials found themselves playing defense this weekend at their state convention in Grand Rapids.

Only days prior, Karl Rove announced that his SuperPAC, American Crossroads,

which had contributed about half of the \$11 million TV assault against

Democratic President Barack Obama since the primary, was not airing commercials this week in Michigan, citing the expense of Michigan TV time.

And on Saturday, Republican Mitt Romney's campaign announced the launch of 15 new ads in eight swing states. Michigan wasn't one of them.

The media smelled blood.

They swarmed Gov. Rick Snyder, Attorney General Bill Schuette, Michigan Republican Party Chairman

Bobby Schostak — basically anybody of any authority within the party with the inevitable question: Is Romney pulling out of Michigan?

The standard answer, of course, was "no."

"This a non-story," Schostak said.

"I wouldn't over-read into any of this," Snyder said. "I think Michigan is a very competitive state."

Michigan's own Katie Packard Gage, Romney's deputy campaign manager, reiterated comments to the effect that Romney wasn't pulling out of his birth state, a la John McCain in 2008.

What else could they say? They don't know with 100 percent certainty if the money is coming back, even if they hope 100 percent it does.

What we do know is Romney is spending his money in Nevada, Colorado, Iowa, Ohio, Florida, North Carolina, Virginia and New Hampshire.

We also know the anti-Obama SuperPACs unloaded \$11 million in TV ads in Michigan. Pro-Obama or anti-Romney SuperPACs spent \$0 here. Nonetheless, the Real Clear Politics average of several recent polls has Obama up four points here.

Nate Silver, The New York Times'

renowned statistician, puts Obama's chance of victory in Michigan at 95 percent.

Other pollsters slammed the only polls showing Romney up in Michigan — the Baydown/Foster survey of Aug. 16 and the Mitchell Research poll of Aug. 23 — for under-assuming Detroit or African American turnout.

So, to break this down, Barack Obama hasn't spent any money here, hasn't shown up in Michigan to campaign since mid-April in Dearborn and is still up in Michigan about four percentage points.

What's going to happen when the president actually does start campaigning in the Mitten State?

The '08 euphoria surrounding Obama has faded, but the president's crowning first-term achievement was saving the Michigan-based auto industry from corporate scavengers.

"Let Detroit Go Bankrupt," The New York Times headline to Romney's infamous 2008 op-ed on the auto industry, might as well be tattooed on the Republican nominee's head. Every time the guy steps foot in this state, Michigan Democratic Party Chairman Mark Brewer or some other Obama surrogate hits Romney over the head with the headline.

See Melinn, Page 7

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**B/13/027 PARKING LOT #1 RESTORATION** as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing.

The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the FINANCE DEPARTMENT, PURCHASING OFFICE, 8TH FLOOR CITY HALL, 124 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48933 until **3:00 PM** local time in effect on **SEPTEMBER 25, 2012** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read.

Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Stephanie Robinson, CPPB at (517) 483-4128, email: [srobinso@lansingmi.gov](mailto:srobinso@lansingmi.gov), or for content and purpose of this bid contact Andrew Kilpatrick at (517) 483-4248 or go to [www.mitn.info](http://www.mitn.info)

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

**B/13/023 WIRELESS MODEMS** as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing.

The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the FINANCE DEPARTMENT, PURCHASING OFFICE, 8TH FLOOR CITY HALL, 124 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48933 until **3:00 PM** local time in effect on **SEPTEMBER 25, 2012** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read.

Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Stephanie Robinson, CPPB at (517) 483-4128, email: [srobinso@lansingmi.gov](mailto:srobinso@lansingmi.gov), or for content and purpose of this bid contact Jeff Kludy at (517) 483-4840, email: [jkludy@lansingmi.gov](mailto:jkludy@lansingmi.gov), or go to [www.mitn.info](http://www.mitn.info)

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

**B/13/022 FERNO PROFLEXX AMBULANCE COTS** as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing.

The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the FINANCE DEPARTMENT, PURCHASING OFFICE, 8TH FLOOR CITY HALL, 124 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48933 until **3:00 PM** local time in effect on **SEPTEMBER 27, 2012** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read.

Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Darleen Burnham, CPPB at (517) 483-4129, email: [dburnham@lansingmi.gov](mailto:dburnham@lansingmi.gov), or for content and purpose of this bid contact William Oberst at (517) 882-6418, email: [woberst@lansingmi.gov](mailto:woberst@lansingmi.gov), or go to [www.mitn.info](http://www.mitn.info)

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

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing City Council on Tuesday, October 2, 2012 at 7:30 p.m., Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, to consider the following:

1. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Spartan Technology Development for modified Special Use Permit approval for the property at 2000 Merritt Road. The proposed application would allow a portion of the existing office space on the property to be converted to allow a tasting room and retail sales of products produced by biomanufacturing and distilling on the property. The property is zoned OIP, Office Industrial Park District.
2. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1274, an application from DTN Management, to rezone the property at 316 Gunson, 400 Gunson, and 1130 Beech from RM-14, Low Density Multiple-Family Residential, to RM-54, University Oriented Multiple-Family Residential.

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

Marie E. McKenna  
City Clerk

LANSING AREA PUBLIC PURCHASING GROUP

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Register At [Lcc-Purchasing@Lcc.edu](mailto:Lcc-Purchasing@Lcc.edu)

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# Melinn

from page 6

Romney's response about his managed bankruptcy plan seems to get lost in the breeze because the government bailout worked. Say what you will, GM and Chrysler are coming back.

This presents a real problem for Michigan Republicans because a loss of Romney enthusiasm in 2012 could be catastrophic.

Proposal 2, the collective bargaining constitutional guarantee that would throw in limbo every government reform Snyder and the Republicans have managed in the last 20 months, passes with a low GOP turnout.

Proposal 4, which would overturn the recent ban on bargaining rights for those independent home health care workers who collect Medicaid money, probably passes.

The Republican-nominated majority in the Supreme Court could be toppled.

Up to three Republican congressional seats could flip.

Republicans picked up 20 state House seats in 2010. If they lose half of those in November, they lose the majority.

Romney may lose Michigan, but the state GOP cannot afford for him to lose big. If Obama's margin of victory starts

hitting double-digits, the coattail effect kicks in and Republicans are in big trouble.

At this weekend's GOP convention, a lot of emphasis was put on the upcoming "Super Saturday."

On Saturday, volunteers from Indiana and Illinois are expected to assist Michigan's Romney supporters in making phone calls, door knocking and talking to neighbors about "the importance of this election and its impact on our nation."

It's dubbed a massive grassroots effort to energize Republicans in the seven weeks leading up to the General Election.

Maybe this is successful. Maybe this helps push Romney over the edge in polling that shows him plateauing despite how much money is thrown into softening Obama.

But the Romney campaign's path to victory only includes Michigan as one of a number of states it'd like to win to get to 270 electoral votes. It's not a state Romney needs to have. It's not like Florida or Virginia or Ohio.

Personal hometown pride will likely stop Romney from abandoning Michigan, but keeping the enthusiasm level high in a state where victory isn't probable could be a chore.

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

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDINANCE NO. 1281

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

Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1281 was adopted by the East Lansing City Council at a regular meeting of the Council held on September 4, 2012 and will become effective 7 days after publication of the following summary of ordinance.

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

The Zoning Use District Map is hereby amended to rezone the following described area from C, Community Facilities and R-1, Low Density Single Family Residential, to RM-14, Low Density Multiple Family Residential District in accordance with the conditions set forth in the conditional rezoning agreement incorporated herein:

Tax Parcel Nos: 33-20-02-08-311-009 & 33-20-02-08-311-022

A PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN THE SOUTHWEST 1/ 4 OF SECTION 8, TOWN 4 NORTH, RANGE 1 WEST, CITY OF EAST LANSING, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS; BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE NORTH-SOUTH 1/ 4 LINE OF SAID SECTION 8; SAID POINT OF BEGINNING BEING NORTH 00°00'13" EAST, 673.22 FEET FROM THE SOUTH 1/ 4 CORNER OF SECTION 8; THENCE SOUTH 89°52'11" WEST, 549.41 FEET ALONG THE EASTERLY EXTENSION OF THE SOUTH LINE OF WALNUT HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION NO. 2 AS RECORDED IN LIBER 2 OF PLATS, PAGE 40, INGHAM COUNTY RECORDS (RECORDED AS N 89°01'30" E); THENCE NORTH 00°07'49" WEST, 162.44 FEET; THENCE NORTH 59°02'7" WEST, 84.20 FEET ALONG THE EASTERLY EXTENSION OF THE NORTHERLY LINE OF LOT 104 OF WALNUT HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION NO. 2 TO THE NORTHEASTERLY CORNER OF SAID LOT 104; THENCE NORTHERLY AND EASTERLY ALONG THE BOUNDARY OF WALNUT HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION NO. 2 THE FOLLOWING 2 COURSES; NORTH 29°29'43" EAST, 521.54 FEET (RECORDED AS N 28°40'30" E, 522 FEET); NORTH 89°54'43" EAST, 365.25 FEET (RECORDED AS N 89°07'50" E, 365.3 FEET) TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF OUTLOT B OF WALNUT HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION NO. 2 AND A POINT ON THE NORTH-SOUTH 1/ 4 LINE OF SAID SECTION 8; THENCE SOUTH 00°00'13" WEST ALONG THE NORTH-SOUTH 1/ 4 LINE A DISTANCE OF 659.01 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 7.77 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AND SUBJECT TO THE RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC FOR ROADWAY PURPOSES IN TIMBERLANE STREET, AND SUBJECT TO EASEMENTS, RESTRICTIONS AND RESERVATIONS OF RECORD OR USE, IF ANY.

More commonly known as 841 Timberlane Street, East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Subject to the following conditions voluntarily offered by the applicant and accepted by the City pursuant to MCL 125.3405:

### 1) THE PROJECT

a) **Project Definition.** The Owner agrees to occupy the building and land for religious use only, with no residential use. All other permitted uses in Section 50-401 are prohibited, except during a transition period commencing immediately upon the date of transfer of title to URC through July 31, 2013, ("Transition Period"), the Property may continue to be used in part by East Lansing Public Schools ("ELPS") and MSU Community School of Music ("MSU"), as well as URC. Both ELPS and MSU currently operate under C, community zoning.

b) **Zoning Use District Regulations.** Except as modified herein, the zoning use district regulations for the Property shall be the, RM-14, Low Density Multiple Family Residential District, Chapter 50, Article V, Division 3, of the City Code and the Property shall remain subject to all other district use and development standards, and all other regulations of the City Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 50 of the Code of the City of East Lansing, and shall remain subject to all other state and local requirements for land development.

c) **Compliance with Conditions.** Upon the Owner commencing the use upon the property subject to this Agreement, the Property Owner and its successors or assigns shall continuously operate and maintain the Property or use in compliance with all of the conditions set forth in this Agreement. Any failure to comply with a condition contained herein shall constitute a violation of the East Lansing zoning ordinance and be punishable accordingly against the owner of the property. Additionally, any such violation shall be deemed a nuisance per se and subject to judicial abatement as provided by law.

### 2) TIMING

The City and the Owner agree that the following approvals and activities are conditions to this Agreement:

a) If, except as otherwise specified herein, the use of the Property for religious use, once commenced pursuant to the terms of this agreement, ceases for more than 30 days after an order to correct has been issued by the planning and zoning official or his or her designee, the Property will revert to R-1, Low Density Single Family Residential District.

b) The Owner obtains special use permit approval for the use of the Property as a Church within twelve (12) months of approval of this Agreement by the City and before any use as a Church is commenced.

A true copy of Ordinance No. 1281 can be inspected or obtained at the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan during normal business hours.

Marie E. McKenna  
City Clerk

# HEART OF THE BARRIO

CÉSAR CHÁVEZ  
AND NORTH LANSING'S  
LATINO HISTORY

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO



Tony Benavides Papers, Special Collections, Michigan State University Main Library

Former Lansing mayors David Hollister (left) and Tony Benavides (right) greet labor leader César Chávez at the Cristo Rey Community Center during a visit in the late 1970s. Chávez visited Lansing several times from 1973 to 1991 to rally support for migrant workers.

**O**n July 30, 1973, labor leader César Chávez visited Lansing as part of a four-day swing through Michigan to gather support for a grape and lettuce boycott. In a speech at Cristo Rey Community Center on the north side of town, he broke the crowd up with a story about an elderly woman he met in Flint.

The woman told Chávez she was too old to march or picket but still wanted to help La Causa. She found her own way to put the squeeze on boycotted produce: She walked into a targeted store, gave the grapes an “extremely firm handshake” and said “Hello, grapes.”

Fighting the rising laughter, Chavez told the Lansing group that he was not advocating this tactic, only reporting it.

Chávez visited Lansing, capital of a key agricultural state, several times. He was scheduled to visit again in 1993 but died in April of that year.

Many of his visits brought him to north Lansing, the heart of sugar beet country, a mecca for migrant workers going back to the 1940s and the nucleus of a growing Latino community in Michigan’s capital that boomed in the 1960s and 1970s.

The more Chávez tried not to awe people, the more they were awed. Rosa Morales, a writer for the Lansing-based Latino newspaper *El Renacimiento*, described Chávez’s 1973 visit: “His manner is low-key; his approach simple and direct. He is so startlingly simple, he is like a breath of fresh air.”

Delma Lopez, a co-founder of Cristo Rey Community Center in 1968, cooked Chávez a breakfast of scrambled eggs with “a little bit of hot sauce” and flour tortillas on one of his visits. “He wouldn’t eat a steak,” Lopez said. (Chávez was a vegetarian.) “He was very quiet, not talkative. To us he was special, but he never showed off.”

Lopez has lived over 60 years in the neighborhood, which now enfolds the boutique-y gallery district known as Old

Town. But for many, East Grand River — which now doubles as honorary César E. Chávez Avenue — will always be “el corazón del barrio chicano,” “the heart of the Chicano barrio.” People and businesses come and go, but the streets of North Lansing are indelibly singed by the heat of Latino life, from Tejano music, low riders, dances and festivals to jalapeno eating contests, baseball, boxing matches and protest marches.

That’s why the Lansing for César Chávez Committee hopes to erect a gateway honoring Chávez at City Lot

**“HIS MANNER IS LOW-KEY; HIS APPROACH SIMPLE AND DIRECT. HE IS SO STARTLINGLY SIMPLE, HE IS LIKE A BREATH OF FRESH AIR.”**

—ROSA MORALES IN THE LANSING-BASED LATINO NEWSPAPER, *EL RENACIMIENTO*, ON CHÁVEZ’S 1973 VISIT

56, the plaza in the heart of Old Town and the old barrio, now named César E. Chávez Plaza. This Saturday, the plaza will host the committee’s second annual Tejano/Latino Music Fest, a celebration of the area’s history and fundraiser for the gateway project (see details on page 10).

Al Salas, 57, a former migrant worker, is the owner of Lansing Athletics and a longtime Latino community leader. He doesn’t want his kids and grandkids to break their backs over a hoe for six months out of the year, be sprayed with pesticides, squat in a ditch to relieve themselves or shuttle back and forth to crude migrant camps, as he did, but he wants them to remember how Chávez helped migrants from Texas, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba and other Latin countries dig to their common roots, fight for better working conditions and cultivate a community.

“We’re not trying to take Old Town back,” Salas said. “We can live together. We just want a little bit of our history not to be forgotten.”

## RESTAURANT WITH SMILES

Delma Lopez moved to North Lansing in 1946. Her husband, Eleuterio, got a job at the Fisher Body plant. They found a house the same day.

“There were hardly any other Mexican people when we first moved here,” she said.

In 1940, there were about 13,000 Mexicans living in Michigan, about half in Wayne County, but one source reports only eight Mexican families — 12 people — had settled in Lansing as late as 1945.

For Delma Lopez, the welcome in 1946 might have been warmer.

above the old Beeman’s grocery store, at the corner of Grand River and Washington avenues (now the recently renovated Walker Building).

Beeman’s was one of the first Lansing markets to carry Mexican groceries. The first Latino social-civic group in Lansing, “La Sociedad Mutualista de Ignacio Zaragoza” (later *El Comité Patriótico Mexicano*) met above the store.

Al Salas’s wife, Gina, 49, was born in Lansing, but her grandparents were migrant workers from San Marcos, Texas. Gina’s grandfather started *El Sombrero Restaurant*, “The Restaurant With Smiles,” on the corner of Center Street and Grand River in 1963, one of the first Mexican-owned businesses in North Town.

“All along that [Grand River] strip, where I grew up, over 50 percent of the businesses were Latino,” Lorenzo Lopez recalled. Lopez is a member of the Lansing for César Chávez Committee and Delma’s son. “Restaurants, record shops, tortilla factories, bakeries, everything was right in that area.”

Dell’s Lounge on Lake Lansing Road became an early hot spot for Tejano music and dancing. After a double feature of Mexican films, screened by Juan Beltran at the Spartan Twin Theatre near Frandor, people would gather for an after-party in North Lansing, next to what is now the Chávez Plaza.

In the 1960s and 1970s, the Latino population grew, along with political consciousness and activism. By 1974, there were about 14,000 Spanish-speaking people in Ingham County. *El Renacimiento*, a bilingual newspaper with offices on Washington, kept Latinos informed on social, cultural and political developments.

IN THE STREETS, ON THE AIR  
As a teenager, Al Salas came with his

“Some old people hesitated because I had eight children. They complained to the real estate: ‘They got too many kids.’ Later on they were very good neighbors. We lived together for years, until they passed away.”

In Michigan, the Latino population grew with the booming beet-sugar industry and the labor shortages created by the two world wars. Gradually, migrant workers found other jobs, often in the auto industry, and settled in Michigan.

More than 70 percent of Latinos in Lansing were Mexicans or Mexican-Americans from Texas. In Lansing, Latinos clustered on the north side, but many also settled in Urbandale, on the east side, Maple Grove on the south side, and Towar Gardens in East Lansing.

As migrant workers found year-round jobs, a social and cultural scene began to take root. Delma Lopez recalled house dances in the late 1940s, before there were regular social events. By 1950, local amateur bands played weekly dances

# Chávez

from page 8

family to Michigan from Brownsville, Texas, to pick cucumbers and apples. Salas' grandparents worked beet farms in St. Johns, DeWitt and Ionia. They also found work at the Lansing Sugar Beet plant, where Grand River Avenue crosses the river, next to the present-day César E. Chávez Plaza.

"It was like a migrant camp," he said. "That's another reason it was important to name the plaza after Chávez."

Backbreaking work, lack of sanitation and water and exposure to pesticides weren't the only hazards migrant workers faced. On Sept. 23, 1973, Salas and his family were on their way back to Texas from summer work at Archer Field in Ionia when an Arkansas service station sold the family a defective tire. The brand new Michelin blew out and the truck turned over. Salas ended up in the hospital with two broken arms and a broken collarbone. His sister was paralyzed and later died from her injuries.

"We had to deal with all kinds of trouble," he said.

Salas came back to Lansing the next summer and studied business at Lansing Community College, with help from United Migrants for Opportunity on the 1200 block of East Grand River.

Some made the trip to Lansing almost on a whim. Gilberto Martinez, an activist and key figure in Lansing's Latino community, came to North Town on June 1, 1964, from Crystal City, Texas.

Martinez was already an activist back in Texas, where he raised money to pay poll taxes and register voters in Crystal City and got his favored candidate elected mayor. A few years later, a new mayor fired Martinez from his city job and he found himself unemployed.

"I was standing on the sidewalk, wondering what we were going to do," he said.

The padrino (priest) who married Martinez and his wife was a migrant worker who spent the growing season at

the Morrill Farm in East Lansing.

The priest told Martinez they needed another person to work on the farm. Martinez had already spent many summers with his family, working fields in Racine, Wis.

That day, Martinez and his wife packed up and cruised to Lansing in their '57 Chevy Bel Air hardtop.

Martinez worked the summer at the Morrill Farm. At Cristo Rey, he met the Rev. Kenneth Faiver, who helped him enroll in LCC as a resident.

On his first night in Lansing, Martinez stayed with activists who were upset over the way a church official was handling money.

"Three hours after I got to Lansing, I was already picketing," Martinez said, laughing.

Against the backdrop of 1960s civil rights turmoil, a split was forming at Cristo Rey between conservative members and activists. Later that year, Martinez and others at Cristo Rey learned that Lansing Bishop Joseph Albers bought two marble angels for his lavish house on Lansing's west side.

Former Lansing Mayor David Hollister, then a social studies teacher sympathetic to the cause, tipped Martinez off that the slowest news day is Tuesday.

Martinez called a press conference on a Monday night, declaring that the bishop "cared more about stone idols" than the well being of the migrant workers.

Soon Martinez split from Cristo Rey to start Quinto Sol, an alternative cultural and political center for Latinos in Lansing, in 1970, on East Grand River in North Town.

Along with educational and cultural programs, Martinez went into prisons to educate inmates and drug addicts ("the people Jesus helped," Martinez said).

The center also had two pool tables — "not in the best of condition but nonetheless, for you to entertain yourself," announced El Renacimiento on Nov. 11, 1974.

Quinto Sol even had had a library of Spanish language books, donated in 1970 by the newly elected president of president of Mexico, Luis Echeverría.



Tony Benavides Papers, Special Collections, Michigan State University Main Library

Lansing's north side blossomed as a center of Latino life in Lansing in the 1960s and 1970s, including several Mexican restaurants, two community centers, the newspaper El Renacimiento and other businesses. Shown here is a serious-looking jalapeño eating contest near Torres Taco House on East Grand River.

In 1967, after unsuccessful efforts to persuade WKAR to provide Spanish language programming, Martinez and the nonprofit advocacy group Sol de Aztlan filed a petition to deny the station's broadcast license. WKAR got the message.

"Last Saturday in April of 1968, we went on the air — first for half an hour, then an hour, then two," Martinez said. By 1970, we had 16 hours of radio a week."

For Martinez and other Latinos, the radio victory was huge. Radio was the crucial tool that helped César Chávez organize scattered farm workers via transistor radios in the field. It was also part of the glue that bound Mexicans, Cubans, Puerto Ricans and Latin Americans into a single culture and political cause. Ondas en Espanol (Waves in Spanish) still broadcasts Saturdays and Sundays on WKAR.

The high water mark of United Farm Workers activism in mid-Michigan was

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See Chávez, Page 10



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# Chávez

from page 9

the 70-mile "March for Migrants" from Saginaw to Lansing in March 1967, organized with help from Lansing activist Ruben Alfaro, with telegrams of support from Chávez, U.S. Sens. Philip Hart and Robert F. Kennedy. Chávez visited Lansing the following week; Kennedy met with Alfaro when he visited Lansing in 1968.

## INTEGRAL PART

Lorenzo Lopez chooses his words carefully when he talks about the proposed César E. Chávez Plaza gateway.

"We want a firm foundation placed, that will not be removed, that will become an integral part of the Lansing community," Lopez said.

"Will not be removed" and "integral" are key words for a community that is still stinging from a battle it lost 17 years ago.

On March 14, 1994, the Lansing City Council voted to rename Grand Avenue as César Chávez Avenue. In June 1995, after some ugly backlash on op-ed pages and local talk radio, the change was reversed by city referendum.

Tim Barron, morning radio host at Q106-FM, hosted on-air visits from attorney Fred Stackable, who petitioned against the change, and supported Stackable on the air. When a syndicated

comedy skit offering Mexicans for sale to do listeners' menial chores ran on Barron's show, Latinos and allies were incensed. (Barron declined to comment for this story.)

Angie Zamora, also a member of Lansing for César Chávez, was at Cristo Rey on election night, awaiting the outcome with her family, then-Mayor David Hollister and much of Lansing's Latino community. "When we got the final vote, we were all crushed," she said. "It was devastating."

"It was a kick in the stomach," Diana Rivera recalled. Rivera, 58, is the subject librarian for MSU's César Chávez Collection, a trove of thousands of books and other materials related to Latino culture, art and history. She said that many opponents of the Grand Avenue name change were merely upset with the City Council's decision process, but "there were quite a few who thought it had to do with race."

Salas and other Lansing for César Chávez committee members regrouped, dusted themselves off and dug in with low-key persistence, a la Chávez.

On Sept. 13, 2010, the Lansing City Council adopted a resolution for an honorary street with dual signs honoring Chávez on East Grand River, from Oakland to Washington, and named the plaza at Turner and E. Grand River after Chávez.

Looking back, Salas said, it made more sense to rename East Grand River and the plaza, with all their historic significance

## 2ND ANNUAL TEJANO/LATINO MUSIC FEST

HOSTED BY LANSING FOR CESAR E. CHÁVEZ

### MUSICAL LINEUP

11:10-11:30 A.M. <b>RAY RODRIGUEZ</b>	6:25-6:40 P.M. <b>ROBERT "FAT BOY" ALBEREZ III</b>
11:40 A.M.-12:40 P.M. <b>EVOLUCION</b>	6:40-7:40 P.M. <b>POWERLIGHT BAND</b>
1:20-2:20 P.M. <b>LOS CARNALES</b>	7:45-7:55 P.M. <b>NELLIE RUPORT</b>
2:20-2:40 P.M. <b>NORMA CONTRERAS</b>	8-9 P.M. <b>TEJANO SOUND BAND</b>
2:40-3:40 P.M. <b>CHISPA CALIENTE</b>	9:20-10:20 P.M. <b>GRUPO DEZEO</b>
4-5 P.M. <b>ILLUSION</b>	10:25-10:55 P.M. <b>PEPE GOMEZ</b>
5:20-6:20 P.M. <b>TEJANO FUNK</b>	11-MIDNIGHT <b>GRUPO DEZEO</b>

SATURDAY, 10 A.M.-MIDNIGHT

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for Latinos, than Grand Avenue. The heyday of El Renacimiento, Torres Taco House, Quinto Sol, Alsario's Barber Shop, El Sombrero, Beltran Video, El Tango Café, Aldaco's Restaurant and other spots has gone the way of the beet factory, but much of Lansing's Latino population still lives on the north side.

In 2010, 14,292 people, about 12.5 percent of the city, identified themselves on U.S. Census forms as Latino or Hispanic.

Recognition of Chávez and North Town's Latino history is not just a nod to the nation's fastest growing demographic.

The issue touches deep cultural, historical and emotional chords. Among the more unusual artifacts in MSU's Chávez collection is a slightly bent César Chávez Avenue sign taken down from Grand Avenue after the thumbs-down vote in 1995.

The green metal sheet was an attention magnet when Diana Rivera worked a Chávez Collection tent at a North Lansing festival honoring Chávez two years ago. "It was interesting," she said. "People would come up to it and touch it, like it was a holy relic."

## REAL ESTATE AUCTION

By order of the County Treasurer of Ingham County

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

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# Arts & Culture

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## Back into orbit

### Votapek launches Lansing Symphony season with rare two-concerto mission

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

In 1962, 23-year-old Ralph Votapek won the first Van Cliburn piano competition, serving a double dip knuckle crunch in a waffle cone: Beethoven's magisterial Fourth Piano Concerto and Prokofiev's volcanic Third.

That same year, John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth.

There was a big fuss when Glenn went back into space on the shuttle in 1998, 36 years later, though it couldn't have taxed him much to float around in zero gravity and suck on a straw.

Friday, Votapek, 73, will almost certainly top that. Half a century after his career went into orbit, he'll reprise both concertos on one night, fighting 1-G force every second, to kick off the Lansing Symphony's 83rd season.

Votapek isn't pulling his old astronaut suit out of mothballs to see if it still fits. He's launched big payloads of music, from Gershwin to Piazzolla to Beethoven, throughout his career. (He'll repeat Friday's feat in Traverse City next week.) Votapek simply doesn't want to waste anybody's time — his own, the orchestra's or the listener's.

#### Lansing Symphony Orchestra

Ralph Votapek, piano  
8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14.  
Wharton Center Cobb  
Great Hall  
\$15-50  
(517) 487-5001

"The third is the perfect Prokofiev concerto," he said. "At times the piano has to fight for its life, because it's a big orchestra. I know the audience is not going to be bored."

If he wanted to pull a stunt, he could have played a ego-inflating Chopin concerto and left the orchestra members

feeling like cleaner birds in a crocodile's mouth. But Votapek doesn't play Chopin with "major" orchestras, including Lansing's.

"Even with a good middle-sized orchestra, you have the feeling [the musicians] wish they were doing something else," he said. Not so with Beethoven and Prokofiev. "I feel good playing these two concertos with a good orchestra, because they have a lot to do. The winds play an important part in the Beethoven."

Votapek is the first to admit he's not 23 any more, but he shrugged off the stamina issue.

"When you give a solo recital you're on stage the whole program, so this isn't that much different."

Since his Van Cliburn triumph in 1962, Votapek has played all over the world and appeared with every major world orchestra, including 16 gigs with the Chicago Symphony. He's a major attraction in South America, where he barnstorms through Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, and Montevideo (where he did the Beethoven Fourth last year) every year or so.



Courtesy Photo

This Friday, Ralph Votapek opens the 83rd LSO season with a pair of piano concertos — Beethoven's Fourth and Prokofiev's Third— 50 years after winning the first Van Cliburn gold medal for the same pieces.

The 1990s and 2000s brought a fresh wave of recordings, including scintillating readings of music by Latin composers. An acclaimed 2010 disc of Schubert sonatas on the Blue Griffin label "has further documented his seemingly undiminished talent," a critic wrote on the AllMusic Web site. (Seemingly? Was he worried Votapek hired a stunt double?)

Votapek still plays grueling recitals and chamber gigs, even though he's officially retired and is now a professor emeritus of music at Michigan State, where he's been an artist in residence 36 years.

He has played with the Lansing Symphony about a dozen times, going back to 1969, but this will be his first appearance with the symphony in seven years. When maestro Timothy Muffitt did his tryout concert in fall 2005, Votapek was on hand to play the Schumann piano concerto.

"It wasn't the best Schumann I ever played, but I felt very at ease with [Muffitt]," Votapek said, with typical aversion to self-hype. "I'm glad he's got the job."

The 50th anniversary of the Van Cliburn win gave Muffitt a chance to really go into orbit with Votapek. "He's been very giving of himself, but we can't ever lose track of the fact that this is a world class pianist and we're fortunate to have him," Muffitt commented.

Far from coasting on local good will, Votapek said he plans to prepare more seriously than usual for Friday's gig.

"I know half the orchestra," he said. "I have to live with myself. You play someplace else, you leave town



Gene Gordon/Van Cliburn Foundation

Ralph Votapek (left) in 1962, after winning the first Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. Van Cliburn stands behind him, and event co-organizer Irl Allison is to the right.

the next day."

Votapek learned the Prokofiev Third in 1962, about six months before the Cliburn competition, after catching the eye of Arthur Fiedler, silver-maned celebrity maestro of the Boston Pops.

Fiedler enjoyed showcasing young soloists. Votapek, who looks boyish to this day, worked like a honky-tonk man for Fiedler, playing the Prokofiev Third six times in six nights — invaluable practice with the Cliburn competition looming in three months. He got \$75 a night and crashed at the YMCA, two blocks away from Symphony Hall.

"There's no better experience," he recalled. "It spoiled you because the Boston Pops is basically the Boston Symphony, and Symphony Hall is one of the world's great halls. After that, most orchestras seemed lesser by comparison."

Muffitt got lucky when he programmed the only Votapek-less music on Friday's slate, the glittering, festive "Millennium Canons" by New York-based composer Kevin Puts. Last year, Puts won the 2012 Pulitzer Prize in music for his opera, "Silent Night," about a Christmas cease-fire on the Belgian front in World War I. Puts is just the kind of contemporary composer Muffitt likes to showcase — unafraid of narrative in music, aware of the broader culture. (Puts's Third Symphony, "Vespertine," was inspired by the ecstatic Icelandic belter Björk.) To give the concert even more of a local spin, Puts is from Alma, Michigan. Think stratospherically, listen locally.

## Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsny

September 12-18

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): You will never be able to actually gaze upon your own face. You may of course see a reasonable likeness of it in mirrors, photos, and videos. But the real thing will always be forever visible to everyone else, but not you. I think that's an apt symbol for how hard it is to get a totally objective view of your own soul. No matter how sincere you may be in your efforts to see yourself clearly, there will always be fuzziness, misapprehensions, and ignorance. Having said that, though, I want you to know that the coming weeks will be an excellent time to see yourself better than ever before.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): I've got four related pieces of advice for you, Taurus: 1. The most reliable way for you to beat the system is to build your own more interesting system. 2. The most likely way to beat your competitors is not to fight them, but rather to ignore them and compete only against yourself. 3. To escape the numbing effects of an outworn tradition, you could create a fresh tradition that makes you excited to get out of bed in the morning. 4. If you have a problem that is not only impossible to solve but also boring, find yourself a fascinating new problem that will render the old problem irrelevant.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): "Dear Doctor of Love: My heart is itchy. I'm totally serious. I'm not talking about some phantom tingle on the skin of my chest. What I mean is that the prickling sensation originates in the throbbing organ inside of me. Is this even possible? Have you heard of such a crazy thing? Could it be some astrological phenomenon? What should I do? - Itchy-Hearted Gemini." Dear Gemini: I suspect that it's not just you, but many Geminis, who are experiencing symptoms like yours. From what I can tell, you have a lot of trapped feelings in your heart that need to be identified, liberated, and dealt with.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): If you make a conscious decision to combine plaids with stripes or checks with floral patterns or reddish-purples with greenish-oranges, I will wholeheartedly approve. If, on the other hand, you absent-mindedly create combinations like that, doing so because you're oblivious or lazy, I will soundly disapprove. The same holds true about any hodgepodge or hybrid or mishmash you generate, Cancerian: It'll receive cosmic blessings if you do it with flair and purpose, but not if it's the result of being inattentive and careless.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Should we boycott the writing of Edgar Allan Poe because he married his 13-year-old cousin when he was 26? Should anti-drug crusaders stop using their iPhones when they find out that Steve Jobs said that "doing LSD was one of the two or three most important things I have done in my life"? Should we stop praising the work that Martin Luther King Jr. did to advance civil rights because he engaged in extramarital affairs? Those are the kinds of questions I suspect you'll have to deal with in the coming days, Leo. I encourage you to avoid having knee-jerk reactions.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Arthur Turner, a Virgo reader from Austin, is upset with my recent horoscopes. In his email, he wrote the following: "You're making me mad with your predictions of non-stop positivity, Breznsny. I need more dirt and grit and muck. I've got to have some misery and decay to motivate me. So just please shut up with your excess projections of good times. They're bringing me down." Here's my response to him and to any other Virgo who feels like him: I'm afraid you're scheduled to endure even more encounters with cosmic benevolence in the coming week. If these blessings feel oppressive, try to change your attitude about them.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The humorous science journal *Annals of Improbable Research* published a paper entitled "The Effects of Peanut Butter on the Rotation of the Earth." Signed by 198 Ph.D. physicists, it came to this conclusion: "So far as we can determine, peanut butter has no effect on the rotation of

the earth." If possible, Libra, I suggest you summon a comparable amount of high-powered expertise for your own purposes. But please make sure that those purposes are weightier than the question of peanut butter's role on our planet's movements. Round up the best help you can, yes; call on all the favors you're owed and be aggressive in seeking out brilliant support; but only for a truly important cause.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): September 16 is the first day of Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year. So begins ten days of repentance. Whether or not you're Jewish, Scorpio, you are entering an astrological phase when taking stock of yourself would be a brilliant move. That's why I invite you to try the following self-inventory, borrowed from the Jewish organization Chadeish Yameinu. 1. What would you like to leave behind from the past 12 months? 2. What has prevented you from living up to your highest standards and being your very best self? 3. What would you love to bring with you into the next 12 months? 4. Who served as a teacher for you in the past year? 5. Were you a teacher for anyone? 6. Is there anyone you need to forgive? 7. How will you go about forgiving?

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): If I'm accurately interpreting the astrological omens, the coming months will be a soulful feast in which every day will bring you a shimmering revelation about the nature of your soul's code and how best to activate it. Reasons for grateful amazement will flow so freely that you may come to feel that miracles are routine and naturally-occurring phenomena. And get this: In your dreams, Cinderella and Sleeping Beauty will get married, win the lottery, and devote their fortune to fostering your spiritual education until you are irrevocably enlightened. (I confess there's a slight chance I'm misinterpreting the signs, and everything I described will be true for only a week or so, not months.)

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A reader named Marissa begged me to insert a secret message into the Capricorn horoscope. She wanted me to influence Jergen, a guy she has a crush on, to open up his eyes and see how great she is. I told her I wouldn't do it. Why? For one thing, I never try to manipulate people into doing things that aren't in alignment with their own desires. For another, I faithfully report on my understanding of the tides of fate, and refuse to just make stuff up. I urge you to have that kind of integrity, Capricorn. I suspect you may soon be invited or coaxed to engage in what amounts to some tainted behavior. Don't do it. Make an extra effort to be incorruptible.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "The far away, the very far, the farthest, I have found only in my own blood," said poet Antonio Porchia. Let's make that thought your keynote, Aquarius. Your assignment will be to search for what's most exotic and unknown, but only in the privacy of your own heart, not out in the great wide world. For now at least, the inner realm is the location of the laboratory where the most useful experiments will unfold. Borrowing from novelist Carole Maso, I leave you with this: "Make love to the remoteness in yourself."

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): It would be an excellent time for you to elope, even if you do so with the person to whom you're already mated. You might also consider the possibility of wearing a wedding dress everywhere you wander, even if there is no marriage ceremony in your immediate future, and even if you're a man. And if neither of those ideas appeals to you, please at least do something that will symbolize your intention to focus on intimacy with an intensified sense of purpose. Fling rice at yourself. Seek out someone who'll give you lessons in how to listen like an empathetic genius. Compose and recite vows in which you pledge to become an utterly irresistible and reliable ally.



Photo courtesy of Luke Anthony Photography

The male cast of "Spring Awakening," the controversial Tony Award-winning show that opens this weekend at Riverwalk Theatre. The director toned down one of the show's racier scenes to focus on the power of the subject matter.

# Everything old is new again

## 'Spring Awakening' blooms at Riverwalk this weekend

By DANA CASADEI

In 1906, a highly controversial stage play about teenage sexuality was ruffling the collars of conservative German theatergoers. It was called "Frühlingserwachen," and it addressed a host of verboten subjects — abortion, homosexuality, rape, suicide — and was summarily mothballed. Exactly 100 years later, it was reborn as the hit Broadway musical "Spring Awakening," which will be performed by two mid-Michigan community theaters within 90 minutes of each other this weekend. Who says there's no such thing as progress?

"Spring Awakening" opens this weekend at Lansing's Riverwalk Theatre. Another production premiered last weekend at Mount Pleasant's Broadway Theatre.

"Their production was so different than ours," said Riverwalk director Kelly Stuitable. "It didn't worry me, it didn't scare me or make me nervous, but it was really neat to see another director's take on it."

Changes between the two productions of the Tony-award winner include the staging (Riverwalk uses a thrust stage while the Broadway Theatre uses a traditional proscenium stage) and the moments that each director deemed most important in the rock musical.

"Their director made some really interesting choices that I had never thought of," Stuitable said. "Things that wouldn't really fit into my vision and to what our cast brings to the show. But it

was really interesting to see where he took it."

Stuitable's vision included staying close to the source material, except for one scene, which had frontal nudity from the lead actress. It had been suggested that she take the nudity away when the show was submitted last fall but in the end it was Stuitable's decision.

"I decided that it was there to just be shock value — it almost took away from the power of the scene," she said. "It wasn't necessarily to tone it down per se (but) it doesn't seem realistic that a teenage boy that's with a girl for the first time is that smooth that he can undo her top. I wanted it to feel more real."

Other than that slight change, the show sticks true to the previous version, including the language and themes, many of which are just as relevant today.

"The show is so topical," said Elitza Nicolaou, who plays the utility character Adult Woman. "I knew it was going to be a challenge that I wanted to take on."

Nicolaou plays several of roles, including a piano teacher and the mother of two of the characters. She says she worked hard to understand these women and their intentions.

"As the controversial aspects of it goes, there was never anything that made me want to do it less or made me nervous," Nicolaou said. "If anything it made me want to do the show even more because I think it's so important right now."

With the presidential election coming up, these issues have been booming all over the news, making this show all the more relevant.

"The issues are not specific to any generation," Stuitable said. "It's just amazing how timeless you see that these issues are."

# 'Bee' dazzling

Over the Ledge scores with heartbreaking, hilarious musical comedy

By MARY CUSACK

It seems like productions of "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" are outnumbering actual spelling bees lately. But if you're concerned that Over the Ledge Theatre Co.'s production of the show will be just another adaptation, your fears are completely unfounded.

**Review** The committed cast and cute script will have you completely hooked by the second musical number.

Director Rick Dethlefsen, who directed Over the Ledge's previous production, "The 39 Steps," is two-for-two in crafting productions that don't simply pander for easy laughs, but include the audience in the joke with a wink and a nod. "Putnam" is an excellent choice for the fledgling theater company because the script is malleable, allowing for the inclusion of up-to-the-minute cultural references. This allows Over the Ledge to craft a hip persona worthy of drawing audiences to its remote location at the Ledges Playhouse in Grand Ledge.

The crew has taken full advantage of the venue, while overcoming any challenges

the rustic space presents. The cavernous barn had the potential to present audio issues, but Joe Dickson's sound design makes every syllable, spoken and sung, clear as a bell.

The script is quirky and fun, a simple feel-good piece with a modicum of depth. The title sums it up well: this is a county-wide spelling bee set in a middle school, with each participant a pre-pubescent stereotype manifesting the various hopes and doubts we all possess. Moderating the contest is former spelling bee champ Rona Lisa Peretti (Angela Lett) and vice principal Douglas Panch (Doak Bloss).

Lett and Bloss play off each other well. Lett's Peretti takes the contest seriously, giving gravitas to ridiculous and embarrassing facts about each contestant as she introduces them. Bloss' Panch, however, recognizes the absurdity of the contest and the contestants. A master of comedic timing, Bloss has the audience silently begging contestants to ask for a word to be used in a sentence, if only to bask in his dry delivery and cutting looks. Panch would obviously rather spend his Saturday organizing his sock drawer than be here.

As Olive Ostrovsky, a contestant who lacks a parental support system, Shantel Hamilton turns in yet another outstanding performance. Hamilton is a fixture in local musicals, and possesses a chameleon-like

## The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Over the Ledge Theatre Co.  
Now through Sept. 16  
8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays  
and Saturdays; 2 p.m.  
Sundays  
Ledges Playhouse  
137 Fitzgerald Park Drive,  
Grand Ledge  
\$7 student /\$10 senior /\$12  
adult  
(517) 318-0579  
overtheledge.org



Courtesy Photo

The cast of "Putnam" goes for the gold — or at least the gold-plated. Members of the audience are invited on stage at each performance to compete with the actors.

ability to shift maturity and age levels. Her wide-eyed innocence and optimism in this role gives "Putnam" its most powerful punch. Hamilton is charming in her earnestness and heartbreaking in her loneliness.

Ian S. Henretty flawlessly flips from dopey semi-savant Leaf Coneybear to the cutthroat father of fellow contestant Logainne Schwartzandgrunenierre (Abigail English). With a cast of adults

playing goofy, overachieving children, it would be easy to overlook Henretty's skilled performance.

Ben English, as Boy Scout Chip Tolentino, gets the best number. Chip experiences the singular most embarrassing of pre-pubescent male conditions — you know, the kind that a microphone stand can't hide. His ode to the incident, "Chip's Lament," is the audience's delight, and English nails it. The song, that is.

# Rethinking sexual diversity



Sari van Anders of the University of Michigan is the second speaker in MSU's semester-long series "Whom You Love: the biology of sexual orientation."

Her lecture, 4 p.m. Monday, is in Wells Hall room 115B and is free and open to the public.

Van Anders is an assistant professor of neurosciences; reproductive sciences; and science, technology and society. Her lecture is called "Beyond Sexual Orientation: Testosterone and Sexuality Diversity in Humans."

**What do you mean by "beyond" sexual diversity?**

Sexual orientation is often assumed to refer to same-gender, other-gender, or mixed-gender sexual attractions. Despite this, we tend to lump sexual minority

individuals and communities together whether they fit into this traditional sexual orientation model (lesbian, bisexual, gay) or not (kink, polyamory). With my talk, I plan to discuss how sexual orientation connects with other sexual minority categories and how testosterone research helps to reframe thinking about sexual diversity.

**What role does testosterone play in sexual orientation?**

I study adult circulating testosterone. I've found evidence that testosterone is related to something I call "relationship orientation" in men, and "relationship status" in women. In my talk I'll be discussing how sexual diversity — including interest in multiple partners vs. one partner — might be more meaningfully studied in testosterone research.

**What's the most interesting aspect**

**of your research?**

My research moves across a lot of levels. I will be discussing really science-y stuff like hormones, really cultural stuff like identity and lots in between.

**What motivated you to pursue this kind of research?**

I was always interested in sexual diversity, but I became specifically interested in polyamory when a participant wrote in a response to a standard question in a questionnaire about relationships I used to use in graduate school. That person said, "Your options don't fit me, I'm polyamorous." I realized that the questions I had been asking (single? dating? monogamously partnered?) fit my preconceived cultural notions of what relationships looked like, not how they actually were. And a hallmark of science is making observations — I realized I couldn't observe diversity if my questions precluded it.

**What do you think this speaker series could do for the social**



Sari van Anders

**perception of homosexuality?**

There are fundamental misunderstandings about same-sex sexuality, the research on homosexuality and the scientists who conduct this research. I think this speaker series provides a way for people to learn whether their beliefs are founded on verifiable facts or unfounded opinions.

# 'It's everybody's dream to come home'

Timothy Busfield returns to his roots for LCC show opening this weekend

By PAUL WOZNAK

Before he hit it big with cultural touchstones "thirtysomething" and "Field of Dreams," East Lansing native Timothy Busfield split his time rounding the bases and treading the boards at East Lansing High School, where he graduated in 1975.

## "Vigil"

Lansing Community College  
Sept. 14-23  
8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays  
2 p.m. Saturdays and  
Sundays  
LCC Black Box Theatre  
Room 168 Gannon Building  
\$15 adults/\$12 seniors/  
\$10 students  
(517) 372-0945: box office  
(noon to 4 p.m., Tuesday  
through Friday)  
(517) 483-1488: information  
lansingarts.org

Lansing High School, where he graduated in 1975.

This weekend, the Emmy Award-winner returns to mid-Michigan for LCC's dark two-person comedy "Vigil" alongside Lansing legend Carmen Decker.

Busfield, 55, directs and stars in Morris Panych's pitch black comedy as a neurotic nephew who is waiting ever so impatiently for his aunt, played by Decker, to die.

He recently took some time to talk to City Pulse, recounting some of his early experiences, his influences, and the joy of coming home.

**When did you get into theater?**

My sophomore year of high school. I

played football and baseball, and I hung with the jocks, but I knew I wanted to be an actor. I just didn't know how. I didn't know what that world was. (East Lansing High School theater instructor) Kate Veihl convinced me that I could go into "Guys and Dolls" around my baseball schedule.

**Who were some of your most influential teachers and peers at East Lansing High School?**

Kate Veihl was such a great encourager to me and to everybody. She was so good at getting people to come together. At that same time we had a really great football coach at East Lansing, Jeff Smith, and both programs were very strong. The theater department put the athletes on stage, and the athletic department put the actors on the football team. Their influence broke down the barriers of theater and sports for me.

Lela Ivey was another actor who came out of that production of "Guys and Dolls." I ended up working with Lela later, but seeing that world-class talent at a high school level was inspirational to me.

My dad taught theater at MSU back in the '50s. Theda Assiff was his choreographer



Tricia Lee Pascoe Photography  
Emmy Award-winner  
Timothy Busfield returns to his old stomping grounds for "Vigil," a show he's directing and starring in at LCC's black box theater.

and was also the choreographer for "Guys and Dolls." All of a sudden it became cool that you could be a varsity athlete and a good actor. I think those influences were far greater than anybody teaching me "process." Nobody gave me any process that applied to the professional world at a high school level. I got that from college and from the pros I've worked with. They gave me an opportunity to experience and trust, and that is far more important in high school than technique. It's the opportunity for experience.

**What has the experience been like returning to Michigan?**

I think it's everybody's dream to come home. I've done a lot of movies and TV shows, and I so appreciate the support of all the people out there watching. But when I think of the people who enjoy what I do, then I think of the people I grew up with. I think of the people who are still my closest friends and family all my life that are still here in Michigan. So to come home and be able to perform live for them, it's such an honor. I'm excited to be home.

## Charlotte Performing Arts Center

2012-2013 Season

NUNSET BLVD.



A hilarious all-new musical comedy starring Cindy Williams from television's *Laverne & Shirley Show*. Follow the little sisters of Hoboken as they head to Hollywood to sing at the Hollywood Bowl.

**Tuesday, October 9, 2012**  
7:30pm ~ \$38

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[www.CPACpresents.com](http://www.CPACpresents.com)

Dinner and show packages available for all shows!

378 State St., Charlotte, MI 48813

Box Office Hours: Mon-Fri 10am - 1pm

517-541-5690

Street Corner Symphony



Street Corner Symphony was formed in May of 2010 for the sole purpose of winning television's *The Sing Off*. Their repertory includes songs from Johnny Cash, the Beatles, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Alison Krause & many others.

**Saturday, Nov. 17, 2012**  
7:30pm ~ \$32 Adults  
\$22 Students

Mark Chesnutt



Join us for an evening of intimate acoustic country music as this superstar performs his chart-topping songs including: "Bubba Shot the Jukebox," and "It's a Little Too Late."

**Friday, January 25, 2013**  
7:30pm ~ \$34

The Lettermen



With more than 50 years of harmony, The Lettermen continue to entertain and delight. From their first hit in 1961, through current hits of today, the sound is undeniably Lettermen.

**Saturday, March 23, 2013**  
7:30pm ~ \$36

Chicago City Limits



Direct from New York City, *Chicago City Limits* brings their hilarious comedy to the Charlotte Performing Arts Center. Enjoy a night of side-splitting laughter from one of America's most famous comedy troupes!

**Sat., April 20, 2013**  
7:30pm ~ \$22 Adults,  
\$12 Students



# BLUESFEST

## 2012 Old Town

Fri., Sept. 21  
Sat., Sept. 22

FREE MUSIC FESTIVAL!

Featuring

Eric Culberson

Sena Ehrhardt

Peaches Staten

Sherman Moody Thomas

Those Delta Rhythm Kings

Bryan Michael Fischer

The Alligators

John Latini

Big Willy

Heather Jones

Creole du Nord

Automatic Blues Band

Champagne & Motor City Blues Crew

Stan Budzynski & 3rd Degree

Dr. Fab & Off the Couch Band

with Taylor Fernandez

Bosco-Gee Blues Band

Twyla Birdsong & Mike Eyia



3 stages · Expansive beverage tent  
Music clinics · KidzBeat area  
Ethnic food vendors & more!

Old Town, Lansing @ Turner St. & E. Grand River Ave.

517-371-4600 · [OldTownBluesFest.com](http://OldTownBluesFest.com)

  OldTownBlues

Produced by:

**MICA**

MICHIGAN INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

The Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art (MICA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that serves as a catalyst for community development through quality arts programming.

Cover Artwork by: Barbara Hranilovich. Insert Designed by: CiesaDesign

# Old Town Celebrates the Blues

By Joshua Pugh

Anticipation is building in the greater Lansing area as the calendar flips again to September and each new day brings us closer to the 2012 Old Town BluesFest. This year's lineup will bring music makers with sound in their soul to the streets of Old Town, where thousands will experience BluesFest together, surrounded by shops, vendors—and the blues.

If you've heard it, you know. Peter Tork said the blues "brings you back into the fold." If it's inside you, it'll get out one way or another, reminding you as it does that we have all had the blues, and that we are all in this together. It is performed by people who know and feel this, people who may see their glass as half-full or half-empty, but at this moment it's overflowing.

That's what you'll hear this weekend in Old Town, in Big Willy's high-energy original blues-rock, Eric Culberson's Southern-fried jam, Sena Ehrhardt's nuanced vocal stylings, and Bryan Michael Fischer's powerful vocals and personality. And all of them are bringing another something special to this year's BluesFest: an original tune, never heard anywhere before.

Old Town has had its share of the blues. In the early 1980s the intersection of Turner Street and East Grand River were surrounded by a "ghost town" on the north side of Lansing's core. People were losing interest in local downtowns across the country, and Old Town was no exception. Local artists like Terry Terry of MessageMakers and the late Robert Busby of the Creole Gallery saw potential early on, in the neighborhood's beautiful brick buildings and location on the shores of the Grand River.

They formed the North Lansing Art Association, which continued for about a decade until they ran into unforeseen limitations with the "North Lansing" label. Many great parts of Lansing lie north of the Capitol, but their interest and the region's earliest commercial development were both in a tightly defined area. They rebranded the venture as the Old Town Business and Art Development Association (OTBADA) and continued their work to change the story of Old Town.

Soon after, they tried their hand at music festivals with "Snake Rodeo," in which they invited artists to submit pieces incorporating a snake as a symbol of transformation, and hosted a celebration of art and music in the streets.



OctoberFest followed in 1994, followed by the JazzFest in 1995, and the eventual addition of the BluesFest, with help from the Capital Area Blues Society. OTBADA would soon earn a national Main Street grant, helping to found the Old Town Commercial Association ([www.iloveoldtown.org](http://www.iloveoldtown.org)), which promotes, supports and recruits great businesses for Old Town.

Over the last three decades, Old Town has attracted the highest concentration of creative service businesses in the state, new outside investment, active and vibrant streets, restaurants, art galleries, and much more—much of which is owed to the small group of artists that formed

the North Lansing Art Association in the early 1980s. The people of Old Town were prepared to proudly display the hard work they had invested to create something beautiful in a deserted neighborhood.

Today, OTBADA has grown into the Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art (MICA), but its goals have remained constant. MICA serves as a catalyst for community development through quality arts programming. This arts programming includes the MICA Gallery in Old Town, Lansing JazzFest, Michigan Mosaic Music Festival, Old Town BluesFest, and the Burning Desires poetry performance.

MICA works hard to create an open space in the community to connect with old friends, meet new ones, and engage in conversations about how to make a better community. It also works to encourage economic development and the preservation of historic buildings through quality arts programming, bringing people together to share the joys of music, expression, discussion, and so much more.

Run entirely by volunteers, MICA is blessed by the talents and commitment of dozens of dedicated people, who you can read more about in the next few pages. Their remarkable time commitment keeps the festivals free, and allows MICA to dedicate all resources directly to the community.

What's next? For now, MICA is working on taking our vision of arts-driven development through bold and innovative ideas statewide. This weekend, you have the opportunity to join in, by coming down to Old Town to celebrate the blues and our community with thousands of old and new friends.

# BluesFest 2012 Performers

## The Automatic Blues Band

Friday, Sept. 21, 4:00-6:00 pm

Bud Light Stage

**The Automatic Blues** boys have been performing across mid-Michigan at concerts, festivals, county fairs, benefits, fundraisers, and every type of venue in between, thrilling audiences with their high-energy, family-friendly blues shows. What started out as a

duo between Mike Somers and Gary "Blind Dog" Day performing weekly live radio shows soon took off, and as demands for their soulful sounds increased, the band expanded into the four-member group it is today. Since they started jamming together,

they have created and released three CDs. All four members harmonize and sing, with Somers on guitar, Day on harmonica, Eric Hamilton on bass, and Gilbert on drums.



## Blues Guitar Workshop

Friday, Sept. 21, 5:00-6:00 pm

MICA Stage

This year's BluesFest brings a blues guitar workshop led by **Don Warren**, owner and founder of Six String Place. Don has expertise in a variety

of musical genres including rock, blues, folk and country. He teaches instruments including guitar, slide guitar, bass, banjo, mandolin and

ukulele. His current musical project is the surf rock tribute band Donny and the Dorsals.

*This clinic is sponsored by Six String Place.*



## Heather Jones & Jones'n

Friday, Sept. 21, 6:00-7:30 pm

MessageMakers Stage

These soulful swingers have been playing together for the past six years, bringing the blues, rock, and funk tunes all around Michigan. It's not just all live performances, either—they recently released a CD as well,

*It's About Time....* In this group of fun-loving, music-loving people, Heather Jones is the lead vocalist, as well as a percussionist. Donny Jones moves the melody on guitar and vocals, with Randy Dunckley playing away on

the bass. LaNerrick Harris keeps the rocking beat of the band on his drums, delivering rhythms that get your heart pumping.



## Those Delta Rhythm Kings

Friday, Sept. 21, 7:30-9:00 pm

Bud Light Stage

Native to Lansing, **Those Delta Rhythm Kings** play the music of jump blues and little big band legends like Count Basie, T-Bone Walker, Roy Brown, and B.B. King along with original compositions and modern classics. Initially founded in 1982 as a trio to personify the party-time culture prevalent in post-war America, they have grown through several changes

to become the band they are today. TDRK play venues all over the Midwest and Canada, and have released three albums to popular and critical acclaim across the country and in Europe. TDRK have backed James Harman and have opened for artists including Roomful of Blues, Mark Hummel, Rod Piazza, Bobby Rush and many others. TDRK won the Capitol Area

Blues Brawl twice and competed at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis in 1996 and 2004. In demand at festivals and community events, they swing hard and heavy, delivering knockout performances that appeal to crowds of all ages whenever they perform.



## Twyla Birdsong & Mike Eyia

Friday, Sept. 21, 7:30–8:30 pm

MICA Stage

Twyla and Mike are duet winners of the 2012 CABS Blues Brawl!

From the first moment **Twyla Birdsong** sets free a deep soulful note, audiences are moved by the raw talent and radiance that pours from this incredible woman. Her rich, resonant voice strikes a balance between diva and divine, making her one of Lansing's most talented and loved vocalists since 2002. She can sing sultry and seductive ballads with

rasping zeal and then boldly plunge into smooth and mellow renditions. Twyla has sung with the Red Hot Blues Band, Wise Guys, Twyla and the Night Crawlers, the Lansing Blues Divas, and Big Willy. She has been honored to share the stage with such legends as Larry McCray and Freddie Cunningham. On her reverbnation site, Twyla states, "I enjoy performing because it brings me joy and I want people to feel and share in that. I want

to uplift their spirits to help them make it to their next stage in the game."

**Mike Eyia** is a versatile guitarist and vocalist with a repertoire covering top 40, blues, funk, old standards, country and jazz. He is the director of Ritmo, a well-known salsa orchestra formed in the late 70's that has performed throughout the state. He migrated to Lansing, Michigan from Cuba and studied music at Michigan State



University and Lansing Community College. Later, he became an instructor at LCC and taught various music courses over roughly a decade.

## Sena Ehrhardt

Friday, Sept. 21, 9:00–10:30 pm MessageMakers Stage

headliner



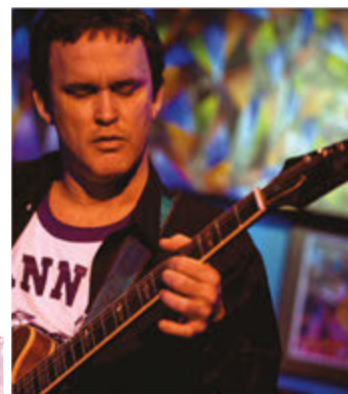
Singer **Sena Ehrhardt**, from Minneapolis, Minnesota, is one of the freshest and most dynamic young voices on the blues scene today.

Sena was born and raised in a house of blues. Over the years of playing music, her parents laid a foundation for a deep love of the blues that led to the formation of the Sena Ehrhardt Band. Sena lights up clubs and festivals across the upper Midwest, playing original compositions from her brilliant debut album *Leave the Light On*, released through Blind Pig Records in August of 2011, as well as a wide range of blues, soul and funk cover tunes. Her background and experience have led her to forge her own personal and intelligent take on the blues.

## Eric Culberson

Friday, Sept. 21, 10:30 pm–12:30 am Bud Light Stage

headliner



**Eric Culberson** is an American blues guitarist and singer from Savannah, Georgia, where he started his career and quickly became a local phenomenon. His debut album, *Blues Is My Religion*, was recorded by recording legend Bob Greenlee at Kingsnake Records in Sanford, Florida, and

reached #24 on the American national blues charts. His follow-up album, *No Rules to the Game*, was also critically acclaimed. In 2005 he independently released *Live at the Bamboo Room* after recording it at the popular West Palm Beach blues club. After 17 years on the road, Eric has recently released his newest album, *In the Outside*, recorded in his hometown of Savannah.

The Eric Culberson Band plays many different styles of the blues, from "gut-bucket" Delta blues to urban funk with echoes of R&B, hard rock, Southern-fried jam and even Texas swing—a real treat for any audience.

Eric's performance is sponsored by:



## Bosco-Gee Blues Band featuring Martila Sanders

Saturday, Sept. 22, 2:00–3:00 pm

Bud Light Stage

**Bosco-Gee Blues Band** won second place in the 2012 CABS Blues Brawl.

Ain't no theme park blues here—from the gravel in the voices to the road-hardened edge on every note, this is the real deal! With members ranging in age from 27 to 60 and relationships spanning over three decades, the Bosco-Gee Blues Band brings a near-perfect balance of youth and experience, dressing up a very traditional blues bag

with their "signature" pseudo funky Bosco-Gee groove and adding a growing list of powerful original material to the mix. The love of their craft, as well as one another, is apparent every time the Bosco-Gee Blues Band takes the stage. The recent addition of the lovely and extremely talented Martila Sanders to the forefront completes the package and adds an entirely new dimension to the band's personality. Their second CD, *I*

*Used to be Somebody*, is due for release before Christmas 2012.

Band members include: Michael Gee on guitars / vocals, Jeff (Bosco) Bobrofsky on harmonicas / vocals / percussion, Jerry Lew Patterson on guitars / vocals, Bob Hunt on sax / synthophone, Jimi Tulk on drums / vocals, Terry (Hoot) Gibson on bass, and Martila Sanders as featured vocalist.



Photo by Sue Weaver

## Harmonica for Kids with Andy Wilson

Saturday, Sept. 22, 2:00–3:00 pm

MICA Stage

Back by popular demand: the **Harmonica for Kids** workshop, presented by harmonica pro **Andy Wilson!** Kids, come learn how to play the harmonica. Free harmonicas will be provided for the first 100 participants, thanks to the sponsorship of Capital Area Blues Society.

Andy Wilson, co-founder of the Lansing old-time country, swing and blues

quartet Steppin' In It, started playing harmonica at a young age and soon started playing his father's Conn Constellation trumpet in his high school jazz band. Wilson is currently a student in the Michigan State University Jazz Studies Program and a longtime member of Those Delta Rhythm Kings and The Bad Gravy Blues Band. He hosts the Sunday night blues jam at the Green Door in Lansing. His

involvement with the blues community also takes the form of outreach programs, teaching harmonica as part of Capital Area Blues Society's "Blues in Schools" program and receiving national recognition as a featured performer at the 2007 SPAH (Society for the Preservation and Advancement of the Harmonica) convention in Milwaukee.



## Stan Budzynski & 3rd Degree

Saturday, Sept. 22, 3:00–4:00 pm

MessageMakers Stage

**Stan Budzynski & 3rd Degree**, one of the most recognizable names in blues throughout Lansing's music scene, features premier slide guitarist Stan Budzynski, bassist Ron Bretz, drummer Dan Mead, and keyboardist Greg "Biff" Hodge. In 2005 and again in 2009 they won the Capital Area

Blues Society's annual Blues Brawl with sets of all-original tunes. The Lansing-based band has performed all over Michigan, including at the Jackson Blues Festival, Shepherd Blues Festival and this year will be their fifth appearance at Old Town BluesFest. Stan is the proprietor of

local production and recording studio Guitarman Productions. He specializes in blues recordings, and working on the production side of the industry allows him to stay connected and interact with aspiring and working musicians. Check out their music on Reverbnation.



## Big Willy

Saturday, Sept. 22, 4:00–5:00 pm

Bud Light Stage

*Winner of the 2012 CABS Blues Brawl!*

The sound of Michigan blues-rock band **Big Willy** is difficult to define, yet undoubtedly distinct. Big Willy packs a high-energy blend of growling vocals, lightning-fast guitar licks, and big saxophone into original songs. The band has been together for nearly five years and has opened for Tab Benoit, Smokin' Joe Kubek and B'nois King, the Deadstring Brothers, and Larry McCray. A mid-Michigan staple, they have performed at festivals around the state as well as at local events, like Festival on the Grand.

Big Willy writes all of the band's original music, and contributes lead guitar and vocals to create the band's unmistakable sound. His musical chemistry with his band mates is the glue that holds the appropriately-named band together. "SuperSize" Will Metz is big on sound. His tenor saxophone cranks up the energy as he and Rideoutt battle over who has the fastest fingers, and his smooth, soulful notes call slow dancers onto the floor. "King James" Norris makes sure SuperSize doesn't lose his rhythm. Norris plays bass guitar and

prefers to remain an enigma. The ladies love that about him. Eric Payne is the heartbeat of the band. Always smiling, Payne's expert drum skills and upbeat vocals breathe life into each song.



## The OtherStage

Open jamming will be available at 1215 Turner St. on the OtherStage. Bring your instruments – we'll have an open mic, a drum kit, and a bass guitar available for your music-making merriment.

7:30–9:30 pm      Friday  
6:00–9:30 pm      Saturday

## Tunes 'n Tales by Tricia

Saturday, Sept. 22, 4:00–4:45 pm

MICA Stage



This year, BluesFest welcomes children's entertainer and educator **Tunes 'n Tales by Tricia!**

Children grow through play and interaction with their environment. Tricia creates a safe atmosphere

for them to learn. She teaches through music and movement, allowing for different learning styles, creating many opportunities for self-expression, and a chance for all to develop self-confidence. She uses songs that make playtime learning time and leads by example for the kids to follow. Tricia

tells exciting tales through her music, inspiring the children to be creative while learning through songs.

## Creole du Nord

Saturday, Sept. 22, 5:00–6:00 pm

MessageMakers Stage

The band's sound can be traced to southwest Louisiana's traditional music, a mixture of Zydeco, Cajun, and other sounds from America's roots. Featuring a unique assortment of instruments, they play everything from the accordion to fiddle, banjo, electric guitar, bass, and banjo ukulele. Mark Zivsak plays fiddle and scrubboard,

Mark Palms plays fiddle and accordion, Randy Markey is on guitar and banjo, Chuck Anderson plays acoustic and electric bass, Beate Williams plays the banjo ukulele, and Geoff Kinde rounds off the group on drums. It is a mission of the band to find and play tunes that lift the spirits and put a pop into every person's step through Cajun tunes,

waltzes, and old-time fiddle piece. They are proud to be a small part of keeping this passionate music alive.

*Also, 3:00–3:45 pm on the MICA Stage, **Creole du Nord** will lead a Creole/Zydeco jam time with clinic instruction.*



## Dr. Fab & Off the Couch Band with Taylor Fernandez

Saturday, Sept. 22, 5:15–7:15 pm

MICA Stage

**Dr. Fab and the Off the Couch Band** (OTC) is a Lansing-based group that plays original music laced with occasional cover tunes presented in an eclectic, Americana style. The members include Bob Fabiano (vocals, guitar), Kris Curtis (lead electric and acoustic guitars), Todd Westfall (bass), Nigel Rawles (drums, guitar, bass), Ellen Hufnagel (vocals), Lyle Birchman (harmonica), Emily Bauer (vocals), and Carlo Spears (drums and percussion). Their CD, *Healin Broken Hearts*, can

be purchased on Amazon and at a number of other music distributors.

**Taylor Fernandez** has grown into an independent and passionate budding musical artist while she continues to attend a Lansing Area high school. Taylor's new CD, *Who I Am*, recorded at Rustbelt Studios in Royal Oak, includes 5 original songs ranging from slow, beautiful ballads to upbeat anthems that make you want to turn up the music! She is a singer/songwriter with

a fearless style that ranges through the genres of country, pop, folk, and rock. Bursting with a powerful yet sweet voice unexpected and unique for her teenage years, and armed with a full-size guitar equal to her diminutive stature, Taylor, especially when seen live, compels you to believe that you are witnessing something big... a piece of history... an emerging artist on the cusp of greatness.



## The Alligators

Saturday, Sept. 22, 6:00–7:00 pm

Bud Light Stage

Bringing in those blues with attitude is the band that's been playing for 28 years, **The Alligators**. Their love for playing funky tunes started back in 1984, when lead vocalist Dave Krammer and harmonica player Wailin' Dale began performing together.

Joining them are Frankie Lee on bass, Jon Johnson on drums, and Billy Farris on guitar. The Alligators have released four CDs since they started rocking together, starting with their debut CD, *Gimme Some Skin*. Hailing from Detroit and playing those low-down blues

across the Midwest, The Alligators are hitting the stage with high energy and exceptional tunes.



## Bryan Michael Fischer

Saturday, Sept. 22, 7:00–8:00 pm

MessageMakers Stage

**Bryan Michael Fischer** has spent over 20 years as lead singer and front man for blues and rock bands, entertaining crowds big and small with his winning charm and powerful vocals. Bryan started his career as a hard rock singer but switched his focus to the blues after hearing Stevie Ray Vaughan for the first time. His style has been refined over years of fronting

bands including blues-rock group Mojo & the Boogiemans, Southern blues-rock band Soul Shine, Chicago blues band Blue Moon Blues, and his latest project, the culmination of all his experiences, the Bryan Michael Fischer Band. The BMF Band is quickly gaining critical and popular acclaim thanks to the virtuosic instrumental trio paired with Bryan's powerful vocals

and personality. Over the years Bryan has shared the stage with such acts as Ray Charles, B.B. King, Edgar Winter, Dr. Duke Tomato & the Power Trio, Rod Piazza & the Mighty Flyers, and Larry McCray, just to name a few. The Bryan Michael Fischer Band's newest album, *Blurring the Line*, is available now.



## John Latini

Saturday, Sept. 22, 7:30–8:30 pm

MICA Stage

**John Latini** has an honest, no-nonsense commitment to real songs about real people. He is a slick blues player who writes songs that tell clever tales. Latini has been awarded the Metro Detroit Songwriting Grand

Prize, as well as being a two-time winner of the Detroit Blues Challenge. With his guitar, he's an intense, irresistible musician who brings years of experience and talent to the stage. *The Ann Arbor Observer* wrote that he

is "alternately celebratory, remorseful, seductive and dangerous." He is a performer who commands the stage, singing the blues directly from his heart and soul.



## Peaches Staten

Saturday, Sept. 22, 8:00–9:30 pm

Bud Light Stage



A native of the Mississippi Delta, **Peaches Staten** has been touring since 1997. She grew up in the thriving Chicago blues scene and was raised on gospel, blues and soul. Her stepfather was a disc jockey and her

mother was a member of a social club that often hosted well-known blues musicians. Discovered accidentally while working as a waitress at a blues bar, Peaches stages a gutsy, growling and energetic show that has made her one of the foremost headliners on the highly competitive Chicago blues scene, where she performs regularly. Peaches has shared the stage and recorded with the best in the business, including Katie Webster, C.J. Chernier, Johnny B. Moore, Buddy Scott, Billy Branch, and Carl Weathersby.

**Peaches will also be presenting a Zydeco rubboard clinic on the MICA Stage Friday 6:15–7:15 pm.**

## Sherman Moody Thomas

Saturday, Sept. 22, 9:30–11:00 pm

MessageMakers Stage



**Sherman "Moody" Thomas** is a consummate performer who has developed a stage presence that combines spectacular showmanship with gentlemanly grace. He performs regularly in Chicago, staging performances that are a special attraction. He has made a career singing smooth club soul, crooning original compositions and standards on the lounge circuit and drawing audiences into stories by capitalizing on their expectations.

## Champagne & the Motor City Blues Crew Band

Saturday, Sept. 22, 11:00 pm-12:30 am Bud Light Stage



**Lady Champagne** is a fabulous and extraordinarily expressive blues singer with a powerful voice that instantly captures the audience's attention. Nominated for Best Female Blues Vocalist by the Black Music Awards Association in 2010, she has an amazing crisp and clear alto voice that

deliver the lyrics of every song with passion and a warm intimacy you'll feel deep in your soul. Keeping it strong in the pocket with every beat and each note, the **Motor City Blues Crew Band** complements this sensational act perfectly, providing every instrument desired for an authentic blues experience with a 7-piece ensemble including 2 guitars, drums, harmonica, bass, keyboard and sax.

Performers: Larry Turner on guitar, Lester Hambone Brown on guitar, T. Pablo on harmonica, Willie Willie on keyboards, Richard Adams on sax, Lady Champagne on vocals, Paul Stewart on bass, Rick Gould on drums.

## Clinics on the MICA Stage

### Friday

5:00-6:00 pm Blues Guitar Workshop  
Sponsored by Six String Place See page 3

6:15-7:15 pm Peaches Staten Clinic  
(Zydeco rubboard) See page 7

### Saturday

2:00-3:00 pm Harmonica for Kids with Andy Wilson  
Sponsored by Capital Area Blues Society See page 5

3:00-3:45 pm Creole du Nord Clinic See page 6

4:00-4:45 pm Tunes 'n Tales by Tricia See page 6

## Festival Poster Gallery Show

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

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

Artists featured include Brian Bishop, Melissa Calanchi, Louise A. Church, Dario Corsi, Andy Doerr, Barbara Hranilovich, Ken Keirns, Steven Kovar, Kirby Milton, Barbara Morris, Joe



Oberlin, Dennis Preston, Theresa Rosado, David Sherer, Bruce Thayer, Terry Terry, Tim Whalen, Chuck Wilhelm and Qinge Wu.

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

## Old Town BluesFest 2012 Art



This year's festival artwork was created by Barbara Hranilovich in encaustic-based mixed media. In her words, "I wanted this piece to speak of early blues



evolution, of rail-traveling musicians who played alone and with others and gathered stories along the way. It is meant to evoke the grit of thick hot days in the south and a deep mellowness that I feel in older blues music. The figure is one with his music ... playing for himself."

# Around the Festival

## Admission

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

## Green Team

Old Town BluesFest continues to support a healthier Earth by going green. Recycling bins can be found throughout the site.

## Accessibility

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

## The Turnaround Lounge

For \$5/day admission, the Turnaround Lounge is a prime location to enjoy music from both main stages. The Turnaround Lounge and its patios are a prime location to enjoy music from both main stages. It is also the only festival vendor licensed to sell alcohol. Because of this, all entrants must show ID proving they are at least 21 years of age.

## Happy Hour

There will be FREE admission to The Turnaround Lounge from 4–6 pm on Friday, for ages 21+. Come out with friends or make new ones and enjoy happy hour with the sounds of blues on Turner Street.

## Bike to the Festival

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

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

## Share the Festival

Check in on Foursquare and Facebook! Share your experiences on Twitter and Instagram! @OldTownBlues – #OldTownBlues – facebook.com/OldTownBlues

## KidzBeat

KidzBeat presents interactive activities for kids of all ages. Join us Saturday from 1–7pm for face painting provided by MICA, noodle art provided by Noodles & Co., and an expanded “instrument petting zoo” provided by Marshall Music. In the instrument petting zoo, knowledgeable and passionate professional musicians will be on hand to guide novices on real instruments.

## WKAR BackStage Pass

We're proud to welcome videographers from WKAR's BackStage Pass program to the 2012 Old Town BluesFest! This fantastic live performance television program, broadcast around the country, is coming to BluesFest to capture the performances of Heather Jones and Jones'n, Sena Ehrhardt, Bryan Michael Fischer, and Sherman Moody Thomas. Arrive early to get a good seat!

## River Boat Tours

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

## River Boat Taxi

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



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



# Sponsors - Very Important Partners



MessageMakers



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Made possible with the support of:



Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art

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



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

**Programs include:**

- |                                |                                                                        |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lansing JazzFest               | Turner Park Place (1208-1212) historic building rehabilitation project |
| Old Town BluesFest             | MSU RCAH Collaborative                                                 |
| Michigan Mosaic Music Festival | Burning Desires Poetry                                                 |
| MICA Gallery                   |                                                                        |
| LCC Collaborative              |                                                                        |

- Greater Lansing Convention & Visitors Bureau
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- Cathey Company
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- Marco's Pizza
- Marshall Music

- Emergent BioSolutions
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- Dart Foundation
- Arts Council of Greater Lansing
- Impact 89FM
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- Lansing Metro Marinas
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Learn more about our committee and how you can join at our website: <http://www.oldtownbluesfest.com>



## Interested in volunteering?

We'd love for you to join us next year! Go to [tinyurl.com/festvol](http://tinyurl.com/festvol) or e-mail [volunteers@micharts.org](mailto:volunteers@micharts.org) to sign up!

# BLUESFEST 2012 Old Town Schedule

## Friday, September 21

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

### Bud Light Stage (south end of Turner St.)

4:00-6:00 pm . . . . . The Automatic Blues Band  
7:30-9:00 pm . . . . . Those Delta Rhythm Kings  
10:30 pm-12:30 am . . . . . Eric Culberson

### MessageMakers Stage (north end of Turner St.)

6:00-7:30 pm . . . . . Heather Jones and Jones'n  
9:00-10:30 pm . . . . . Sena Ehrhardt

### MICA Stage (City Lot 56 / Cesar Chavez Plaza)

5:00-6:00 pm . . . . . Blues Guitar Workshop  
6:15-7:15 pm . . . . . Peaches Staten Clinic  
7:30-8:30 pm . . . . . Twyla Birdsong & Mike Eyja

### The OtherStage (1215 Turner St.)

7:30-9:30 pm . . . . . Open Jam

River Boat Tours / Lansing Metro Marinas  
5-9 pm, 30-minute Grand River tours available. See page 3.

## Saturday, September 22

### Bud Light Stage (south end of Turner St.)

2:00-3:00 pm . . . . . Bosco-Gee Blues Band featuring Martila Sanders  
4:00-5:00 pm . . . . . Big Willy  
6:00-7:00 pm . . . . . The Alligators  
8:00-9:30 pm . . . . . Peaches Staten  
11:00 pm-12:30 am . . . . . Champagne & the Motor City Blues Crew Band

### MessageMakers Stage (north end of Turner St.)

3:00-4:00 pm . . . . . Stan Budzynski & 3rd Degree  
5:00-6:00 pm . . . . . Creole du Nord  
7:00-8:00 pm . . . . . Bryan Michael Fischer  
9:30-11:00 pm . . . . . Sherman Moody Thomas

### MICA Stage (City Lot 56 / Cesar Chavez Plaza)

2:00-3:00 pm . . . . . Harmonica for Kids with Andy Wilson  
3:00-3:45 pm . . . . . Creole du Nord Clinic  
4:00-4:45 pm . . . . . Tunes 'n Tales by Tricia  
5:15-7:15 pm . . . . . Dr. Fab & Off The Couch Band with Taylor Fernandez  
7:30-8:30 pm . . . . . John Latini

### The OtherStage (1215 Turner St.)

6:00-9:30 pm . . . . . Open Jam



Saturday River Boat Taxi  
River Boat Taxi / Lansing Metro Marinas  
2-10 pm, Taxi service to/from Lansing City Market. See page 3.

# And that's the truth

Lily Tomlin brings her one-woman act to Wharton this weekend

By ALLAN I. ROSS

She squirmed. She fidgeted. She talked like a little kid. And she told weird stories in the seat of a ridiculously oversized rocking chair. As a kid, some part of me knew that this person I saw on TV was just an actor, but I was hypnotized nonetheless— I'd never seen anything like it. This was Edith Ann, the mischievous "5-and-a-half"-year old played by Lily Tomlin, and one of her most indelible alter egos. It was also my introduction — on "Sesame Street," no less — to character acting.

Sketch comedy aside, character-driven humor has been reduced (elevated?) to mustachioed Middle Easterners with microphones getting people to reveal their hidden racism. Back in the late '60s, however, character acting was groundbreaking — especially for a woman.

"At the time, I was one of the few people doing character stuff that way," Tomlin said in a phone interview from her home in Los Angeles. "There'd been a history of great woman monologue artists, like Ruth Draper, but very few."

From 1969 to 1973, Tomlin also played Ernestine, the vindictive telephone operator, and Judith "The Tasteful Lady" Beasley, who lampooned holier-than-thous, on the landmark show "Martin & Rowan's Laugh-In." She was nominated for an Academy Award for her first film role in "Nashville," starred in a handful of Hollywood hits including "9 to 5" and "All of Me," and racked up Tony and Emmy awards for her television and stage

work over the years. And this Sunday, Tomlin brings her one-woman show to the Wharton Center, where she will, in part, share what her characters are up to these days. That includes giving some of them a 21st century update — after all, do people even know what a telephone operator is anymore?

"If I didn't do Ernestine, there'd be an uproar," Tomlin says. "I just have to keep her relevant. Now she works at a big health care insurance corporation denying coverage to everyone. She's not going to stick around the phone company. She's going to go where she can intimidate."

## Lily Tomlin

Sunday, 7 p.m.  
Cobb Great Hall, Wharton  
Center, Michigan State  
University

Tickets: \$15 for students,  
others range from \$28 to  
\$63.

Also tune in to 88.9 FM The  
Impact at 7 tonight to hear an  
interview with Tomlin

Tomlin, who just turned 73, grew up in a predominantly black neighborhood in Detroit's inner city. Her parents were "fundamentalist Christians" from Kentucky who

moved north after the Depression to take factory jobs. She says these hardscrabble roots played into her outlook on life and planted the seeds for her fascination with quirky personalities.

"We lived in a run-down building with 40 apartments and 40 different hits on life," she said. "And I used to hang around those apartments. I was crazy about everybody, because they were also different and weird and individual."

This diversity set the stage for a career of quirky-yet-relatable characterizations. The Tomlins were on the blue-collar scale of society, which created some acrimony when she had to listen to the middle class kids bragging about their vacations and luxurious Christmases in school.

"You grew up thinking people who had money were very special they must know something very wonderful," she says. "You see very early that there's very little authority in the world that doesn't have its own agenda. But I had as rich a childhood as you could imagine, except for, you know, being part of a bank-robbing gang."

Over the years, Tomlin has lent her voice to a variety of causes, championing issues such as environmental awareness, sexual equality and gay and lesbian rights. Although Tomlin has been with her partner Jane Wagner since the early '70s, she didn't officially come out as a member of the LGBT community to the media until about 10 years ago.

"I was never secretive about it, but my mother didn't want to talk about it," Tomlin says. "She loved Jane, you can't not love Jane, but my mom was more concerned about what the family would think."

She said she always visits her "old haunts" when she comes to Michigan, visiting old



Courtesy photo

Lily Tomlin as her character, Edith Ann, in 1975.

friends and an aunt who still lives in the Detroit suburbs. When told she is in the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame here in Lansing, Tomlin, who was inducted in 1998, said she "had no idea" she was sharing space with legends such as Rosa Parks, Aretha Franklin and Gilda Radner.

"I've got to go then, dammit," Tomlin said. "Are there any pictures? Can you see what I'm doing?"

She says her show coming to town is "very free-form," with no props or costume changes, featuring interactive video segments in addition

to her roster of personae, and will include satirical material that pokes fun at her own celebrity. Tomlin also plans to work in material about Lansing and Michigan State University.

One thing that won't make the show, though, is that big rocking chair.

"I don't bring any stuff — how could I carry that?" she laughs. "Six men have to lift it."

And, as Edith Ann would say, that's the truth.

## Stoned troubador

East Nashville's Todd Snider brings 'agnostic hymns and stoner fables' to Lansing

By ANDY BALASKOVIZ

I genuinely believed Todd Snider when he said he was unsure if Saturday night will be his first time playing in Lansing.

"I don't think so. It can't be, man. It just doesn't seem like there's any place left I could've not gone," Snider, 45, said by phone Tuesday morning from his house in East Nashville, Tenn. (the grittier side of Music City).

Maybe it's the 18 years of recording and touring in support of the 12 original albums he's made. Or maybe a subtle clue rests in the title of his 2012 album, "Agnostic Hymns and Stoner Fables," a typically autobiographical Snider record that has received praise from Rolling Stone, The New York Times and NPR. Let's just leave it up for debate when he brings his storytelling folk style, reminiscent of John Prine, Jerry Jeff Walker and

Kris Kristofferson to the Loft.

Snider's fresh off a two-week vacation and will take the stage with his acoustic guitar, harmonica and probably bare feet, rather than a full band. Supporting Snider on Saturday is Memphis-based singer-songwriter Amy LaVere.

Snider will play five shows in Michigan over the next week, including stops in

Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids and Ann Arbor. He says "some of my fondest road memories are in Michigan" — at least those he remembers.

## Todd Snider

Saturday, Sept. 15,  
doors at 6 p.m.

The Loft  
414 E. Michigan Ave.,  
Lansing

Tickets: \$22  
All ages

Also tune in to 88.9 FM The  
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interview with Snider

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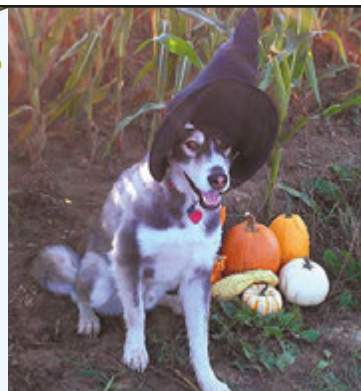
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# Restoring the roar

New memoir details author's friendship with Sparky Anderson

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Dan Ewald has written 13 books focusing on renowned Michigan sports figures, including Bo Schembechler, Al Kaline and George Kell, but he says his new book "Sparky and Me," a biography of legendary Detroit Tigers manager George "Sparky" Anderson, may disappoint people.

"It is not a baseball book," said Ewald, speaking from his home in Troy, Mich.

"Sure there are baseball stories in it, but these stories show the development of one friendship for 32 years."

Ewald has spent his entire adult life devoted to baseball, first writing about it as a sports reporter for The Detroit News and then working as the public relations director for the Tigers for 18 years. Ewald describes how Anderson brought his complex philosophies about life to the diamond, making him one of the game's most successful managers. Ewald began writing the book in 2010 shortly after Anderson's death at age 76. The book contains many "Sparky-isms," such as "Learn to treat people well — it doesn't cost a dime."

"Sparky could make people feel important," Ewald said. "He could make people he never met before feel as if he was their best friend."

Anderson won three World Series in his career, two for the Cincinnati Reds and one for the Detroit Tigers. In the book, Ewald relates how when Anderson joined the Tigers in 1979, the roster was packed with hungry young players such as Alan Trammell, Lou Whitaker and Kirk Gibson.

"They had raw talent," Ewald said. "They just didn't have that one piece, and Sparky was the person to pull it together. He created a bond between himself and his players. This loyalty has never been repeated in baseball, and may never be again."

That mutual devotion culminated in the four-games-to-one 1984 World Series victory over the San Diego Padres, but the bond between Ewald and Anderson was cemented far sooner when Anderson approached him and suggested a game-to-game diary of a championship season — before the first game was even played. That book, eventually entitled "Bless You Boys," was co-authored by the pair, and tells of that remarkable season in baseball history when the Tigers started with a roar, going 35-5 in their first 40 games. Ewald said Anderson

had the confidence before the season began that they would win it all.

"I didn't and (that 35-5 start) will never happen in baseball again," Ewald said.

Ewald recently returned from the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY, where he says he affectionately rubbed Anderson's plaque. Ewald said it was through Anderson he learned that the game is beautiful.

"He was a celebrity and I was a nobody," he says. "And we were still friends. I can't tell you how it happened that we became best friends. We just did."

However, the author does lament the loss of colorful characters like his friend.

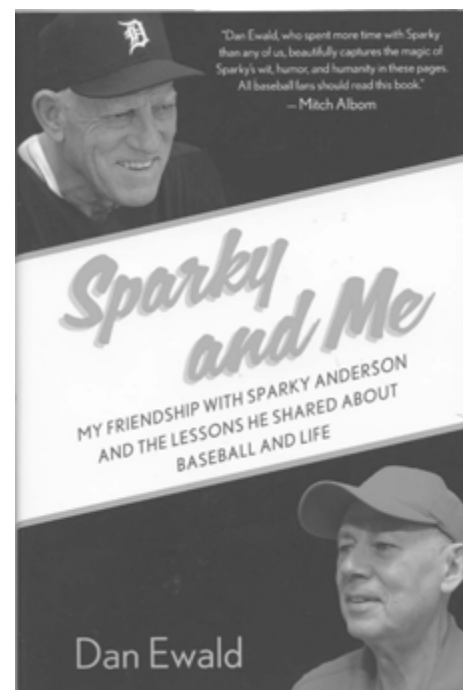
"Where have these romantic characters gone?" he asks. "It can't happen again. The game has become too corporate. But I've never lost my love for the game."

Ewald's book is about two guys hanging around on one of the biggest stages in sports, but still maintaining a friendship built by a simple life and simple principles. He underlines Anderson's dislike of ostentation, relating the story of how when Anderson was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2000, the Ford family provided him with a luxury van outfitted with a banner that said, "Sparky's Ride to the Hall of Fame."

"He immediately removed it and courteously handed it to one of the men who had delivered it," Ewald says. "One of Sparky's sayings was, 'You can't put a tuxedo on a pig.'"

Ewald describes Anderson's cracker-jack comedic sensibility, such as a moment during his Hall of Fame induction ceremony which began with the audience giving him a standing ovation.

"Sparky told them, 'Please sit down. I learned a long time ago in baseball when they stand up, they're getting ready to boo.'"



Courtesy Photo

Tonight at Schuler Books in Eastwood Towne Center, Dan Ewald will discuss his new memoir "Sparky & Me," which details his 32-year friendship with Detroit legend Sparky Anderson.

Ewald's book is not all fun and games, especially when he writes about Anderson's distaste for the strike-shortened baseball season of 1995. Ewald said most of all, though, his friend was a thorough teacher.

"His lessons went beyond the game," he writes. "He taught me all the unwritten rules that apply as much to life as they do to sports. Sparky liked to say, 'Wisdom isn't reserved for people with fancy degrees.'"

Ewald heartbreakingly recounts Anderson's diagnosis with dementia and his subsequent brutal decline. These are tender moments between two friends, who share a half of lifetime of experiences. You will shed a tear — make no mistake about that.

As Anderson once told Ewald: "We're lucky, Daniel, my boy. We certainly are lucky."

And readers are lucky that Ewald has written about this very special friendship.

## Discussion with Dan Ewald

Author of "Sparky and Me: My Friendship with Sparky Anderson and the Lessons He Shared About Baseball and Life"

7 p.m. Sept. 12  
Schuler Books & Music  
2820 Towne Center Blvd.  
Lansing

SCHULER BOOKS  
& MUSIC

Author Talks  
Saturday, Sept. 15

Hall of Fame Sportswriter  
**JACK EBLING**  
*Heart of a Spartan:*

*The Story of a Michigan  
State Football Renaissance*

10 a.m. Lansing Location

**DAVID J. YOUNG**  
*Arrogance & Scheming  
in the Big 10*

12 p.m. Lansing Location

**Pizza Party**  
w/ Young Adult Author  
**TRACY BILEN**  
*What She Left Behind*

Sara and her mom have a plan to finally escape Sara's abusive father. But when her mom doesn't show up as expected, Sara's terrified. Her father says that she's on a business trip, but Sara knows he's lying. Her mom is missing—and her dad had something to do with it.

1 p.m. Okemos Location

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# SAVAGE LOVE

**Letters, we get letters:**  
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**DAN SAVAGE**  
mail@savagelove.com

**Q:** I want to buy my 14-year-old niece a dildo, some lube, and an age-appropriate book about sex. (Can you recommend one?) I have her mother's permission, but I wanted to double-check on whether there are legal issues

I should be concerned about. (I live in Oregon.) Do you think it would be inappropriate for me to cross that boundary with my niece? I figure it would be less awkward to get these items from me than from her mother, and I would include a thoughtful letter on love, sex, and life with the promise that I will never bring the "gift" up, but that I will always be happy to talk if she wants to. Any other advice on how to handle it appropriately would be appreciated.

— Wanted Toys Too

**P.S.** I am motivated to do this due to my own teenage experience of not wanting a penis to be the first thing of substance put in my vagina. I had to resort to a plastic banana, no lube. Ouch!

**A:** "Your niece is lucky to have a mom and an aunt who are invested in her sexual well-being," says Jennifer Pritchett, the owner of Smitten Kitten, a sex-toy shop in Minneapolis and a frequent Savage Love guest expert. "She's also lucky to live in a time when sexual health information geared toward young adults is readily available."

And why shouldn't penetration toys be readily available to your niece? All any 14-year-old boy who wants to experiment with penetration—for his own pleasure, to build up his confidence in advance of partnered sex—has to do is make a fist. Girls who are curious about penetration shouldn't have to resort to plastic bananas.

Pritchett recommends that you get your niece a copy of Heather Corinna's book *S.E.X.: The All-You-Need-to-Know Progressive Sexuality Guide to Get You Through High School and College*, which is terrific, and that you make sure your niece knows about [www.scarleteen.com](http://www.scarleteen.com), an amazing, comprehensive, and sex-positive independent sex-ed website.

"Share these resources with her," says Pritchett, "but do not write an awkward letter! All you are going to do is communicate your own insecurities about the 'gift,' and trust me, she's got enough weird cultural hang-ups about sex and pleasure to deal with! It's admirable that you want to save her from the plastic banana, but be careful not to inadvertently project your own sexual choices onto her experience."

Pritchett also suggests that instead of selecting a sex toy for your niece, WTT, you take your niece to a sex-toy shop so she can make her own selection—because, hey, what could be awkward about that? "If you really want to empower her

to make her own decisions about her body," says Pritchett, "take her to an education-based shop like She Bop ([www.sheboptshop.com](http://www.sheboptshop.com)) in Portland where their trained sex educators can help her figure out what she might like to try."

If your niece would like to go sex-toy shopping with you—and that's a big if—you'll need to call She Bop in advance and make an after-hours appointment. "We are an 18-plus shop," says Jeneen Doumitt, co-owner of She Bop, "but we have made special arrangements in the past for younger teens. We would need to get written consent from the legal parent or guardian and the parent or guardian would have to accompany them."

There is also the option of going on their website and shopping together with your niece, or you could send your niece to any number of female-sex-positive websites and she can pick the toys she wants you to buy—no letter from parent or guardian required, no embarrassing small talk.

**Q:** I have a fetish for sweaty, smelly, stinky female feet, but I don't know how to approach strange women and ask them to fulfill my wishes. It sucks that the only way to maybe get what I want is to hire an escort or go to one of those foot parties that are always held in huge cities hundreds of miles away from where I live. How can I realize my dreams in the small hick town where I live? Any suggestions?

— Desperate For Feet

**A:** Sorry, DFF, but you're just gonna have to move to a big city (or travel to one) to realize your dreams of sweaty, smelly, stinky female feet. And if your dreams revolve around servicing the feet of more than one loving, indulgent woman, then you're gonna have to pay nice ladies to make your dreams come true. Approaching strange women in hick towns or big cities and asking them to indulge your fetish isn't going to get you anywhere other than a sex-offender registry.

**Q:** I recently found out my husband once responded to an online ad from some guy seeking to give blowjobs to other men. He actually went to the guy's apartment but chickened out after meeting him. This was 10 years ago, long before we were even dating, and it was during an extremely long (five-year) dry spell for him. I don't know whether I'm turned on or creeped out by this, but I am definitely having a reaction to the secret he shared with me. Can you help me make heads or tails of all this? Should I be worried he'll end up getting rest-stop blowjobs one day?

— All Mixed Up

**A:** During an extremely long (four-year) dry spell of my own, AMU, I responded more than once to offline offers of blowjobs from girls. I was horny, I was desperate, and my powers of concentration were such that I could close my eyes and pretend—and I'm really dating myself here—that Bo Duke was blowing me.

Desperate men do desperate things, AMU, and just as my teenage/closeted desperation drove me into the arms, beds, and mouths of some nice young women, similarly desperate straight guys have been known to accept blowjobs from gay or bi dudes. And just as the con-

centrate-on-Bo-Duke blowjobs I got from girls back in the '80s didn't make me straight, the concentrate-on-Sofia-Vergara blowjobs straight guys get from dudes today don't make them gay.

It's possible, of course, that your husband will wind up getting rest-stop blowjobs one day—anything is possible—but that one time he almost got a blowjob from another dude doesn't make rest-stop blowjobs any more or less likely. (I'm assuming your husband is telling the truth about not going through with it.) And as your being turned on by the thought of the husband getting a blowjob from another man doesn't make those rest-stop blowjobs any likelier either, AMU, I think you should go ahead and let yourself be turned on by the idea.

**Q:** After 20 years of boring vanilla-ness with my ex-husband, I'm tickled pink to be with a GGG guy who's into some fun stuff and encourages me to explore. The problem: One of his kinks is a smoking fetish, and I don't smoke cig-

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arettes. Inhaling is a big part of the excitement for him, but I cough if I inhale, which ruins the mood. Any advice for ways to be GGG with this kink?

— Cigarette Inhaling GGGirl

**A:** There are limits to being GGG—self-harm being one of them. Give him permission to explore this particular fetish with someone stupid enough to smoke. If he pouts, CIGGG, remind him who inhales his dick.

*Find the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at [the stranger.com/savage](http://the stranger.com/savage).*

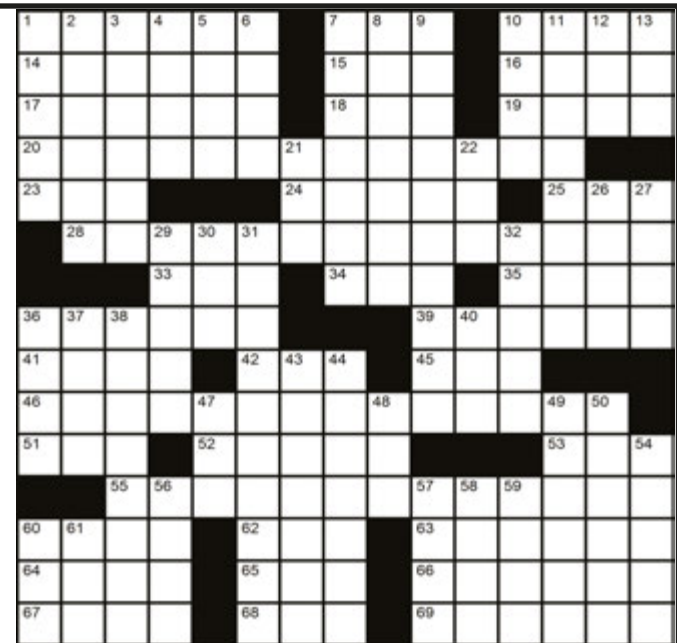
## Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Two-Card Studs"—pretty pathetic poker pairs.  
Matt Jones

### Across

- 1 Words before "friends" or "careful out there"
- 7 "\_\_\_ Carter" (Lil Wayne album series)
- 10 "Don't let your boss catch you watching this" acronym
- 14 Common baseball situation
- 15 Hua \_\_\_ (Thai beach resort)
- 16 Glow
- 17 Categorize
- 18 Summer hrs. in South Carolina
- 19 Air quality problem
- 20 A pair of cards reduced to a fine powder?
- 23 Six, to Italians
- 24 Make \_\_\_ of (write down)
- 25 Sphere in a scepter
- 28 A pair of cards, a few hours from now?
- 33 Tic-tac-toe line
- 34 Chinese restaurant general
- 35 "Video Games" singer \_\_\_ Del Rey
- 36 GI's stint peeling potatoes, for example
- 39 Hauled in
- 41 Idle who performed in the 2012 Olympic closing ceremonies
- 42 \_\_\_ in "Oscar"
- 45 Wall St. worker
- 46 Pair of cards with unreasonable aspirations?
- 51 Lucy of "Elementary"
- 52 Singer Guthrie and



- street skater Eisenberg
- 53 "Weetzie Bat" author Francesca \_\_\_ Block
- 55 Pair of cards that are...a pair of cards?
- 60 Tara in the tabloids
- 62 "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" star Vardalos
- 63 Like many modern-day pirates
- 64 Start the pot
- 65 "Srsly?!?!"
- 66 Assent to the captain
- 67 "Naked Maja" painter
- 68 Prop for a ball
- 69 Malaria-carrying fly

- tallest building)
- 6 "I'd Rather Go Blind" singer \_\_\_ James
- 7 Popular wedding website, or what's tied at a wedding
- 8 Grotesque
- 9 Like some security software
- 10 Poet Ogden \_\_\_
- 11 Redundant count
- 12 Round 'do
- 13 Move like a happy hound's tail
- 21 Half-\_\_\_ (coffee mix)
- 22 Toothpaste variety
- 26 Actress Russo
- 27 Singer Paisley
- 29 Certify, with "for"
- 30 Abbr. on a business card
- 31 Reply to a liar
- 32 Excuse
- 36 Totally awesome
- 37 Toyota hybrids, jokingly

- 38 Lack of cohesiveness
- 40 Boat with two elephants
- 43 Ever
- 44 Room for carry-ons
- 47 Item held by Karl Lagerfeld
- 48 That, in Tijuana
- 49 It includes the Braves and Phillies
- 50 Old sitcom character Dobie \_\_\_
- 54 Engulfed in flames
- 56 Mental concoction
- 57 "The City \_\_\_ War" (Cobra Starship song)
- 58 They may get moved to the attic
- 59 Captain Hook's mate
- 60 Disreputable newspaper
- 61 "Achtung Baby" co-producer Brian

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



Courtesy Photo

## SEPT. 14

### The Lovemaster rides through town

He was called “a sitcom waiting to happen” by The New York Times, and this Friday Craig Shoemaker — who was recently named Comedian of the Year at the American Comedy Awards — brings his observational wit to Connxtions Comedy Club for two shows. In 1998, the Philadelphia native co-hosted Earvin “Magic” Johnson’s disastrously short-lived talk show “The Magic Hour,” which has grown to become something of a cult classic. Shoemaker’s credits including “Scream 2” and “The Lovemaster,” which starred Farrah Fawcett and won best film honors at the Los Angeles Film Festival. He has a nationally syndicated radio show, and several TV writing credits, including “Just the Ten of Us” and “Real Funny.” 8 & 10:30 p.m. \$21. Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St., Lansing. (517) 374-4242.

Wednesday, September 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. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

**Coupon Swap.** Meet other coupon enthusiasts, exchange coupons, and discuss deals & strategies. 6-7:45 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.

**Our Daily Work/Lives.** “The IWW Insurgencies of 1912: Working Class Men and Women in Revolt” - Fran Shor. 12:15-1:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum Auditorium, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

**Fall Babytime.** Beginning story time for babies under 2. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. [elpl.org](http://elpl.org).

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

See Out on the Town, Page 32

228 Museum Drive, across from Lansing Center

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### Great Lakes art exhibit opens

(SCENE) Metrospace’s newest exhibit, “Lake-Effect: Rurality & Ecology in the Great Lakes,” will have its opening reception this Friday. “Lake-Effect” is a series of projects investigating the history, culture and life of the Great Lakes. The exhibit will feature artists Kelly Church, Sarah Kanouse and Marlin Ledin and groups such as the Midwest Radical Culture Corridor. “Lake-Effect” will run through October 21 during the gallery’s regular business hours. 6-9 p.m. FREE. (SCENE) Metrospace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832.

## SEPT. 18

### Learn about the law

This Tuesday, Lansing attorney Bernie Finn will discuss divorce and family law as part of the People’s Law School, a series of lectures for the community by expert attorneys. Since 1978, the Michigan Association for Justice People’s Law School has educated Michigan residents regarding the legal system, featuring some of the state’s most well known attorneys and legal experts. The event is sponsored by Cooley Law School, Sinas Dramis Law Firm and the Michigan Association for Justice. The class will include a lecture, with a short break, followed by a Q&A session. Each participant receives a comprehensive student handbook that contains outlines of the materials presented. 7-9 p.m. \$25 for 7 weeks. Thomas M. Cooley Law School, 300 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. [michiganjustice.org](http://michiganjustice.org).



Courtesy Photo

### Poems from prison

The 6th annual Prison Poetry Project takes place next Wednesday. Incarcerated men and women will have their poems read by community leaders such as T.J. Duckett, Judge Donald L. Allen and Lansing City Councilwoman Kathie Dunbar. All donations for this show will support an ex-offender’s re-entry into the community. ARRO, a program of the Northwest Initiative, will host the event as part of their annual fundraiser to raise awareness and provide an opportunity to hear poetry. There will also be a silent auction, refreshments and the premier of “What Chance Do Kids Have,” written by Justin Gibson, who is serving a mandatory life sentence. 7-9 p.m. Suggested \$10 donation. Gone Wired. 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-2894.

## SEPT. 19

# TURNIT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICHTUPICA

## JAZZ ON THE WATERFRONT

For those looking to relax by the water with some jazz piano, Thursday at the Waterfront Bar & Grill in the Lansing City Market may be just the spot. The evening features a performance from the Arlene McDaniel Trio, a local group known for original compositions and lesser known jazz standards. McDaniel is a veteran pianist in the field of jazz, working in the mid-Michigan area and beyond for 30 years. In 1984, she graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in music theory and composition. Since then she's performed everything from small clubs to big festivals, including the Old Town Jazz Festival and East Lansing's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival. McDaniel's 2009 "Timeless" album received local airplay and across North America.

**Thursday, Sept. 13 @ Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., more information at: lansingwaterfront.com**

## NERVOUS BUT EXCITED PLAY FIDDLE BEFORE HIATUS

After years of performing "pleasantly aggressive" folk music, the duo Nervous But Excited is taking a break until (at least) next year. The band plays its last local show this Friday in East Lansing as part of the Ten Pound Fiddle concert series. The event is dubbed "The Still Excited Hiatus: An Evening to Celebrate 8 Years of Harmony and Hoopla." Members Kate Peterson and Sarah Cleaver have kept busy touring the country since they teamed up back in 2006 in Lansing. According to their website, "Sarah will be taking on a new phase in academia,



Courtesy Photo

## Blue Echoes at Walnut Hills Country Club

while Kate will be continuing to construct her time individually as an artist, both in music and design." Both Peterson and Cleaver shared songwriting and vocal duties, as well as playing guitar, mandolin, violin, ukulele and harmonica. NBE developed a strong following on the road for their fun, live shows, which incorporated bits of politics, ecological awareness and LGBT rights. While Cleaver is relocating to the East Coast, she says there's still a chance for projects. "We will undoubtedly continue to play music, together and apart, as we take a little more time to develop other parts of our lives."

**Friday, Sept. 14 @ Ten Pound Fiddle - Unitarian Universalist Church, 855 Grove St., East Lansing, all ages. Box office at 7 p.m., doors 7:30 p.m., 8 p.m. show. Tickets are \$15 public, \$12 Fiddle members, \$5 students. www.tenpoundfiddle.org.**

## LANSING'S FIRST ROCK BAND HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

Back in 1957 a group of high school kids formed The Blue Echoes to become Lansing's first rock 'n' roll group. Now, more than half a century later, the band has been inducted into the Rockabilly Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony, which is free and open to the public, is Friday at Walnut Hills Country Club in East Lansing. Original members Larry Palmiter and Roger Benham will play a live set of Blue Echoes tunes. The band's love of



Courtesy Photo

## Nervous But Excited at the Ten Pound Fiddle

country-tinged rock shined through on cuts like "It's Witchcraft," a primitive and menacing hillbilly-rock 45 released by the band not long after it was formed. The band's initial run only lasted around three years, but Palmiter and Benham have managed to keep the band going periodically throughout the years. Both musicians, now 71 years old, remember the local '50s rock 'n' roll scene quite well. "I don't think there were any other local bands," Palmiter said. "I remember we went to the musician's union and they said, 'You guys play that funny music?' Back then it was Frankie Parker & His Orchestra, those kinds of bands. The only other kinds of bands around here were country groups. We were different — we were rockabilly." For more information, visit: facebook.com/TheBlueEchoes.

**Friday, Sept. 14 @Walnut Hills Country Club, 2874 Lake Lansing, East Lansing, all ages, free, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**

## UK-BASED FOLKIE SARAH MCQUAID PLAYS PUMP HOUSE

In support of her new album "Plum Tree and the Rose," Sarah McQuaid is touring across her home

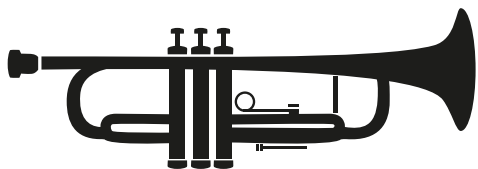
turf in the United Kingdom and also the United States, making 64 stops in all. The songwriter/vocalist/guitarist plays Sunday at the Pump House in East Lansing. McQuaid's emotive, low key-style of songwriting has helped to land her on numerous folk charts, including hitting No. 5 on the Euro-folk chart. Born in Madrid and raised in Chicago, she lived in Ireland for 14 years before moving to the southwest corner of England in 2007, though she spends approximately six months of the year gigging on the road. The day after her Pump House show, McQuaid will host two 90-minute workshops: "An Introduction to DADGAD" at 3 p.m. and "DADGAD Song Accompaniment" at 5:15 p.m. at Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington in Lansing. Tickets for one workshop are \$40, \$75 for both.

**Sunday, Sept. 16 @ Pump House, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing, all ages, \$10 donation, 6:30 p.m.**

## UPCOMING SHOW?

POST IT AT

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TURNITDOWN



## LIVE & LOCAL

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

### WEDNESDAY

### THURSDAY

### FRIDAY

### SATURDAY

Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.		D.J., 9 p.m.	Nothing 2 Lose, 9 p.m.	Nothing 2 Lose, 9 p.m.
Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St.		Mike Gardner, 8 p.m.	Craig Shoemaker, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.	Mike Gardner, 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		Ron Bretz, 9 p.m.	Various DJs, 9 p.m.	DJ Donnie D, 9 p.m.
Grand Café/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.	Samantha Sings, 6:30 p.m.	Kathy Ford Band, 7:30 p.m.	Karaoke with Joanie Daniels, 7 p.m.	Don & The Sea Cruisers, 8 p.m.
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Big Willy, 9:30 p.m.	The Hooties, 9:30 p.m.	Mix Pack, 9:30 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 9:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.		Griz, 9 p.m.	36 Crazyfists & Straight Line Stitch, 5 p.m.	Todd Snider, 6 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Joe Hertler & the Rainbow Seekers, 7:30 p.m.	Red Cedar Riot, 5 p.m.	Thrall, 9 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic Night, 9:30 p.m.		Those Delta Rhythm Kings, 10 p.m.	Those Delta Rhythm Kings, 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 Klimaxx, 9 p.m.	Live Bands with DJs & DJ Klimaxx, 9 p.m.
Rum Runners, 601 East Michigan Ave.	Open Mic Night, 9 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 9 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog & the Beeftones, 10 p.m.	Untamed, 9 p.m.	Untamed, 9 p.m.
Ull's Haus of Rock, 419 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.			Various Bands, 9 p.m.	3rd Annual Punk/ Rock Night, 9 p.m.
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive		Mike Evia Quartet, 7 p.m.	Joe Wright, 7 p.m.	Velocity Shift, 7 p.m.
Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert St.	DJ, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.	Matt Ryan, 9 p.m.

**Sunday** Open Jam with Bad Gravy, 9:30 p.m., Green Door; Karaoke, 9 p.m. Drag Queens Gone Wild, 11 p.m., Spiral Dance Bar; DJ Mike, 9:30 p.m., LeRoy's Bar & Grill; Open Mic, 5 p.m., Ull'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. House music, 9 p.m., The Firm Bar.  
**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

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**Environmental Justice.** Discussion on environmental justice and healthy communities. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.

**T'ai Chi Ch'uan & Qigong.** Taught by Bruce Ching. 5:30-6:45 p.m. \$60. ACC Natural Healing & Wellness, 617 Ionia, Lansing. (517) 708-8510. [massageandwellnesslansing.com](http://massageandwellnesslansing.com), [meetup.com/lansingbodymindspirit](http://meetup.com/lansingbodymindspirit).

**After-School Youth Gardening Programming.** Ages 11-17, activities on gardening, nutrition & community service. 3:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

### EVENTS

**Overeaters Anonymous.** 7 p.m. FREE. First Congregational United Church, 210 W. Saginaw Highway, Grand Ledge. (517) 256-6954.

**Practice Your English.** Join conversations & practice speaking and listening to English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Lansing Area Post-Polio Support Group.** Pot luck picnic. Bring your own utensils & a dish to share. 5 p.m. FREE. Granger Meadows Park, E. State Road & Wood Road, DeWitt. (517) 339-1039.

**Allen Street Farmers Market.** Fresh food & more. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 485-4279.

**Baby Story Time.** Short stories, free-play time for babies 6-24 months old. 11:30 a.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156.

**Toddler Tales.** Story time for toddlers, 2-3 years old. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156.

**League of Women Voters.** Welcome reception. Speaker Rich Robinson. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [lansing.mi.lwvnet.org](http://lansing.mi.lwvnet.org).

**Eastwood Towne Center 10th Anniversary.** Variety of events & activities throughout the day. 10 a.m. FREE. Eastwood Towne Center, 3000 Preyde Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-9209.

### MUSIC

**Jazz Wednesdays.** Featuring new jazz artists every week. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Gracie's Place, 151 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-1100.

**Sammy Gold.** 80's Pop-Rock. 7-11 p.m. FREE. Rookies Restaurant, 1640 S. US 27, Lansing. (517) 487-8686.

### THEATER

**Student Ticket Day.** \$15 performing arts shows, \$25 Broadway shows. Must have student I.D. Limit two tickets per student. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. FREE. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON.

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

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

**"Sparky & Me" appearance by Dan Ewald.** The former Tigers publicity director discusses his memoir. 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music Lansing, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495.

## Thursday, September 13

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Chi Flow Yoga for Longevity.** Taught by Julie Huldin. 5:30-6:45 p.m. \$10 drop-in, \$80 all 10. ACC Natural Healing and Wellness, 617 Ionia, Lansing. (517) 708-8510. [meetup.com/lansingbodymindspirit](http://meetup.com/lansingbodymindspirit), [massageandwellnesslansing.com](http://massageandwellnesslansing.com).

**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.

**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.

**Yoga for Beginners.** With Gaby Kende. 9:30-11 a.m. FREE new students. Center for Yoga, 1780 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-6640.

**Eating Disorders Anonymous Meeting.** 7-7:45 p.m. FREE. CADL Mason Library, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 899-3515.

**Codependent Anonymous Meeting.** 7-8 p.m. FREE. Community Mental Health Building, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 672-4072.

**Writers' Roundtable.** Get feedback on your work. 6-7:45 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.

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

**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.

### 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.

**MSU Library Film.** Featuring "Aparajito." Discussion. 7 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 100 Main Library, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

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

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

**Beal Botanical Garden Tour.** 12:10 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 100 Main Library, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 884-0901.

**Pre-School Story Time.** 10:30 a.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156.

**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.

**Ingham County Genealogical Society Meeting.** Election of officers & presentation by Shirley Hodges. 7 p.m. FREE. Vevay Township Hall, 780 Eden Road, Mason. (517) 337-8925.

**MSU Film Collective Screening.** "Juliet of the Spirits." Discussion follows. 8-11 p.m. FREE. Wells Hall, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

**Williamston Theater Season Launch Party.** With refreshments. 5:30-8 p.m. \$50. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-7469.

### MUSIC

**Stan Budzynski & 3rd Degree.** 9 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. The Firm, 227 S Washington Sq., Lansing. (517) 487-3476.

**Courthouse Concert.** Featuring the Mason High School Band. 6 p.m.-Midnight. FREE. Mason Courthouse, 160 West Maple St. Mason. [lansingarts.org/events](http://lansingarts.org/events).

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

**Donny & The Dorsels.** Beach themed. 8 p.m.-Midnight, FREE. CB's Bucket Bar & Grille, 132 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston. (517) 992-5060.

### THEATER

**"25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee."**

Tony-award winning musical comedy. 8 p.m. \$12 adult, \$10 senior, \$7 student. Ledges Playhouse, Fitzgerald Park, off Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. (517) 318-0579.

**"Spring Awakening."** Tony-award winning rock musical about teenagers in 19th century Germany. 7 p.m. \$20, \$18 seniors 55 & students. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700.

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Storytime With Ms. Deb.** Ms. Deb will read three books on the topic of the week and do a craft. 10 a.m. FREE. Barnes and Noble Lansing, 5132 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing. (517) 327-0437.

**David L. Holmes Book Signing.** Author of "The Faiths of the Postwar Presidents." 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music Okemos, 1982 Grand River Ave., Okemos. (517) 349-8840. [schulerbooks.com](http://schulerbooks.com).

## Friday, September 14

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

### EVENTS

**Alcoholics Anonymous.** With ASL interpretation. 8 p.m. FREE. Alano Club East, 220 S. Howard St., Lansing. (517) 482-8957.

**Alcoholics Anonymous.** Closed women's meeting. 7:30 p.m. FREE. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Drive, Lansing. (517) 882-9733.

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

**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.

**Craftsman Home Tour.** Open house of 139 & 141 Leslie street. 4-7 p.m. FREE. Turner-Dodge House & Heritage Center, 100 E. North St., Lansing. (517) 999-3924.

### MUSIC

**Ten Pound Fiddle Concert.** Featuring Nervous But Excited. 8 p.m. \$15 public, \$12 Fiddle members, \$5 students. Unitarian Universalist Church, 855 Grove St., East Lansing. (517) 337-7744.

**Lansing Symphony's Opening Night.** Beethoven & Prokofiev. Ralph Votapek's 50th Anniversary. 8 p.m. \$15-50. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 487-5001. [lansingsymphony.org](http://lansingsymphony.org).

**MoonLight Jazz Series.** Featuring Dee Hibbert & Co. 8 p.m. \$15. Best Western Plus Lansing Hotel, 6820 South Cedar St., Lansing. [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com).

**Grand River Radio Diner Concert.** Featuring Luke Wilson & Matt Gabriel. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River, Lansing. (517) 483-1710.

**Jim Malcolm.** Traditional Scottish music. 7:45 p.m. \$20, \$18 advance. Creole Gallery, 1218 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 372-2900.

**The New Rule.** Live music. Rock. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. CB's Bucket Bar & Grille, 132 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston. (517) 992-5060.

### THEATER

**"Spring Awakening."** 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (Please see details Sept. 13.)

**"25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee."** 8 p.m. Ledges Playhouse, Fitzgerald Park, off Jefferson St. Grand Ledge. (Please see details Sept. 13.)

**"Vigil."** A dark comedy about mortality. 8 p.m. \$15 & \$10. LCC Black Box Theatre, Room 168 Gannon Building, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1488.

**"The Elves & the Shoemaker."** Audience participation stories. 7 p.m. \$4, \$12 for family. Mid-Michigan Family Theatre, 440 Frandor Ave., Lansing. (517) 339-2145. [mmft.net](http://mmft.net).

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**To Italy From America With Love.** John and Mina Hall will discuss and sign their book. 6 p.m. FREE. Barnes and Noble Lansing, 5132 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing. (517) 327-0437.

## Saturday, September 15

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Tai Chi in the Park.** Meditation at 8:45 a.m. followed by Tai Chi. 9:30 a.m. FREE donations. 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)



# Upcoming Shows

<p><b>Friday Sept 14</b></p>  <p><b>Nervous But Excited</b></p>	<p><b>Friday Sept 21</b></p>  <p><b>Woody Guthrie songs by Josh Davis, Hall &amp; Morgan, Drew Howard &amp; Jen Sygit</b></p>
<p><b>Friday SEPT 28</b></p>  <p><b>Girlyman</b></p>	<p><b>Friday OCT 5</b></p>  <p><b>Lou and Peter Berryman</b></p>

Contra Dances First Saturday of the month

**24/7 Hotline: 517.337.7744**  
**www.TenPoundFiddle.org**

See our website for the venue location and online ticket sales

*Greater Lansing, Michigan Area*

Serving Greater Lansing's LGBT Community

## Lansing Association for Human Rights

LAHR • LGBT News • Coming Out Group • Prism Awards • Breakfast Club • Downtown Lunch • Cafe Night

**An advocate by and for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and their allies in the greater Lansing community since 1979.**

**www.LAHRonline.org**

# Out on the town

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488-5260.

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

**Landscape & Floral Painting.** Demonstration. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Hobby Lobby East Lansing, 2775 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing.

**Beginning Couponing.** Learn basic tips & strategies to save money. 1-3:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.

**Art Reception.** Celebrate this month's featured exhibit. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014.

**Occupy Lansing.** General assembly meeting. 1 p.m. FREE. Reutter Park, Corner of Kalamazoo & Townsend St., Lansing.

**Achieving Optimal Health Seminar.** David Bush & Karyn Harrison. 9 a.m. FREE. Great Lakes Christian College, 6211 W. Willow Highway, Lansing. (616) 502-8631.

**Dance Ballroom/Swing Dance.** Beginner rhumba, 7 p.m. General dancing, 8 p.m. 7-10:30 p.m. \$13, \$9 students, \$8 under 25. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing.

## EVENTS

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

**Fall Book Sale.** Hardcover 50 cents, paperbacks 25 cents, children's books 10 & 25 cents. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Mason Library, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 676-5698.

**Mobile Food Pantry.** Free food, bring box or bag, one distribution per household. 9-11 a.m. FREE. Pennway Church of God, 1101 E. Cavanaugh Road, Lansing. (517) 483-4477.

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

**Urbandale Farm Stand.** Purchase fresh, local produce, tour the farm, or volunteer. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. 700 block of S. Hayford Ave. Lansing. (517) 999-3916.

**Tejano/Latin Music Festival.** See cover story for full information. Noon-11 p.m. FREE. Cesar E. Chavez Plaza, 216 E. Grand River, Lansing. (517) 749-0181.

**Mitten Mavens Roller Derby.** A double-header season opener. 6 p.m. \$8 advance, \$10 at door. Aim High Sports, 7977 Centerline Drive, Dimondale. mittenmavens.net.

**Save the Independent Bookstore.** Winners of 'Save the Independent Bookstore Writing Contest' announced. 7 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900.

**Organic Grind LLC.** Organic good & services company created by two Lansing entrepreneurs. Free samples. 4-6 p.m. FREE. See's Candy Shop, 1500 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

**9th Capital City River Run.** Fundraiser for Impression 5 Science Center. Kid's mile run. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. \$5. Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. ccriverrun.com.

**MI Pride Motorcycle Ride.** 100 mile ride & raffles. 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Post party, 5 p.m. \$20 per rider, \$30 with passenger. Harry's Place, 404 N. Verlinden, Lansing. (989) 277-9311.

**Larry Martin's WWII: In Their Own Words.** Speaker Dr. Eugene Bleil. 1-3 p.m. Adults \$6, Seniors \$4, Children \$2. Michigan Historical Museum, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 373-1359.

## MUSIC

**Lansing City Market Concert.** Featuring Gary Cimmerer. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460.

**The New Rule.** 9 p.m.-1 a.m. CB's Bucket Bar & Grille, 132 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston. (Please see details Sept. 14)

## THEATER

**"Spring Awakening."** 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (Please see details Sept. 13.)

**"25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee."** 8 p.m. Ledges Playhouse, Fitzgerald Park, off Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. (Please see details Sept. 13.)

**"Vigil."** 2 & 8 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre, Room 168 Gannon Building, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. (Please see details Sept. 14.)

**"The Elves & the Shoemaker."** 7 p.m. Mid Michigan Family Theatre, 440 Frandor Ave., Lansing. (Please see details Sept. 14.)

## LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Meet Local Author.** Book signing with David J. Young. Author of "Arrogance and Scheming in the Big Ten." Noon-2 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music Lansing, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495.

**Jack Ebling.** The Hall of Fame sports writer discusses his book, "Heart of a Spartan." 10 a.m.-Noon. FREE. Schuler Books & Music Lansing, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495.

**Pizza Party with Tracy Bilen.** Meet the author of "What She Left Behind." 1 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music Okemos, 1982 Grand River Ave., Okemos. (517) 349-8840.

## Sunday, September 16

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Codependents Anonymous.** 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300. cadl.org.

**GriefShare Seminar.** A DVD series, with small support group discussion. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 490-3218.

## EVENTS

**Overeaters Anonymous.** 2-3:15 p.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Conference room F, 2nd floor, Lansing. (517) 332-0755.

**Alcoholics Anonymous.** With ASL interpretation. 9 a.m. FREE. Alano Club East, 220 S. Howard St., Lansing. (517) 482-8957.

**Welcome the World.** MSU international students & families. 3-5p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**"Creating Worlds: Hard Edges, Soft Surfaces."** Reception. Featuring artists Marie Gile & Dace Koehnigsknecht. Noon-4 p.m. FREE. Grove Gallery Co-Op, 325 Grove St., #A, East Lansing. (517) 712-5272.

**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.

**Stewardship Work Days.** Volunteer to keep Fenner beautiful. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

**East Lansing Farmer's Market.** Fresh produce & more. 10 a.m.-2p.m. FREE. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Ct., East Lansing.

**The Scandinavian Society of Greater Lansing Picnic.** Pot luck & activities. 2-5 p.m. FREE. Lions Club Pavilion, Green Arbor Drive, Dimondale. (517) 482-8357.

**Brian Bemis Golf Outing.** Noon. \$100/person, \$400/team, golf \$75 /person, Little Hawk & banquet \$25 per person, banquet \$25 per person. Hawk Hollow Golf Course, 15101 Chandler Road, Bath. (517) 641-4295.

**9th Capital City River Run.** Fundraiser for Impression 5 Science Center. Half marathon & 5k. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. \$35 5K, \$60 half marathon. Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 889-5211.

**Neighborhood Clean-up.** Hosted by the Community Relations Coalition. 10:30 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Police Department, 409 Park Lane, East

Lansing. WeAllLiveHere.org

## MUSIC

**Music on the Patio.** Featuring Brad Maitland & Dan Wixon. 6-9 p.m. FREE. Waterfront Bar and Grille, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 267-3800.

**DePue Brothers Band.** Live music. 3 p.m. FREE. MSU Snyder Hall, MSU Campus, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

## THEATER

**"Spring Awakening."** 2 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (Please see details Sept. 13.)

**"25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee."** 2 p.m. Ledges Playhouse, Fitzgerald Park, off Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. (Please see details Sept. 13.)

**Lily Tomlin.** The Detroit native's one-woman show. 7 p.m. \$63.00, \$48.00, \$28.00. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000.

**"Vigil."** 2 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre, Room 168 Gannon Building, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. (Please see details Sept. 14.)

**"Chicago" Auditions.** Open to high school & college students. Be prepared to sing 16-32 bars Broadway song & dance. 6 p.m. FREE. Delta Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 282-4699.

## Monday, September 17

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Divorced, Separated, Widowed Conversation Group.** 7:30 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272.

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

**Fall Babytime.** Story time for babies under 2. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org.

**Tech Bytes: YouTube.** Learn the basics of YouTube. Noon-12:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.

**Homework Help.** Drop-in for free tutoring, grades K-8. 5-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org.

**Meditation for Stress Management.** Ways to calm & clear your mind. 5:30-8:30 p.m. \$40, one seeions. Creative Wellness, 2025 Abbot Road, #200, East Lansing. (517) 351-9240. creativewellness.net.

## City Pulse Classifieds

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## SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 36

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**Drop-in Writer's Workshop.** 30 minutes of writing. Discussion & peer critique. 7-9 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**The Wonders of Breakfast.** Speaker Peter Pribis. Q&A. 6:15 p.m. FREE. Holt Seventh Day Adventist Fellowship, 5682 Holt Road, Holt. (517) 699-8550.

## EVENTS

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

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

**Kid Zone.** Ages 5-8. Crafts, games, stories & snacks. Pirate theme. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.

**Westside Farmers Market.** Get fresh produce & more. 4-7 p.m. FREE. 743 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing.

## MUSIC

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

## THEATER

**"The Elves & the Shoemaker."** 3 p.m. Mid Michigan Family Theatre, 440 Frandor Ave., Lansing. (Please see details Sept. 14.)

**"Chicago" Auditions.** 6 p.m. Delta Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (Please see details Sept. 16.)

## LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Jaye Beeler.** Author of "Tasting and Touring Michigan's Homegrown Food: A Culinary Road Trip." 6 p.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810. cadl.org.

## Tuesday, September 18

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Chi Flow Yoga for Longevity.** Taught by Julie Huldin. 5:30-

See Out on the Town, Page 35

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

### Office manager/coordinator. (Part-Time)

View details @ [holtfoodbank.org](http://holtfoodbank.org). Send cover letter and resume to Holt Community Food Bank PO box 577 Holt Mi. 48842. Deadline 9/28/2012.

## CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 29

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TRANSLATED BY  
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IN  
SHOW  
BUSINESS**

BY JANE MARTIN

DIRECTED BY ROB ROZNOWSKI



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www.theatre.msu.edu

# Out on the town

from page 35

6:45 p.m. \$10 drop-in, \$80 all 10. ACC Natural Healing and Wellness, 617 Ionia, Lansing. (517) 708-8510. [meetup.com/lansingbodymindspirit](http://meetup.com/lansingbodymindspirit), [massageandwellnesslansing.com](http://massageandwellnesslansing.com).

**Schizophrenics Anonymous.** 5:30 p.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

**Schizophrenics Anonymous.** 10 a.m. Room 215-F, Community Mental Health Building, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 485-3775.

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

**Yoga 40.** All ages welcome. 7:15 p.m. Suggested \$7. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

**Intro to Computers.** With professional instructors. 2:30-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area Michigan Works, 2110 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 492-5500.

**On the Way To Wellness.** Nutrition & wellness coaching. 9:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. \$10. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517)

349-9536.

**Take Off Pounds Sensibly.** 7 p.m. FREE to visit. Eaton Rapids Medical Center, 1500 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. (517) 543-0786.

**Advanced Urban Gardener Series.** Soil care/crop rotation with Jeremy Moghtader. 6-8 p.m. \$15, \$40 all four. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910.

**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.

**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. 1926. [toastmastersclubs.or](http://toastmastersclubs.or)

**Extreme Couponing.** Combine coupons & save as much as 40% on the weekly grocery bill. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Center for Financial Health, 230 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 708-2550.

**Gluten Free Diets.** Places to shop & eat out and

recipes to try. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. 517-321-4014 ext. 4.

**Water media.** All levels welcome, with Donna Randall. 6-8:30 p.m. \$50 for 4 weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing.

**After-School Youth Gardening Programming.** Ages 5-10, activities focusing on gardening, nutrition & community service. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

## EVENTS

**Compassionate Friends.** For grieving parents. 7:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. Salvation Army South Community Center, 701 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 339-3553.

**Mid-day Movies.** Recent releases on the big screen. 2 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363.

**Churchill Downs Neighborhood Meeting.** 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Faith United Methodist Church, 4301 S. Waverly Road, Lansing. (517) 927-2956.

**Café Scientifique.** Science discussion group. 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music Lansing, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495.

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

**DTDL Crafters.** Knitting & other handcrafting projects. 2:30-4 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3.

**Cover to Cover.** Discuss "The Memory Keeper's Daughter" by Kim Edwards. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156.

**Support Group.** Three different classes offered, divorce, loss of a loved one or struggling with life-controlling issues. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Charlotte Assembly of God, 1100 E. Clinton Trail, Charlotte. (517) 543-0649.

**Classics Book Club.** Meet in the Library Meeting Room to discuss "The Trial" by Franz Kafka. 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. [elpl.org](http://elpl.org).

**Fall Storytime.** Stories, rhymes & crafts for ages 2-5. 6:30-7:15 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library,

See Out on the Town, Page 36

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**Ground level ozone is not!**

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**BUS**

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**CARPPOOL**

HAVE SOME BACKSEAT BONDING

**WALK**

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**DETAILS AT** **CLEANCOMMUTE.ORG**

# Out on the town

from page 35

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

**Dressing Your Inner Diva.** Fashion show fundraiser. 7 p.m. Suggested donations, \$15 adults, \$10 students. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

**Pilgrim Church Chicken Dinner.** 5-7 p.m. \$12 adult, \$6 for 12 years and under. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.

**Tour of the Sanford Natural Area.** Led by Peter Carrington. 5:30-6:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Van Hoosen Hall, MSU campus, East Lansing.

## MUSIC

**Jazz Tuesdays.** Hosted by the Jeff Shoup Quartet & will feature regular guest artists from the MSU Jazz Studies Department. 10 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. Stober's Bar, 812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

## THEATER

**"Three Sisters."** Chekhov's classic tragi-comedy. 7:30 p.m. \$13, \$10 student. MSU Auditorium, 150 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000.

## Wednesday, September 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. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE.

Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

**Fall Babytime.** Story time for babies under 2. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org.

**Forest View Citizens Association.** Updates from the Lansing Police Department. 7 p.m. \$5 per year. University Club MSU, 3435 Forest Road, Lansing. (517) 882-9342.

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

**Jaye Beeler.** 7 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (Please see details Sept. 17)

**Beginner Peyote Stitch Workshop.** Instructor Jenny Schu. 6-9 p.m. \$50. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Squ. Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 374-6400.

**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 Sept. 12.)

**T'ai Chi Ch'uan & Qigong.** 5:30-6:45 p.m. ACC Natural Healing and Wellness, 617 Ionia, Lansing. (Please see details Sept. 12)

**Poverty Discussion.** Discuss poverty. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.

## EVENTS

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

**Practice Your English.** Join conversations & practice speaking and listening to English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Indian Culture 101.** Speaker Shashi Karve. Learn about India. 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Forest View Citizens Association Meeting.** 7-8

p.m. FREE. University Club MSU, 3435 Forest Road, Lansing. (517) 719-5094.

**Colonial Village Neighborhood Meeting.** Meet the Political candidates. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 482-5750.

**DTDL Book Club.** Discuss "The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao" by Junot Diaz. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. dtldl.org.

**Allen Street Farmers Market.** Fresh food & more. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 485-4279.

## MUSIC

**Jazz Wednesdays.** Featuring new jazz artists each week. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Gracies Place, 151 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-1100.

**Mountain Dulcimer Performance.** Folk musician Ernie Block. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156.

## THEATER

**"Anton in Show Business."** Three actresses prepare to tackle the roles of the dissatisfied sisters in "Three Sisters." 7:30 p.m. \$13, \$10 student. MSU Auditorium, 150 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000.

## LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Girls' Night Out.** Meet Carmen Bugan, "Burying the Typewriter." 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music Lansing, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495.

**Lansing Area Science Fiction Association Meeting.** Dinner & conversation. 7 p.m. FREE. Buddies Grill, 2040 Aurelius Road, #13, Holt. (517) 402-4481.

**Tween Book Club.** Ages 9-12. Discuss Natalie Babbitt's "Jack Plank." 4-5 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3.

ERASER-FREE SUDOKU									MEDIUM
_	_	9	6	_	_	_	_	1	<p><b>TO PLAY</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>To avoid erasing, pencil in your possible answers in the scratchpad space beneath the short line in each vacant square. For solving tips, visit <a href="http://www.SundayCrosswords.com">www.SundayCrosswords.com</a></p> <p>Answers on page 33</p>
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## RIZZI DESIGNS & PERSPECTIVE2



Allan I. Ross/City Pulse

Rochelle Rizzi (right) recently purchased P2 from Lynne Brown, who will stay on as a consultant "for a few months" for the as-yet unnamed venture.



By ALLAN I. ROSS

Perspective2 in Old Town will change names as the building transfers ownership this week, but don't expect too many differences.

"It's going to be a seamless transition," says Rochelle Rizzi, the space's new owner. "Lynne is staying on to show us the equipment and introduce us to clients, but other than that we're going to alter as little as possible."

That would be Lynne Brown, who opened P2, located at 319 E. Grand River Ave., in 2007 with her partner Ann Hill. They watched as the space transitioned from their original vision of a member-based photography and video studio into an "urban cool" venue for special events, ranging from TV commercial shoots to wedding receptions. The building dates back to the 1800s, and took its current shape after a fire wiped out a multi-level building that stood on site until 1932. Original features like the exposed brick wall, the Art Deco tin ceiling and the 6,800-square feet

of hardwood flooring make the space instantly recognizable — as well as adaptable to any look a photographer or event planner could choose.

"I didn't intend for P2 to be an events facility," says Brown. "But as soon as we opened the door, it started evolving. I loved it. It was thrilling embracing all the ideas people brought to me, but now I just think it's time to look at what's next."

Rizzi, owner of Rizzi Designs on the western fringe of Old Town, recently had a fortuitous conversation with Brown that led to the big transition. Rizzi has slowly been building her company — located inside the superintendent's house on the campus of the former School for the Blind — since November 2009. But she found herself running out of room as she's expanded the services she offers, mostly involving marketing and design work. She needed an idea.

"I just threw it out to the universe one day, hoping an answer would come," Rizzi said. "And then I started talking to Lynne at (an Old Town Commercial Association) meeting, and everything just fell into place. It was the perfect fit."

The new location still doesn't have a name — the original idea was scooped by another Lansing company's recent rebranding, forcing Rizzi to switch gears — but the first division of Rizzi Designs to move down the street will be the bridal branding section, RD I Do. The transition has enabled Rizzi to hire two more full-time employees, bringing the total to nine. She says the expanded space will make it easier to continue to grow and take on more employees.

"Some of the ideas we have don't make sense for a marketing firm," says Rizzi. "But they are perfect as their own division. This is going to be very exciting and going to provide plenty of opportunity for growth."

As for Brown, she says she's going to take a couple of months off and explore "one or two" recent opportunities that have popped up since she bowed out of the event facility business. But she's confident she's leaving the building in the good hands of Rizzi.

"We're two people who care deeply about the community and the people we serve," Brown said. "I feel like she sent out a message five years ago, and I've just been

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Joe Torok/City Pulse

The atmosphere and the white tuna at Sansu Sushi & Cocktails, 4750 S. Hagadorn Road in East Lansing are among the many high points.

## A sushi love affair

**Sansu seduces diners with unique menu, dining room**

By JOE TOROK

There's a restaurant in town I treat as a kind of secret lover: I arrange a visit only when circumstances allow, and our times together are infrequent, intimate and always satisfying. Sansu, located in the Hannah Plaza off Hagadorn Road, is not the kind of place I'd go to every day for lunch. Nor is it the old, reliable standby I might end up at for dinner without a second thought. It is a special place — comely and unassuming on the outside, elegant and sophisticated inside. My most recent rendezvous occurred without much of a plan, a serendipitous twist of the day's schedule that allowed for a bit of late afternoon delight.

My dining companion and I arrived as the restaurant reopened after its daily siesta (Monday through Saturday, they close from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.). There are three seating options: customary American table seating, private rooms with traditional Asian floor seating, or, where we ended up, a hybrid of the two. We slipped off our shoes and walked up onto a raised, polished wood platform. Like a stage with trap doors, the dining area features cutouts in the "floor," from which tables stand, their tops rising to comfortable eating level. With piano jazz setting the mood, we settled onto circular floor cushions, our legs dangling toward the hidden floor beneath us. We admired the soft, earthy accents of the décor and the neatly precise placements of dishes, napkins and

utensils on our table, like a crisply made bed in a well-attended hotel room.

Our meal began with a refreshing salad, the kind with ginger carrot dressing unique to Japanese and sushi restaurants. Ours was aggressive, light on the sesame oil (if there was any at all) and heavy on the acidity. The miso soup offered a counterweight to the overeager salad, its aroma gliding through the air, whispering from across the table as I ate the salad. Without a spoon, I cupped the warm bowl in two hands and gently sipped, eyes closed. If it had a voice, I'm certain the soup would have sounded like Kathleen Turner.

We decided to try the avocado boat as our appetizer, and like the salad before it, this dish was a bit excitable. The sweet and spicy sauces overwhelmed the natural flavor of the avocado, and the tempura around the avocado was a bit soft. We both loved the extra crumbles of tempura at the bottom of the bowl, which we continued to pick at even after we finished. We were a bit disappointed when the server took the unfinished plate away without asking.

We wanted to try a dish non-sushi eaters might enjoy, so we went with the



### Sansu Sushi & Cocktails

4750 S. Hagadorn Road  
East Lansing  
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and  
4:30 p.m.-10 p.m. Monday-  
Saturday  
3 p.m.-10 p.m. Sunday  
(517) 333-1933  
[Sansu-sushi.com](http://Sansu-sushi.com)

# Sansu

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chicken katsu. It came with another salad, this one with tender mixed greens and a creamy, almost-too-tart ranch dressing. The chicken itself, with its roughly textured and crispy panko coating, is plain enough and should please anyone who shivers at the thought of eating raw fish. The mild sauce tasted like it was made with some sort of radish. While my companion preferred a squeeze of lemon to brighten her chicken, I rather enjoyed the pine-y undertones of the sauce.

However, this tryst wouldn't be complete for me without sushi. The sushi dinner comes with seven pieces of sushi, served nigiri-style (raw fish placed atop a small mound of hand-formed rice) and a tuna roll. Lined diagonally across a white

platter, the sushi makes a striking visual impression. Vibrant red roe sit atop one piece, another is drizzled with just a touch of brown sauce. The iridescent striped sea bass is expertly cut, tapering down to a paper-thin end. The red tuna practically glows.

Of all the pieces, though, the white tuna is the one I savored the most. It's a supple cut of fish, softer than the meaty red tuna. The texture is silky and delicate, yet it requires a firm bite. The flavor is subtle, with just a hint of the sea. Unlike some of the other sushi, I forwent the wasabi and soy sauce with the white tuna, choosing instead to enjoy this piece naked. The sensation deserved my full attention.

My time at Sansu is always well rewarded. Sure, the servers walk a bit hard on the raised platform and the bonsai tree and flowers are fake, but so what. Through the eyes of a lover, Sansu is flawless.

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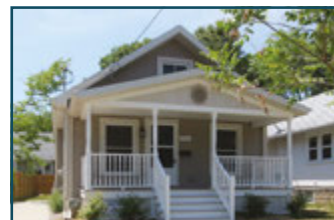
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