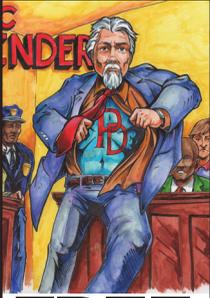


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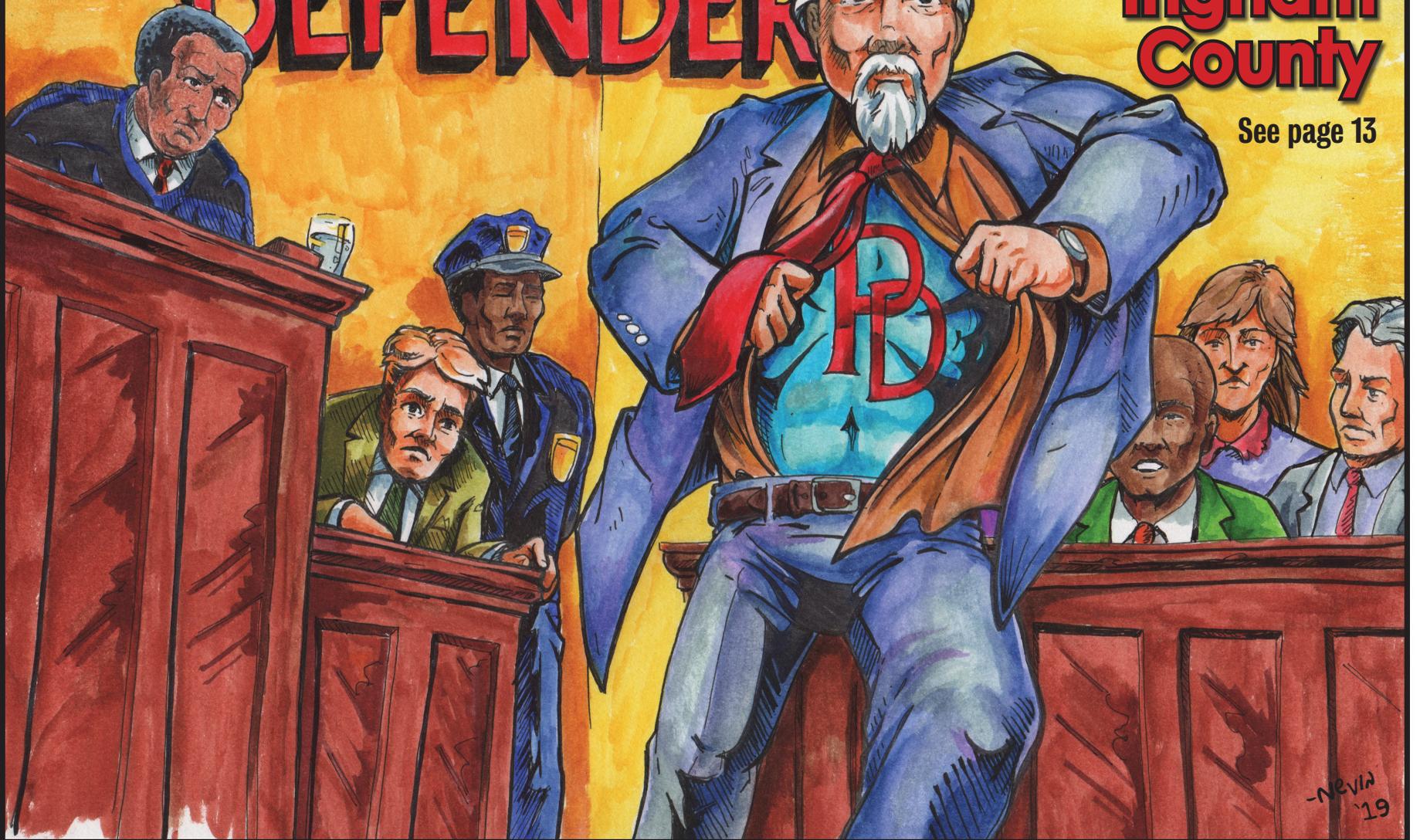
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PUBLIC DEFENDER

Justice comes to Ingham County

See page 13



"THRILLING, SOARING & SPECTACULAR!"

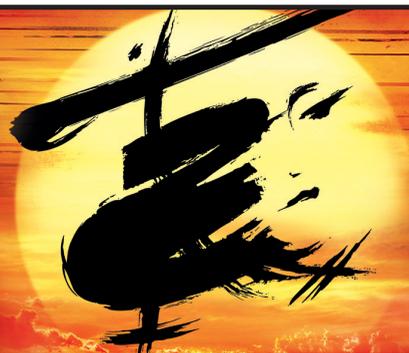
The London Times

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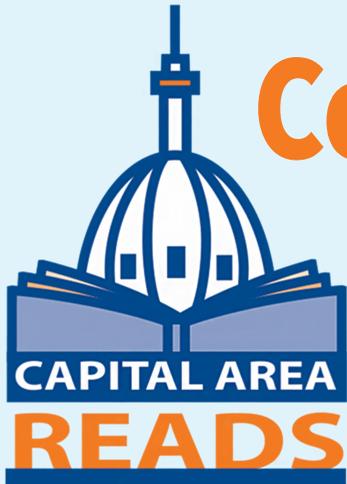
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Community Reads Project

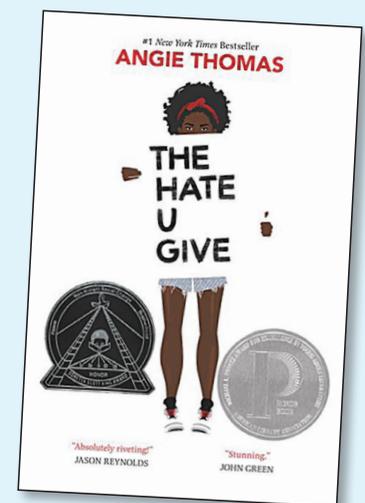
For this year's community reads project, we're encouraging people to read **The Hate U Give**, an award-winning, bestselling YA novel by first-time author Angie Thomas.

Learn more about Capital Area Reads by visiting any CADL branch or cadl.org/CAR.

About the Book

The award-winning, #1 New York Times bestseller features 16-year-old Starr Carter, who is drawn to activism after she witnesses the police shooting of a childhood friend. The timely story is both heartbreaking and hopeful. A film based on the book was released to wide critical acclaim in 2018.

"A stunning, brilliant, gut-wrenching novel that will be remembered as a classic of our time."
—John Green, author of *The Fault in Our Stars*.



Meet the Author

Thomas will be our guest at an author event held in Holt. Copies of the book, along with her newly released second novel, *On the Come Up*, will be available for sale and signing.

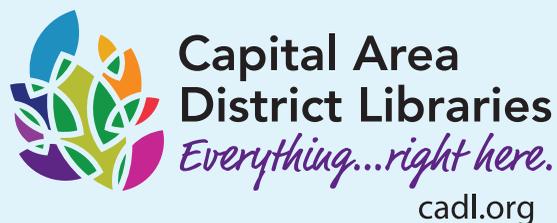
***Registration is required** at 517-367-6355 or cadl.org/events.

Tuesday, April 16 • 7 p.m.

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**New
Location**



Favorite Things

Dennis Hinrichsen and his Lansing River Trail muse



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

Lansing poet laureate Dennis Hinrichsen finds inspiration along the Lansing River Trail in REO Town.

The question of what my favorite thing is really threw me for a loop. I have some pretty interesting objects, but none of them are my favorite thing. In the context of me stepping down as poet laureate, it is a physical thing — walking and listening to music on the Lansing River Trail while thinking about poetry.

I moved into this area in REO Town 17 years ago. I taught at LCC and sometimes walked the river trail to work. I did a lot of biking on it to MSU and as it's opened up, you can get all the way down I-96 into Holt on the river trail with a few zigs and zags.

I was worried when I became poet laureate. A lot of energy was reaction, and I thought I wouldn't be able to get any writing done because I was going to be so concerned with that.

Whatever the creative zone you need to arrive in, you need to create the space through a measure of things and activities. I needed a creative space where this energy could be reversed and I could get a lot of work done. For me, it is a real tangible thing: I like the energy between the dam, power plant and the bridges. It is a really nice quiet part of the trail there.

Once I'm on the river trail, I see all of Lansing's layers. This gets into

the concept of the city within the city. You get to see Lansing from another point of view. The walking of it was at a pace where I could ingest the city.

It reminded me of "The Songlines," by Bruce Chatwin, which described the Aborigines singing their world into creation at the pace of their walking. I loved the idea that if you wear yourself in to the city, the city will wear itself back into you. It was also fun to walk into the craziness sometimes on the trail. I saw a whole different Lansing, drug deals and a deeper look at what the rhythms are of the Lansing area. I would walk at odd hours and it all sort of connected for me from there.

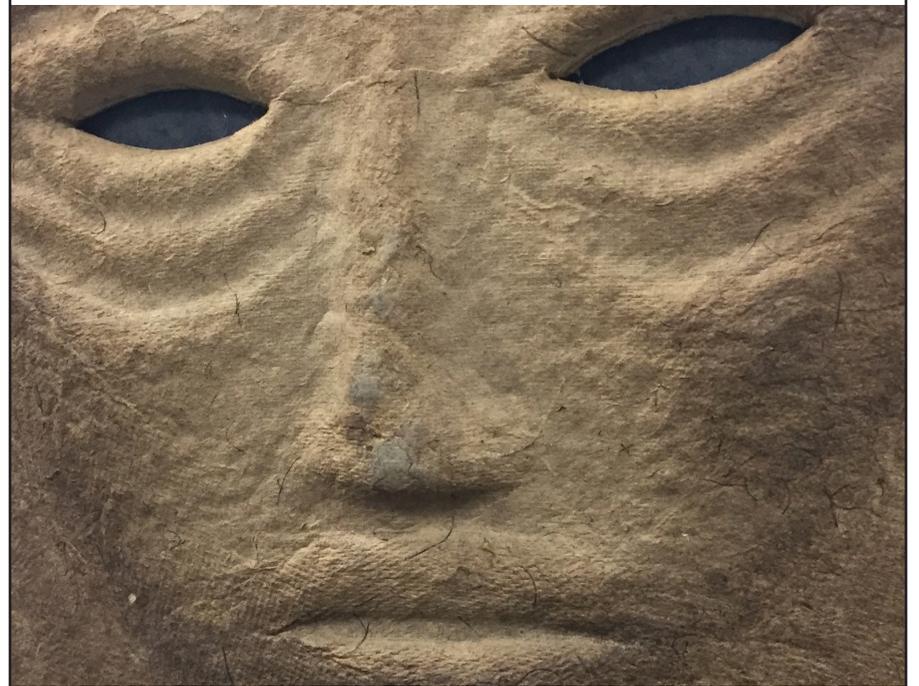
When we were doing the Sidewalk Poetry Project, the river trail connects the sidewalk poems. There is one in REO Town and it follows on to Old Town. If I take a loop there is the one on the Stadium District, then one on the river trail itself.

So the river trail started to take on this potent component that unifies these areas of placemaking. It was no longer four things, but one connected by a river.

(This interview was edited and condensed by Dennis Burck. If you have a recommendation for "Favorite Things," please email dennis@lansingcitypulse.com.)



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Think With Your Whole Body: Celebrating the Senses in Special Collections

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Image: Three-dimensional cover of *Conjuros y Ebriedades*.

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Arts commission moves forward on performing arts center



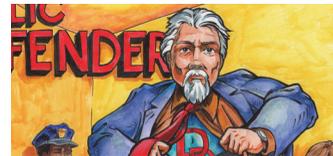
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Lansing Art Gallery highlights student talent



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Lansing's Roma Bakery celebrates a sweet anniversary



Cover Art

Illustration by Nevin Speerbrecker

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A Fool to Rule

MANY AMERICANS SEEM TO RELATE TO PRESIDENTS WHO ARE PLUTOCRATIC AND DUMB.

HE GOVERNS FROM THE GUT. I LIKE THAT.

HE MAY BE CRUDE. BUT HE'S TOUGH!

MEANWHILE, WHEN AN ACTUAL SMART PERSON RUNS FOR OFFICE...

CLIMATE CHANGE IS AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH.

SMUG KNOW-IT-ALL!

THE SYSTEM IS RIGGED TO BENEFIT THE 1%.

LI'L MISS FANCY FACTS!

CLEARLY THE CANDIDATE WE NEED IS A WONK WHO ACTS STUPID.

DON'T NEED NO BRAIN TO KNOW UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE GOOD!

IT'S THE ONLY WAY FORWARD.

YEAH, I GOT A FEELING DEEP IN MY BOWELS THAT WE NEED BRAAAP! A GREEN NEW DEAL!

ASK ME ABOUT MY MEATBALLS

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לְחַזְקַת הַמְּשָׁלָה הַשְּׂרָיִת

SALUTATIONS, SENTIENTS, AND WELCOME BACK TO GLOX NEWS! OUR TOP STORY THIS PICOSECOND--THE SUPREME LEADER CONTINUES TO BE UNFAIRLY PERSECUTED BY HIS OPPONENTS!

WHEN WILL THIS PROSECUTORIAL QUEST FOR FICTIONAL PRACTITIONERS OF SORCERY END?

HIS FORMER SENTIENT-IN-CHARGE-OF-MAKING-UNPLEASANT-MATTERS-DISAPPEAR TESTIFIED LAST WEEK BEFORE THE SECONDARY CHAMBER OF LEGISLATION!

JOINING US FOR ANALYSIS IS THE SUPREME LEADER'S EXTREMELY TRUSTWORTHY SPOKES-SENTIENT!

THIS WITNESS CLAIMS HE PREVARICATED ON BEHALF OF THE SUPREME LEADER--BUT HOW CAN WE TRUST ANYTHING HE SAYS, WHEN HE HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF PREVARICATING ON BEHALF OF THE SUPREME LEADER?

EXCELLENT POINT!

IN OTHER NEWS, THE OPPOSITION PARTY REMAINS OBSESSED WITH SO-CALLED PLANETARY CLIMATE UPHEAVAL! WHY, THEY WANT TO BAN VEHICULAR TRANSPORTATION AND LARGE, FLATULENT ANIMALS WHOSE FLESH WE CONSUME!

HOW CAN THERE EVEN BE CLIMATE UPHEAVAL--WHEN IT IS STILL COLD IN THE INTERVALS BETWEEN CONTINENT-WIDE HELLSTORMS?

IN A RELATED STORY, THE EXTREMISTS OF THE OPPOSITION PARTY CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE MEDICAL TERMINATION OF GESTATION--EVEN AFTER THE NEWBORN SENTIENT HAS LEFT ITS HOST-MOTHER'S WOMB!

I--I DON'T ACTUALLY UNDERSTAND HOW THAT WOULD WORK.

DON'T OVERTHINK IT, W'AAANDA. IT'S NOT OUR JOB TO THINK.

RIGHT. SORRY.

COMING UP NEXT: WILL THE SUPREME LEADER'S DECLARATION OF A STATE OF IMMINENT CRISIS FINALLY ALLOW HIM TO FULFILL HIS PROMISE OF A FORCE FIELD AROUND OUR ENTIRE PLANET?

IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT WILL KEEP US SAFE FROM HORDES OF ILLEGAL SPACE ALIENS!

FIRST THESE MESSAGES FROM THE MERCHANT CASTE!

Tom McRow © 2019

PULSE NEWS & OPINION

Schor seeks more diverse firefighters

Mayor acknowledges hiring disparities, takes steps

Expressing disappointment that the latest class of Lansing firefighters was apparently all white men, Mayor Andy Schor issued new guidelines today for improving diversity in hiring.

“While these were all very qualified individuals, the diversity of the class was not what I had hoped for,” Schor said in a prepared statement.

A story in City Pulse last month reported that a change of hiring policy to seek more paramedics contributed to the drop-off in minority representation.

The makeup of the latest class was a departure from that of the last three years of Schor’s predecessor, Virg Bernero, when more than a third of new hires were minority candidates. Schor took office Jan. 1, 2017.

Schor issued a policy statement that points out the class of 2018 was all paramedics. It says the city will seek to create an “appropriate mix of paramedics and EMTs to ensure response and diversity.”

The statement said that “up to” 40 retirements and promotions has left a shortage of paramedics. The city sought to address the problem by hiring firefighters that were already qualified as paramedics, which requires 2,400 hours of training. The Bernero administration allowed firefighters to qualify while on the job.

Schor’s policy statement reflects a return to some extent to Bernero’s policy.

“We needed to hire paramedics to assure we can adequately respond to calls,” Schor’s statement said, but trying to meet the need led to less diversity. “These new hires will all do a great job, but we still need to hire more firefighters. Hiring a mix of paramedics and EMTs in the future will allow us to hire a much larger pool of candidates” and hence a “diverse workforce.”

Schor pointed out that Lansing is the only city in the region that does not require the hiring of paramedics.

“We need to have enough paramedics, but we can also mix in EMTs who are on the path to becoming paramed-



Courtesy City of Lansing

New firefighters in the Class of 2018 appeared to be all white men — a departure from recent years. Lansing Mayor Andy Schor said he was disappointed with the lack of diversity. But plans to take steps to broaden employment opportunities.

ics,” he said.

“This will ensure that we have appropriate staffing for the response that is expected by Lansing residents, while providing more diversity.”

Schor also said the city will create a cadet youth program for firefight-

ship Academy for teens that offers five days of educational experiences focused on police and fire professions.

He said he hopes both the cadet program and hiring a mix of paramedics and EMTs will result in improving the number of minorities.

“While these were all very qualified individuals, the diversity of the class was not what I had hoped for. Hiring a mix of paramedics and EMTs will help ensure ... a diverse workforce.”

— Lansing Mayor Andy Schor



ers similar to the Police Department’s explorer program, “in order to engage the youth of Lansing and show them what a great and honorable profession this is.”

Given the extensive training to become a paramedic, “we need to get young people training early,” he said, “then we can use preferential hiring of cadets from Lansing, similar to what the Lansing Police Department does.”

He said the city will continue the Lansing Public Safety Youth Leader-

is 7.6 percent; for Asians, the numbers are 3.7 percent in the city and 1.2 percent in the department.

“We should strive to have an employee mix that matches our community, especially in public safety,” the statement says.

The statement does not address changes at the top with the departure of an African American chief, Randy Talifarro, whose permanent replacement, Michael Mackey, of Palm Beach County, Florida, is white, as have been the two interim chiefs.

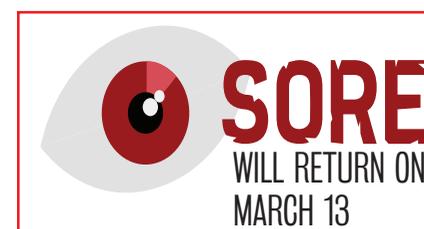
Former Assistant Chief Bruce Odom told City Pulse that any racial problems are “probably more of a cultural issue” stemming from a “good ol’ boys type of club” atmosphere.

Schor’s statement declared, “We do not and will not stand for discrimination or racial insensitivity in any department.” He cited a variety of required “racial sensitivity” programs for public safety employees.

He also pointed out his executive order last year establishing the Mayor’s Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Council, which is charged with providing recommendations to address “disparities or the lack of participation of people of color in employment and other aspects of city government.”

He promised that the Human Resources Department will address any concerns raised internally and that citizens can raise concerns with the “independent” Fire Board of Commissioners, whose members the mayor appoints with the approval of the City Council. He also said the city has an “independent investigator that works with the city as needed.”

— BERL SCHWARTZ
publisher@lansingcitypulse.com



Lansing launches \$105,000 performing arts center study

This is where it starts to get real.

A national consultant met with Lansing's art community last week to explore the long-cherished dream of a downtown performing arts center.

But before the arts banquet can begin, the city will spend much of 2019 munching a salad of spreadsheets, statistics and financial models.

Michelle Walter of Connecticut-based AMS Planning & Research was pleased with the enthusiastic turnout at a kickoff meeting Wednesday with the facilities and infrastructure committee of Mayor Andy Schor's Arts Commission. The committee recommended Walter's firm, which the city hired under a \$105,000 contract paid for by a mix of public and private funds.

Walter met with Schor, city leaders and members of the arts community, collectively and one on one, to start the arduous process of determining what shape the facility could take.

"It bodes very well for any possible project, when, in the very first visit to a town, you meet with the mayor, the head of the chamber, the downtown association, arts council, everyone," Walter said. "Everybody is pulling for this, and that's impressive."

Walter hopes to come back to Lansing with a "situation analysis" in six to eight weeks.

Her team will assess the Lansing market, research the demographics and competitive environment, and measure "actual market footprint" of arts and entertainment in the area.

"The activity drives the numbers,"

Walter said.

To fill out the picture, Walter's team will roll out a broad-based online community survey in the next few weeks.

The analysis will likely conclude, not with a single recommended solution, but "a couple directions we might go in, based on what we've learned and what makes sense," Walter said.

Only then will Walter's team will look outside of Lansing to identify comparable markets and venues.

An "operational model" is planned to take form by September.

Meanwhile, Schor said unnamed developers have already approached him about the project and are waiting to learn what the community wants.

The mayor has made it clear that a downtown arts center, a project that has eluded his predecessors for decades, is a high priority.

"We think it's hugely important," Schor told the Rotary of Lansing last month, when he filled in for his ill wife, Erin Schor, who chairs the Arts Commission. "We've got two or three really good prospects we're working with right now."

AMS has worked with hundreds of cities, performing arts centers, arts groups and non-profits, including the Wharton Center and the Detroit Symphony.

Today's performing arts centers, Walter said, are "anchor institutions" for many communities, but they are also moving toward a flexible model with little or no down time.

"You get plazas, and yoga, farmers



Courtesy photos

A variety of performing arts centers have gone up in dozens of American cities in the past decade or so. The \$70 million Jay and Susie Gogue Performing Arts Center (top) at Auburn University is planned for completion this summer. The \$30 million, 1300-seat Globe-News Center for the Performing Arts, home to symphony, ballet and other events, opened in 2006 in downtown Amarillo, Texas.

markets, all kinds of uses," she said.

Near the top of the list of potential users is the Lansing Symphony Orchestra.

The symphony's executive director, Courtney Millbrook, said most orchestras aim for a hall with a capacity between 1,200 and 1,500 seats. "Wharton is fantastic but it's a very large hall," Millbrook said. (The seating capacity of the Cobb Great Hall is 2,400.)

The target number lines up with a significant gap Walter pointed out at Wednesday's meeting. There are no facilities in the area that fit the sweet spot between 600 and 2,000 seats.

"I just think about how much more accessible we would be to our community," Millbrook said. "People could ride

bikes, walk, come after school — things that aren't possible now." The orchestra could rehearse in the same space where it performs and branch into different kinds of concerts with groups of various sizes.

"There's so much potential for collaboration, things we haven't thought about," she said. "We've just begun to imagine what it could do."

Lansing's music promoters have long lamented the lack of mid-sized venues for rock, pop, jazz and folk acts on the well-traveled circuit between Detroit and Chicago.

Schor said "modular seating that would roll under the stage to transition from a symphony to a rock concert has been discussed."

NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF AVAILABILITY CITY OF LANSING ANNUAL ACTION PLAN, FY 2019

Notice is hereby given that the City of Lansing proposes to present notice of availability on the City of Lansing's Annual Action Plan for FY 2019 (7/1/19-6/30/2020). A draft of the document will be available for public review and comments during the 30-day comment period from March 7, 2019 – April 6, 2019.

Copies of the document and the proposed use of Community Development funds are available for review at the City Clerk's office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave.; the Capital Area District Library, 401 South Capitol; the Department of Economic Development and Planning, Development Office, 316 N. Capitol, Suite D-2, Lansing, MI or on the City of Lansing's website at: www.lansingmi.gov/development

All written comments submitted by citizens of Lansing will be considered and reviewed for possible inclusion in the final Annual Action Plan for FY 2019 to be submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) no later than May 14, 2019. A summary of all comments received will be attached to the final document.

For information regarding the City of Lansing's Annual Action Plan please contact:

Doris Witherspoon, Senior Planner
City of Lansing, Michigan
Department of Economic Development and Planning
316 North Capitol, Suite D-2
Lansing Michigan 48933-1236
Telephone (517) 483-4063
doris.witherspoon@lansingmi.gov

CP#19-057

See Arts center, Page 7

Arts center

from page 6

It remains to be seen how, of if, the needs of an amplified venue and an acoustic venue for the orchestra can be reconciled.

Even if box office from touring artists is factored in, Walter said the center will likely not be a money maker.

“We were not engaged to assess the market for a commercial club,” Walter said. “If there is more touring activity that is skipping Lansing, and there’s more demand for it, great.”

Walter said that performing arts centers “that service a diversity of activities, not all of which make money at the gate, almost always require some degree of subsidy, whether it’s philanthropy, dedicated tax revenue, some form of public sector support.”

Millbrook agreed, predicting that the center would require the biggest capital campaign the city has seen in a “long, long time.”

“All the corporations and individuals would have to really stretch and it’s important to be really honest about that up front,” she said.

Early estimates have ranged from \$30 million to \$100 million, depending on whether a parking structure is factored in. Schor pegged it at \$20 million to \$40 million at Wednesday’s meeting.

At the same meeting, Julie Pingston, vice president and COO of the Greater

Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau, pushed for a multi-use facility flexible enough to accommodate conventions, meetings and special events, “not just for scheduled performing arts.”

Pingston and others called for convenient parking, anticipating that people will drive downtown from communities surrounding Lansing.

Nearly all parties involved said they wanted the facility to have as little down time as possible.

“We talked about something that really had a lot of programming, that had that synergy and connectivity with the community,” Pingston said.

Lansing has been here before. Pingston’s office, in the Stadium District, sits on a site considered in the 1990s under mayor David Hollister.

But Pingston noted a sea change in Lansing’s cultural landscape change in recent years.

“There are more voices in the community that are potential users,” Pingston said. “Twenty years ago, the Capital City Film Fest didn’t exist.”

Walter was impressed, not just by the broad-based interest shown at Wednesday’s meeting, but also by a cresting wave of downtown projects and renovations.

“Anecdotally, we’ve heard that there is a renewal going on downtown — baseball, soccer, more residential, new hotels,” she said. “The economy is diversifying. Those are all extremely positive indicators.”

She told the group that cultural

anchors like a performing arts center can bring “crucial and measurable benefits to local children, families and communities.”

Sometimes the benefits are intangible but no less real.

“It’s not just feelgood. It’s the fabric of your community,” Schor said.

A case in point is the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Orlando.

The day after the June 2016 Pulse nightclub shooting, only two years after the center was built, thousands of people gravitated there to keep vigil and create makeshift memorials.

“Over the last five or 10 years, there’s an increasing recognition of what an arts and culture anchor can do for the community,” Millbrook said. “There’s more data and knowledge and experience around that.”

But Millbrook also invoked the familiar adage, “be careful what you wish for.”

“Say it gets done. Then it’s ‘oh my goodness, then what?’” Millbrook said. “We are going to have to pay the bills. We are going to have to program it. That’s why it’s so important to have an honest conversation now.”

— LAWRENCE COSENTINO

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 **March 26, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

1. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from JBC, LLC for Special Use Permit approval for the property at 1415 Michigan Avenue. The applicant is requesting approval to demolish the main building and remodel the existing smaller structure for a medical marihuana provisioning center. The property is zoned B-2, Retail Sales Business.
2. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from DNVK 1, LLC for Special Use Permit approval for the property at 1100 East Grand River Avenue. The applicant is requesting approval to remodel the existing building for a medical marihuana provisioning center. The property is zoned EV, East Village.
3. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from RJB Enterprises, LLC for Special Use Permit approval for the property at 1950 Merritt Road. The applicant is requesting approval to transition the existing building for a medical marihuana provisioning center. The property is zoned B-1, General Office Business.
4. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1445, an ordinance to amend Section 50-38 of Article II – Administration and Enforcement – of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code Of the City of East Lansing and to add Section 50-821 to Article VIII – Off Street Parking Requirements – to Chapter 50 – Zoning – to establish requirements to provide for charging stations for electric vehicles.
5. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Green Peak Industries, LLC d/b/a Green Peak Innovations for Special Use Permit approval for the property at 3318-3332 West Road. The applicant is requesting approval to construct a new building for a medical marihuana provisioning center. The property is zoned B-4, Restricted Office Business.
6. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1448, an ordinance to amend Section 50-94a of Division 3 – Special Use Permit – of Article II – Administration and Enforcement – of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to lessen the separation distance between provisioning centers in an overlay district in which one provisioning center is in a B-1 zoning district and the other is in a B-2 zoning district.
7. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from ABCD Properties, LLC for a Special Use Permit for the property at 1108 E. Grand River Avenue. The applicant is requesting approval to remodel the existing building for a medical marihuana provisioning center. The property is zoned EV, East Village.
8. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from EL Grand Inc. for Special Use Permit approval for the property at 1054 East Grand River Avenue. The applicant is requesting approval to remodel the existing building for a medical marihuana provisioning center. The property is zoned EV, East Village.

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.

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

Dated: March 1, 2019
East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#19-063

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on **Wednesday, March 27, 2019** at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering an application from Gateway of East Lansing, LLC for a modified special use permit for the property at 300 West Grand River Avenue to convert retail space on the first floor to six efficiency dwellings and establish hours of operation for office and/or retail space. The property is zoned B-2, Retail Sales Business.

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

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

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

Dated: February 28, 2019
East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#19-058

Louney agrees to \$100 fine over campaign law complaint

Former Ingham County Commissioner Dennis Louney received a \$100 fine following allegations he broke campaign finance law by misusing his county email address to promote his unsuccessful primary reelection campaign.

Michigan's Secretary of State Office entered into an agreement last month with Louney, an incumbent candidate. It ordered he pay a \$100 civil fine. He was accused last year of using his taxpayer-funded county email address to solicit donations and endorsements, promote fundraisers and form campaign strategies ahead of last August's primary election.

The agreement neither confirms nor denies that Louney's actions violated the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, but it settles the matter. Louney faced pressure to resign last year after the

allegations first surfaced. He left the board in August and later lost his mayoral appointment to the Lansing Board of Water & Light. Mayor Andy Schor cited Louney's alleged misdeed in his decision.

Michigan's Bureau of Elections completed its investigation in January, entering into the "conciliation agreement" early that month. The agreement notes that the Secretary of State's Office "alleges there may be a reason to believe Louney broke the law" following reports filed directly to the state by Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum.

Byrum said she offered details "on a silver platter" to state officials. Among them were reports uncovered in the probe that showed Louney emailed officials at Sparrow Health System for input regarding his primary campaign and to discuss an opponent's "strange" behavior. Dozens more also showed Louney had contacted various local labor unions to discuss endorsements



Louney

and his then-upcoming fundraising efforts.

One email to officials at Lansing Community College sought to discuss how upcoming budget conversations could have best represented the college's

financial interests. Louney asked for an endorsement in the same message — all sent from an email address provided by the county and funded through taxpayer-funded coffers.

Campaign finance law expressly forbids the use of those resources to further a political campaign.

"It seems typical for the secretary of state to have set such a fine," Byrum said on Thursday.

Byrum has subsequently requested the state provide restitution to the county, representing the value of Louney's "misused county resources." A spokesman for the Secretary of State's Office said the case has been closed. He also noted the value likely would have amounted to less than a dollar regardless.

"Candidly, it's likely an insignificant amount but it's more about the principle," Byrum added. "Those were Ingham County taxpayer resources that covered any of the costs on this."

— KYLE KAMINSKI

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
INGHAM COUNTY
CIRCUIT COURT
FAMILY DIVISION

NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE NO.
19-224-GA

In the matter of Lewis Smith

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on 3/21/2019 at 2:30 PM. at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Dunning for the following purpose(s)

Hearing For Guardian.

If you require special accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.

Date: March 6, 2019
Stephen Hall
4822 Stillwell Ave
Lansing, MI 48911
(517) 882-6541

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF INGHAM

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate /Trust

FILE NO.
18-1170-DE

Estate/Trust of Walter Earl Brown Decedent. Date of birth September 29, 1947. NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Walter Earl Brown, who lived at 1310 Knollwood Ave. Lansing MI 48906 died September 4, 2018. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate/trust will be forever barred unless presented to the Personal Representative of the Walter Earl Brown Estate dated February 21, 2019 at 1310 Knollwood Ave. Lansing MI 48906 within 4 months after the publication of this notice.

Date: March 6, 2019

Latrenda Gonzalez,
Personal Representative
1310 Knollwood Ave.
Lansing, MI 48906
(702)-712-8981

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING
SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING WAS HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES LOCATED AT 3209 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2019, AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hayes, Clerk Aten, Treasurer Rodgers
Trustees: Broughton, Harris

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee McKenzie

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Gresens, Attorney

ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:
Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes.
Minutes of the meeting held on February 5, 2019, approved.
Agenda approved.
Adopted Resolution 19-04: Resolution Amending West Side Water System Rules and Regulations for Water Service.
Trustee appointment motion approved.
Claims approved.
Meeting adjourned.

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor
Susan L. Aten, Clerk

CP#19-055

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is accepting proposals for **Comprehensive Energy Audit Services**. The Request for Proposal packet is available March 6, 2019 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday or at www.inghamlandbank.org. Responses are due at the Land Bank offices by 11am on March 20, 2019 and will be opened at 11am March 20, 2019. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFP#: Energy 03-2019

CP#19-061

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is accepting proposals for **Land Stake Surveys**. The Request for Proposal packet is available March 6, 2019 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday or at www.inghamlandbank.org. Responses are due at the Land Bank offices by 11:30am on March 20, 2019 and will be opened at 11:30am March 20, 2019. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFP#: Land Survey 03-2019

CP#19-062

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is accepting proposals for **Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) and Hazardous Materials Building Survey Services**. The Request for Proposal packet is available March 6, 2019 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday or at www.inghamlandbank.org. Responses are due at the Land Bank offices by 10am on March 20, 2019 and will be opened at 10am March 20, 2019. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFP#: ACM Survey 03-2019

CP#19-059

B/19/085 TURNER DODGE PERGOLA as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the CITY OF LANSING, C/O LBWL, PURCHASING OFFICE, at 1110 S. PENNSYLVANIA AVE., LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912 until 2:00 PM local time in effect on MARCH 19, 2019 at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Stephanie Robinson at (517) 702-6197, email: stephanie.robinson@lbwl.com or go to www.mitn.info. The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#19-064

CityPULSE



LOCAL EXPERTS

REAL ESTATE

When is it Right to Downsize?

When you think it is time to downsize, it often is too late. Many people find themselves too overwhelmed with the process of uncluttering and getting rid of items. Often it doesn't happen, and people stay in a house that doesn't suit their needs. This becomes more apparent with stairs and mobility issues.

Many times when downsizing, we look at the budget first based on the specifics of the house the customer is looking for: What is your lifestyle? Will you be entertaining or hosting Thanksgiving? Do you need an area to extend the table? Another aspect to consider is condo versus residential home. People are drawn to condos because they want all the lawn and snow services of taken care of. But in a home, with lawn and snow service, they can achieve the same outcome at a lower price.

Also to consider when it is time to downsize, is the proximity you want to live to family members, doctors and social activities. The importance of community is not to be discounted. We always welcome any questions or concerns about downsizing.



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PLASTIC SURGERY

6 Common Skin Care Myths

1. Antibacterial soap for your skin to keep looking clean - The antibacterial variety strips the natural moisture of skin, making it look dull.
2. You don't need to apply sunscreen on cloudy days - Cloudy or rainy, ultra violet rays have the potential to penetrate clouds. You need to apply sunscreen every day of the year, no excuses!
3. Toothpaste to zap a zit! - Toothpaste can actually burn your skin. Additionally, most drugstore brand toothpaste contains sodium laurel sulfate which is a known pore-clogger.
4. Popping a zit will make it go away faster - It actually spreads the bacteria and will take longer to get rid of blemishes.
5. Younger people do not need anti-aging products - Starting an anti-aging regimen in your 20s can delay the signs of aging. The earlier you start using them, the longer you keep your skin looking young.
6. Foundation with SPF can replace sunscreen - A sunscreen protects against UVA and UVB rays effectively. It would take seven times the normal amount of foundation to get the desired amount of SPF.



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JEWELRY

Five Diamond Truths

Diamonds are older than life on Earth. Most were created 300 billion years ago. They are pushed up by volcanic eruptions.

Diamonds are getting rarer every day. And even more rare are the ones we use for jewelry. Most are used for industry, including plasma cutting and polishing. The number of recovered diamonds peaked in 2005 and is predicted to fall dramatically over the next decade.

The demand for diamonds has never been stronger. Younger generations have a strong interest in diamond jewelry.

"Conflict diamonds" belong to the past. Major producers of diamonds have safeguards in place to guarantee the stones come from conflict-free areas and are produced responsibly from mine to store.

Diamonds are an important contribution to the world. The industry surrounding diamonds is the livelihood of 10 million people around the world. It has lifted the people of Botswana from one of the poorest countries to a middle-income country with the revenue from diamonds.



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GIFTS

Funky Rock Designs' Stone Dispensers

Our collection of stone wine and booze dispensers are made from Main beach stones and mined rock. Some rocks are left natural, while others are hand-treated with oil to bring out their vibrant color or design, just as you would see them if they were washed up by a wave onto the beach.

A stone dispenser will never tip over on you! You can also put it in the freezer for a while to have chilled beverages. Just flip over a bottle and put your beverage in there. You can use any kind of booze or wine.

These stone dispensers are awesome and they are history. They were created and patented with everything that goes into making a unique product. The artists drill the hand pull on them to highlight the look for the rock. Every one that comes in is unique.

There is another group of artists also from Maine that makes coasters and whiskey stones. The products are fun, natural and environmentally friendly because we aren't creating some new chemical out into the environment. It isn't causing pollution. You just wouldn't want to drop it on your toe.



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MEDICAL

Seasonal Affective Disorder in Michigan

Seasonal Affective Disorder, or SAD, is a subset of depression symptoms and mood disorders that occur during the winter months from November to March. It can start as early as the fall and end as late as Spring.

It affects us because of the cold harsh winter in Michigan. The sun is not out for as long as it is in other places closer to the equator. The light can be less, and less exposure to the sun can make people much more predisposed to depression. I was trained traditionally but have a holistic approach to care, so I have a lot of tools in my toolbox. One thing I have found that helps SAD is light therapy. Patients sit in front of a light therapy lamp twenty or thirty minutes a day. Supplements can also help maintain a healthier mood, as does healthy eating and exercise habits. I'd suggest to come in and get labs evaluated to make sure vitamin levels are normal. With life in Michigan, people have a risk of low Vitamin D as well. I also recommend getting 10 to 15 minutes of direct sunlight onto your skin when it is possible. One thing you can do is plan a trip if you can afford it to get some more sun on your skin and break up the monotonous winter months.



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The red scare

**Trump can't win. He can only hope the other guy loses.
You're going to hear the S-word a lot.**

Close your eyes and imagine a modern Republican uttering these words:

"Because I am a businessman ... the doctrinaires of the opposition have attacked me as an opponent of liberalism. But I was a liberal before many of these men had heard the word. ... I believe that the forces of free enterprise must be regulated. I am opposed to business monopolies. I believe in collective bargaining, by representatives of labor's own free choice, without any interference and in full protection of those obvious rights. I believe in the maintenance of minimum standards for wages and of maximum standards for hours. I believe that such standards should constantly improve. I believe in the federal regulation of interstate utilities, of securities markets, and of banking. I believe in federal pensions, in adequate old age benefits, and in unemployment allowances."

That was indeed a Republican, though not a modern one: Wendell Willkie, the GOP's presidential candidate in 1940 and the first political naïf to win a major party's nomination. He shares some DNA with Donald Trump, naïf No. 2. Both were well-known businessmen running amid a lackluster economic recovery. Both were philandering, egotistical former Democrats. But that's where the simi-



JEFFREY C. BILLMAN

INFORMED
DISSIDENT

larities end.

Willkie, for starters, opposed racial and religious bigotry and welcomed immigrants. He also thought the country too reliant on one man – President Franklin Roosevelt – rather than boasting that he alone could fix the nation's ills.

For two reasons, Willkie never had a chance against FDR. The first, of course, was the budding war in Europe, which made his foreign policy inexperience an Achilles' heel. The second was that there wasn't much daylight between the men, either on the German menace (though both turned, somewhat disingenuously, toward non-interventionism as the election neared) or on the New Deal's social programs. Willkie simply claimed he could run those programs more effectively. He offered more of an echo than a choice. It wasn't a convincing argument.

Here's the point: Willkie, the conservative in an election 80 years ago, was an avowed liberal who backed unions, social security, unemployment benefits, and regulating banks and big business. Or, in the contemporary GOP vernacular, a radical socialist.

Sure, the parties have changed since then. Democrats lost Southern segregationists and social conservatives; Republicans made them their base. Republicans lost Northern liberals, urban intellectuals and minorities; Democrats made them their base. Our national politics have changed, too. Barry Goldwater dragged the Republicans rightward. Ronald

Reagan's success did the same for the Democrats. It was only in the wake of the Great Recession that leftists began to regain a foothold in Democratic politics.

I thought about Willkie's speech while watching Trump's long, rambling address to the CPAC conference on Friday, in which he hugged a flag, called the investigations into his campaign "bullshit," mocked Jeff Sessions' accent, talked about meeting a general named "Raisin Cain" and said that Central American parents were loading up their daughters with "massive amounts of birth control" because they'd be raped by human traffickers. (He knows that's not how birth control works, right?)

More important, Trump also cast himself as the only thing standing between America and an on-the-march "socialist nightmare," parroting days of ominous fulminations from conservatives about how Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and the Green New Deal are coming for your cars and your cows and your freedom.

This is an old playbook, of course. Republicans called Barack Obama a socialist, and Hillary Clinton a socialist, and every Democrat to the left of Herbert Hoover a socialist. It became an everyday epithet over a quarter-century and lost its luster. But with a few prominent Democrats claiming that mantle – and many older Americans conflating democratic socialism and Soviet-style communism – the GOP sees an opening to bring it back.

This is what the next 20 months will look like, no matter whom the Democrats nominate. Trump is not popular. He never will be. He can't win; polls show that only four in 10 voters say they'll definitely or probably vote for him. No, he needs the other guy to lose. So he'll drag them into his gutter, make them as reviled as he is. Whether he faces Bernie Sanders

or Joe Biden, Kamala Harris or Amy Klobuchar – whether that candidate wants Medicare for All or merely to preserve the Affordable Care Act, to implement the Green New Deal or simply treat climate change like the existential threat it is – is irrelevant.

In Trump's telling, they'll become an avatar for the "radical left," for open borders and anti-cop riots, for a socialist takeover of the free market on behalf of the environment, for literal infanticide and handouts to (cough black cough) layabouts. And they'll all have some childhood taunt of a nickname, a la Pocahontas. That's all Trump knows how to do.

This should be freeing: Democrats can pick the candidate who inspires them, who best speaks to their values, who can take a punch and return one in kind, and not worry about gaming the politics. It'll be ugly no matter what.

This, too, should be freeing: As hard as Trump will work to paint Democrats as the second coming of Marx, Republicans are actually on the fringe. According to a new NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll, 56 percent of registered voters said Democrats were in the mainstream on climate change and health care policy, and 51 percent on abortion; for Republicans, just 29 percent, 41 percent, and 38 percent, respectively.

In other words, even with Bernie and AOC and Elizabeth Warren making headlines for aggressively progressive positions, and even with pundits furiously chin-stroking about whether the Democrats are going too far left, most Americans think the Republicans are the extremists.

As it turns out, the American public in 2019 is much more like Wendell Willkie than Donald Trump.

(Jeffrey Billman, the editor INDY Week in Durham, North Carolina, is at jbillman@indyweek.com.)

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Choices, choices, choices

Democratic presidential candidates outnumber paczkis at annual Fat Tuesday party.

Someone named “Hickenlooper” hopped into the 2020 Democratic presidential sweepstakes. In case you missed it.



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

CNN now lists 12 announced candidates, two more on the verge of announcing and another dozen who are thinking about it. Familiar names like Joe Biden, John Kerry and Beto O’Rourke are on that list.

The TruscottRossman public relations group didn’t have that many varieties of paczkis carved up for Fat Tuesday revelers at its annual feeding fest at Troppo. Raspberry. Vanilla cream. Lemon. Whipped chocolate. Apricot. Is it possible to try them all?

Overwhelming, isn’t it?

The people tasting these powdered pastries thought so, too. Oh, I’m back talking about the Dem presidential wannabes, by the way. “There’s no one person,” said veteran

journalist and PR professional Sharon Emery. “It’s almost the opposite. At first, you need to eliminate certain people, and that’s the way it’s going to get thinned out.”

She wants a steady personality with progressive social ideas. Someone focused on the common good. She said she’d rather have a fresh face. Bernie Sanders had his chance. Elizabeth Warren missed hers.

If it’s not an old, white male billionaire, Emery’s Truscott Rossman colleague, Josh Hovey, is willing to give them a listen. Whoever emerges from the Democratic primary can’t resemble the current office holder.

That doesn’t exactly narrow the field much unless you’re counting Howard Schultz, which CNN didn’t.

Putting on his political analyst hat, Hovey says the name of the game right now is “Name ID, name ID, name ID.” Folks like Cory Booker with new ideas like legalizing marijuana can stand out from the pack.

“We’ve only known the Clinton name and the Obama name for the

past 30 years in presidential politics. There’s a real opportunity for people to come out and make a name for themselves,” he said.

Speaking of Clinton, former state Rep. Lee Gonzales was a Clinton delegate in 2008. Since then, he’s seen his Democratic Party “lurch to the left” - and he’s not convinced that’s a winning formula for 2020.

Joe Biden is someone who can appeal to Democrats, “soft Republicans” and independents, he said. The confessed moderate said “there’s a big danger” of Sanders or someone of his ideological ilk repelling your average, center-of-the-road person.

Biden can appeal to labor groups, educators — all of the major Dem influence groups. Voters need to say of the Dem nominee, “I may not agree with all of those ideas, but at least that person is on our side.”

Rep. Donna Lasinski is the head of the Michigan House Democrats’ reelection efforts. It’s too early to pick a favorite, as far as she’s concerned.

She wants someone who does what Gretchen Whitmer did in 2018 — someone Democrats can layer quality candidates underneath on the ballot. If voters are excited about the Democratic presidential pick, they can be excited about the state House nominee, whoever it is.

In her experience, successful General Election candidates are ones who rise above seeing policy ideas as being “too left” or “too right.” They are the candidates who “listen and

find solutions.” Someone attached to his or her community.

So who is her favorite?

“It’s too early,” Lasinski said. “They are trying to get out to define their personal narrative rather than put out a solution.”

From the Republican perspective, Andrea Bitely isn’t excited about any Democrat. Not Kamala Harris, whom The Washington Post ranked as its top Democratic candidate at this point. Not Ohio Sen. Sherrod Brown, a favorite among some working-class Michiganders.

Pushed to name a candidate she’s most worried about Trump facing in 2020, Bitely settled on Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, of New York. She’s “relatively normal.” She comes across rational. She’s also a good foil to Trump in that she’s from New York, Bitely said.

But this is what Bitely wants to know. Where does the middle-of-road Democrat land in this “cattle call,” which range the political spectrum from liberal Bernie Sanders to more moderate Amy Klobuchar?

Do the Dems stay hard left or do they try to pick off educated women who “held their noses” and voted for Trump in 2014 because they hated Hillary Clinton THAT MUCH?

But for Bitely, picking a Dem would be like a Paczki. They may come in different flavors, but they’re still all Paczkis.

(Kyle Melinn, of the Capitol newsletter MIRS, is at melinnky@gmail.com.)

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is accepting proposals for **Lead Based Paint Hazard Risk Assessment and Clearance Services**. The Request for Proposal packet is available March 6, 2019 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday or at www.inghamlandbank.org. Responses are due at the Land Bank offices by 10:30am on March 20, 2019 and will be opened at 10:30am March 20, 2019. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFP#: LBP Survey 03-2019

CP#19-060

B/19/084 SEWER INTERCEPTOR REHABILITATION as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the CITY OF LANSING, C/O LBWL, PURCHASING OFFICE, at 1110 S. PENNSYLVANIA AVE., LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912 until 2:00 PM local time in effect on APRIL 9, 2019 at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Stephanie Robinson at (517) 702-6197, email: stephanie.robinson@lbwl.com or go to www.mitn.info. The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#19-056



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Defense

from page 13

ommendations crafted by Gov. Rick Snyder's Michigan Indigent Defense Commission in 2011, largely pointed blame to inherent issues within the court-appointed lawyering process. Resources were being stretched far too thin and inherent judicial conflicts had been baked into the structure.

The roster of court-appointed attorneys in Ingham County for decades has been selected almost exclusively by the judges. They're notoriously underpaid and arguably lack the financial incentive to vigorously defend their impoverished clients. And state lawmakers, in the last decade, have spotted some ongoing problems.

Among them:

Judicial hiring discretion creates obvious conflicts of interest. Any particular court-appointed attorney who happened to irritate a judge or fundamentally disagree on the outcome of any given case could theoretically be removed from the county's roster in retribution. The state commission decided separation was necessary.

Along with mediocre wages compared to private practice, the public payment system varies widely by county. Courtrooms in Clinton County, for example, pay hourly wages. In Ingham County, the rates depend on the hearing. Some attorneys said the system simply didn't provide adequate compensation for the expertise required.

"I just completed a case that ended in a dismissal on several counts," explained Lansing-area criminal defense attorney Erin Schroeder.

"That would've been a \$3,000 to \$5,000 case for me. I was billed at \$634. It's just not a job that you take because you want to make a lot of money."
— Erin Schroeder



"Billing at an hourly rate as usual on a private case? That would've been a \$3,000 to \$5,000 case for me. I was billed at \$634. It's just not a job that you take because you want to make a lot of money.

"It's something you take on because of the passion for the work."

The Michigan Indigent Defense Commission also recognized inadequate pay could be reflected in performance, regardless of the selflessness of the attorney. Limited resources also spelled few (if any) continued professional development opportunities for court-appointed attorneys, leaving them to fall behind in an evolving industry.

Court-appointed lawyers who sought additional investigations or testimony from expert witnesses were also forced to seek funding approval from the judges. And in Ingham County — with taxpayers floating the bill for indigent criminal defense — those requests directly competed against the overall budget for the rest of the court system.

"There was this perception problem with the general public that they wouldn't get quality defense services when the lawyer works for the judge instead of the client," explained 55th Circuit Chief Judge Thomas Boyd. "It didn't make sense. The judge should have no more authority over the defense counsel than the prosecution."

The system was also under fire for a lack of contact between defendants

and their attorneys. Boyd said some lawyers — given the strains of the job — were simply unable to meet with their clients until minutes before a hearing. It naturally led to a lack of preparation detrimental to quality criminal defense, Boyd explained.

The eventual solution: \$84 million in state funding was allocated for this year to improve the system. About \$4.5 million will head to Ingham County, where officials plan to pitch in about another \$900,000, eliminate the court-appointed roster altogether and establish a countywide Public Defender's Office under Church's leadership.

"This is liberal Democrats here," Grebner added. "We're not totally virtuous, but we try to do good and spend money on people that don't have anything going for them. We've been saving money by doing such a shitty job. We have to fix this. We ought to fix this. This will make a big difference for thousands of people around here."

'Something that would really matter'

Church, a former Ingham County assistant prosecutor, was picked for the defender job in December. The Board of Commissioners ultimately decided his decades of trial experience

gave him an edge on the other finalists — including Commissioner Carol Koenig, who briefly resigned in order to apply for the newly created position.

"He has that knowledge of working with attorneys, working with the judicial system. His time in the prosecutor's office gives him the perspective of the other side of the coin," Commissioner Bryan Crenshaw said after Church was hired. "He knows the system and what needs to be done to get the best defense for the clients."

Church graduated from Chicago-Kent College of Law in 1982 and served as an active duty lawyer with the U.S. Army for years before moving to a private firm to focus on criminal defense, military law and general litigation. He also previously served as a judge advocate for the U.S. Army before retiring from the post in 2001.

A courtroom in Tennessee later hired Church to work as an assistant public defender, where he was involved in more than 500 jury trials — including 17 cases of first-degree murder. Church has also served as an adjunct professor, primarily focusing on trial skills, at Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School for about the last decade.

"The system was in this sort of turmoil," Church explained. "It was creating more problems than were being solved. I could've just kept doing what I had been doing. I wasn't unhappy in the prosecutor's office by any means, but I felt like I could help create something here that would really matter. That's why I did this."

Church, 61, was born in Tipton, Michigan, but chased his career aspirations to Tennessee, later following his wife to the capital city after she took a job at Cooley in 2006. His passion for criminal justice, he said, is rooted in providing adequate representation to those who can't afford to hire a lawyer for themselves.

"Some people do need to be separated from society for a period of time. For some of them, that's forever. But the vast majority of them are just people — for whatever reason — that have made a mistake," Church added. "We can deal with that mistake in a fashion that maintains their ability to stay productive members of society."

"As a taxpayer, what makes more sense? This is going to be about really solving the problem."

More than 50 attorneys will check into Church's office to interview for 26 positions over the next couple weeks. Church said above all else, they'll need to share his same passion for proper criminal defense. And that equates to the ability to form a solid legal analysis. The other skills? Those can be taught on the job, Church explained.

"These are people that went out of their way to find opportunities within a public defender's office," Church said. "This is what they want to do. This is where they believe they belong. It's why they went to school. You really can't put a price on the type of energy that we'll have coming into this office

See Defense, Page 15



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Defense

from page 14

in the next few weeks.”

Ingham County could name the price. The new attorneys — a mix of seasoned professionals and recent law school graduates — will collect about \$29,000 to \$54,000 annually. Two investigators and a host of other clerks, technology specialists and support staff will join Church’s office over the next several weeks.

Along with higher wages compared to typical court-appointed work, attorneys hired into Church’s office will have access to an annual \$750 stipend for professional development. The collaborative atmosphere of the newly formed office will also lend to additional opportunities for the in-house staff to share their collective expertise on any given case, he said.

A county benefits package — including an eventual pension plan — is driving interest as well, Church said.

Under the newly implemented state standards, Church’s attorneys for indigent defendants will also have more time to meet with clients earlier in the jury trial process. They’ll also have access to a separate pool of county funding designated specifically to bolster the criminal cases that will eventually be assigned to Church’s office.

“The current system of assigning attorneys works, but it might get someone who knows about that specific case law and it might not,” Crenshaw added. “There might be someone with a lot of experience and others without much experience. This will add consistency. It’s going to make that provided counsel much more effective.”

‘A strain on the system’

Ingham County records indicate about 3,000 misdemeanor cases required the services of court-appointed attorneys in 2016. About 2,200 felony charges were hashed out under the same assignments, tallying to a three-year average of about 2,000 attorney appointments annually. Most of those cases ended in plea agreements.

Church plans to take more defendants to trial when they’re rerouted to

“Our loyalty will be entirely for our clients and it will be undivided.”

— Ingham County Chief Public Defender Russel Church



his office later this year. At least theoretically, more motions and hearings will need to be held to accommodate the bolstered criminal defense efforts. And while the changes might be necessary, some have spotted unintended consequences on the horizon.

“This is really going to cost a ton to the county as a whole in order to do an adequate job and keep up with the rest of the system,” Grebner added. “It’ll put all sorts of additional strain on the county. I’ve tried to bring this up, but I think we’ll eventually just have to stumble into this problem. The changes here will need to happen.”

While Church’s office is expressly designed to work against the prosecution, Ingham County Prosecutor Carol Siemon still recognizes it’ll provide a “higher level of advocacy” for indigent criminal defendants. And as a result, landing convictions on otherwise simplistic criminal cases might become a more daunting challenge, she said.

“We’re going to be burdened by this,” Siemon said. “I’m in favor of it. It’ll lead to better advocacy for these defendants. But it might be hard for us to adapt on our end. We have a lot of work inside this office. I’m not suggesting (the Public Defender’s Office) is over-resourced, but we’re definitely under-resourced in this office.”

Every motion filed by a defense attorney typically requires a formal response from a prosecutor. Those cases will invariably lead to more hearings and jury trials— each staffed with court reporters, judges and other personnel. Local authorities could also need to dedicate more resources to transporting jailed defendants into

a courtroom.

Crenshaw said those anticipated costs are a bridge that the county will inevitably need to cross. This week, officials are just working to lease Church some office space at 320 N. Washington Square in Lansing.

The Prosecutor’s Office, for added context, will collect about \$7 million in county funding this year — including \$4.5 million specifically allocated for criminal, probate and appeals-related prosecution. Church’s office has a total annual budget of about \$5.4 million, including cash required for various start-up costs for the first year.

“We’re going to see how things roll and possibly look to keep it funded at the same level in the future,” Crenshaw suggested. “We’ll have to evaluate this and try to strike a balance between the two. Obviously, these individuals are entitled to a speedy and fair trial. We’ll do whatever we need to do to make that possible.”

Several other counties across

Michigan are also hiring their own, in-house attorneys to bolster criminal defense for the indigent. Ottawa County, for example, hired Robert Hamilton as chief public defender last October. That office is slated to be fully operational, much like Ingham County, by mid-April, he said.

Other counties have retained their court-appointed rosters, but instead used the state funding to offer some higher wages to its attorneys. In Livingston County, for instance, officials doled out a 25-percent raise in January. Other counties throughout the state have used a nonprofit model to run their indigent defense since the ‘70s.

“That’s part of the underlying conversation: How will this all play out? Will there be more trials? Will we have more motions? By virtue of this office existing and being dedicated to criminal defense, it is very likely,” Hamilton explained. “But the prosecutor might also have to more narrowly evaluate their cases going forward.”

Hamilton envisions his office might “shake up” the justice system, but “not as monumentally as a lot of places fear.” Both he and Boyd suggested the judicial makeovers statewide could help necessitate a priority shift for county prosecution. Perhaps some cases, as resources continue to stretch, will need to be left on the sidelines.

“If it does cost more resources, then shame on us for the last 50 years,” Boyd added. “If that does come to pass, that’s evidence that we’ve been doing it wrong for decades. Maybe misdemeanors will need to be reclassified. Maybe it’ll help right-size the criminal justice system’s punitive and potentially unfair approach to the world.”



Curtis Taylor in Concert

Sunday, March 10 • 2 p.m.

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ARTS & CULTURE ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

'The Elephant Man' explored by Riverwalk Theatre

BY SKYLER ASHLEY

The story of Joseph Merrick, one of history's greatest medical oddities, is getting the Riverwalk Theatre treatment. The play doesn't aim to shock: Merrick is portrayed without any visual deformities. Rather, it seeks to inspire empathy through his tenacity in the face of his rare condition.

"The Elephant Man"

Tickets start at \$10
Opens March 14
Riverwalk Theatre
228 Museum Dr.
Lansing
riverwalktheatre.com
(517) 482-5700

"It's a great dramatic piece. It's got some humor in it, it's empathetic and it's a compassionate piece of the human condition and human dignity," director Amy

Rickett said.

"The Elephant Man," the name Merrick was relegated with on circus fliers and marquee, is a fictionalized account of his life that inspires compassion and empathy through the relationship formed between him and his caretaker/doctor Frederick Treves.

But the play itself is a far cry from the exploitation that came to define much of Merrick's life as a "performer." Playwright Bernard Pomerance specifically requests in his script that Merrick be portrayed without garish makeup or prosthetics, relying on the actor to communicate his condition sans visual deformities.

"I certainly think it gives an advantage to the production. The actor has the ability to create that disorder

through real emotion and the dialogue," Rickett said.

Rickett's husband, veteran Riverwalk Theatre actor Jeff Magnuson, will portray Merrick.

"It was definitely one that I knew, loved and was excited to audition for," Magnuson said. "There's a vulnerability to Merrick that is attractive to me as an actor. Those types of roles are definitely the things that I look for."

Magnuson said he is approaching Merrick with a sense of deep respect and empathy, since he — unlike Merrick — is an able-bodied man.

"As an actor you've got to imagine many things. I've had to imagine myself shooting somebody, and I wouldn't think of doing that every day," Magnuson said. "In this instance, I've got to portray the deformity that this man had to live with."

Magnuson's challenge isn't just portraying Merrick as a physical entity, but connecting with the pain Merrick felt as an ostracized man, who was abused horribly before finding a friend in Treves (portrayed in this production by James Houska).

"He was isolated, but he was always reaching out. He was always open. I think he was mistreated by the circus world that he was a part of," Magnuson said. "Yet, what I'm finding through the script is that he's still not broken by that experience. He's still open to connecting with other people."

"The Elephant Man" story has taken



Courtesy Photo

The real Joseph Merrick and how he's portrayed by Riverwalk's Jeff Magnuson.

on many forms. Pomerance's original play won the Tony Award for Best Play in 1979 and the otherworldly director David Lynch made his own film adaptation in 1981, starring John Hurt and Anthony Hopkins.

Merrick has been portrayed by an eclectic range of actors, including Mark Hamill and David Bowie. In 2015, "The Elephant Man" received another wave of Tony nominations, thanks in part to a critically acclaimed performance from Bradley Cooper.

It was a New York Times interview with Cooper about his "Elephant Man" performance that re-piqued Rickett's

interest in the classic play. "Just reading about it got me thinking about the play. I thought, 'Wow, when was the last time that was done here in Lansing?'"

Despite its historical setting in late 18th century London, Rickett thinks the lesson of Merrick's life is timeless and especially relevant in 2019.

"We are so fractured and polarized in so many ways now. Somehow we've lost the ability to listen and really hear why someone feels the way they do, or does the things they do," Rickett explained. "We're so quick to judge, and Joseph Merrick's story is really quite similar."

Broadway actor Anthony Festa talks 'Miss Saigon'

By SKYLER ASHLEY

"Miss Saigon," one of Broadway's longest-running shows from the same creative team behind "Les Misérables,"

"Miss Saigon"

Tickets start at \$43
Through March 17
Wharton Center for
Performing Arts
750 E. Shaw Ln., East
Lansing
whartoncenter.com
(517) 432-2000

lands at the Wharton Center Tuesday.

Claude-Michel Schönberg's musical is revamped with elaborate set pieces, including

the massive hovering helicopter, and a cast that doesn't wear makeup to make themselves look Asian, which caused so much controversy in Jonathan Pryce's Tony-winning portrayal of the musical's French-Vietnamese antagonist, The Engineer, in 1991.

Anthony Festa plays Chris Scott, a U.S. soldier who falls in love with a Vietnamese waitress, Kim, despite

already having a wife waiting for him in the United States. Festa spoke with City Pulse via phone about the role.

You're being thrust as the lead in a musical drama based on a really dark period in American history. How did you prepare mentally for the role as Chris?

I watched a butt-load of documentaries. I watched Ken Burns' documentary on the Vietnam War — there's so many out there. I've watched from both perspectives as well; we weren't viewed very positively at all by the Vietnamese.

We did a lot of crazy shit there; we didn't belong there. It was 30 years of something we shouldn't have been involved with. It was really eye opening before I came into rehearsals to watch all these different documentaries and dive into the history of it all.

The original 'Miss Saigon' was inspired by a photograph of a Vietnamese mother handing her child off to be taken to the United States. What impact did the photo have on you?

That photo is the whole basis of the entire show. Claude-Michel Schönberg wrote the show because of that photo. It's everything that happens in our show as well. The evacuation that happens when we bring the helicopter in, which is an unbelievably epic scene, correlates back to that one moment. In rehearsals, Claude us the story and he said when he saw the photograph that's when he knew he had to tell this story. And that this story was just one story within so many other stories during that time.

Let's talk about your costar, Emily Bautista, who plays Chris' love interest, Kim. How has your chemistry evolved

as the tour goes on?

It's fun because we get to experience each other and it feels like something new every night; it feels like a new pair of shoes every night.

What's amazing is that she brings so much nuance to her role every night. She's such an incredible actress that there's always something new and exciting that's brought to it.

I have to thank our executive producer and associate director, Seth Sklar-Heyn. Every other month he's here, and he's always giving us new ideas and fresh thoughts.

I think it's about mixing it up and having fun with your co-star at the same time. Night after night, it's impossible for it to be the same exact thing. I do believe that every audience receives the same story, but we make sure that story is live and real.

Lean in and stand back

Lansing Art Gallery's college art show overflows with bold ideas

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

Saying “well, that’s nice” and shuffling to the next picture is not an option at the Lansing Art Gallery’s 2019 state-wide college art show.

This is art that makes you lean in, step back, circle around and lean in again.

Nearly every piece in this extraordinary show pops with a fresh perspective, brought vividly to life with impressive technical mastery.

Gallery director Barb Whitney was blown away by this year’s entries, from students across the state. For college students, the exhibition is a valuable chance for their art to be seen.

“We’re seeing a great deal of skill and proficiency, coupled with strong artistic voice,” Whitney said. “It makes them a really extraordinary group of students. They are choosing to address some interesting and, in some cases, difficult topics.”

Several images of women in the exhibition, by female artists, mine a long tradition of portraiture, with a 180-degree twist. Factoring out the male gaze, whether it’s adoring, clinical, respectful or lewd, frees the subject to look straight at the viewer — and vice versa.

In “She Eats Like a Bird,” by Northern Michigan University student Hannah Donohoe, a young woman is rendered in rich colors, in the finest tradition of 19th century portraiture. She is anything but a passive model, though. She looks impatient, even angry, that her portrait is being taken. She’s squeezing an orange with alarming force, the juice dripping down her arm.

In Kendall College student Madeline Jackson’s “Triptych,” the same face is seen in three different moods, from silent to its very vocal opposite.

The striking patterns and colors of “321,” by Kitty Johnson of Michigan State University, are put in the service of a disturbing tableau. A mannequin wears a stethoscope and a hospital gown adorned with the silhouettes of pregnant black women and spattered with blood. A backdrop patterns the

same female figures against a field of flowers. The striking installation is both painful and beautiful, a humanist outcry over the reality that black women are three times more likely to die during childbirth than white women.

The fusion of high skill and fresh thinking reaches breathtaking heights in the Best in Show entry, “Madonna and Child” by Isiah Lattimore of the University of Michigan-Flint.

The huge canvas fills an entire wall and is worth a visit all by itself. Surreal spheres form a corona around a gorgeously rendered woman and child. Abstract lines of force and earthy layers of texture and color make you feel as if you’re being sucked into another world.

Whitney is thrilled to bring Lattimore’s astonishing work to Lansing.

She attributes the painting’s power to two things: “the skill that’s evidenced in the very tight, photorealistic faces, and the creative decision to use loose, full-bodied brush strokes on the other parts. The transparency and the layers are something I just can’t get enough of.”

Mystery and humor make welcome appearances in “Heavy Shit,” by Victor Acuna, an art student at MSU. A man with a stretchy grimace lifts a dumbbell in a city park. Everything in the picture piques the eye, from the puffy little clouds in the sky to the yellow impasto stripes on the man’s shirt, the upturned skateboard nearby and the coiled snake lurking near the man’s feet.

Another Acuna canvas, “So Awful Misty,” is literally ripped in two. A boxing glove with a smiley face floats at eye level — a mixed message if ever there was one. Strips of blue tape are holding it all together, but, for some reason, a few of the strips are painted on! And what is that weird little creature perched on the table? Time to lean in again.

Correction

Due to a reporting error, last week’s story, “Behind the curtain with Jeff the Magician,” stated Jeffery Aaron Olds graduated from U of M in 1990. He graduated in 1993.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

“Madonna and Child,” by Isiah Lattimore of the University of Michigan-Flint.

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Documenting Detroit's sightly church gargoyles

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Gargoyles, griffins, lions, bears, cherubs, eagles and praying monks. Oh my!

All of these, and countless other decorative figures, adorn the buildings of Detroit. But until Oxford, Michigan, photographer and writer Jeff Morrison decided to photograph these incredible adornments they were undocumented and often overlooked.

In his new book, "Guardians of Detroit: Architectural Sculpture in the Motor City," Morrison gives readers a close up view of these incredible sometimes monstrous figures with more than 770 photographs gracing the 350-page book published by Wayne State University Press.

The grotesque statue attached to the Trinity Episcopal Church in Detroit, which graces the cover of "Guardians," is nightmarish in its beauty and harkens to the Italian and French cathedrals from as far back as the 12th century, where the figures were used to ward off evil and often for more pragmatic uses such as rain spouts.

Morrison said he was inspired to do the book by some photographs he took decades ago of grotesques in Detroit. "I was looking at them in the fall of 2015 and decided I should do something with them. I thought maybe there's enough to do a self-published book," he said.

His dream turned out to be 20,000 images showing the figures on Detroit buildings.

Your first thought when seeing the photographs in the book is Morrison must have crawled around on parapets and ledges, used a helicopter or hung from scaffolding to get these dramatic images, but that's not the case.

"Hardly at all, almost all of the photographs were taken from the ground," Morrison said. Using a Canon 5D Mark III digital camera equipped with a 150-600 mm F/5-6.3 lens he was able to capture the dramatic images while standing on the ground.

Two of the more difficult shots were taken at the Fisher Building and at the Fort Street Presbyterian Church.

To shoot images of the Fisher — one of Detroit's most venerable buildings — he thought he would be able to go up in the former GM Building across the street, which is now owned by the state of Michigan.

"I couldn't get permission. There

was too much red tape," he said.

The shots of the adornments at the Presbyterian Church had not been seen in more than 100 years when another building was built on the side of the church, hiding them.

"I just guessed they were there," he said. To get the shots he had to climb out of a window, onto the roof and scramble up a steel ladder.

Readers will be surprised at the varying types of buildings with public adornments including churches, government offices and retail outlets, but most surprising are the adornments found on fire stations, libraries and police precincts.

Morrison attributes the large number of public adornments on Detroit buildings to "deep pockets, big egos and men who wanted to build monuments to themselves" and sought out artists to complete the dream.

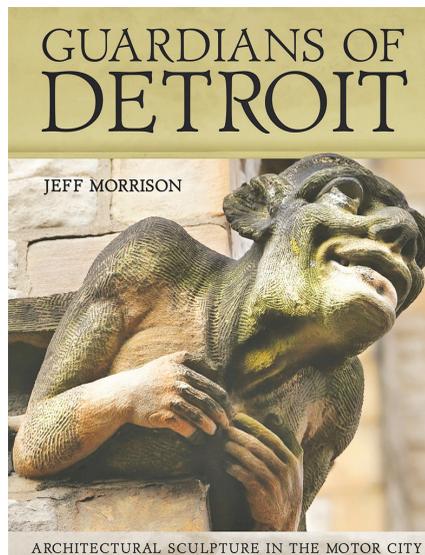
And certainly Detroit had its giants of industry and the names on the buildings often tell the tale: Kresge, Fisher, Book, Buhl and Whitney.

Many of the buildings included in the book will be recognizable by readers and have been well documented by architectural historians including the Fisher, the Guardian, the Penobscot and the General Motors Building.

Readers might also have a better appreciation for freedom of the press when they see the adornments including a man operating a press on the newspaper offices of the Free Press and Detroit News.

Sadly, the Detroit Times building was torn down, but Morrison was able to locate some adornments which had been salvaged and stored.

There are many more buildings that have been lost to time and in the



name of urban renewal and Morrison expects the book to help reveal the whereabouts of salvaged adornments.

"I know there's some sitting in basements and garages," he said.

He found the "civic virtues" which once adorned Old City Hall before it was torn down stored at a warehouse at Historic Fort Wayne.

"I hope the book will result in more of an appreciation for historical preservation," he said.

The art itself represents numerous movements including beaux arts, gothic, Romanesque, art moderne and art deco with twists that are purely American, and Midwest themes such as American Indian and auto art. The author also provides in-depth looks at some of the artists, including the remarkable Corrado Parducci, who had his hands in scores of building adornment projects.

Morrison found his way into photography when his father gave him a used camera when he was nine years

old.

After a degree in history and arts from Eastern Michigan University he began a 35-year career in the graphic arts. He's passed his love for photography on to his son, Noah, who recently had a cover photograph in Metro Times of low-rider automobiles.

If you haven't visited Detroit recently, this book will have you shouting "road trip." To make it easy, Morrison has included maps detailing the best sites to see gargoyles and grotesques, naked women, Indian motifs and gnomes.

You might have nightmares, but you won't be disappointed.

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March Author Events

More information may be found on our website and Facebook page

Local Author Night Wednesday, March 13 @ 7pm

Discover two local authors one fiction, one non-fiction: Brandon G. Kroupa presents his newest book published by Schuler Books Chapbook Press *The Game Jinx'd* and Kirsten Fermaglich teacher of history and Jewish Studies at Michigan State, presents her book *A Rosenberg by Any Other Name*.

Anne-Marie Oomen + Guests Thursday, March 21 @ 7pm

Author and editor Anne-Marie Oomen presents *Elemental: a Collection of Michigan Non-fiction* featuring twenty three of Michigan's most well-known essayists, some of which will join her.

Children's Story Time Saturday, March 16 @ 11am

Join us for a story-time on the third Saturday of each month designed to instill a love of reading in little ones. This week super reader Abby Perry reads *Unbudgeable Curmudgeon* and guides a small craft project.

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OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Paul at (517) 999-6704.

Wednesday, March 6

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

Google Livestream: Give Your Website a Refresh! From 12 to 1 p.m. Free - Call (517) 483-1921 for questions.. Lansing Community College West Campus, located at the corner of W. Mount Hope and Snow Roads Lansing. (517) 267-5452.

Mindfulness Meditation. From 7 to 9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing.

THEATER

Open Auditions for "Little Women". From 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Windwalker Gallery, 125 S. Cochran Charlotte.

EVENTS

Brain Injury Association Capital Area Chapter Support Group. From 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Peckham, Inc, 3510 Capital City Blvd. Lansing.

ARTS

ARTIST'S VIEW. Free. 1210 Turner St., Lansing.

Thursday, March 7

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

MSU Libraries' Qualtrics Workshop. From 2 to 4 p.m. free MSU Library Red Cedar Instruction Room. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

EVENTS

Capital Area Audubon Society. From 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave. Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

Sing, Dance, and Move Storytime. From 6 to 6:45 p.m. free. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St. Grand Ledge.

Friday, March 8

MUSIC

TGIF Dance Party Friday 3/8/19. From 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. \$15 includes complimentary dance lesson & buffet. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 S. Chandler Rd. Bath.

EVENTS

OMP Spaghetti Dinner. From 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Cost: Payment required - Adult: \$8 | Child: \$4 (Tickets available at the door). Okemos High School, 2500 Jolly Road Okemos.

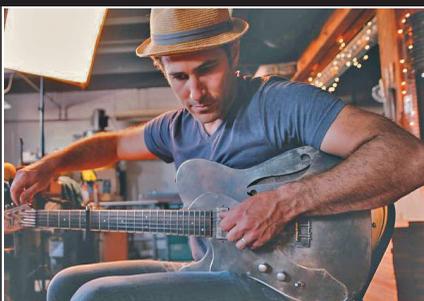
WEDNESDAY MARCH 6 >> DOCUNIGHT AT MSU SCREENS "ALI AQA"

As part of its monthly documentary series featuring Iranian-made films, MSU's branch of Docunight shows "Ali Aqa" — a portrait of an old man slowly losing touch with reality while being grounded with a love for pigeons. A discussion of the film will follow at Crunchy's Bar.

7 to 9 p.m., Wells Hall, 619 Red Cedar Rd., East Lansing
(517) 355-1855, docunight.com



THURSDAY MARCH 7 >> "THE VOICE" FINALIST JOSHUA DAVIS AT THE STATE ROOM



In 2015, Joshua Davis made history as the first "The Voice" contestant to perform original music on stage. Now coming off two full length original albums, Davis heads to Lansing to play his rock 'n' roll roots music. With special guest Geoff Lewis Reservations are suggested.

5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Free, State Room Restaurant, 219 S. Harrison Rd., East Lansing
(517) 432-5049, kelloggcenter.com/stateroomrestaurant



Grammy Award-winning trumpeter Curtis Taylor plays CADL Downtown

Acclaimed jazz trumpeter Curtis Taylor comes to Lansing to entertain with a set of improvisations over jazz standards. Graduating from the MSU College of Music in 2007, Taylor studied under director of jazz studies, Rodney Whittaker.

In remarks made to MSU's alumni newsletter, Whitaker had this to say: "With his intelligence and musical ability, I am not at all surprised of his

success."

Taylor earned a masters degree in music in 2009 from Rutgers University. His career catapulted into national jazz fame as trumpet chair on Gregory Porter's album "Liquid Spirit," which won the Grammy for Best Jazz Vocal Album of 2014.

Taylor went on to win another Grammy in 2017 for Ed Motta's "Perpetual Getaways." His debut solo album "#Hashtagged," was released in 2017 and featured rhythm and blues, jazz, soul and spoken-word tracks.

Sunday, March 10

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

Juggling. From 2 to 4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St. East Lansing.

Monday, March 11

EVENTS

Home School Study Group. From 1 to 4 p.m. free. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St. Grand Ledge.

Tuesday, March 12

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

MSU Libraries' Knit In Tuesdays. From 12 to 1 p.m. free. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

Preschool Storytime. From 11 a.m. to noon Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St. Grand Ledge.

FRIDAY MARCH 8 >> COMEDIAN DAVE STONE AT THE FLEDGE



Los Angeles comedian Dave Stone got his start on the Craig Ferguson show in 2013. Since then, he's toured the country with Ferguson while living city to city in a van, and regularly contributes voice acting work to Cartoon Network's Adult Swim block of programming.

8 to 10 p.m., \$15, The Fledge, 1300 Eureka, Lansing
(517) 432-5049, thefledge.com

Jonesin' Crossword

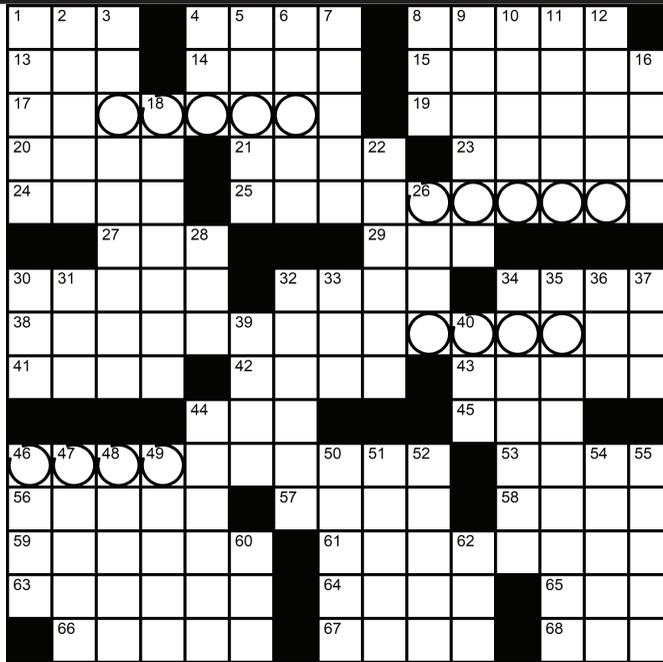
By Matt Jones

"Revolutionaries"--what goes around.

Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Kiefer, to Donald
- 4 Agcy. concerned with ergonomics
- 8 Upside-down V
- 13 It shares a key with @
- 14 "... like ___ of bricks"
- 15 Language family of Czech and Polish
- 17 Like some bazookas or missiles
- 19 2001 A.L. MVP ___ Suzuki
- 20 Org. with a bunch of particle accelerators
- 21 Quit at cards
- 23 Hall's singing partner
- 24 "Beware the ___ of March"
- 25 "I Have a Dream" speech refrain
- 27 Took in
- 29 S.F. setting
- 30 Flower's protective leaves
- 32 Comics explosion sound
- 34 AC measurements
- 38 Advice based on feelings
- 41 Terrier type
- 42 "And others"
- 43 UCLA player
- 44 Ebenezer's epithet
- 45 Mel of baseball
- 46 Got ready to kiss
- 53 ___ Report (upscale magazine)
- 56 Absolutely ridiculous
- 57 Opportunity creator
- 58 Skin softener
- 59 Movie house
- 61 Explanation for weird things going on, or what



- each theme answer has in common
- 63 A whole bunch
- 64 "It's either him ___!"
- 65 Understand
- 66 University of ___ Dame
- 67 Sword used in the Olympics
- 68 PGA distances
- Down**
- 1 Actress Keanan of "Step By Step"
- 2 Had stock in
- 3 "Just kidding"
- 4 Muffin grain
- 5 Group of workers
- 6 High esteem
- 7 Bracelet spot
- 8 "___: Miami"
- 9 "Little Women" author
- 10 1986 Indianapolis 500 winner Bobby
- 11 "Oh, What a Circus" musical
- 12 Four for the road
- 16 Went for
- 18 Fashionable
- 22 The Blue Demons of the NCAA
- 26 [whispers] YouTube video genre presented like this
- 28 Prefix with skeleton
- 30 Joe DiMaggio and Mickey Mantle, e.g. (abbr.)
- 31 "Everything's fine!"
- 32 When the time comes
- 33 Mauna ___ (Hawaiian volcano)
- 34 Stewie's half-brother on "Family Guy"
- 35 Redundant statement, in literature
- 36 Geller who claims paranormal ability
- 37 Railroad stop (abbr.)
- 39 Abrade
- 40 "Ballers" network
- 44 Yuppie's ride, slangily
- 46 ___ de gallo
- 47 SAG-AFTRA, for one
- 48 "No problem!"
- 49 Honored a king, maybe
- 50 "Finding Dory" actor Willem
- 51 Assume by force
- 52 ___ d'Or (award at Cannes)
- 54 Showed disapproval
- 55 Predispositions
- 60 NASDAQ rival
- 62 "The Ice Storm" director Ang

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Answers Page 22

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsy

March 6- March 12, 2019

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Genius inventor Thomas Edison rebelled against sleep, which he regarded as wasteful. He tried to limit his time in bed to four hours per night so he would have more time to work during his waking hours. Genius scientist Albert Einstein had a different approach. He preferred ten hours of sleep per night, and liked to steal naps during the day, too. In my astrological opinion, Aries, you're in a phase when it makes more sense to imitate Einstein than Edison. Important learning and transformation are happening in your dreams. Give your nightly adventures maximum opportunity to work their magic in your behalf.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The Danish flag has a red background emblazoned with an asymmetrical white cross. It was a national symbol of power as early as the fourteenth century, and may have first emerged during a critical military struggle that established the Danish empire in 1219. No other country in the world has a flag with such an ancient origin. But if Denmark's Prime Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen, who's a Taurus, came to me and asked me for advice, I would urge him to break with custom and design a new flag—maybe something with a spiral rainbow or a psychedelic tree. I'll suggest an even more expansive idea to you, Taurus: create fresh traditions in every area of your life!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): On June 7, 1988, Gemini musician Bob Dylan launched what has come to be known as the Never Ending Tour. It's still going. In the past 30+ years, he has performed almost 3,000 shows on every continent except Antarctica. In 2018 alone, at the age of 77, he did 84 gigs. He's living proof that not every Gemini is flaky and averse to commitment. Even if you yourself have flirted with flightiness in the past, I doubt you will do so in the next five weeks. On the contrary, I expect you'll be a paragon of persistence, doggedness, and stamina.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The otters at a marine park in Miura City, Japan are friendly to human visitors. There are holes in the glass walls of their enclosures through which they reach out to shake people's hands with their webbed paws. I think you need experiences akin to that in the coming weeks. Your mental and spiritual health will thrive to the degree that you seek closer contact with animals. It's a favorable time to nurture your instinctual intelligence and absorb influences from the natural world. For extra credit, tune in to and celebrate your own animal qualities.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Between 1977 and 1992, civil war raged in Mozambique. Combatants planted thousands of land mines that have remained dangerous long after the conflict ended. In recent years, a new ally has emerged in the quest to address the problem: rats that are trained to find the hidden explosives so that human colleagues can defuse them. The expert sniffers don't weigh enough to detonate the mines, so they're ideal to play the role of saviors. I foresee a metaphorically comparable development in your future, Leo. You'll get help and support from a surprising or seemingly unlikely source.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Imagine a stairway that leads nowhere; as you ascend, you realize that at the top is not a door or a hallway, but a wall. I suspect that lately you may have been dealing with a metaphorical version of an anomaly like this. But I also predict that in the coming weeks some magic will transpire that will change everything. It's like you'll find a button on the wall that when pushed opens a previously imperceptible door. Somehow, you'll gain entrance through an apparent obstruction.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Not all of the classic works of great literature are entertaining. According to one survey of editors, writers, and librarians, Goethe's Faust, Melville's Moby Dick, and Cervantes' Don Quixote are among the most boring masterpieces ever written. But most experts agree that they're still valuable to read.

In that spirit, and in accordance with astrological omens, I urge you to commune with other dull but meaningful things. Seek out low-key but rich offerings. Be aware that unexciting people and situations may offer clues and catalysts that you need.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Many of you Scorpios regard secrecy as a skill worth cultivating. It serves your urge to gather and manage power. You're aware that information is a valuable commodity, so you guard it carefully and share it sparingly. This predilection sometimes makes you seem understated, even shy. Your hesitancy to express too much of your knowledge and feelings may influence people to underestimate the intensity that seethes within you. Having said all that, I'll now predict that you'll show the world who you are with more dazzle and flamboyance in the coming weeks. It'll be interesting to see how you do that as you also try to heed your rule that information is power.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Sagittarian actress and producer Deborra-Lee Furness has been married to megastar actor Hugh Jackman for 23 years. Their wedding rings are inscribed with a motto that blends Sanskrit and English, "Om paramar to the mainamar." Hugh and Deborah-Lee say it means "we dedicate our union to a greater source." In resonance with current astrological omens, I invite you to engage in a similar gesture with an important person in your life. Now is a marvelous time to deepen and sanctify your relationship by pledging yourselves to a higher purpose or beautiful collaboration or sublime mutual quest.

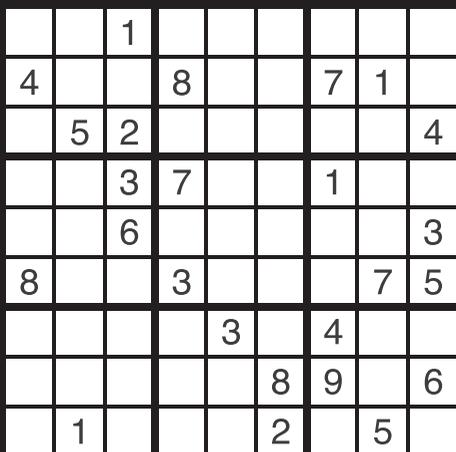
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In 1997, a supercomputer named Deep Blue won six chess matches against Chess Grand Master Gary Kasparov. In 2016, an Artificial Intelligence called AlphaGo squared off against human champion Lee Sodol in a best-of-five series of the Chinese board game Go. AlphaGo crushed Sodol, four games to one. But there is at least one cerebral game in which human intelligence still reigns supreme: the card game known as bridge. No AI has as yet beat the best bridge players. I bring this to your attention, Capricorn, because I am sure that in the coming weeks, no AI could out-think and out-strategize you as you navigate your way through life's tests and challenges. You'll be smarter than ever. P.S.: I'm guessing your acumen will be extra soulful, as well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): At regular intervals, a hot stream of boiling water shoots up out of the earth and into the sky in Wyoming's Yellowstone National Park. It's a geyser called Old Faithful. The steamy surge can reach a height of 185 feet and last for five minutes. When white settlers first discovered this natural phenomenon in the nineteenth century, some of them used it as a laundry. Between blasts, they'd place their dirty clothes in Old Faithful's aperture. When the scalding flare erupted, it provided all the necessary cleansing. I'd love to see you attempt a metaphorically similar feat, Aquarius: harness a natural force for a practical purpose, or a primal power for an earthy task.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Who was the model for Leonardo da Vinci's iconic painting Mona Lisa? Many scholars think it was Italian noblewoman Lisa del Giocondo. Leonardo wanted her to feel comfortable during the long hours she sat for him, so he hired musicians to play for her and people with mellifluous voices to read her stories. He built a musical fountain for her to gaze upon and a white Persian cat to cuddle. If it were within my power, I would arrange something similar for you in the coming weeks. Why? Because I'd love to see you be calmed and soothed for a concentrated period of time; to feel perfectly at ease, at home in the world, surrounded by beautiful influences you love. In my opinion, you need and deserve such a break from the everyday frenzy.

SUDOKU

Intermediate



TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 22

TURN IT DOWN!

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

Sat. Mar. 9

WHEN PARTICLES COLLIDE AT THE AVENUE CAFÉ



The Secret Bureau of Art and Design

Fiery duo headlines rock show

Saturday, March 9 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 21+, FREE, 9 p.m.

Since being named 2014's "Best New Artist" at the Boston Music Awards, When Particles Collide (WPC) has toured relentlessly as a duo, playing their blistering brand of stripped down, yet amped-up, alt-rock — or, what they call "melody forward, hard hitting, genre-bending rock 'n roll." In 2013, Sasha Alcott (vocals/guitar) and Chris Viner (drummer) married, and promptly dropped their day jobs and became full time, independent musicians. Out of their trusty 2014 Ram Promaster cargo van, the pair racks up over 200 shows each year across the United States and Canada while also releasing stacks of albums on their own imprint, Unstoppable Rock Records. The outfit's latest EP, 2018's "Fade to Gold," is available on limited edition vinyl. The record

features six new tracks and hand screen-printed artwork. Saturday, WPC will play cuts from the new release and more at The Avenue Café; opening the gig are Dasterds, The Quirk and Bike Tuff.

Prior to becoming indie-rock road warriors, WPC's Alcott taught high school chemistry for 18 years while Viner worked in the car business and as a nanny. Viner (a trained jazz drummer and choral vocalist) met Alcott (a self-taught punk rocker and singer-songwriter) in the spring of 2010 after they were both cast in a local production of "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" in their hometown of Bangor, Maine. They worked together ever since, exploring "where disparate influences come together."

Sat. Mar. 9

TIM O'SHEA AT THE ROBIN THEATRE



Irish songsmith returns to REO Town

Saturday, March 9 @ The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$15, 7 p.m.

Tim O'Shea, a singer and multi-instrumentalist from Killarney, Ireland, draws from the dance music of his native Sliabh Luachra and West Kerry folk traditions and the singing of Irish and Scottish performers like Jimmy McCarthy and Paul Brady. Saturday, he brings those traditional sounds to The Robin Theatre.

This will be his fourth appearance at the Robin. Joining him on stage is fellow Kerryman Pat Quinn on banjo and flute. O'Shea started performing with various bands, and solo, back in the '80s and has since toured the globe many times over, including stops in India, Australia, New Zealand and most of Europe, especially Germany.

O'Shea has six albums in his acclaimed

catalog, beginning with 1995's "Monks of the Screw" LP. In 2017, his group Tim O'Shea & Friends released his latest effort, the "Another Skin Too Few" CD, which is available via CDBaby.com. The dynamic track list features an array of instrumentation, like flute, whistling, accordion, melodeon and harmonica, to only name a few. The sonically vibrant disc was shaped and influenced by O'Shea's fellow local musicians, back on the West Coast of Ireland. According to his website: "Sadly, the musicians commemorated here, are now gone from us, all too soon, but their music and song lives on ... In some small way, (the album) honors and remembers them and their versions of the tunes."

LIVE AND LOCAL

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT PAUL@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

DESTINATION	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.		Outside In	80s Karaoke	Dasterds, Bike Tuff 9PM
Buddies, 2040 N. Aurelius Rd.			Benny & the Jets 7PM	
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Johnny Aimerier 8PM	Karaoke, 9PM	Karaoke, 9PM	Karaoke 9PM
Classic Pub & Grill, 16219 Old US 27	DJ Trivia 8PM	Karaoke 6:30PM	Be Kind Rewind 8PM	Cobra Kai Alumni 8PM
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Road	DJ Trivia			Kathy Ford Band 9PM
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.			
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Good Cookies Band	Jeff Shoup & Friends	Avon Bomb	Avon Bomb
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Blues Night	Karaoke Kraze	Grady Hall & the Disciples of Funk	Medusa
Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee	Trivia Night W/Sporcle 9PM	Loudspace Live Jam 7PM	Hardnose Concert Series: The Rockshow 8PM	Be Kind Rewind 8PM
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.			State of Mine 7PM	Jump Off Beat Battle 7PM
Macs Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	The Messthetics 7PM		Certifiy/E-Nyce 8PM	Nate Millyunz 7PM
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.			The New Rule 7PM	
Robin Theatre				Tim O'Shea 7PM
Unicorn Lounge, 320 Cesar Chavez Ave.				JPP Band 9PM
UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St.			Kathleen & the Bridge St. Band, Angelo Santelli 8PM	Hedda & the Skat Cats 7:30 PM

Workouts are customized at new Lansing gym

By DENNIS BURCK

Lansing has a new fitness gym to give patrons the energy to combat the groggy bad habits of winter hibernation. Tri Fitness offers cross training, high intensity interval training, or HIIT, and a fitness boot camp rolled into one class.

Trainers and co-owners Kristen Clark and Nicholas Spitzley got into the fitness business after tailoring personal workouts to family and peers.

“I’ve been pursuing fitness for 15 years, but I didn’t think I’d love it as much as I did,” Clark said. “I was always finding myself helping people with their fitness and motivate them to love it as much as I do.”

Spitzley said he discovered his passion for fitness in high school after vying for a position as starting quarterback.

“In the process of trying to be as good as I could be, I began lifting. Being a starting quarterback didn’t work out, but I found out that I loved lifting and doing it every single day,” Spitzley said.

Tri Fitness Gym

45 minute fitness classes offered:

Monday-Thursday
5:15 a.m., 6 a.m., 9 a.m.,
12:15 p.m., 3:30 p.m.,
4:15 p.m., 5 p.m., 5:45 p.m.
Friday
5:15 a.m., 6 a.m., 9 a.m.,
12:15 p.m., 3:30 p.m.,
4:15 p.m., 5 p.m.

Saturday
7:30 and 8:15 a.m.
924 Elmwood Rd., Lansing
(517)657-7686
www.trifitness.us



“I thought if I can help people do this because people struggle with this, it would be something I’d love to do.”

The facility features ski, sled and row machines, TRX suspension training stations, punching bags, battle ropes, bungies, balance balls, benches, barbells and dumbbells. It also stocks medicine balls, slam balls, wall balls and boxes.

The courses will be focused on different muscle groups as curated by Spitzley. Patrons can choose from a monthly contract, six-month membership, yearly membership or drop-in sessions.

There are also family membership options and discount rates for students, military.

Spitzley is an accredited fitness instructor through the International Sports Sciences Association, or ISSA. Before working at Tri Fitness, he interned at HIIT and cross-training gyms.

“Every regiment is made by me, a set personal trainer. I will know you, know your workouts, what we are doing and what we’ve done,” Spitzley



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

Co-owners and trainers Nicholas Spitzley and Kristen Clark of Tri Fitness Gym offer tailor-made courses for patrons looking to get fit on their own terms.

said.

“We like to push you to the limit, but not past your limit. We want you to better yourself and with these workouts, but you are never trying completely to wear your body out.”

Don’t be afraid to walk in the door and make a step in the right direction, Clark said.

Tri Fitness offers a five-day free pass for those interested in trying out its regiments.

“We are here to help. We both are very passionate and we both are here to help looking for people to come through the door,” Clark said. “We

want honest feedback, if there is something someone wants we want to know so we can tailor to what our clients’ needs are.”

A lot of people go into gyms and start working out incorrectly on machines, she said. “Here we show them and correct their form pushing them through it. We want to get people healthy, get people to like it so when they start coming, they start to like it.”

Consistency and a greater attention to personal needs and fitness sets Tri Fitness apart from the bigger gyms, Clark said.

“We are more personable. You are going to get us every day.”

CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 20

S	O	N	O	S	H	A	C	A	R	E	T			
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SUDOKU SOLUTION
From Pg. 20

6	8	1	2	7	4	5	3	9
4	3	9	8	5	6	7	1	2
7	5	2	1	9	3	8	6	4
5	2	3	7	6	9	1	4	8
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FOOD & DRINK DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Bringing baccalà to Lansing for 50 years

By DENNIS BURCK

It was Roma Bakery's first day in business, co-owners Filomena "Mena" Castriciano and her husband, Sostine Castriciano, were waiting eagerly to

Roma Bakery Anniversary Party

Saturday, March 9
11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Regular hours
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.,
Monday-Friday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday
Roma Bakery, Deli & Fine Foods
428 N. Cedar St., Lansing
(517) 485-9466

open their doors. In early 1969, Frank Antonio's Italian Market on Eric and Cedar Street had closed. With help of Mena's aunt Giovannina Baldino-Pecora the Castricianos were taking it

over in March. It was only a cozy 1,200 square feet.

But there was a problem — there was no money in the cash register to

make change.

"My papa had to hurry up and send me \$300 to make it through the day. I'll never forget it," Mena Castriciano said.

The bakery's first customers were Italian friends and family members.

"One of my cousins came here and bought \$140 worth of groceries that day."

The dish that would give Roma Bakery its early staying power, oddly enough, wasn't a baked good. It was baccalà, or salted cod, which proved popular among Roma's early Italian, Greek and Iranian customers who sought after it with zeal.

"I used to ask our early customers if they liked our food and would ask what recipes they were going to try. We taught each other," she said.

Three months into the new business, the first bread offered at the bakery was French bread and Italian round loaves made by her husband, a classically trained Italian baker.

"I noticed we don't have good bread here. They'd never had bread that was crunchy here, only mushy. Our customers wanted better bread and I said 'Sostine you are a good baker. Let's make bread,'" she said.

Baccalà and fresh Italian breads were some of many goods Roma Bakery popularized in the Lansing area, she added.

"People came and enjoyed our different food. In those days, nobody knew about — or had — prosciutto in Lansing. The same with mortadella and fresh mozzarella. It was only us," she said.

The Castricianos expanded their business into its current 5,500-square-foot residence in the mid-'70s.

"Can you imagine a time without olive oil? People thought it was too sharp of a taste. The only romano cheese Lansing had came in a can. I thought 'Are you kidding me? We could find something better than this.'"

Since then, Roma Bakery has rocked to have dozens of variety baked goods, types of Italian sandwiches, Italian cheeses, homemade pastas and more.



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

(Top) Co-owners of Roma Bakery, Sostine (right) and Filomena Castriciano. (Bottom) A tray of rugelochs, a twisted dough roll with a variety of fillings.

Now in their 70s, the Castricianos hope to pass on the business to the next generation.

"The world is changing. We're not as healthy as what we used to be before. I'm hoping we can make it two more years," she said.

"If something happened to my husband, we'd have to close. He knows everything. I want to keep it as the way it is. I need to find someone, a husband and wife or two friends to run it. I want it to always remain as Roma Bakery."

For its 50th anniversary, the Castricianos plan to treat their customers with samples of all of its food and entertainment by singer Gino Federici.

They also plan to have a raffle with a giveaway basket of \$100 worth of Italian goods. The next event at Roma Bakery will be its Zeppole Festival on March 19.

"We like to cook for and enjoy people. It is our life. So I say 'Buon appetito and mangia mangia.'"



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Cabernet franc steals the limelight

By **JUSTIN KING**

In the 2007 drama "Michael Clayton," the titular character, played by George Clooney, is a New York City attorney known to be a fixer. The secondary, doomed protagonist, played by Tom Wilkinson, is the firm's best attorney.

The film is a gripping exposition of multiple souls having to examine just what kind of principles they pretend to live by — versus what they actually are. But it probably wouldn't have come together so harmoniously if it wasn't for the chilling, Academy Award-winning performance of Tilda Swinton as fictional company U-North's general counsel.

If Clooney is cabernet sauvignon and Wilkinson is merlot, then Swinton is cabernet franc. Cabernet franc is generally the supporting cast — rarely exalted in the lead role, but occasionally lionized. It's ultimately the third-most relevant grape for red wines for Bordeaux, France.

This is unfortunate, because there are some delicious wines out there made from 100 percent cabernet franc. Its major relevance is in France, mostly in Bordeaux and the Loire Valley, but ampelographers cite Basque Country, Spain, as its most likely place of origin — although some still cite the Loire Valley as a likely first home.

Wines made from this grape tend to be softer and more crisp than wines made from cabernet sauvignon. Often,

one common marker is the high concentration of green bell pepper notes that exist from the unmistakable chemical compounds called methoxypyrazines (take a sniff of sauvignon blanc from New Zealand; it's quite common there as well).

The cab franc grape berries tend to have that smell, and they can do well on clay and limestone, but also sandy soils. It ripens earlier than its genetic child cabernet sauvignon, which presents opportunities for the grape to perform well in Michigan, where we are more likely to have frost issues at both ends of the growing season.

45 North from Leelanau Peninsula succeeds in their bottling of the 2016 cabernet franc. It's priced for perhaps a special occasion — at nearly \$40 — but is a dynamic expression of ripe fruit and brooding secondary flavors that speak to more cigar box, pepper and smoky notes.

Le Monde cabernet franc comes from Northeast Italy — Friuli, to be exact. Although there is a bounty of magical opportunities to photograph the Dolomite mountains in parts of this province, Le Monde is on lower elevation and flatter terrain, just 300 meters from the Veneto region.

Their 2016 bottling is just straight bonkers for the sheer amount of stuffing of flavors. Clocking in at about \$20, this could be an early candidate for favorite wine of the year.

Italy certainly isn't known for cab-

ernet franc production, but, if you're curious and looking for a bottle for that special anniversary dinner, check out Le Macchiole's "Paleo" — a Tuscan gem that could put you back \$100, easily.

It's fitting to return to France in discussing the achievements of the cabernet franc grape, and thankfully I stumbled across an incredible deal. From the City of Carcassone, arguably the epicenter of Cassoulet, and only about 100 miles north of Barcelona, comes the 2017 Laroque cabernet franc.

It shows far more than most wines at the price of \$10, making use of effortless, juicy plum-like fruit, thyme, bay leaf and green peppers.

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When trying to find these wines, please keep in mind your trusted, local, independent retailers. They are constantly looking for those thrilling new wines hitting the Michigan market that are not stacked 6 cases high in a corporate set.

Justin King is an Advanced Sommelier through the Court of Master Sommeliers, and was named 2017 Wine & Spirits Magazine "Best New Sommelier." He is the owner of Bridge Street Social, a wine and cocktails-focused restaurant in DeWitt, and Bar Mitena, opening on Lansing's east-side in 2019. For questions on finding wines, he can be reached at justingking@gmail.com



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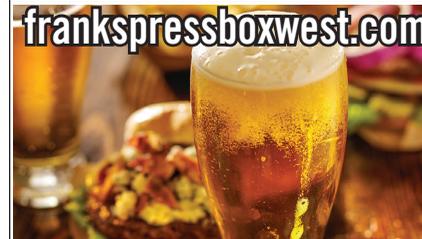


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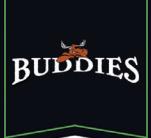
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