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January 20-26, 2016



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CityPULSE

2016 Readership Survey

Greetings!

City Pulse needs your help! It's time for our biennial Readership Survey, which not only provides guidance to us at City Pulse in determining content, but also tells advertisers — who pay all the bills — who you are and why they should be reaching you. You can either go online to www.lansingcitypulse.com and click on the survey banner or fill out the form below and mail it back to **Readership Survey, City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912** or scan and email to suzi@lansingcitypulse.com. As a thank you, you will be entered to win one of 50 NCG tickets or two tickets to "Motown: The Musical." Please share with co-workers and friends.

Thank you from the City Pulse staff!

Name _____

Phone _____

Are you a student now?

- No
- Yes

Do you read City Pulse stories via Facebook or Twitter?

- No
- Yes

Do you use the City Pulse mobile app?

- No
- Yes

Do you go out for live entertainment?

- Less than quarterly
- Quarterly
- Monthly
- Two-three times a month
- At least weekly

How do you obtain City Pulse (primary way)?:

- Pick up print & read online
- Pick up print edition only
- Other
- Via City Pulse newsletter
- Spouse/Partner brings it home
- Via mobile app
- Co-workers bring it to office

How often do ads in City Pulse influence your decisions to buy products or services?

- Sometimes
- Never
- Often

How often do you dine out (not fast food)?

- Once a week
- Less than weekly
- Two or more times a week
- Less than monthly
- Daily

How often do you go to bars?

- Less than once a month
- Once per week
- Two-three times a month
- Two-three times week

How often do you read City Pulse online/digital?

- Never
- Weekly
- Less than monthly
- Two-three times a month
- Monthly
- At least three times a week

How often do you read City Pulse print edition?

- Weekly
- Two-three times a month
- Less than monthly
- Monthly

How often does news or advertising in City Pulse influence your choices for entertainment or dining?

- Sometimes
- Often
- Never

How old are you? _____

What age group below do you fall into?

- 20-24 years old
- 25-29 years old
- 30-34 years or older
- 35-39 years old
- 40-44 years old
- 45-49 years old
- 50-54 years old
- 55-59 years old
- 60-64 years old
- 65 years or older

If you were purchasing a home, would real estate listings in City Pulse print and digital editions be helpful?

- Yes
- No

If you were purchasing a vehicle, would automotive advertising in City Pulse print and digital editions be helpful?

- Yes
- No

How often do you shop at stores that specialize in organic or health foods and related products?

- Sometimes
- Often
- Never

In what ZIP code do you live? _____

Level of education completed:

- College
- Graduate degree/Professional degree
- High School

Marital Status:

- Married
- Single
- Partnered/Significant Other
- Divorced

Your gender:

- Female
- Male

Your housing situation:

- Own
- Rent

Are you employed?

- Full-time employment
- Part-time employment
- Full-time student
- Retired
- Self-employed

What income bracket would your household fall in below?

- Less than 20,000 per year
- 20,000-34,999 per year
- 35,000-49,000 per year
- 50,000-64,999 per year
- 65,000-74,999 per year
- 75,000+
- 100,000+
- 150,000+

What sections do you find most interesting/useful?:

- News
- Events Listings
- Arts & Culture
- Food

What is your primary source of local news?

- Internet
- City Pulse (print/online)
- Lansing State Journal
- Radio
- Free community newspapers
- TV

Your politics:

- Liberal
- Moderate
- Progressive
- Other
- Conservative

Mail this completed form to: City Pulse: Readership Survey 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing MI, 48912

DIVORCE FAMILY LAW

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

**Now you have two ways to
sound off:**

1.) Write a letter to the editor:

- E-mail: letters@lansingcitypulse.com
- Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
- Fax: (517) 371-5800

2.) Write a guest column:

Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or (517) 999-5061

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

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
INGHAM COUNTY
COUNTY OF INGHAM
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
File No. 16-55-DE**

Estate of Roger Emery. Date of birth: 02/02/1927.
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Roger Emery, died 09/25/2007. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Benjamin Emery, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: 01/14/2016
Charles A. Fleck P35401
208 E. Mt. Hope, Suite 3
Lansing, MI 48910
(517) 927-8052

Benjamin Emery
6451 Lansdown
Dimondale, MI 48821
(517) 927-4888

CP#16-022

CityPULSE

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**PAGE
6**

Equality Michigan hires Triplett for political leadership



**PAGE
14**

Rachel Barton Pine explores where metal and classical meet



**PAGE
20**

Ancient history inspires James Rollins' latest military thriller



**COVER
ART**

By DENNIS PRESTON

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PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION
FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON
MARCH 8, 2016
IN THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN**

Please take notice that the Charter Township of Meridian will hold an election on March 8, 2016. The following will be submitted to the electors:

Republican Party Candidates for President of the United States and Democratic Party Candidates for President of the United States

To view the ballots contact the Office of the Meridian Township Clerk, at 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos, MI 48864, telephone 517-853-4300 or view your ballots at www.michigan.gov/vote.

MONDAY FEBRUARY 8 IS THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER in order to be eligible to vote at the March 8, 2016 election. Any qualified elector who is not already registered to vote may register for the March 8, 2016 election. Persons registering after 5p.m. on Monday, February 8 are not eligible to vote at this election. To register to vote, visit any Secretary of State branch office, your County Clerk's office or the Meridian Township Clerk Office, 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos, MI 48864 853-4300

Brett Dreyfus, CMCM
Meridian Township Clerk

CP#16-018

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on **Wednesday, February 10, 2016 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 TCT 1600 LLC, for Site Plan approval for the property at 1600 East Grand River Avenue. The applicant is proposing to convert the existing extended stay hotel to an apartment complex. The property is zoned RM-32, City Center Multiple Family Residential District.
2. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1359, an ordinance to amend Section 50-114 of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to allow for an increase in allowed window well encroachment into the setback.
3. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1361, an ordinance to amend Section 50-853 of Article X – Nonconforming Uses and Structures – of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to make changes to the nonconforming use of a structure provisions.

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

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

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#16-020

CITY PULSE
on the AIR

NOW AT 10:30 A.M.

SATURDAYS on

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IMPACT
88.9FM

THIS MODERN WORLD
by TOM TOMORROW

MODERN COMICS GROUP
INVISIBLE-HAND-OF-THE-FREE-MARKET MAN

AS A FORMER BUSINESSMAN AND VENTURE CAPITALIST, I OBVIOUSLY VALUE YOUR COUNSEL--

--BUT IF YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE INVISIBLE-- WHY CAN I SEE YOU?

SIGH... ET TU, GOVERNOR SNYDER?

ER, WHAT?

WHAT?

THIS ISSUE: CRISIS MANAGEMENT!

APRIL 2014 FLINT IS DEEP IN DEBT! WE CAN SAVE SOME MONEY IF THE EMERGENCY MANAGER I APPOINTED SWITCHES THE CITY WATER SUPPLY OVER TO THE FLINT RIVER!

AN EXCELLENT IDEA! AND I'M SURE THERE'S NO NEED TO WASTE TIME WITH ANY ADDITIONAL ANTI-CORROSIVE TREATMENT!

JUNE 2014 FLINT RESIDENTS ARE COMPLAINING THAT THEIR WATER CAUSES RASHES AND HAIR LOSS!

LOOK, WE'VE ALL GOT TO MAKE A FEW SACRIFICES FOR AUSTERITY! TELL THEM TO BOIL THE WATER AND STOP WHINING!

RIGHT! UM, REMIND ME, WHAT SACRIFICES ARE WE MAKING?

WE HAVE TO LISTEN TO THEIR WHINING!

MARCH 2015 HAND, AM I EVER GLAD TO SEE YOU! PEOPLE ARE STILL COMPLAINING ABOUT THE WATER IN FLINT!

THIS IS GETTING REALLY TEDIOUS! LOOK, FORM AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE, PROMISE SOME IMPROVEMENTS--AND DECLARE THE PROBLEM SOLVED!

SEPT. 2015 A GROUP OF LOCAL PHYSICIANS CLAIM THEY'VE FOUND ELEVATED LEVELS OF LEAD IN FLINT CHILDREN!

ARRGH! OKAY, DENY EVERYTHING AND ACCUSE THEM OF CHERRY-PICKING THE DATA! YOU COULD EVEN DRINK A GLASS OF FLINT WATER YOURSELF, TO SHOW HOW SAFE IT IS!

UH, YEAH, MAYBE NOT.

PRESENT DAY OKAY, FINE, WE'VE BEEN POISONING FLINT WITH LEAD FOR TWO YEARS--BUT I SAID I WAS SORRY!

NO POINT IN PLAYING THE BLAME GAME NOW! TIME TO ASK FOR A HUGE FEDERAL BAILOUT--AND MOVE ON!

THAT'S WHAT I CALL RUNNING GOVERNMENT LIKE A BUSINESS!

NOW YOU MUST EXCUSE ME-- THERE'S A GAS LEAK IN CALIFORNIA THAT NEEDS MY ATTENTION!

© 2016 TOM TOMORROW

Focusing on Flint Lansing leaders involved in crisis

When Gov. Rick Snyder was in Flint last week, a familiar Lansing face was by his side: David Maxwell, the head of the city of Lansing's Office of Faith Based Initiatives. Maxwell is a Flint native.



Maxwell

Maxwell was on the podium with Snyder during a press conference on the crisis — something that caused some Lansing observers to raise their eyebrows.

But Maxwell said he was there to support Flint Mayor Karen Weaver, who was also on the podium.

"I could care less about the governor," said Maxwell in a phone interview. "We're not forming an alliance."

Maxwell, bishop of Eliezer Baptist Church in Lansing, said his involvement in Flint is threefold: He's long-time friends with Weaver, a high school classmate; his 84-year-old mother and stepfather live in Flint; and he has parishioners who live in Flint and thus are impacted by the crisis.



Ambrose

He said he is in Flint two or three times a week.

He said he is acting as an "informal adviser" to Weaver. He and Weaver attended school together. He said Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero, who appointed him, supports his work in

Flint.

Toxic levels of lead, combined with an increase in reported cases of the deadly Legionnaire's Disease — which may be tied to the Flint River water crisis — resulted in a state declaration of emergency on Jan. 5. On Sunday, President Barack Obama declared a federal emergency. The National Guard has also been mobilized to assist in addressing the crisis, mostly in distributing water filters and cases of bottled water to impacted residents.

Maxwell was critical of the move to distribute filters.

"You can put out all the filters you want, but it doesn't fly," the minister said. "The filter suggests the water is poison. People are not going to buy into this."

He also noted that just having bottled water available at local fire stations may not be enough, particularly for the city's seniors and disabled residents.

"You can have all the water in the world available at the fire station, but if a senior lives a half mile from the fire station, they are going to have trouble accessing it," he said. "It's a challenge. That's a concern."

See Flint, Page 6



Property: Old Botany Building – Michigan State University, East Lansing

This building might have been constructed in a different place in 1892, were it not for the objections of Michigan Agricultural College President Oscar Clute. When the original Botany building burned in 1890 and consumed the extensive collections within, Botany Professor William J. Beal planned for its replacement near his home along Faculty Row.

Instead, the Botany Building was sited along the developing Laboratory Row, which joined the Faculty Row buildings in defining a campus area known as the Sacred Space. Even then, the zone was reserved for natural landscape features, which reinforced Clute's directive to build the structure at its current site.

Not surprisingly, the building shares several details with its laboratory contemporaries, including red sandstone lintels and cut stone foundation. The red brick, likely made from locally extracted clay, joins the steeply pitched roofs in a display of regional materials and details. The building exhibits an obvious entry through the grand main arch, which is echoed in several windows.

A short time ago, the building was covered with creeping ivy. While it was removed, presumably for maintenance purposes, there is a romantic quality found in the "ivy covered halls" of a building dedicated to the study of plants.

— Daniel E. Bollman, AIA



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Protesters rally at Lansing City Hall plaza on Tuesday over the Flint water crisis as they await Gov. Rick Snyder's State of the State speech across the street at the Capitol. Hundreds were expected.

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

Pride agenda LGBT and ally groups fight to amend civil rights law

Nathan Triplett, the former mayor of East Lansing, has taken on a new role: political director of the statewide gay rights organization Equality Michigan.

The advocacy group is fed up with the lack of political will to change the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to provide gay people with protection against discrimination.

To do this, Equality Michigan has launched an initiative to find a legislative path to extending these protections to the Michigan LGBT community.

"What you see is a conversation about strategy," Equality Michigan Executive Director Stephanie White said. "We are unified as a community that civil rights have to happen."

To lead that legislative initiative, White hired Triplett. Triplett is straight but comes to the gay rights group with a long history of LGBT equality activism.

Triplett helped organize the group's Local Electeds Against Discrimination, which coordinated a largely successful effort in 2013 and 2014 to amend local ordinances to protect LGBT residents against discrimination throughout mid-Michigan.

Triplett lost his City Council seat in November. He served as mayor as a Council appointee in East Lansing, which has a city manager.

Triplett said he will build on that experience as Equality Michigan focuses on electoral politics for the next few years. He said the agency's goal is to elect more LGBT-friendly and supportive candidates to state

offices. That includes the race for the state House this fall, local elections in 2017 and the gubernatorial and senate races in 2018.

"These are critical elections that will shape the political landscape over the next decade," Triplett said.

Triplett said the agency will also work with various networks across the state that already committed to doing work to address LGBT equality issues through engaging community centers and people of color, labor and faith in a variety of grassroots activities.

Another group, Fair Michigan, is seeking to extend those same civil rights protections via a ballot initiative focused on an amending of the state's constitution.

"This action is a major step toward eliminating job discrimination in Michigan and ensuring everyone is treated equally and fairly," Fair Michigan cochairman Richard McClellan said. "This will allow Michiganders to truly take control of an issue that means so much to our shared social and economic future."

On Dec. 29, the group received unanimous approval for ballot language from the State Board of Canvassers. The group now has until July 11 to collect 315,654 valid signatures of registered Michigan voters. Collecting those signatures could cost the ballot initiative committee \$1 million or more.

In December, Sara Wurfel, spokeswoman for Fair Michigan, said the organization would start collecting signatures this month.

Wurfel said that regardless of the polling and the polling models, Fair Michigan would push ahead.

Clouding the issue between a legislative fix and a ballot battle is a fight about polling and the potential outcome of any ballot measure in November. Support for amending the



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Equality Michigan, a statewide gay rights advocacy organization, will be focusing on a legislative fix to address antigay discrimination in Michigan. The initiative will be led by (left to right) Nathan Triplett, Stephanie White and Sommer Foster.

constitution stands at 68 percent, according to a poll by the Chicago group Glengarriff. But data from Freedom for All Americans, a national LGBT think tank and political organization, challenges those findings.

The group found a ballot measure would fail in November, receiving only 42 percent. Longtime political activists, including White and State Rep. Jon Hoadley, D-Kalamazoo, have told City Pulse media partner Between The Lines that making up the difference during a presidential election year in votes will require converting 365,000 no-votes into yes-votes.

"You have to have 3.6 million individual conversations and really about six commu-

nication touches per voter to move them," White said in December. "That's a total of 22 million touches: mail, phone, visit, etc. We simply do not have that capacity."

Despite the differing strategies, White and Triplett said the new program they launched works whether there is a ballot initiative and whether it is successful.

"Regardless, the debate on LGBT equality doesn't end with any one of these issues," Triplett said. "There will be issues that have to be addressed and implementation of the new language which will require legislative support."

— Todd Heywood 

Flint

from page 5

Maxwell isn't the only Lansing-area resident with a stake in Flint. Jerry Ambrose, the former chief of staff in the

Bernero administration, was part of the team that worked for Snyder appointee Darnell Earley, the emergency manager in Flint from 2013 till January of last year — during which time the decision was made to switch to the Flint River for drinking water.

Ambrose succeeded Earley in January

last year and served till the end of April.

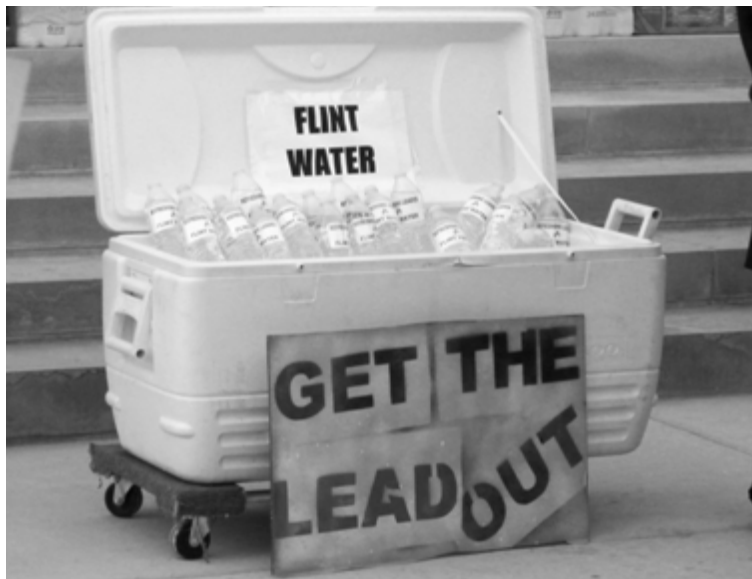
During Ambrose's four-month tenure, citizens were growing more and more discontented about the quality and condition of the water pouring from their taps. As Ambrose was taking on the role of manager, water officials announced the water had failed to meet federal safe drinking

water standards because there was too much disinfectant in it.

— Todd Heywood 

Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Protesters offer free Flint water to lawmakers.



PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE Zoning Amendment #15070 (Ordinance No. 2016-03)

Date passed: January 5, 2016
Nature of the ordinance: An amendment to Sections 86-2 (Definitions) and 86-438 (Wireless Communications Facilities Overlay District) of the Code of Ordinances to bring the Township's zoning ordinance into compliance with the language currently contained in the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act

Full text available at: Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road
Meridian Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Ct.
Haslett Branch Library, 5670 School Street
Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road
Snell Towar Recreation Center, 6146 Porter Avenue
The Township Website www.meridian.mi.us

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#16-017

Moving credit unions towards sustainability Getting credit unions to move practices in a greener direction

I closed my last column on credit unions with the following:

Might not our local credit unions or banking institutions adopt some of the admirable practices demonstrated by Vancity or the other sustainable credit unions and banks? Given their enviable success across the triple bottom line, let's hope they ask themselves, "Why not?" We credit union members should use our voices to encourage them.

It seems the leadership brought into manage credit unions isn't exposed to sustainable possibilities. To see our institutions move into those directions, we need to judge the benefits of such practices and how

we might accomplish that.

The credit unions' boards are elected representatives. Every credit union has a one member-voting process. When was the last time we remember voting for board members? And how knowledgeable were we about them when we voted? Did we have any control over who might become a candidate? My investigation of credit unions' board election processes discovered the norm is driven by a board subcommittee. They come up with members for election. The candidates are handpicked with CEO influence on the process. I've seen this become a who-knows-whom exercise in my interaction with nonprofit boards. A real danger is the board becoming a private club, where the CEO makes board nominations.

One approach to checking board control is reserving seats for certain constituents. Another approach is letting members nominate other members for candidacy. Nominees require 1,500-member signatures within six weeks to qualify, the same

See Link, Page 8

SUSTAINABILITY



TERRY LINK

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE Rezoning #15040 (Mayberry Homes) (Ordinance No. 2016-01)

Date passed: January 5, 2016
Nature of the ordinance: A request to rezone approximately 25.5 acres located on the east side of Powell Road north of Grand River Avenue from RR (Rural Residential) and CR (Commercial Recreation) to RAA (Single Family-Low Density)

Full text available at: Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road
Meridian Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Ct.
Haslett Branch Library, 5670 School Street
Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road
Snell Towar Recreation Center, 6146 Porter Avenue
The Township Website www.meridian.mi.us

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#16-019

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE Ordinance No. 2016-02

Date passed: January 5, 2016
Nature of the ordinance: An amendment to Chapter 38, Article IV of the Code of Ordinances to establish rules and regulation for Mobile Food Unit operations

Full text available at: Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road
Meridian Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Ct.
Haslett Branch Library, 5670 School Street
Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road
Snell Towar Recreation Center, 6146 Porter Avenue
The Township Website www.meridian.mi.us

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#16-016

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF EAST LANSING

Notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission on Wednesday, February 3, 2016, at 7:00 pm, at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. The hearing will be for the purpose of accepting comment on a proposed Michigan Department of Natural Resources grant application from the Natural Resources Trust Fund for improvements to the Patriarche Park ball fields. All interested persons will be given the opportunity to be heard. Contact Wendy Wilmers Longpre, Assistant Director of Parks, Recreation and Arts at (517) 333-2580 x 39, for additional information.

Marie Wicks
City Clerk

CP#16-002

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The Early Music Series is generously sponsored by Taylor Johnston.

College of Music
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDINANCE NO. 1364

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE III - LOCAL CHANGES TO THE UNIFORM TRAFFIC CODE - OF CHAPTER 44 - TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES - OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING BY AMENDING SECTION 44-343 (8.33.2) OF THE RESIDENT PERMIT PARKING CODE

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

Section 44-343 (8.33.2) of the Resident Permit Parking Code of Chapter 44 of the Code of the City of East Lansing is amended to read as follows:

Sec 44-343. Areas and Streets Designated for Residential Permit Parking. (8.33.2)

Subject to the regulations of this Ordinance and specific Supplemental Neighborhood Permit Parking Plan, the following areas and streets are designated for permit parking:

PERMIT PARKING AREA NO. 1 - CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD AREA-A

The following provisions and regulations shall comprise the Supplemental Neighborhood Permit Parking Plan for the Central Neighborhood Permit Parking Area:

Permit Parking Area No. 1 - Central Neighborhood Area - A

A. Permit Parking Streets.

Excluding those street sections where parking is prohibited by Traffic Control Order or in accordance with the provisions of §8.10 of the Uniform Traffic Code, parking by permit only is established along the following streets:

Cresenwood Road - from Chesterfield Parkway to University Drive
Oak Street - from University Drive to Harrison Avenue
Huntington Road - from University Drive to Harrison Avenue
University Drive - from Chesterfield Parkway to Grand River Avenue, including the north-south roadway located between Michigan Avenue and University Drive

B. Issuance of Permits

- 1) The maximum number of "resident" permits which may be issued to 1 & 2 family dwellings shall be three (3) per dwelling unit.
- 2) The maximum number of "resident" permits which may be issued to Class B dwellings shall be three (3).
- 3) Temporary Permits - temporary permits may be issued only to addresses in the permit parking area. Affected properties not on a permit parking street shall not be eligible to receive temporary permits.
- 4) Business Permits - The property at 343 Harrison Avenue shall be eligible to receive five (5) business permits provided that the current use of the property does not change.

C. Effective Hours

Excluding the City-wide parking prohibition during the hours of 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., parking by permit only on the above designated streets shall be in effect on a 24 hour, 7 day per week basis.

D. Permit Year

The permit year shall extend from September 1 to August 31.

PERMIT PARKING AREA NO. 2 - RED CEDAR NEIGHBORHOOD AREA

The following provisions and regulations shall comprise the Supplemental Neighborhood Permit Parking Plan for the Red Cedar Neighborhood Permit Parking Area:

Red Cedar Neighborhood Permit Parking Area - A

A. Permit Parking Streets.

Excluding those street sections where parking is prohibited by Traffic Control Order or in accordance with the provisions of Section 8.10 of the Uniform Traffic Code, parking by permit only is established along the following streets:

Daisy Lane - from Larkspur Drive to Lilac Avenue
Lilac Avenue - from Larkspur Drive to Harrison Avenue
Marigold Avenue - from Larkspur Drive to Harrison Avenue
Narcissus Drive - from Marigold Avenue to its southerly terminus
Sever Drive - from Narcissus Drive to Harrison Avenue

B. Issuance of Permits

- 1) The maximum number of "resident" permits which may be issued to 1 & 2 family dwellings shall be three (3) per dwelling unit.
- 2) The maximum number of "resident" permits which may be issued to Class B dwellings shall be three (3).
- 3) Temporary Permits - temporary permits may be issued only to addresses in the permit parking area. Affected properties not on a permit parking street shall not be eligible to receive temporary permits.
- 4) Business Permits - The Red Cedar Elementary School shall be eligible to receive six (6) business permits.

C. Effective Hours

Excluding the City-wide parking prohibition during the hours of 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., parking by permit only on the above designated streets shall be in effect on a 24 hour, 7 day per week basis.

D. Permit Year

The permit year shall extend from September 1 to August 31.

PERMIT PARKING AREA NO. 3 - BAILEY NEIGHBORHOOD AREA

The following provisions and regulations shall comprise the Supplemental Neighborhood Permit Parking Plan for the Bailey Neighborhood Permit Parking Area:

Bailey Neighborhood Permit Parking Area - A

A. Permit Parking Streets.

Excluding those street sections where parking is prohibited by Traffic Control Order or in accordance with the provisions of Section 8.10 of the Uniform Traffic Code, there shall be no parking except by permit from 12:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. on the following streets:

Library Lane
Grove Street - from Burcham Drive to Library Lane
Ridge Road

All streets within that area bounded by Burcham Drive, Hagadorn Road, Grand River Avenue, and Abbott Road, excluding all on-street metered parking and loading zone areas therein.

B. Issuance of Permits

- 1) One (1) and two (2) family dwellings may be issued a maximum of four resident permits and two (2) guest permits per dwelling unit.
- 2) Class B dwellings may be issued a maximum of four (4) resident permits and two (2) guest permits. In addition, such dwellings with regularly scheduled weekly meetings may be issued a maximum of twenty (20) "special temporary" permits for recurrent use only on the day of the week the meeting occurs. The "special temporary" permit shall be provided at no cost to residents.
- 3) Class A dwellings may be issued a maximum of one (1) resident permit and one (1) guest permit per dwelling unit.
- 4) Temporary Permits shall not exceed fifteen (15) permits per dwelling unit and shall be available to all residents in accordance with provisions of this resident permit parking code.
- 5) Business Permits, not to exceed four (4) permits per business, shall be available to area businesses in accordance with the provisions of this resident parking permit code.
- 6) Permits shall be issued on a "first come-first serve" basis.

Link

from page 7

number required to run as an independent for the U.S. House of Representatives. Vancouver Credit Union Vancity has a large membership base, and only requires five letters of nomination. They show board election information on their website, something rarely done.

My research shows local credit unions reflect the national trend, acting like private businesses instead of co-ops. A Filene Re-

search Institute report titled "Credit Unions and Cooperatives: How Charter Choice Drives Social Enterprise" showed credit unions operating within cooperative ethics in pursuit of a greater strategy.

"Member owned institutions operated in accordance with cooperative principles were one of the earliest forms of business organization that integrated the pursuit of broader social goals within a for-profit vehicle," the report said.

A 2004 Filene report showed an opportunity being missed with these principles.

"A new generation of members awaits, one of which is more civic-minded, socially

conscious and motivated by causes such as 'green growth,' 'local food,' and 'gender opportunity,'" the report indicated. "The obligation remains with credit unions to put the greatest emphasis on nurturing values, as well as generating value for their members."

One thing studying sustainability taught me is how systems require feedback. If we want our financial institutions to grow and make money regardless of cost, silence is the key to making that a reality. However, we can let them know what we want, to make them triple-bottom-line performers. All credit unions have annual membership meetings. How well they advertise and how

pro forma it varies. Members should be able to ask questions or make suggestions at forums. Otherwise, communicating with the board mandates investigating websites for contact information.

Getting 500 or 1,500 signatures is a challenge to reforming the board's direction through elections. One can begin by calling for a lower nomination threshold. You don't need to wait for the board to eventually address issues of sustainability. Each member has a voice. It can be simplified by getting others to join you. It's your credit union.

(Consultant Terry Link was the founding director of the Office of Sustainability at MSU).

PUBLIC NOTICES

7) Residents of properties which abut Burcham Drive, Hagadorn Road, Grand River Avenue, and Abbott Road, but which are not located within the area described in paragraph A above (excluding Library Lane, Grove Street, and Ridge Road) shall not be eligible to receive parking permits.

C. **Effective Hours**

During the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m., parking by permit only on the above designated streets and areas shall be in effect on a 24 hour, 7 day per week basis.

D. **Permit Year**

The permit year shall extend from September 1 to August 31.

PERMIT PARKING AREA NO. 4 -COLLEGE GROVE AREA

The following provisions and regulations shall comprise the Supplemental Neighborhood Permit Parking Plan for the College Grove Neighborhood Permit Parking Area:

College Grove Neighborhood Permit Parking Area - A

A. **Permit Parking Streets.**

Excluding those street sections where parking is prohibited by Traffic Control Order or in accordance with the provisions of Section 8.10 of the Uniform Traffic Code, parking by permit only is established along the following streets:

Grove Street from Linden Street to Burcham Drive
Beech Street from Abbott Road to M.A.C. Avenue
Elizabeth Street from Abbott Road to M.A.C. Avenue
Linden Street from Grove Street. to M.A.C. Avenue excluding metered parking areas
Park Lane from 220 feet north of Linden to Beech Street

B. **Issuance of Permits**

1) **Resident/Guest Permits:**

- Each address of "affected properties" within the Permit Area consisting of 1 or 2 family dwellings shall be eligible to receive a maximum of 4 resident and 2 guest permits.
- Each address of "affected properties" within the Permit Area consisting of Class A dwellings shall be eligible to receive a maximum of 1 resident and 1 guest permit.
- Each address of "affected properties" within the Permit Area consisting of Class B dwellings shall be eligible to receive a maximum of 4 resident permits.

2) **Business Permits**

- A maximum of 12 business permits shall be available for issuance to Martin Luther Chapel, 444 Abbott Road, East Lansing, Michigan.
- A maximum of 5 business permits shall be available for use by Urban Options Inc., 405 Grove Street, East Lansing, Michigan.
- Business permits may be issued to a specific business, rather than to a specific vehicle.

3) **Temporary Permits**

- Landlords, or their duly authorized agents, of affected properties within the permit parking area will be eligible to receive not more than 5 temporary permits, irrespective of the number of affected properties owned.
- Fifteen (15) temporary permits shall be available for use only by affected properties within the permit parking area.

C. **Effective hours**

Except as indicated below, parking by permit only on the streets designated in above section "A" shall be in effect on a 7 day per week basis.

- The City wide on-street parking prohibition from 2:00 am to 5:00 am shall remain in effect for all vehicles, irrespective of the permit parking program.
- Permit parking restrictions shall not be in effect on Sundays from 5:00 a.m. to midnight.

D. **Permit year**

The permit year shall begin on August 15 and end on August 14 of the following year.

PERMIT PARKING AREA NO. 5 - CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD AREA ADDITION

The following provisions and regulations shall comprise the Supplemental Neighborhood Permit Parking Plan for the Central Neighborhood Permit Parking Area Addition:

A. **Permit Parking Streets.** Excluding those street sections where parking is prohibited by Traffic Control Order or in accordance with the provisions of §8.10 of the Uniform Traffic Code, parking by permit only is established along the following streets:

Permit Parking Area No. 1 - Central Neighborhood Area Addition
Kensington Road from Oak Ridge Avenue to Michigan Avenue.
Chesterfield Parkway from Kensington Road to Cresenwood Road.
Cresenwood Road from Kensington Road to Chesterfield Parkway.

B. **Issuance of Permits**

- The maximum number of "resident" permits which may be issued to 1 & 2 family dwellings shall be three (3) per dwelling unit.
- The maximum number of "resident" permits which may be issued to Class B dwellings shall be three (3).
- Temporary Permits: temporary permits may be issued only to addresses in the permit parking area. Affected properties not on a permit parking street shall not be eligible to receive temporary permits.
- Business Permits - The property at 343 Harrison Avenue shall be eligible to receive five (5) business permits provided that the current use of the property does not change.

C. **Effective Hours.** Excluding the City-wide parking prohibition during the hours of 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m., parking by permit only on the above designated streets shall be in effect on a 24 hour, 7 day per week basis.

D. **Permit Year.** The permit year shall extend from September 1 to August 31.

AMERICA'S ANGRIEST MAYOR IS ALSO LIKED AND RESPECTED. WHO KNEW?

City Pulse survey shows Bernero with high scores for performance and likeability

By **MICKEY HIRTEN**

Look back at 2010, the race for governor in Michigan, and there he is: Virg Bernero, America's angriest mayor. A familiar talking head on cable television, it's Bernero railing against big business and fat cat Republican money interests, praising the auto bailout, the jobs it saved and the unions that backed him.

Anger was his meme — at least on television. It didn't win him the election.

In baseball there is the adage: Better to trade a year too early than a year too late. But politics is about the moment, and in 2016 anger is in. Bernero was six years too early, but he echoed what at least some voters want — a brawler.

In Lansing, it's what they get ... and apparently what they like.

After 10 years in office, Bernero's popularity exceeds that of politicians everywhere. A City Pulse survey of 1,035 voters reveals broad support for his job performance. And even more telling, people in Lansing like him personally, anger and all. (Poll story, P. 12.)

Thirty-nine percent says Bernero is doing a good job as mayor of Lansing; just 24 percent rate his performance as poor. In response to this question, "Regardless of the job he has done, how do you feel about him as a person?" Twenty-nine percent of those responding say they like him personally. Most were neutral, and only 21 percent professed to dislike him.

In today's political climate, these sorts of numbers proclaim "Bernero: Mayor for

Life." The approval rate for the U.S. Congress averages about 13.5 percent. The state Legislature has a 20 percent approval rate with 54 percent of voters disapproving, according to Public Policy Polling's July survey. Gov. Rick Snyder in the same PPP poll had a 40 percent approval rating, but a dreadful 47 percent disapproval grade. And that was before the lead poisoning of children in Flint dropped on him and his administration.

The City Pulse poll about Bernero shows consistent favorability ratings in all four city wards. He was a bit more popular with women than with men; 17 percent of women rated his performance as poor compared with 27 percent of men. And even among Republican voters just 34 percent rated his job performance as poor.

Lansing's chattering class — so-called "progressives" — have long bristled at Bernero's style. While they acknowledge that Lansing is moving in the right direction, the mayor is a bit too mouthy, too in your face for their sensibilities. Their feelings about Bernero are somewhat akin to the visceral dislike of conservative Republicans toward President Obama.

They consider the mayor a bully — in office less than two months, he publicly referred to then Councilman Brian Jeffries as a "pathetic piece of shit"; his angry phone calls to public figures and journalists alike are legendary. Hence their reluctance to talk and recount grievances like the demise of the old Lansing City Market. They pine

for a professional city manager or think wistfully about alternative candidates for mayor — term-limited State Rep. Andy Schor or Council's new president, newcomer Judi Brown Clarke. Schor with a razor thin legislative record is unlikely; Clark is simply unproven.

At-large Councilwoman Carol Wood ran against Bernero for mayor in 2009. She frames her differences with the mayor as one of priorities.

"The importance of continuing to grow Lansing is something both Virg and I agree on. But is it to the detriment of the neighborhoods?" Wood asked.

"What I constantly hear is that our neighborhoods feel that they have been left out



The beginning: Virg Bernero and his wife, Teri, celebrate his first-term victory over incumbent Tony Benavides in 2005. City Pulse marked the occasion with a New York Daily News-style front page. Cover design by Justin Bilicki, photo by Richard Galosy



as part of the process and part of the vision. They don't feel valued." She believes there should be more attention and money for streets, sidewalks and parks, and that developers in the hub if pressed by the city could improve its corridors.

But if the neighborhoods feel neglected, it doesn't show in their feeling about Bernero. The results suggest that his passion and his angry mayor persona conform with how their city should be managed.

"I tell it like it is. You don't have to wonder where you stand and you never have to guess where I stand. A lot of politicians are mealy-mouthed," Bernero said last week discussing his tenure and the poll results.

"If you want to argue with me, I'm always open to debate. And I've learned to change my position. But the thing about being mayor is that you can't bullshit people. Basically they are voting on how the city is today and how it is going. When it comes to being mayor, it is what it is. Mayor is the most local of all offices."

What drives Bernero, and what voters seem to recognize, is a passion to battle for Lansing against real and imagined foes.

"We have to fight every day because the deck is stacked against cities," Bernero said.

See Bernero, Page 11

BERNERO

from page 10

“We get screwed on revenue sharing. The state has all of these office building here but in Lansing they don't pay property taxes.”

And don't get him started about Lansing Township and Eastwood Town Centre, the sprawling retail and hotel complex just north of the city that cloaked in a “Downtown Development Agreement” shares only a fraction of its economic bounty with other communities.

Still, Bernero recognizes that for Lansing to succeed, the region must prosper and has long advocated more cooperation on a host of issues. He rejects the suggestion that his at times charged rhetoric has dampened regional efforts and backs this assertion with a litany of successes that are shaping Greater Lansing.

“When I became mayor it was every community for itself. We no longer do that. We've laid down our arms and don't compete against each other.”

He cites 425 development agreements (a way for two local governments to share tax revenue from new business growth) with Alaiadon Township to expand Jackson National Life's headquarters, the expansion of General Motors facilities in Delta Township and the agreement with DeWitt Township to create a new economic development zone at the Capital Region International Airport.

Lansing shares a fire chief with East Lansing. The city and other municipalities are coordinating and funding park and trail improvements, the result of a new countywide millage. In 2006, the city asked Ingham County to assume management and maintenance of the Potter Park Zoo, a change that was approved by voters.

“I went to the Friends of the Zoo and went to the county and said we can't do this any more. We just couldn't keep it up. Now it's a county zoo. If it wasn't, I think it would



Photo by Doug Ellinger for City Pulse

When Stevie Wonder criticized wayward kids who “curse out their mothers,” Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero nodded. Bernero gave Wonder the key to the city when the recording legend came to town in 2006 to be inducted into the Michigan Walk of Fame.

be closed today. The collaboration was phenomenal, and now the zoo can continue on forever,” Bernero said.

He believes that people in the region may be more open to regional cooperation than the politicians they elect. And this view applies to the city.

“Change is difficult. Look at the heat I took on closing two golf courses. But every time I've asked voters to amend the city charter they've said yes. Every time I've asked voters to approve the sale of property, they've said yes. Lansing is continuing to right size and the public understands that.”

For a politician with Bernero's populist roots and strong support from unions, he has nonetheless forged a productive relationship with the business community.

It was evident in the most recent City Council election where he aligned with the Greater Lansing Regional Chamber of Com-

See Bernero, Page 12



Photo by Sharon Grossman for City Pulse


Bernero traveled to Ann Arbor's annual Hash Bash last year to announce his support for legalizing the recreational use of marijuana in Michigan. In Lansing, Bernero has allowed medical marijuana dispensaries to operate despite court rulings declaring them illegal.

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POLL RESULTS: BERNERO GETS HIGH SCORES FOR JOB PERFORMANCE AND LIKEABILITY

By MICKEY HIRTEN

A defining trait of Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero is his willingness to share an opinion on, well, just about anything. The same with city voters, when asked to say what they think of the mayor. They are willing to share.

A City Pulse survey commissioned to measure the mayor's job performance and likability found a ready and willing audience to grade the mayor. They like him and how he's running the city.

The response rate to questions was unusually robust, said Mark Grebner, founder and president of Practical Political Consulting Inc., a nationally recognized polling firm. "To our surprise we got responses (to our first question) from 1,041 people, a response rate of 14.9 percent — more than double the 7 percent we expected.

"From our experience, such a high response rate suggests that people found our questions unusually interesting and/or easy to answer. That is, city voters had opinions on the topic of Mayor Bernero's performance, and they were quite willing to share them," he said.

The introductory question asked voters to rate Bernero's job performance, specifically, "What do

you think of the job he has done as Mayor of Lansing?"

Of 1,044 responses, 403 (39 percent) said he has done a good job; 393 (38 percent) a fair job; and 248 (24 percent) rated the mayor's job performance as poor.

The high response rate among all potential voters means the sample has a low margin of error, just plus or minus 3 percent 95 percent of the time. This is a standard way of measuring polling results. The margin of error rate for most opinion polls falls in the 3-to-5 percent range.

The second question asked voters about Bernero's personality, separate from his performance. There was a slight correlation between very informed voters, those who follow city politics closely, and discomfort with Bernero's personality.

"We assumed — probably because of our own acquaintance with him — there would be a substantial number of people who approved of his work, but were nettled by his personality," Grebner said. "Not many voters said they saw him that way."

Overall, the survey found that people like

See Poll, Page 13

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT LANSING MAYOR VIRG BERNERO PERSONALLY?

	RESPONSES	PERCENT
Like	298	29%
Neutral	517	50%
Dislike	220	21%
Total	1035	100%

(margin of error: 3%)

— City Pulse poll, Jan 10-13, 2016, conducted by Practical Political Consultants

HOW DO YOU RATE LANSING MAYOR VIRG BERNERO'S JOB PERFORMANCE?

	RESPONSES	PERCENT
Good	403	39%
Fair	393	38%
Poor	248	24%
Total	1044	101%

(margin of error: 3%)

— City Pulse poll, Jan 10-13, 2016, conducted by Practical Political Consultants

BERNERO

from page 11

merce to support incumbent A'Lynne Boles and to try to defeat incumbent councilwoman Jody Washington and challenger Adam Hussain.

Both the Chamber and Bernero misjudged the voting public's temperament. Boles lost; Washington and Hussain won. But it illustrates the singular view that Lansing must diversify its economy and that this requires business investment. He was an early supporter of the Lansing Economic Area Partnership whose CEO, Bob Trezise, previously headed the city's economic development corporation.



Sam Inglot/City Pulse

Bernero loves to joke and even clown, as demonstrated at a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new sidewalk in 2013, accompanied by (from right) Councilwomen Jessica Yorko and Kathie Dunbar and former Councilwoman A'Lynne Boles.

For businesses planning to invest in the city, the mayor is seen as a strong though demanding ally.

"With Virg you know what you are going to get," said Pat Gillespie, whose developments included the Midtown, Marketplace and the Stadium District apartment complexes. "If he understands what you want to do and sees betterment for the city, then he'll get behind it. Once he's fully informed, he's all in"

"We lay out the red carpet rather than the red tape. Lansing had developed a reputation as being too bureaucratic," Bernero said. "The business community is going to lead the way. Companies like Neogen, Two Men and a Truck and Accident Fund are growing and adding jobs."

It is the transformation of the abandoned Ottawa Power Station into the Accident Fund Insurance Co. of America's corporate headquarters that Bernero cites as one of the significant accomplishments of his administration.

Some of the biggest projects are in the offing and involve land abandoned by General Motors as part of its restructuring — so-called Racer Trust properties. The trust, which Bernero lobbied for as head of the national Mayors Automotive Coalition is overseeing the sale of four derelict sites in Lansing, Lansing Township and Delta Town-

ship, properties that Bernero said are primed for redevelopment and jobs.

Developers of the Red Cedar Renaissance, a \$280 million development on the closed Red Cedar Golf Course, expect to break ground in 2016. And the city and the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians are awaiting federal approval to advance their plans for a \$245 million casino adjacent to the downtown Lansing Center. It too could happen in 2016.

On a smaller scale, the city boasts of the urban renaissance that is Old Town and the potential to replicate a renewal in REO Town just south of the downtown business district. The beginnings of a revival along Michigan Avenue is underway, spurred by the potential of the Red Cedar project and the \$99.5 million SkyVue project already started on the former Story Oldsmobile site.

Bernero expects to see these projects mature during his time as mayor, which is unlikely to end soon. Although he hasn't announced it formally, he said he plans to run for a fourth term.

Bernero said he has about \$100,000 in his reelection fund and expects to add another \$60,000 after his next fundraiser.

He is supporting Hillary Clinton for president and has good relationships with the national Democratic Party. What about a position with a Clinton administration?

"I'm excited about what it would do for Lansing with a friend in the White House. But I can't imagine living in the Washington area. But, never say never. If they felt I could make a vital difference it would be tempting. When I go there, it will be a labor of love.



Courtesy Lansing Brewing Company

Bernero's outspokenness during the fight over a bailout for General Motors landed him the title "angriest mayor in America" — and eventually a beer named for him.

Another run for governor? "I really doubt that. I have to consult with my boss" — wife Teri, a public school principal in Lansing.

What Bernero said he needs to focus on is education and jobs training. He wants greater collaboration with city schools and Lansing Community College to ensure that there is opportunity across the city's demographic spectrum.

"My 2016 resolution is to be purposeful, intentional and strategist," he said. And he added, "to maintain an attitude of gratitude."

POLL

from page 12

Bernero, or at the very least are neutral about him.

We asked this question: “Regardless of the job he has done, how do you feel about him as a person?”

Of 1,035 responses, 298 (29 percent) said they liked Bernero personally; 517 (38 percent) said they didn't have a strong feeling either way; and 220 (21 percent) said they disliked him personally. As with the first question, the margin of error was 3 percent.

“If a voter thinks Bernero is doing a good job as mayor, they probably like him personally, while people who think he's doing poorly dislike him,” Grebner said, comparing the responses to the two questions.

There is some indication that voters feel more strongly about Bernero's personality than his job performance. Only 229 (about 80 percent) of the 298 voters who personally like Bernero graded his performance as good. And at the other end of the spectrum, of the 220 voters who said they disliked Bernero personally, only about half (115 respondents) graded his job performance as poor.

Based on responses to the survey, Bernero received his highest job performance rating from voters in the city's Fourth Ward, essentially the northwest quadrant. Of the 345 voters polled, 41 percent rated his job performance as good. Voters were least enthusiastic in the Second Ward, the city's southeast neighborhoods, where just 33 percent of those surveyed rated the performance as good; in the First Ward, the city's northeast, it was 37 percent good and in the Third Ward, the southwest, 36 percent good.

Responses grading the mayor's job performance as poor were grouped more closely than the good responses: 24 percent in the First Ward, 22 percent in the Second Ward, 21 percent in the Third Ward and 23 percent in the Fourth Ward.

Survey results also reflected the party divide in Lansing, such as it is.

“The attitude toward Bernero doesn't strictly follow partisan lines, but it's apparent that his opposition arises primarily from the minority of non-Democrats,” Grebner said.

Among those responding, 692 voters identified themselves as Democrats and of those, 301 (43 percent) rated Bernero's job performance as good; 240 (36 percent) said it was fair; and 114 (16 percent) said it was poor. Republican-leaning voters were harsher in their critique. Of 399 surveyed, 102 (26 percent) called the mayor's job performance good; 146 (37 percent) said it was fair; and 134 (34 percent) rated his as poor.

Bernero's favorability rating is higher among women than men. Of the 699 women responding to the survey, 262 (39 percent) rated Bernero's performance good; 240 (36 percent) said fair; and 113 (17 percent) rated his performance as poor. Men were more critical. Of the 422 responding, 141 (33 percent) rated the mayor's performance as good; 153 (36 percent) as fair; and 115 (27 percent) said he was doing a poor job.

And finally, the survey results suggested familiarity with Bernero lessens his appeal.

“It appears that those who pay the closest attention to issues and campaigns are slightly less enamored than those whose involvement is more hit-or-miss,” Grebner said.

The survey screened for whether respondents cast ballots in the city primary election last year. Of those that didn't vote, 41 percent (175 respondents) rated Bernero's job performance as good. Of those who voted, only 34 percent (228 respondents) said the performance was good. The difference was also reflected among those who rated his job performance as poor: 18 percent (77 respondents) of non-voters and 26 percent (171 respondents) of voters.

Survey details: This survey for City Pulse was conducted Jan. 10 to 13 by Practical Political Consulting Inc. of Lansing. It identified the 7,000 most likely city voters with telephone landlines. Five attempts were made to reach potential respondents. The automated telephone survey response rate was 14.9 percent. Where appropriate, responses from the survey were matched with information in PPC's database.



Belinda Thurston/City Pulse

A low point for Bernero was the publicly owned utility BWL's handling of the 2013 ice storm crisis. Bernero stood by BWL GM Peter Lark even though he disappeared during the aftermath of the storm for a holiday in Manhattan — then fired him the next year.

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By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

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Heavy metal and classical music have a lot in common — and not just the umlauts.

“The drama, the richness, the epic quality of it, the bombast!” Pine enthused.

Over-the-top drama and violins often travel together, it seems. Niccolò Paganini, a legendary virtuoso and rock star of the early 1800s, was accused of selling his soul to Satan in exchange for his violin prowess. Giuseppe Tartini, an earlier violin hero, wrote a fiendish fiddle piece called “The Devil’s Trill,” which came to him in a dream in which he sold his soul.

Drama is a mild word for Pine’s own life story, a real-life dance with the devil.

In 1995, on the cusp of a top-level international career, Pine was riding a Chicago commuter train on her way to give a violin lesson. As she was leaving the train car, the automatic closing doors grabbed the strap of her violin case and dragged her under. Her left leg was severed and her right leg was badly injured. She’s had over 40 surgeries since then.

Just three years before the accident, she became — and she still is — the first American and youngest person ever to win the gold medal in violin at the International Johann Sebastian Bach Competition in Bach’s home town of Leipzig, Germany.

It’s impossible to know whether Pine’s post-accident career, after a long and slow rehab, measures up to her early promise. But she’s riding the lighting with gusto, prosthetic leg and all.

“Going all over the world, soloing with orchestras — it’s what I love,” she said. “I want to do it ‘til I drop.”

Last weekend, Pine was in her element, playing the opening concert at an exhibit

of Stradivari violins at the Musical Instruments Museum in Phoenix.

She snuck out of rehearsal to peek at a big-screen film that will run throughout the six-month exhibit — a film of Pine tearing into a Paganini caprice. A woman stood nearby.

“I can tell that you’re a fan of heavy metal by the way you play Paganini,” the visitor told her.

“Not at all,” Pine answered. “This is the way I’ve always played Paganini, before I ever discovered metal. But all those metal bands were very influenced by him.”

On a recent trip to Berlin, Pine talked with Uli Jon Roth, the German-born lead guitarist of the Scorpions.

“He told me how he took a passage from the Brahms violin concerto and started using it in a lot of his shredding solos,” Pine said. “Eddie Van Halen started copying his solos, and everybody started copying Eddie Van Halen. Unbeknownst to most guitarists today, they’re playing part of the Brahms violin concerto.”

Pine’s gig in Lansing Saturday is not exactly a shredding opportunity: Max Bruch’s lilting “Scottish Fantasy,” (Dvorak’s Eighth Symphony and the “King Lear Overture” by Berlioz are also on the slate.)

But Bruch uses Scottish folk melodies, and that gives Pine a chance to put her own juice into the music. She’s been studying Scottish traditional fiddling with Alasdair Fraser, one of the greatest in the genre.

“Playing the concerto as a fiddler might

play it is the best approach,” Pine said, adding that if you play it like a piece of German music, you miss the point.

Pine thinks of the “Fantasy,” written in 1880, as multiculturalism before multiculturalism became a buzzword. The piece was written by a German composer, based on Scottish tunes and dedicated to the great Spanish virtuoso Pablo de Sarasate.

Pine pines for the days of Sarasate, when fiddlers could get down with the peasants and regale the high-brows with equal flair.

“The same guy that was playing in a barn for a dance would be sitting in the local music society, playing Bach, Corelli, Vivaldi and Handel the next night,” she said.

Saturday, she’ll do things to Bruch she’d never do to Beethoven.

“I add some of the lilt, and even some of the Gaelic ornaments,” she said. “Once you get that traditional sound in your ear, you can’t not hear it that way. It’s really fun to bring the flavor of the pub to the concert stage.”

The concerto’s overall feel is lush and dreamy.

“The orchestration is really glorious,” Pine said. “His use of the harp really conjures up that

Celtic world, crumbling castles and clans and things like that.”

Pine is still brushing aside ongoing fallout from her fateful accident, from physical pain to perverse sneers that her press-friendly “story” has somehow advanced her career.

She’s a settled soul, owing largely to her husband, Greg Pine, and 4-year-old daughter, Sylvia. (She happily reports that Sylvia is digging Beethoven, Stravinsky and “Guys

and Dolls.”)

She’s settled on her instrument, too, a 1742 Guarneri del Gesu axe of same year and maker as Paganini’s fiddle. Even hanging out at the Phoenix instrument museum last weekend, surrounded by priceless Stradivaris and such, hasn’t tempted her to stray.

“Of course, it doesn’t belong to me,” she said. “It’s on lifetime loan. But it’s my voice. It’s so much a part of myself that I don’t want to play any other violin. It’s like, once I met my husband, I wasn’t inclined to check out guys anymore.”

She also does a lot of outreach work, bringing classical music — liberally laced with rock references — to schools. At 10 a.m. Friday, she’ll pay a visit to Lansing’s Everett High School.

After winning a multi-million-dollar settlement from her accident, Pine started a foundation that has helped about 70 financially struggling young musicians so far.

Musically, she has tackled the heaviest classical repertoire there is, including a complete recording and live performances of Paganini’s 24 Caprices. Now she’s climbing the summit: Bach’s complete sonatas and partitas, with a CD out this summer. The Bach project brings her full circle, back to her first musical passion, sitting wide-eyed in St. Paul’s United Church of Christ as a tot.

“Bach has been an important force in my life,” she said. “That church is where I first encountered the violin and the music of Bach.”

The church even has an image of Bach in stained glass, up there with the saints.

“That’s where he belongs,” she said.

Meanwhile, she is looking for off-the-beaten-path projects like her recent disc of concertos by black composers of the 18th and 19th centuries.

And of course, heavy metal is still in her mix. This summer Pine premieres a concerto with the Phoenix Symphony written for her by New York violinist/composer Earl Maneein, who is even more into heavy metal than Pine is.

“It has influences of heavy metal, just like Bartok’s violin concerto is influenced by Hungarian folk music,” Pine said. “It’s the first of its kind, and I’m the violinist to do it. I hope to take it everywhere. Who knows? Maybe to Lansing.”



Courtesy photo

Violinist Rachel Barton Pine, guest soloist at Saturday’s Lansing Symphony concert, mixes influences of classical and heavy metal music.

'Unlocking the greatest you'

Introducing Walter Crockett, City Pulse fitness columnist

The new year is upon us, and many people are motivated to improve their health and their lives. How many of you resolved that this would be the year that you would improve your personal well-being? The statistics, unfortunately, are not in your favor. Studies suggest that

MIND & BODY WELLNESS



WALTER CROCKETT

over half of us will give up on our resolutions by February. But I am going to do my part to make sure this doesn't happen to you. I am going to use this space to coach, motivate and give you a blueprint for lasting change. The Mind & Body Symmetry program will guide you on

your journey to creating your optimal life, or, as I like to call it, "unlocking the greatest you."

After 14 years of helping thousands of people with their health, motivation, personal performance, well-being and self-image, I asked myself one very crucial question: What is true wellness? Many of us are healthy in different aspects of wellness. Some are healthy in mental focus and life direction. Others are healthy in physical fitness. My mission is to create a balance between mental and physical health. This is the key to behavioral change, happiness and vitality.

I have worked with several professionals who have directed their companies, firms and corporations to great success. These individuals have shown great mental focus, direction and intelligence in leading their businesses to success. But this often comes at the expense of their physical health. This directly affects their

personal well-being. In the dynamics of wellness, would you consider this person successful?

I have also seen individuals get into their best physical shape but still feel something is missing in the puzzle of wellness. I truly believe that until you train the brain the way you train your body, you will never create your optimal life.

Many of us fall somewhere in the middle of these two extremes. A new year starts, and many repeat the pattern of over-promising and under-delivering. But I want to help you break the pattern. Let's start a movement in our communities, in our families and, most important, in ourselves. Let this year be the start of something new and phenomenal. This year, you will raise the standards of what to expect from yourself. This year you will change your "I should do" to "I must do." This year you will be healthier mentally and physically. This year you will believe in your possibilities.

So what do you believe? Do you believe that you have untapped potential? Do you believe that you can be healthier mentally and physically? What would happen if you elevated your life on both sides of wellness? Close your eyes and imagine this new you.

In my next column, I will tackle the hurdle of overcoming and changing your beliefs. I challenge you to step up and take control of your life and reach your peak performance. You deserve it, and the world deserves the best that you have to offer.

Remember: Peak performance starts in the mind and ends in the performance of the human body. This is such a powerful statement. This give us the power to create and change our health and lives. I'm looking forward to working with you on the journey to unlock the greatest you.

Walter Crockett is a certified personal trainer at the Sparrow Michigan Athletic Club and owner of Mind & Body Symmetry LLC. He has 14 years of experience in the health and wellness industry. Contact him at mindbodysymmetry@gmail.com or find him online at mindbodysymmetry.fit.

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GRAND OPENING EVENTS

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Join us!

**Thursday, January 28
at 6:30 pm**



Helena Miller, R.R.T is a Nutrition Response Testing Practitioner, is passionate about health and nutrition and often gives health talks at Rassel-Daignault Chiropractic

How to Detox in a Toxic World

Detoxification is more than a fad diet, colon cleanse or trip to the sauna! The body detoxes 24 hours a day, every day. The important thing to know is how in our daily lives we hamper our bodies' detoxification pathways, as well as what we can do to enhance our ability to detoxify every day. Dr. Morgan will share his favorite methods to optimize your detoxification pathways through nutrition, supplementation & lifestyle!



**Saturday,
January 30
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CURTAIN CALL

Behind closed doors

Owosso Community Players presents a poignant look at living with disabilities
By TOM HELMA

“The Boys Next Door,” presented by the Owosso Community Players, is not about boys. Rather, it is a heart-wrenching tale about four grown men, intellectually and emotionally disabled, residing in a communal residence home. In many respects, these men are not all that much different than any of

the rest of us.

Except for one thing. The character of Jack, a social services caseworker responsible for visiting 17 such homes, notes in the play, “They never change.”

Actors portraying characters with moderate to severe limitations face a serious challenge. They must present those characters in a manner that conveys the complexity of their simplicities. Owosso Community Players partnered with the Arc of Shiawassee County to produce this play, and both actors and directors had exposure to real-life people with disabilities. The result is a rep-

“The Boys Next Door”

Owosso Community Players
8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 22
and Saturday, Jan. 23; 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 24
\$15/\$13.50 students and seniors/\$7.50 children 13 and under
Lebowski Center
122 E. Main St., Owosso (989) 723-4003, owossoplayers.com.

17 boxes of Wheaties. A store manager, seeking to take advantage of Arnold’s disability, suggested that was the number of boxes that four men might consume in a week. Arnold is moderately impaired, functional enough to keep a job cleaning toilets yet nervous enough that small disruptions can set off a roller coaster of emotions.

The dialogue between Arnold and Jack (Quentin Brainerd), intended to calm Arnold, is a classic example of empathetic listening skills.

We are then introduced to the other men, each with a slightly different disabling condition, all as emotionally vol-

resentation of the daily lives of people with disabilities that feels authentic, neither understated nor over the top.

Each of four men have their moment in the spotlight. The play opens with Arnold (Jerry Ciarlino) coming home from a grocery store with

atile as Arnold. Sparks fly. Comments are misunderstood, sometimes taken out of context, other times taken more literally than intended. A plea of “Hold your horses!” invites puzzled looks. “Horses, where are the horses?”

Audience members, at first amused by these dissociative comments, soon realize this is the dialogue of every day in these homes — impaired people bouncing off each other, somehow managing to get through another day.

Lucien (Artis White), the most severely impaired resident of the house, shuffles around, often sing-songing the first three letters of the ABC’s — except he can never quite get to the third letter accurately.

One of the most dramatic moments of this play is when Lucien is summoned to a meeting of disability experts to re-assess his limitations. White begins a response to a question with a mix of fragmented, nonsensical thoughts. Then, in a moment of magical realism, we are treated to a powerful narrative exposition of what intellectually impaired people might say on their own behalf, if they were able.

The lights are dim. Lucien stands, no longer shuffling. For a moment, we hear the deep suffering that is under the surface.

Another character, Norman (Michael Windnagle), explores the challenges that people with disabilities have navigating sex and romance. A scene at the end of the first act, in which he and another disabled character, Sheila (Jessica Hickey), slow dance slowly to Glen Hansard’s “Falling Slowly,” is particularly poignant.

Barry (Spencer Perrenoud) has issues that are more mental than physical, bordering on schizophrenia. A visit from Barry’s father after nine years of neglect ends in a physically abusive incident, sending Barry into psychotic withdrawal and hospitalization.

This is not an easy play to enjoy. It reminds us that behind closed doors, impaired people have lives that are more challenging than we care to know about.

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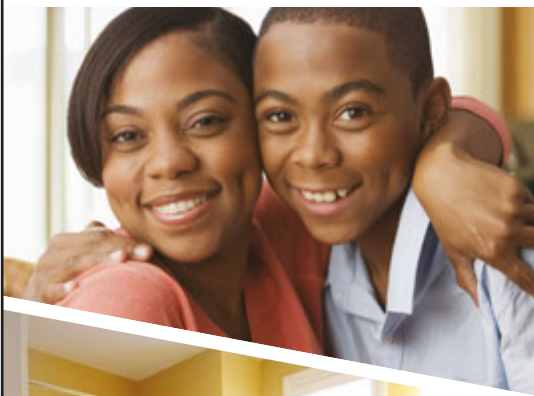
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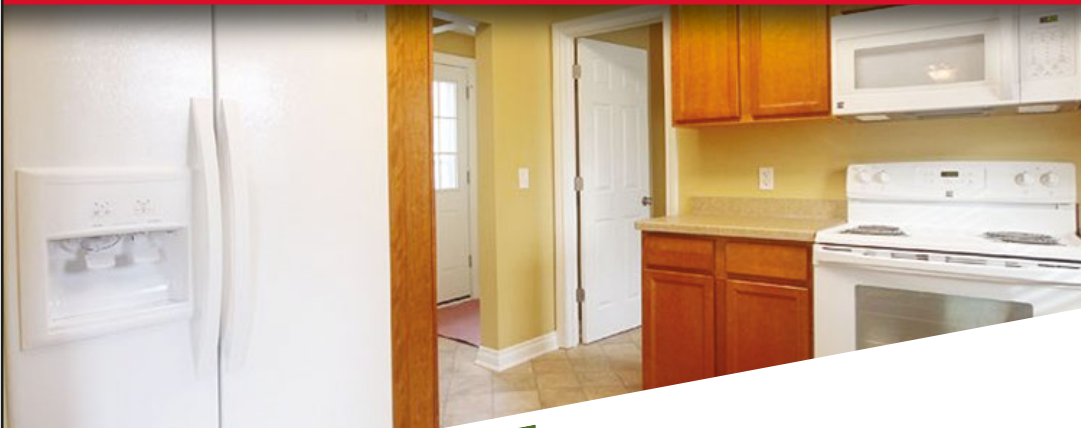
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Digging for inspiration James Rollins looks to the past in 'The Bone Labyrinth'

By BILL CASTANIER

Author James Rollins' newest book, "The Bone Labyrinth," proves his "idea box" is still brimming with good ideas. This is not a metaphor. When Rollins thinks of

James Rollins

Author talk and book signing

7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29

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a good idea, he makes a note and drops it in an actual box. Later, he goes through the box to find inspiration for his popular thrillers.

"The Bone Labyrinth" is the 11th entry in Rol-

lins' popular Sigma Force series. The saga

follows a group of elite soldiers who are thrown into extremely dangerous situations. In this installment, Sigma Force, led by Commander Gray Pierce, must look for the answers that are hidden more than 50,000 years in the past. In the book's opening, an archaeological team stumbles upon a subterranean chapel that holds the bones of a neanderthal woman and some extraordinary primitive wall paintings that tell the tale of an unimaginable battle.

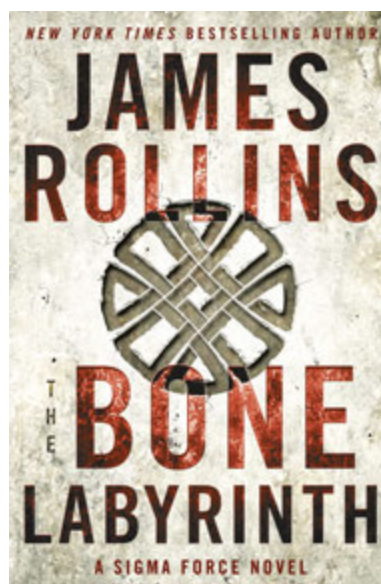
The dig is overrun by a strike team bent on capturing a group of scientists. Meanwhile, a primate research center in Atlanta comes under attack, and several researchers and an amazing primate named Bakko are kidnapped. Linking the two locations are twin sisters, Maria and Lena, who are geneticists and lead researchers in primate intelligence.

Rollins said the idea for his book comes from one of the great mysteries of civilization, what is called the "great leap forward." The leap deals with a period about 50,000 years ago, when man evolved from neanderthal to human.

"Scientists today haven't settled on the trigger for the leap forward," Rollins said.

As the plot progresses, we learn that Chinese agents are behind the attacks. They are trying to create another great leap forward and are working on manipulating human DNA. The Chinese have been able to make great advancements in genetics, but they have run into a dead end. The twin sisters have made great strides with Bakko, and the Chinese agents are hoping to kidnap the sisters and steal their research. It becomes Sigma Force's job to protect them.

"(The Chinese) are on the slippery slope of eugenics," Rollins said of his



Courtesy Photo

Author James Rollins drew on ancient history to create his latest military thriller, "The Bone Labyrinth."

book's antagonists.

Sigma Force must protect one twin while working to free the second. The action is non-stop as the story unfolds simultaneously on two continents. The book's underground escape segments are Rollins' meat and potatoes of storytelling. But underneath the James Bond-style antics is Rollins' love of science. Each of his Sigma Force books has a scientific underpinning. Some of it so unbelievable that Rollins has taken to answering his critics with a section in the book called "Fact or Fiction," where he explains what's real and admits what's made up. The section was inspired by an email from a reader who claimed one of his scientific ideas was fiction.

"The reader said an idea was too outlandish, and he didn't finish the book," Rollins said. "The interesting thing was that

the idea he pointed out was true. Yes, truth is stranger than fiction."

In his dissection of fact and fiction, we learn about Athanasius Kircher. A historical figure referenced in the book, Kircher was a real-life Jesuit priest and scientist. We also learn that astronaut Neil Armstrong was indeed involved in a South American search for a lost library.

Many of Rollins' ideas come from the 20 different magazines that arrive on his doorstep each month. Others come from his innate curiosity. On a recent book tour, he was being driven between New Orleans and Mobile when he came upon a large fenced in area.

"I asked the driver what it was for and he said it was secret. I made a note to research that site," he said.

One segment in "The Bone Labyrinth" takes place in secret chambers under the Beijing Zoo. On a trip to the zoo, Rollins learned of the underground bunker, part of a massive underground system that was constructed during the Cold War to move troops and to protect the citizenry.

Rollins said the extensive research he does for each book is "one of the joys of writing," but it can also reveal scary truths. In the course of writing this book, Rollins found studies that suggest our brains are growing smaller. This prompted him to ask the question, "Are we going backward or will there be another great leap forward?"

SCHULER BOOKS & MUSIC

Tor Author Highlight with TOM DOYLE and LAWRENCE M. SCHOEN

Thursday, January 21 @ 7pm
Eastwood Towne Center location



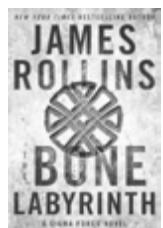
East Lansing native Tom Doyle is author of the *American Craft* series, in which ancient magic meets SEAL Team Six for an unforgettable mix of fantasy and action.

Lawrence M. Schoen is

touring for the release of *Bark: The Elephant's Graveyard*, a wonderfully weird space opera featuring a wildly diverse universe of anthropomorphized creatures that will amaze readers with its imagination and gripping pathos.

Talk & Signing with NYT-bestselling Thriller Author JAMES ROLLINS

Friday, January 29 @ 7pm



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OUT ON THE TOWN

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

Wednesday, January 20

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

H.E.R.O. Special DIY Kitchen Class #3: Tiling a Backsplash. Home improvement course. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980, glhc.org.

Women and Codependency. Workshop to help women and children avoid unhealthy relationships. 9-11 a.m. and 6-8 p.m. FREE. Ramada Hotel & Conference Center, 7501 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing.

Writing a Business Plan. Introductory business planning course. Call or register online. 9-11:30 a.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdmichigan.org.

Aux Petits Soins. French immersion class for ages 0-12. See web for specific times for each age group. \$15/\$12 students. 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Suite F, Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

EVENTS

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

ICACS Whisker Wednesday. Free cat adoptions and half off dog adoption fees. Noon-5:30 p.m. Ingham County Animal Control, 600 Curtis St., Mason. (517) 242-7440, ac.ingham.org.

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

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

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

Computer Basics. Learn the parts of a computer, plus how to use a mouse and keyboard. Call to register. 5-6 p.m. FREE. CADL Aurelius, 1939 S. Aurelius Road, Mason. (517) 628-3743, cadl.org.

Remember When Reminiscers: Discovering

See Out on the Town, Page 23

Mort gets a facelift



Courtesy Photo

Left to right: Jeff Shoup, Paul Keller, Sarah D'Angelo and Duncan McMillan perform at Moriarty's Jazz Tuesdays series. Shoup is organizing a Sunday fundraiser to improve the bar's live music setup.

Sunday, Jan. 24

While Moriarty's Bar has hosted local bands for years, the venue hasn't always been comfortable for performers.

"The bands used to set up in front of the fireplace," said local drummer Jeff Shoup said. "It was awkward and cramped."

A proper stage was installed about four years ago. Owners Joy Allswede and Carolyn Baron, who purchased the bar from former owner Michael Moriarty in 2014, continue to book local bands. This weekend, Shoup has assembled a diverse cross-section of Lansing's musical talent for a fundraiser, Mort's Fest, to further improve the bar's live music setup.

"Mort's is becoming the new home for live music in Lansing," Shoup said. "We want to make it an even better place to play music."

Shoup runs the popular Jazz Tuesdays series at Moriarty's, which he started about a year and a half ago. He previously hosted a similar series next door at Stober's Bar, which he described as "mildly successful." But the series really took off when he moved it to Moriarty's.

"(Jazz Tuesdays) has become more successful than anyone thought it would be," Shoup said. "Everything

worked out perfectly."

Moriarty's — Mort's to its regulars — has also become the home of Lansing's best known open mic night, hosted Wednesday evenings by singer/songwriter Jen Sygit. After 13 years at Dagwoods, Sygit moved her open mic night to Moriarty's in November.

Shoup uses social media to promote his Jazz Tuesday events. He encourages attendees to post pictures and videos on Facebook and Instagram. He also posts videos from the performances on YouTube. As he edited the videos, he was bothered by the drab stage setup.

"I looked at the videos, and the stage is boring and beige, and there are ugly mirrors behind the band," he said.

Shoup started floating the idea of a fundraiser to improve the bar's stage among his musician friends. The response was virtually unanimous.

"Everybody was like, 'Yes! What do you want me to do?'" Shoup said.

In fact, the most difficult part of planning the fundraiser was whittling down the list of performers.

"It was hard. I had 10 hours and 16 bands who wanted to play," Shoup said. "I hope I didn't step on anybody's toes."

Shoup is hoping to raise \$2,500 at Sunday's event. There is no cover charge, but donations are encouraged and there will be raffles and other "crowd participation" opportunities.

His first priorities are buying curtains to dress up the stage and replacing the bar's "ancient" PA system. If there's money left after that, he'd like to upgrade the stage lights.

"The lights they have look like they're from the '80s," Shoup said.

Shoup is hoping that the festival will be annual. He said future festivals will likely raise money for local charities.

The 10-hour marathon concert boasts an impressive lineup of local talent. In addition to sets by Shoup and Sygit, the slate of performers includes blues/soul singer Twyla Birdsong, folk duo the Springtails and experimental rockers From Big Sur.

"I tried to get a wide variety," Shoup said. "I don't think there are too many venues where you'll see this kind of diversity of music."

Mort's Fest

Noon-10 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 24
FREE (donations encouraged)
Moriarty's Bar
802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 485-5287,
moriartyspublansing.com

— TY FORQUER

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICHTUPICA

LANSING X DETROIT (NIGHT ONE) AT MAC'S BAR




Friday, Jan 22 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$12, \$10 adv., \$15 two-night combo (available online only). 7 p.m.

The capital city and the Motor City come together at Mac's Bar this weekend for LANSING x DETROIT, a two-night celebration of Lansing and Detroit music and art. The Friday evening show features headliners Kim Vi and the Siblings and openers Stefanie Haapala, Nigel & the Dropout, Lucy and DL Rossi. Fusion Shows owner Nate Dorough spearheaded the two-night showcase. "I'm really impressed by what's going on in Detroit, and obviously (Fusion Shows has) been so ingrained in the Lansing music community for so long," Dorough said. "I've had this thought, for the past six or eight months, of doing something to build a bridge between two strong but totally different music scenes." Attendees can expect a diverse batch of sounds. Or, as Dorough puts it, "Genres be damned."

FRI. JAN 22ND
Kim Vi and the Siblings

LANSING X DETROIT (NIGHT TWO) AT MAC'S BAR



Saturday, Jan. 23 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$12, \$10 adv., \$15 two-night combo (available online only). 7 p.m.

The second night of LANSING x DETROIT features a heavy dose of Michigan hip-hop with performances from BLAT! Pack artists Jahshua Smith & the Race Card and James Gardin & the Full Respect. Rounding out the all-ages bill are Valley Hush (experimental pop from Detroit) and Convenient Trash (Lansing-based rock 'n' roll). As for the name of the two-day concert, Dorough said Fusion Shows wanted to give it a harmonious title. "Instead of it being billed as something versus something else, it's kind of like showing that one city multiplied by another could be something much greater than just the sum of the parts," he said. "So let's build that bridge, throw two big shows and have a killer weekend together."

SAT. JAN 23RD
Jahshua Smith & the Race Card

TEN STRINGS AND A GOAT SKIN AT TEN POUND FIDDLE



Friday, Jan. 22 @ Ten Pound Fiddle – Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. \$15, \$12 members, \$5 students. 7:30 p.m.

Ten Strings and a Goat Skin, a folk fusion outfit from Prince Edward Island, Canada, specializes in blending traditional Acadian, Irish and French folk tunes with contemporary and world rhythms and textures. The trio of early-20 somethings, known for its fiery live show, has toured the U.S., Canada and Europe. Friday, the bilingual group performs originals and classics (sung in both English and French) at the Allen Market Place. The show is presented by local folk promoter Ten Pound Fiddle. The trio, which formed in 2010 and debuted with its 2011 "Tri" LP, was praised by The Guardian as "a seamless, polished, barrel-drum-tight, rhythmically innovative and wildly entertaining traditional music powerhouse." The band's latest album, 2013's "Corbeau," is available on iTunes.

FRI. JAN. 22ND
Ten Strings and a Goat Skin

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

LIVE & LOCAL	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	Open Mic, 8 p.m.	The Come Out, 7 p.m.	Black Jake and the Carnies, 8 p.m.
Black Cat Bistro, 115 Albert Ave.				Alistar, 8 p.m.
Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Rd.			Darrin Larner Jr., 8 p.m.	The Tenants, 8 p.m.
Brookshire, 205 W. Church St.			Rachel Curtis, 7 p.m.	
Capital Prime, 2324 Showtime Dr.			Bobby Standal, 8:30 p.m.	Bob Schultz, 8 :30 p.m.
Champion's, 2440 Cedar St.			Young Guns, 9 p.m.	
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.		Wise Guys, 9 p.m.	
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Robert Feddersen, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Darb's, 117 S. Cedar St.				Greg Smith, 9:30 p.m.
Ellison Brewery, 4903 Dawn Ave.				Jen Sygit, 8 p.m.
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke with DJ Jamie, 9 p.m.		DJ Brandon, 9 p.m.	DJ Fudgie, 10 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 7 p.m.	Skoryoke Live Band Karaoke, 8:30 p.m.	The New Rule, 9:30 p.m.	Summer of Sol, 9:30 p.m.
Gallery Brewery, 143 Kent St.	Artzy Pharty Night, 5 p.m.	Open Mic, 7 p.m.		
Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.			Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.	
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Blues Night, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.	Tell Yo Mama, 9:30 p.m.	T.B.A. 9:30 p.m.
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave.			Steve Cowles, 5:30 p.m.	
Leroys, 1526 S. Cedar St.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.			Q106 Hometown Throwdown 2, 6:30 p.m.	Life in Color Afterparty, 10 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.			Kim Vi and the Siblings, 8 p.m.	Jahshua Smith & the Race Card, 7 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic w/ Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.	Springtails, 9 p.m.	Twyla Birdsong Band, 9 p.m.	The Saltbound Band, 9 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road			Peter Melichar, 7 p.m.	New Rule, 7 p.m.
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27	Kathy Ford Band Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.		Lisa B & the Backbeats, 7 p.m.	Lisa B & the Backbeats, 7 p.m.
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Dirty Helens, 7 p.m.	Dirty Helens, 7 p.m.
The Roadhouse, 70 W. Grand Ledge Hwy.				
Tavern and Tap, 101 S. Washington Sq.	Tavern House Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m.			
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Jamie Baxter, 8 p.m.	Jamie Baxter, 8 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.	Spoonful, 9 p.m.	Time to Play, 9 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.			Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.
Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr.			Joe Wright, 6 p.m.	

Out on the town

from page 21

Michigan. Author of "Discovering Michigan County by County," speaks. 10-11 a.m. FREE. CADL Leslie, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400, cadl.org.

Senior Discovery @ ANC. "The 60s" with Bill Nelton of CADL. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-2468, allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

Altered Tour. Broad museum tour focusing on paintings, drawings and film. 7 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

BroadPOP Studio. Artmaking from everyday items. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

ARTS

Comic Book Signing. Local artists Rick Schlaack and Joe Haines sign "Die Katze #1." 3-7 p.m. FREE. Red Fox Comics, 723 Brookside Drive, Lansing. (517) 574-4974.

Thursday, January 21

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

EFT Tapping; Group Sessions. Sessions using the Emotional Freedom Technique. 10 a.m.-noon. \$35/\$25 members. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Genealogy Club. Monthly meeting to discuss genealogy. 2-3 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Legal Essentials for Starting Your Own Business. Seminar for entrepreneurs with expert attorneys. 5:30-7 p.m. FREE. Foster Swift Collins & Smith, 313 S. Washington Square, Lansing. fosterswift.com.

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

MUSIC

Drum Circle. All levels welcome. Instruments provided or bring your own. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700, marshallmusic.com.

MSU Faculty Recital: Walter Verdehr, violin. 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/students FREE. Cook Recital Hall, MSU Music Building, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, ow.ly/X6Jgl.

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

EVENTS

A Minute to Win It. Family games based on TV show. 6:15-7:15 p.m. FREE. CADL Leslie, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400, cadl.org.

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

Craft Corner. Age 4 and up enjoy crafts. 3-6 p.m. FREE. CADL Dansville, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511, cadl.org.

Film Movement Series. Screening of Italian film "Human Capital." For adults and mature teens. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021, cadl.org.

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

See Out on the Town, Page 24

THURSDAY, JAN. 21 >> CHIC GAMINE AT THE WHARTON CENTER

The sound of Canadian band Chic Gamine, anchored by its trio of singers, is layered, thick and rich in musical influences. The band pulls from Motown soul, French Canadian folk, jazz and more. Chic Gamine has played all over the globe, including performances at the Vancouver Winter Olympics and opening for legends Smokey Robinson and Mavis Staples. 7:30 p.m. \$43/\$15 MSU students. Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

FRIDAY, JAN. 22-24, 27-31 >> 'AND AWAY WE GO' AT MSU DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

MSU's Department of Theatre takes a moment to celebrate the origins of its craft with its latest production. "And Away We Go," a play by Terrence McNally, takes the audience through centuries of theater history, from the classics of ancient Greece to the premiere of "Waiting for Godot." The play pays tribute to generations of playwrights who have shaped the rich history of theater, weaving together distinct epochs and moments into a theatrical love letter. MSU's production is directed by Ann Folino White, who will host a pre-show discussion at 1:15 p.m. Sunday and a post-show discussion following the Jan. 28 performance. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. \$15/\$13 seniors and faculty/\$10 MSU students. Studio 60 Theatre, MSU Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

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HOSTED BY BERL SCHWARTZ

WITH GUEST **VIRG BERNERO** LANSING MAYOR

my 18 LANSING JACKSON MY18TV!
NEW TIME 10:30 a.m. EVERY SATURDAY
COMCAST CHANNEL 16 LANSING
7:30 P.M. EVERY FRIDAY

Out on the town

from page 23

Hannah Blvd., East Lansing.

Mind Benders @ MSC 11 a.m.-noon. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

One On One Life Coaching. 45 minute session by appointment. 1-3 p.m. \$24. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Friday, January 22

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Aux Petits Soins. French immersion class for ages 0-12. See web for specific times for each age group. \$15/\$12 students. 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Suite F, Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

Job Seeker Lab. Help offered with resumes, cover letters and online searching. Call or register online. 2-4 p.m. FREE. CADL Mason, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 676-9088.

Sparrow Michigan Athletic Club Zumba Girls' Night Out. Zumba and refreshments. 7-8:30 p.m. \$34/\$28 members. Sparrow Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (517) 364-8800.

MUSIC

A Spanish Serenade. Spanish-language music performed. 8-9:30 p.m. \$20/\$18 seniors/\$10 students. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, music.msu.edu.

Lisa B & the BackBeats @ Renos North. 7-11 p.m. Reno's North, 16460 Old U.S. 127, DeWitt.

THEATER

After Ever After. Fairy-tale-inspired family play. 7 p.m. \$10. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 336-4088, dancesingact.com.

ARTS

Opening Of Alter + Combine at SCENE

Metrospace. Opening reception for show of collage and assemblage. 6-8 p.m. Scene Metrospace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 432-3961, ow.ly/XeNmX.

EVENTS

Kids Skate. 6-8 p.m. for ages 13 and under; 8-11 p.m. for ages 14 and up. \$8. Skate City Roller Rink, 905 Southland Ave., Lansing. (517) 894-8429

Minecraft Game Night. Ages 8-15 play Minecraft together. Call to register. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. CADL

Downtown Lansing, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363, cadl.org.

One-on-One Business Counseling. Meet with an experienced business consultant. Email hanfork@lcc.edu for registration and info. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014, ext. 4.
Skywatchers of Africa. Planetarium show. 8 p.m. \$4/\$3.50 students and seniors/\$3 children. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing.

See Out on the Town, Page 25

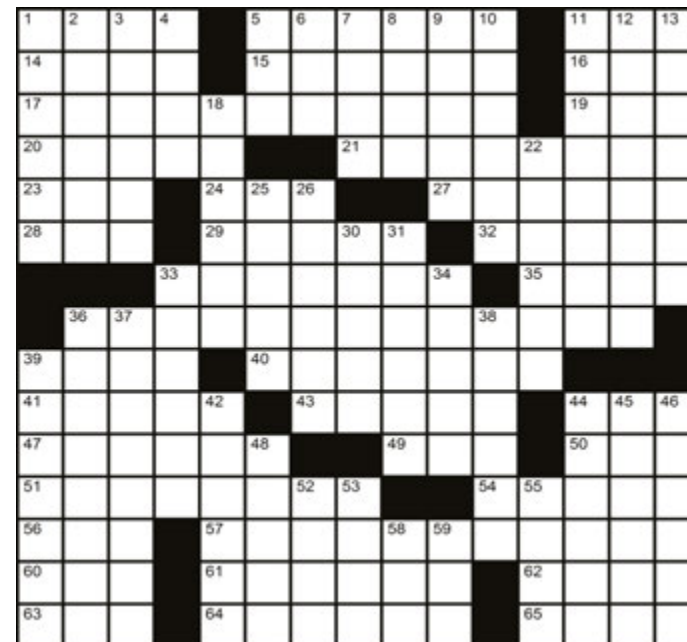
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"It's E->Z"—but not the other way around.
Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Optimistic
- 5 Riding around the city, maybe
- 11 "La ____" (Debussy opus)
- 14 Outside introduction
- 15 City on the Merrimack River
- 16 "____ seen worse"
- 17 Possible auto-biography title for comedian Horatio?
- 19 Canceled (with "out")
- 20 Chocolate stand-in
- 21 Hardly Mercedes quality?
- 23 French numeral
- 24 Part of IPA
- 27 Told
- 28 Some grads of RPI or MIT
- 29 ____-foot oil
- 32 Spring harbinger
- 33 Medium-hot chili pepper variety
- 35 Uno or Twenty-One, e.g.
- 36 Cracker you must hand over to get through?
- 39 Mexican restaurant staple
- 40 Demographic nickname coined in the 1980s
- 41 Have ____ with (chat up)
- 43 Condom material
- 44 Clerical vestment
- 47 Submitted
- 49 "Either you do it ____ will"
- 50 Falsehood
- 51 Fuzzy green stuff growing on a former Comedy Central "Dr."?



- 54 "Buona ____" (Italian sign-off)
- 56 Air gun pellets
- 57 Hip bath in the great outdoors?
- 60 Pie-mode connection
- 61 Getting a move on, quaintly
- 62 Singer of "The Man With the Golden Gun" theme song
- 63 Daisy Ridley's "Star Wars" character
- 64 Conducive to peace
- 65 Suffixes denoting sugars
- 9 Relatives of nieces
- 10 Flea market
- 11 Hodgepodge
- 12 10 seconds for 100 yards, in running lingo
- 13 Old Spice deodorant variety
- 18 Big name in electric guitars
- 22 Renewable fuel derived from organic matter
- 25 Colorful sports artist Neiman
- 26 Load of gossip
- 30 Thin, fibrous bark (or one-third of a dance instruction for Lisa Simpson)
- 31 Become sharply attentive
- 33 Eric of "Pulp Fiction"
- 34 Basketmaker's willow
- 36 Like people on some dating apps
- 37 "It's hard to tell"
- 38 Process of de-
- termining gender, as zoologists do
- 39 Row of buttons on a screen
- 42 Seoul food
- 44 Latin for "higher," as in the Olympic motto
- 45 Wee
- 46 Ramona's sister, in Beverly Cleary books
- 48 2008 Jordin Sparks/Chris Brown duet
- 52 "Hook" sidekick
- 53 Twirl around
- 55 City that the band a-ha hails from
- 58 "Here Comes the Hotstepper" singer Kamoze
- 59 Coin collection appraisal co. (found in COLLECTING COINS)

Down

- 1 Coast Guard mission
- 2 Rating at the pump
- 3 Long looks
- 4 You may walk the dog with it
- 5 Guest quarters
- 6 Constantly criticize
- 7 Trade org.
- 8 Bush Labor Secretary Elaine

FRIDAY, JAN. 22 >> THE COME OUT AT AVENUE CAFE

Members of Greater Lansing's LGBT community gather Friday at Avenue Cafe Friday for the Come Out, an event designed to celebrate the voices of individuals with queer identities. Local speakers from a variety of races, sexualities, genders and classes will present their coming-out stories. The event is a collaboration among Humans Uniting For an Equal Society, the Lansing Association for Human Rights and MSU's Alliance for Queer and Ally Students. It also pays tribute to LGBT community members who have died. Donations will be collected for the Pride endowment, an LGBT scholarship created by the late Bill Beachler, a longtime leader and activist in the Lansing Area. 7 p.m. Donations accepted. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. ow.ly/XcnCK.

FRIDAY, JAN. 22 >> A SPANISH SERENADE AT THE MSU COLLEGE OF MUSIC

The MSU College of Music brings "A Spanish Serenade" to East Lansing Friday. The vocal concert focuses on one of the most widely spoken languages in the world and all the diversity that comes with it. Featuring folk songs, musical theater and light opera, the performance features Spanish-language works by composers ranging from Giuseppe Verdi to Cole Porter to Alberto Ginastera. This showcase concert offers performances by College of Music faculty as well as MSU Opera Theatre and other student ensembles. 8 p.m. \$20/\$18 seniors/\$10 students. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 353- 5340, music.msu.edu.

SUDOKU

BEGINNER

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

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 27

Out on the town

from page 24

(517) 355-4676, abramsplanetarium.org.
TGIF Party. Dance party. 8 p.m.-midnight. \$13. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 S. Chandler Road, Bath.

Saturday, January 23 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Intro to Beekeeping. Equipment and safety discussed. Call to register. 12:30-2 p.m. \$5-10 suggested donation. Hunter Park Community Garden House, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910, ow.ly/X7mgX.

Tai Chi at Allen Market Place. Instruction in Qigong, meditation and Yang style tai chi forms. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

Home Buying 101. Industry professionals deliver training on home buying topics. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. \$25/\$20 adv. Center for Financial Health, 230 N. Washington Square, Lansing. centerforfinancialhealth.org.

MUSIC

Lansing Symphony Orchestra: Scottish Fantasy. 8-10 p.m. Wharton Center, MSU Campus East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON, lansingsymphony.org.

EVENTS

3D Print It: Keychains. Ages 8-15 create personalized keychain using 3D printers. Call to register. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324, cadl.org.

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

IGAC Adoption Event. All animals are spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. Noon-4 p.m. Petco (Frondor), 510 Frondor Ave., Lansing. ac.ingham.org.

Ice Cream Social. Ice cream sundaes with friends and family. 11 a.m.-noon FREE. CADL Dansville, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511, cadl.org.
Minecraft-Creative Build. Ages 8-15 create wintry Minecraft structures. Call to register. 2-4 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 347-2021, cadl.org.
Moonlight Ski and Shoe. Ski or snowshoe walk. Rentals available, register in advance. 6-9 p.m. \$3/\$10 with rentals. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

Science Saturday: Grossology. Ages 5-10 join in on gross experiments, if they dare. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840, cadl.org.

Snow Fun Day. Snow fun inside the library. Noon-2 p.m. FREE. CADL Foster, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185, cadl.org.

THEATER

After Ever After. Fairy-tale-inspired family play. 2 p.m. \$10. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 336-4088, dancingsingact.com.

Sunday, January 24 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Perfect Little Planet. Planetarium show. 2 p.m. \$4/\$3.50 students and seniors/\$3 children. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4676, abramsplanetarium.org.

MUSIC

Family Symphony Series: Harp Harmonies. Members of the Lansing Symphony Orchestra play music, followed by a craft. 3-4:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363, cadl.org.

See Out on the Town, Page 27

SATURDAY, JAN. 23 >> ROBERT BURNS' 257TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Local Scottish culture enthusiasts present a dinner dripping in Scottish tradition with Robert Burns' 257th Birthday Celebration. The event honors Scotland's most famous poet and author of the popular New Year's Eve anthem "Auld Lang Syne." Master of ceremonies Chris Holman will introduce guests to some live Celtic music and a chicken cordon bleu dinner with a "wee bit o' haggis," of course. The evening also includes highland dance performances, and Lansing's own Glen Erin Pipe Band will close out the night. Cash bar, door prizes and a raffle drawing. Tickets are available by phone or online, no tickets will be sold at the door. 5 p.m. \$45. Eagle Eye Golf Club & Banquet Center, 15500 Chandler Road, Bath. (517) 256-5348, glenerinpipeband.com.

SUNDAY, JAN. 24 >> 'IT'S 1984!' AT MICA GALLERY

DANCE Lansing invites you to party like it's 1984 at MICA Gallery in Old Town Sunday. The community dance project presents "It's 1984! An Eighties Dance Performance," featuring dances set to the top tracks from 1984. DANCE Lansing, a collaboration between local dance and arts groups, aims to promote the dance in Greater Lansing, foster the abilities of dancers and choreographers and increase audience understanding of contemporary dance. 1-2 p.m. FREE. MICA Gallery, 1210 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600, micagallery.org.

Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsky

Jan. 20-26

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The next four weeks could potentially be a Golden Age of Friendship . . . a State of Grace for Your Web of Connections . . . a Lucky Streak for Collaborative Efforts. What can you do to ensure that these cosmic tendencies will actually be fulfilled? Try this: Deepen and refine your approach to schmoozing. Figure out what favors would be most fun for you to bestow, and bestow them. Don't socialize aimlessly with random gadabouts, but rather gravitate toward people with whom you share high ideals and strong intentions.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): On a clear day, if you stand at the summit of Costa Rica's Mount Irazú, you can see both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. It's not hard to get there. You can hop a tourist bus in the nearby city of San José, and be 11,200 feet high two hours later. This is a good model for your next assignment: Head off on a stress-free jaunt to a place that affords you a vast vista. If you can't literally do that, at least slip away to a fun sanctuary where you'll be inspired to think big thoughts about your long-range prospects. You need a break from everything that shrinks or numbs you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): A filmmaker working on a major movie typically shoots no more than four pages of the script per day. A director for a TV show may shoot eight pages. But I suspect that the story of your life in the near future may barrel through the equivalent of 20 pages of script every 24 hours. The next chapter is especially action-packed. The plot twists and mood swings will be coming at a rapid clip. This doesn't have to be a problem as long as you are primed for high adventure. How? Take good care of your basic physical and emotional needs so you'll be in top shape to enjoy the boisterous ride.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The city of Paris offers formal tours of its vast sewer system. Commenting at an online travel site, one tourist gave the experience five stars. "It's a great change of pace from museums full of art," she wrote. Another visitor said, "It's an interesting detour from the cultural overload that Paris can present." According to a third, "There is a slight smell but it isn't overpowering. It's a fascinating look at how Paris handles wastewater treatment and clean water supply." I bring this up, Cancerian, because now is a favorable time for you to take a break from bright, shiny pleasures and embark on a tour of your psyche's subterranean maze. Regard it not as a scary challenge, but as a fact-finding exploration. What strategies do you have in place to deal with the messy, broken, secret stuff in your life? Take an inventory.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "When I look at a sunset, I don't say, 'Soften the orange a little on the right hand corner, and put a bit more purple in the cloud color.'" Pioneering psychologist Carl Rogers was describing the way he observed the world. "I don't try to control a sunset," he continued. "I watch it with awe." He had a similar view about people. "One of the most satisfying experiences," he said, "is just fully to appreciate an individual in the same way I appreciate a sunset." Your assignment, Leo, is to try out Rogers' approach. Your emotional well-being will thrive as you refrain from trying to "improve" people — as you see and enjoy them for who they are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The future is headed your way in a big hurry. It may not be completely here for a few weeks, but even then it will have arrived ahead of schedule. Should you be alarmed? Should you work yourself into an agitated state and draw premature conclusions? Hell, no! Treat this sudden onrush of tomorrow as a bracing opportunity to be as creative as you dare. Cultivate a beginner's mind. Be alert for unexpected openings that you assumed would take longer to appear.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): More than one-third of all

pregnancies are unintended. The two people involved aren't actually trying to make a baby, but their contraceptive measure fails or isn't used at all. According to my analysis, you heterosexual Libras are now more prone to this accidental experience than usual. And in general, Libras of every sexual preference must be careful and precise about what seeds they plant in the coming weeks. The new growth you instigate is likely to have far-reaching consequences. So don't let your choice be reckless or unconscious. Formulate clear intentions. What do you want to give your love to for a long time?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): I was a rock musician for years, which meant that I rarely went to bed before dawn. I used to brag that my work schedule was from 9 to 5 — 9 p.m. to 5 a.m., that is. Even after I stopped performing regularly, I loved keeping those hours. It was exhilarating to be abuzz when everyone else was asleep. But two months ago, I began an experiment to transform my routine. Now I awake with the dawn. I spend the entire day consorting with the source of all life on earth, the sun. If you have been contemplating a comparable shift in your instinctual life, Scorpio — any fundamental alteration in your relationship to food, drink, exercise, sleep, perception, laughter, love-making — the next few weeks will be a favorable time to do it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You Sagittarians are often praised but also sometimes criticized for being such connoisseurs of spontaneity. Many of us admire your flair for unplanned adventure, even though we may flinch when you unleash it. You inspire us and also make us nervous as you respond to changing circumstances with unpremeditated creativity. I expect all these issues to be hot topics in the coming weeks. You are in a phase of your cycle when your improvisational flourishes will be in the spotlight. I, for one, promise to learn all I can from the interesting detours that result from your delight in experimentation.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Capricorn world-changer Martin Luther King Jr. was arrested and sent to jail on 29 different occasions. His crimes? Drawing inspiration from his Christian faith, he employed non-violent civil disobedience to secure basic civil rights for African Americans. He believed so fiercely in his righteous cause that he was willing to sacrifice his personal comfort again and again. The coming months will be a favorable time to devote yourself to a comparable goal, Capricorn. And now is a good time to intensify your commitment. I dare you to take a vow.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The birds known as mound-builders are born more mature than other species. As soon as they peck themselves out of their eggs, they are well-coordinated, vigorous enough to hunt, and capable of flight. Right now I see a resemblance between them and many of you Aquarians. As soon as you hatch your new plans or projects — which won't be long now — you will be ready to operate at almost full strength. I bet there won't be false starts or rookie mistakes, nor will you need extensive rehearsal. Like the mound-builders, you'll be primed for an early launch.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You are not purely and simply a Pisces, because although the sun was in that astrological sign when you were born, at least some of the other planets were in different signs. This fact is a good reminder that everything everywhere is a complex web of subtlety and nuance. It's delusional to think that anyone or anything can be neatly definable. Of course it's always important to keep this in mind, but it's even more crucial than usual for you to do so in the coming weeks. You are entering a phase when the best way to thrive is to know in your gut that life is always vaster, wilder, and more mysterious than it appears to be on the surface. If you revere the riddles, the riddles will be your sweet, strong allies.

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THE HOLLYWOOD CONCERT ORCHESTRA
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Wednesday, February 17 AT 7:30PM

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Friday, February 19 AT 8PM



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Out on the town

from page 25

It's 1984! Eighties Dance Performance @ MICA Gallery. DANCE Lansing performs. 1-2 p.m. FREE. MICA Gallery, 1210 Turner St., Lansing. micagallery.org.

EVENTS

Atheists and Humanists Meeting. Dr. Mark Reimers presents "The Evolution of Religion." 5 p.m. \$6.35/\$3 without meal. Old Great Wall Restaurant, 4832 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing. (517) 914-2278, atheists.meetup.com/453.

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

Pokemon, Magic & Heroclix Tournaments.

Tournaments for kids of all ages. 12:30-5 p.m. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900.

Winter Chill-out: An Afternoon of Relaxation.

Meditation, coloring, treats and more. RSVP. 1-4 p.m. \$25. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

Monday, January 25

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Ask a Lawyer. Lawyers give advice by appointment. 9:30 a.m.-noon. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

H.E.R.O. Class: Kitchen Remodeling On a Budget. Home improvement course. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980, glhc.org.

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

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

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

My Cub and I: Nature for Toddlers. Nature walk and activities. 10:30-11:30 a.m. \$35 for 6-week class. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

Sharper Focus/Wider Lens: The Nature of Inequality. TED-style talks from MSU faculty. 7-8:45 p.m. FREE. MSU Union, 49 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

(517) 884-7649 ow.ly/WnKEI.

MUSIC

Happy Birthday Mozart. Faculty artists perform. 7:30-9 p.m. \$15/\$12 seniors/\$5 students and kids. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, ow.ly/VS4i1.

EVENTS

Kids Reading to Dogs. Kids read to specially trained dogs. 4-5 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021, cadl.org.

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

Tuesday, January 26

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Are You Ready to Start a Business? Entrepreneurship workshop. Call or register online. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014, sbdcmichigan.org.

Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. All experience levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. \$3. Gier Community Center, 2400 Hall St., Lansing. crisisrfg.com.

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

DeWitt Community Singers. First rehearsal for choir that welcomes all singers. Call or register online. 7-9 p.m. \$40. Dewitt Junior High School, Dewitt.

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

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 5:45-6:45 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

Not So Happy Endings Support Group. For women ending relationships. 5:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 896-3311.

Overeaters Anonymous. Support for weight loss efforts. 7 p.m. FREE. Okemos Presbyterian Church, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 290-5163.

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

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Have a support system, lose weight. 7 p.m. FREE to visit. Eaton

Rapids Medical Center, 1500 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. (517) 543-0786.

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

EVENTS

Bible and Beer. Discussion of scripture's power in daily events. 6 p.m. Kelly's Downtown, 220 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 482-0600, bibleandbeer@ccclansing.org.

Lansing Christian School Kindergarten Information Night. Prospective families invited to hear about the school. 7-8 p.m. Lansing Christian School, 3405 Belle Chase Way, Lansing. (517) 882-5779, lansingchristianschool.org.

LCC West Toastmasters. Public speaking skills-building group. All are welcome. 5-6:30 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. toastmasters.org.

Star Wars: Myths and Secrets. Star Wars facts and trivia. Call or register online. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Mason, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 676-9088, cadl.org.

Wednesday, January 27

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

H.E.R.O. Class: How to Hire a Contractor. Home improvement class. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980, glhc.org.

Senior Discovery @ ANC. "Mindful Eating Continued" with Sherlyn Hogenson. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-2468, allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

Make Your Business Legal. Tax, liability, contracts and more covered. Call or register online. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

Aux Petits Soins. French immersion class for ages 0-12. See web for specific times for each age group. \$15/\$12 students. 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Suite F, Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Meet Author Lori Nelson Spielman. Michigan author discusses book "Sweet Forgiveness." Call to register. 6:30 to 8 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351, ext. 3.

EVENTS

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

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

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

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

Midwives Mingle. Informal meet and greet for midwives and expecting families. 7 p.m. FREE. Willow Tree Family Center, 3333 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 614-7756, ow.ly/XeOU4.

MONDAY, JAN. 25 >> BEER AND RIBS PAIRING AT REO TOWN PUB

Each month, local beer advocate I'm a Beer Hound combines locally made food and Michigan beer in unique meal pairings. This month's event pairs beer from Marshall-based Dark Horse Brewing Co. with specially prepared barbecue ribs from REO Town's Saddleback Barbecue. The beer's selected for the pairing include two rare Dark Horse offerings: Double Crooked Tree IPA and Plead the 5th imperial stout. 7 p.m. \$30. REO Town Pub, 1145 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. imabeerhound.com.

TUESDAY, JAN. 26 >> VOCALOCITY AT WHARTON CENTER

From Fox's "Glee" to the "Pitch Perfect" movie franchise and beyond, a cappella has exploded in popularity. Vocalocity, a self-described "aca-perfect musical experience," brings together 12 performers who spin through a whirlwind of vocal music from Gregorian chants to modern pop hits. Deke Sharon, the vocal producer behind NBC's "The Sing Off" and the two "Pitch Perfect" movies, is co-creator of the touring show. MSU's own State of Fifths a capella group will perform before Vocalocity takes the stage. An informal after-chat with the company will follow the concert. 7:30 p.m. Tickets start as \$28/\$15 MSU students. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 24

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 24

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HE ATE

SHE ATE



Midtown Brewing Co. takes chances with adventurous menu

Bird is the word

By **MARK NIXON**

We have a joke in my family that when a lamb sees my wife, it flees in terror — because Judy sees the lamb and exclaims, “Dinner!”

But things are evolving in the Nixon household. Judy has recently turned her Hannibal Lecter-like gaze to another species: duck.

We can't get enough duck in our house. Duck confit, duck galette, pasta with duck ... For the holidays, Judy even made bite-sized duck cheesecakes. (They are delicious but not, as the name suggests, a dessert.)

So when City Pulse pointed us toward the Midtown Brewing Co. for this month's review, we took one look at the menu and began strutting the “Disco Duck.” (“Disco Duck” was a No. 1 hit song in 1976, by the way, which tells you the state of pop music back then.)

Midtown's menu is awash in duck. There are duck nachos, a duck and brie sandwich and a turkey patty gussied up with duck confit and duck fat. There's a hamburger cooked in duck fat and layered with duck pastrami. There's a riff on that French Canadian standby, poutine, featuring potatoes fried in — what else? — duck fat.

I was only mildly disappointed to find no duck-infused sorbet for dessert. Maybe next month.

There's more to Midtown than duck — craft beers, for instance — but let's start with the bird of honor. The brie and duck sandwich is one of the most expensive items on the menu at \$14, and it's worth every cent. Combine fig jam and grilled fig with brie, arugula and duck pastrami, serve it all on a locally made bread, and you have a sumptuously rich meal. This was my favorite of the bunch.

The duck fry poutine (\$12) comes in a close second. What makes this dish sing is the blend of duck confit with poblano sauce. It's the most creative take on poutine I've ever tasted.

Now to the downside of duck. Midtown's duck nachos (\$15) are on life support. The nacho chips reached our table smothered in cooled globules of cheddar cheese that disguised any possible taste of duck confit and goat cheese. “More confit, less cheddar,” Judy suggested, to which I add: Well, that's a start.

OK, now for my general rant about nachos. They are an abomination. They are filler, uncreative place-holders, the idea-empty sawdust of the restaurant scene. There are so many bad variations of nachos out there that if a presidential candidate wants my vote, he or she must pledge a “No Nacho Zone.”

Rant over.

During three visits to Midtown Brewing Co., we had our share of touchdowns. The truffle fries (\$9) are a quick score for the home team. I especially liked the



Left: The Basic BBQ pizza from Midtown Brewing Co. is topped with mozzarella cheese, smoked chicken, pineapple, crumbled bacon, red onion, barbecue sauce and cilantro. Right: Midtown's creative take on grilled kale salad features beef tenderloin and burrata, made by stuffing mozzarella cheese with a cheese/cream mixture.

Midtown Brewing Co.

11 a.m.-midnight Sunday-
Wednesday; 11 a.m.-1 a.m.

Thursday-Saturday
402 S. Washington

Square, Lansing

(517) 977-1349,

midtownbrewingco.com

Kale salad for the win

By **GABRIELLE JOHNSON**

I know the words “grilled kale” don't set many hearts aflutter. But when your diet has consisted largely of barbecue chicken, macaroni and cheese and triple-layer chocolate and peanut butter cake — like mine has, recently — the hope of avoiding a next-day food hangover can be enough to influence a dinner decision.

It was with this thought running through my mind that I ordered the grilled fig salad (\$14) at Midtown Brewing Co. The dish features beef tenderloin and burrata (fresh mozzarella filled with a mozzarella cream), which sealed the deal. To be honest, my hopes still weren't sky-high, but my perpetual search for a delicious kale salad led me down this path. I'm happy to report that this journey, paved with tears and calories, ended triumphantly at Midtown Brewing Co. This kale salad is like something from planet Unexpectedly Delicious. (It recently replaced Pluto in the solar system, I believe.) The kale is massaged and grilled, which breaks down that tough texture and leaves it tender and a beautiful vibrant green. (Don't you feel healthier already?) The medallions of beef tenderloin were properly cooked

to my requested medium rare, and the lightly sweetened pecans, sliced figs and indulgent cheese just added to my ecstasy.

The miso vinaigrette was spicy, smoky and sweet. I would pour it over breakfast cereal if that weren't frowned upon. The salad came to the table on a plate that looked normal sized but was surprisingly deep. Considering the sheer volume of salad, the quantity and quality of beef tenderloin and the fact that you're then able to brag that you're stuffed because you just treated yourself to a kale salad, I'll rank this salad among the very best bangs for your buck anywhere in town.

My cup of Southwest black bean chili, however, was forgettable and too expensive, even at \$5. Frankly, I only ordered it because I was afraid that my salad would be a flop, and I would have to pout and complain until the fiancé handed over his plate.

His plate, by the way, was covered by a barbecue chicken pizza (\$14). The crust was pillowy and rich, and the toppings stretched clear to the edge. The pizza featured mozzarella cheese, smoked chicken, pineapple, crumbled bacon, red onion, barbecue sauce and a heavy handful of cilantro,

which he found to be a strange addition. I, on the other hand, will never begrudge anyone a fresh herb garnish. It's truly one of my favorite things, and I always notice and appreciate it.

He was satisfied after eating three quarters of his pizza and a few hearty mouthfuls of my salad. (It has to be something special if this man is willingly eating kale.) He even had enough for lunch the next day. We left Midtown happy, full



Gabrielle Johnson/City Pulse

He Ate

from page 28

lemon thyme aioli drizzled on the fries.

The Lobster Grilled Cheese sandwich (\$13), however, was an interception, a well intentioned pass that sailed wide of the mark. Too much Swiss, brie and provolone cheeses — not very flavorful cheeses, at that — suffocating any hope of actually tasting lobster. To be fair, there probably was some lobster in there, somewhere. A molecule or two. I closed my eyes and imagined tasting lobster. That's as close as I got.

On a happier and less filling note, I

recommend the potato, cheese and bacon soup (\$5) topped with fresh green onions. Or try the fried goat cheese (\$5). Both are solid starters but also satisfying enough for the less-than-famished diner.

It's difficult to review a place with "brewing" in its name without at least sampling the brews. And so we did. Midtown offers an array of 2-ounce samplers for \$2 each, so you can sip several craft beers brewed by Midtown and other Michigan breweries.

My favorites were Midtown's American stout and Grand Rapids-based Founders Brewing Co.'s oatmeal stout. Both have the complex, roasted flavors I crave in a dark brew. Judy tried

the Crispin cider sampler (\$3), which I thought hit the right sweet and tart notes in perfect proportions.

Midtown Brewing Co. anchors the southern end of downtown Lansing's Washington Square, which continues to evolve as a dining/drinking destination. It's lunch and after-work crowds tell me that this place, with its casual pub vibe and elevated pub fare, is gradually finding its niche.

I applaud Midtown's creative bent, even when some of its attempts crash and burn. You can't make a duck egg omelet without breaking any eggs, after all. My advice: Keep the duck, highlight the lobster and dump the nachos.

She Ate

from page 28

and feeling like we'd been missing out on something special.

"MBC has the best burger in town," said a client of mine the next week, unaware of how perfect his timing was. We were planning to return for dinner that night. Challenge accepted.


The fiancé chose the BBQ Brew-

house burger (\$14) with roasted garlic pub fries. The challah bread bun was particularly good, he said, denser and slightly sweeter than a run-of-the-mill hamburger bun. The fries were thick-cut and seasoned with garlic and herbs — and disarmingly good. But the burger itself was sorry. It was extremely dry, without a trace of the promised barbecue sauce to be found.

My half-order of house salad (\$7) was full of dark leafy greens, guacamole and fried goat cheese. I was thankful

that I'd eaten the entire thing when my entrée came. My chorizo tacos (\$13) were lukewarm at best. The grilled flour tortillas were falling apart because they'd been sitting too long, the chorizo was greasy and the side of grocery store grade tortilla chips left me yearning for kale.

I hope Midtown was just having an off night on our second visit. The pizza and kale salad left us wanting more, but the tacos and burger were disappointing busts.



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NATURE'S ALTERNATIVE

Alan I. Ross/City Pulse

Nature's Alternative, a new medical marijuana provision center, opened last week in Lansing. It features a full line of products, including child-friendly derivatives that don't produce a high.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

Whether you see marijuana as a healing herb or a scourge on society, local dispensaries peddling the plant aren't likely to be leaving any time soon. Although marijuana and its derivatives are still illegal in the eyes of the federal government, legalization, decriminalization and medical marijuana movements have been rippling through local and state governments, including here in Michigan.

If you lived in Lansing five years ago, you may remember the wave of pop-up dispensaries that briefly swept across the city, many of which were proudly emblazoned with a giant neon pot leaf in their front windows. Business was booming, but concerned neighbors were less than enthused about the negative perceptions. Eventually, the saber-rattling of our attorney general led most of those businesses to shutter in November 2011.

But a rebranding effort led by caregivers inhabiting low-key, professional-looking office spaces is trying to change the perception of medical marijuana provision centers. The latest, **Nature's Alternative**,

opened last week.

"The public perception of medical marijuana has come a long way since (the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act in) 2008," said Matthew Wagner, who owns and operates the store with his business partner, Adam Macdonald. "And there have been a lot of changes, too, including a rise in demand for medicine that doesn't give you a buzz."

Wagner said one of the fastest growing segments of medical marijuana patients — and one of the most controversial — is children. Parents are using marijuana to treat conditions like epilepsy, asthma, psoriasis and Koolen-de Vries syndrome, a rare chromosome disorder that causes painful seizures.

"People hear about this and they think kids are smoking joints — they're not," Wagner said. "There are many ways to (ingest) the medicine that don't involve smoking."

Marijuana has two main active chemical compounds: CBD and THC. Both have medicinal value, but THC also has psychoactive properties, which is what creates the high. By extracting the CBD and

limiting the amount of THC, caregivers can create marijuana derivatives that target pain and seizure centers without getting the patient high.

"We've got construction workers and senior citizens who don't want to pop pills, but don't want to be high all day either," Wagner said. "It allows people who had previously never considered trying (medical marijuana) to start to step forward. And we want them to feel comfortable doing so."

The Nature's Alternative building was formerly a Cashland retail store and a National City branch. Wagner and his team spent about \$60,000 giving the 2,200-square-foot space a massive interior and exterior overhaul. New additions include a sleek waiting area complete with wood floors and grey brick half-walls and a futuristic-looking service area. It looks like a high-tech pharmacy — and technically it is.

"We have over 40 strains, but we also have medicinal oils, concentrates, edibles and salves," Wagner said. "We did a lot of research to find all the best ways medical marijuana can be delivered. We're trying to appeal to a wide variety of patients."

Wagner said he became a caregiver to help out a sick friend shortly after the Michigan Medical Marihuana Act was passed. He and Macdonald opened the first Nature's Alternative store in Detroit in 2009. The duo soon became activists as well, fighting for patient rights with groups like the National Patient Rights Association and the Detroit Medical Cannabis Guild.

"Unfortunately, there's still a stigma surrounding (the marijuana industry), and the best way to fight that is through education," Wagner said. "That and conducting business in a professional (manner). We try to exceed all regulations for provision centers."

Wagner said all products are tested on-site for potency and impurities, and everything is bought exclusively from Michigan growers. His goal is to build personal relationships with all patients, including creating customized care that will most effectively target individual ailments.

"The most important thing is fitting in well with the community," Wagner said. "We're committed to maintaining high standards and providing the best medicine to the people who need it most. The patients who need us will find us. I'm confident of that."

Nature's Alternative
2521 S. Cedar St., Lansing
11 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday
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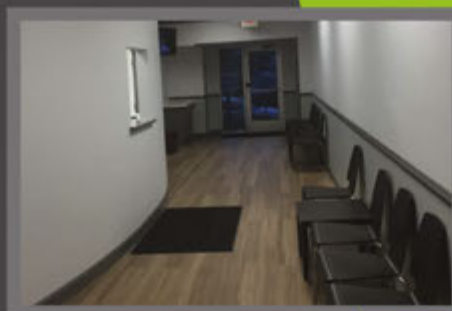
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