

FREE

# CityPULSE

a newspaper for the rest of us

www.lansingcitypulse.com

November 15-21, 2017

## Can Simon survive Nassar? See page 10

No. 20

### Lou Anna K. Simon

Michigan State University - President

Born - 1947 Home - East Lansing

MSU's president since 2005 is a lifelong Spartan, rising from the ranks to become a professor of educational administration, provost, vice president, interim president and president. She was the highest paid public university president in Michigan in 2016 (Chronicle of Higher Education). Among her biggest hits are the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB), which broke ground at MSU in 2014, the Broad Art Museum, built in 2012, and a new bioengineering facility, built in 2015. During her term, residence halls were overhauled, the burning of coal was stopped on campus, global outreach was expanded and the medical school was doubled in size and moved to Grand Rapids. Simon shows no sign of retiring, but her career was shadowed in 2017 by the Larry Nassar sexual assault scandal, among the worst in American university history, and her lifetime record is an open question.



#### Career Highlights

1974 - Ph.D, MSU; 1984 - Professor, MSU; 2003 - Interm President, MSU; 2005 - President, MSU; 2015 - New Bioengineering Facility, MSU; 2017 - Larry Nassar Scandal

## Why the Red Cedar Renaissance project is a 'game changer,' by Pat Lindemann See Page 4

"A MASTERPIECE! ONCE YOU'VE SEEN IT, YOU'LL FIND IT HARD TO SETTLE FOR LESS EVER AGAIN."  
—The Wall Street Journal

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**BY JOSÉ RIVERA**

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## WHICH NEWSPAPER DELIVERED THE ELECTION RESULTS THE NEXT MORNING?

Which sent you elsewhere?

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Available every Wednesday at more than 500 locations throughout metro Lansing



# 'Game changer'

## Red Cedar Renaissance project worth wait

By a public vote, in two separate elections (the large majority voting for this project), the Montgomery Drain improvements and the Red Cedar development project have been demanded

by the public. At neighborhood meetings, service club luncheons and meetings of concerned citizens, I have found that the public's excitement and support for this project have been overwhelming.

When will construction

start? Despite the hurdles that have been thrown in front of these projects, they both will be under construction in the next year. This is a "game changer" in Lansing. They will employ hundreds of people, protect the health of the Red Cedar River, provide an environment of excitement and possibilities for the residents of this region, and provide a living classroom. These projects, legally separate, but working together, mark an exciting time for Lansing's future.

Rebuilding our older infrastructure in the Greater Lansing area has to happen. If Lansing is going to continue to become a destination for people to find a high quality of life in a clean environment with plenty of job opportunities, these projects must take place.

Each year the Montgomery Drain Drainage District contributes between 50,000 and 75,000 pounds of pollution to the Red Cedar River. This storm water urban retrofit project for the Montgomery Drain will eliminate 96 percent of that pollution. To make this happen, my design team and I have put together a series of constructed natural features within the drainage system that will provide pollution extraction and an aesthetic environment for the citizens to enjoy. Two-and-a-half miles of service access paths built for maintenance will also serve as hiking biking paths.

The nonprofit Art in the Wild, and its well over 150 volunteers and corporate sponsors, are working hard to raise money through fundraising efforts and grants to place art and maintain that art in perpetuity within the Montgomery Drain's Drainage District for the purpose of changing public behavior and attitudes about clean water.

This project will educate the public

about non-point source pollution and its impact on the public health. No tax dollars will be spent by Art in the Wild. Its efforts plan to raise \$10 million of private funds over the next seven years, to place museum quality art in and around reclaimed environmental areas created by the drain project.

Art in the Wild's mission: To enhance environmental restoration projects in Mid-Michigan through the placement of art, and by using human imagination for the purpose of providing opportunities for environmental education. These works of art will be permanent, maintained in perpetuity, and will provide opportunities to continuously inspire a public passion to protect our water resources.

This project will become a destination, not only for our citizens to enjoy, but also an attraction that will bring visitors — a true "place making" experience for the city and its region. There will be sculptures, murals on some of the commercial buildings, two amphitheatres for live performances, de kiosks displaying poetry from people of all ages. Art in the Wild is also partnering with Marshall Music to facilitate live music near the art.

The Red Cedar Development, the Montgomery Drain improvement, and Art in the Wild will increase the number of people who live, work and play on Lansing's east side. This infrastructure retrofit, along with the development, is going to enhance the Michigan Avenue corridor from East Lansing/MSU to the State Capitol.

The development will house over 2,000 people. The old Red Cedar Golf Course was a drain on the city's budget. The land produced no tax revenue. This land is a unique opportunity for creative development to happen.

Because this land is in the floodplain, it has to be built up with a platform before it is buildable. This will require the investment of \$77 million. None of these funds will be out of the pockets of taxpayers. The city collects no taxes from this property today. These costs will be paid by the developer and future tax revenues generated by this development. The income tax revenue from the temporary construction workers and the permanent employees in the development gives the city new revenue. These new Lansing tax revenues will be an ongoing source of funds. This project becomes a win-win for the citizens and the environment.

(Pat Lindemann is the drain commissioner of Ingham County.)

### Opinion



PAT LINDEMANN

# CityPULSE

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After East Lansing tax defeat: Now what?



Lansing band headlines the 33rd Silver Bells in the City event.



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Cover Art by Ella Kramer

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

## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

**HOW LOW WILL THEY GO**  
THE ONGOING MISADVENTURES OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY  
ROY MOORE EDITION

**JUST ASKING QUESTIONS**  
IS IT REALLY SO CREEPY FOR A MAN IN HIS THIRTIES TO SPEND TIME TRYING TO LURE UNDERAGE GIRLS AWAY FROM THEIR PARENTS?  
JUST, YOU KNOW, HYPO-THETICALLY SPEAKING.

**ACTUAL QUOTE #1**  
"TAKE JOSEPH AND MARY-- MARY WAS A TEENAGER AND JOSEPH WAS AN ADULT CARPENTER. THEY BECAME PARENTS OF JESUS!"  
\*ALA. STATE AUDITOR JIM ZIEGLER

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**ACTUAL QUOTE #2**  
"IF I'VE GOT A CHOICE OF PUTTING MY WELFARE INTO THE HANDS OF PUTIN OR THE WASHINGTON POST, PUTIN WINS EVERY TIME!"  
\*PAUL REYNOLDS, R.N.C. COMMITTEEMAN FROM ALABAMA

**KEEPING THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE**  
THE ALLEGATIONS OF PEDOPHILIA ARE NOT THE OUTRAGE--  
--THE OUTRAGE IS THE PUBLICATION OF THOSE ALLEGATIONS OF PEDOPHILIA!

**ACTUAL QUOTE #3**  
"HOMOSEXUAL BEHAVIOR IS... AN INHERENT EVIL, AND AN ACT SO HEINOUS IT DEFIES OUR ABILITY TO DESCRIBE IT!"  
\*TWICE-REMOVED ALABAMA SUPREME COURT JUDGE AND ALLEGED CHILD MOLESTER, ROY MOORE

**G.O.P. AGONISTES**  
WE CANNOT ALLOW THE REPUBLICAN PARTY TO BE REPRESENTED BY A SEXUAL PREDATOR!  
I HAVE SOME BAD NEWS FOR YOU.

**WELL, EVEN IF ROY MOORE IS A CREEPY PEDOPHILE--AT LEAST VOTING FOR HIM WILL OWN THE LIBS!**  
LOL AT THE TRIGGERED SNOW-FLAKES!

TOM TOMORROW © 2017



## PULSE

## NEWS &amp; OPINION

## \$50 million proposal

### New city hall and downtown hotel, but no jail and courts

The Bernero Administration's plan for a new City Hall is a complicated land deal that faces a series of obstacles that include a skeptical City Council and undetermined locations for the 54-A District Court and the city's jail.

Outgoing Mayor Virg Bernero is pushing the City Council to approve a development agreement that would turn the current City Hall into a five-star hotel and relocate city government to the former Lansing State Journal building on Lenawee Street.

The developer, Beitler Real Estate Services, of Chicago, was one of four to submit plans but the only non-local one. Its president, J. Paul Beitler, is an alumnus of Michigan State University. His company's plan was the only one that called for saving the City Hall plaza.

Under the proposal, which requires a 30-day review period, Beitler would buy the LSJ building from the Eyde Co. Then it would refurbish the LSJ building and sell it to the city for a cost not to exceed \$50 million. The city would then consolidate all city government operations into the



Courtesy Photo

Beitler Real Estate Services submitted the winning plan for a new City Hall.

new building, including an estimated 800 employees. Departments such as Parks and Recreation and Planning and Neighborhood Development would be under one roof with the current City Hall offices.

The city also looked at the old Lake Trust Building on Capitol, but Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero said it chose the LSJ building "because, frankly, we got a better deal on it." He said both offer flexible floor plans.

Once that move is done, Beitler would take possession of the current City Hall. Under the terms of a 99-year land lease agreement, the firm would pay the city \$225,000 a year and property taxes. The payments would cover the costs of bonds to pay off the new city hall, Bernero said Monday.

Bernero wants the City Council to approve the development agreement with Beitler before the end of the year. But such a move would require six Council votes and at least one special meeting.

"I have no intention of calling a special

meeting," said President Patricia Spitzley. The last scheduled meeting is Dec. 11. The development agreement, which was filed on Thursday, must undergo a public hearing. Council would then have to wait seven days before it could approve the plan.

The city charter allows the mayor or two sitting Council members to call a special meeting. Even with that, Spitzley said she is uncertain such a meeting could happen in time because of the holidays.

The incomplete nature of the proposal, specifically the lack of planning for the district court and city jail, could hamper swift approval, said Councilwoman At-Large Carol Wood. She called the issue a key sticking point.

Bernero dismissed concerns that the plans were incomplete, calling the project "essentially a blank canvas" for city officials and the community to shape and craft a useable city hall. He and Schor, who expressed "90 percent" support for the plan, contend that the move of the center of city government to the southern end

of downtown could spur some economic development and strengthen a connection with the resurgent REO Town area a few blocks more south.

Connecting the downtown to REO Town, however, faces a major hurdle, Schor said in an interview. The two areas are separated by I496. "It's hard to span something like that. It can be done, but it will take creativity."

In a joint press event with Schor on Monday following his cabinet meeting, Bernero said he was eager to see the county sheriff take over the city lockup. Under his vision, the city would pay the county for maintaining a lockup, likely in a location like the Grady Porter/Veteran's Memorial Courthouse, which already has a small lock-up.

The facility already has a jail to temporarily house inmates facing court appearances. The facility would need upgrades and likely an expansion to handle the number of arrestees.



ToddHaywood/City Pulse

New and old: Lansing Mayor-elect Andy Schor (left) and Mayor Virg Bernero share a laugh in the mayor's office on Monday. Schor said he is "90 percent" behind Bernero's plan for a new City Hall — which may well have to wait till Schor takes office.

Such a move would shift the dicey legal issues involved with housing those accused of a crime away from the city and onto the county's shoulders. For Bernero that's a key proposition in supporting a joint venture.

Ingham County Sheriff Scott Wriggelsworth said he is not opposed to exploring a joint lockup operation staffed by county deputies. Under such a deal, however, the city would have to cover the costs of any improvements to the current lock-up on Kalamazoo Street and pay for the deputies who would oversee the facility. He said any deal would have to be cost neutral for the county.

The city shoulders all the expenses of running the lockup, which includes staff, insurance and assurance that the lock-up is maintained and secure. Bernero said that the lockup facility has one of the highest employee turnover rates, which adds to the human resources costs.

A heavily redacted space-use assessment report dated June 6, 2016, and provided to the city by DLZ, a local engineering, architectural and construction firm, found significant deficiencies in the current lock-up facility. City Pulse obtained the report through a Freedom of Information Act request.

While Bernero is moving to make the city hall relocation and redevelopment a jewel in his achievements after 12 years as mayor, he recognizes there is work to be done to meet the city and county needs.

"No one ever said it is going to be easy," he said. "If it were easy it would be done. It is just the right thing to do."

— TODD HEYWOOD

## Bauer to lead transition team

Former State Rep. Joan Bauer will head Lansing Mayor-elect Andy Schor's transition team, with an assist from former Mayor David Hollister, who will serve as the team's senior adviser.

Bauer, who represented the 68th District for six years until she was term limited in 2012, is a former Lansing City Councilwoman. Schor replaced her in the Legislature. Both are Democrats.

Bauer will oversee four committees:

—Economic and Business Development, headed by Greg Ward, Consumer Energy's manager of inclusion and employee experience.

—Education, led by Lansing Schools Supt. Yvonne Camuul Canul.

—Infrastructure, co-led by Brian Jeffries, an attorney and a former City Councilman, and Dusty Fancher, a former Lansing Parks Board member.

—Neighborhoods and Public Safety, co-chaired by Rina Risper, owner of the New Citizens Press, and former Lansing Police Chief Mark Alley.



will return next week

# Do not resuscitate

RPA puts coal plants on life support; BWL plans to pull the plug anyway

The Trump administration is taking multiple steps to prolong the life of the nation's aging coal-fired power plants, from reversing the Obama-era Clean Power Plan to intervening in the market and subsidizing coal plants. That won't affect the Lansing Board of Water & Light's plans to close its Erickson and Eckert plants, according to BWL spokesman Steven Serkaian. But as natural disasters consistent with climate change pile up nearly as fast as the scientific evidence, the feds are applying the brakes just when the train most urgently needs to leave the station.

Scott Pruitt, head of the federal Environmental Protection Agency, announced plans last month to roll back the Clean Power Plan, the Obama-era emissions standards aimed at reducing pollution from the largest emitters of greenhouse gases by 32 percent below 2005 levels by 2030.

Serkaian said the Clean Power Plan was "not a significant factor" in the utility's decision to retire the Eckert Power Station in 2020 and the Erickson Station in 2025. Together, the two plants generate 535 MW of power.

"Financial considerations to maintain an affordable supply of electricity were at the forefront of the decision," Serkaian said.

He didn't mention another factor that was at the forefront. In June 2014, the Sierra Club notified the BWL that it was about to sue for injunctive relief, civil penalties and litigation costs for alleged violations of the

Clean Air Act from the Eckert and Erickson stations.

BWL denied that the plants were in violation, but it agreed to set hard, legally enforceable dates for closing Eckert and Erickson if the Sierra Club dropped its plans to sue.

The consent agreement was made public in August.

James Clift, policy director at the Michigan Economic Council, said the EPA rollback won't have much impact in Michigan, partly because the state's fleet of coal plants is so old. Eckert was built in the 1950s and Erickson was built in 1973.

"These plants are not economic in the energy markets anymore," Clift said. "They're moving to more efficient, newer plants, and that applies to the Board of Water and Light."

Serkaian cited the high cost of maintaining the plants, the increasing loss of efficiency "even with investment," the dramatic drop in the price of natural gas, a stable price forecast for gas, and a "significant downward trend in the price of renewable energy."

But the impending rollback of EPA regulations is still of deep concern to Clift.

"It tells you that this administration is not interested in complying with the Clean Air Act," Clift said. "Carbon is a pollutant they are required to regulate and they don't appear to want to."

polar vortex of 2014 as the kind of emergency only coal and nuclear plants can handle.

Clift said the proposed rule "is not based in reality."

"We have never had an emergency situation last for 90 days," Clift said. "The polar vortex was a matter of weeks."

The proposed rule would also reverse FERC's longstanding policy of staying neutral in the energy market.

"It is completely opposite to everything they have been doing for the past 20 years," he said.

To many environmentalists, the proposed rule smacks of hypocrisy. For decades, opponents of federal subsidies for renewable energy argued that the market shouldn't be tampered with. Now that solar, wind and geothermal power are closing in on coal and gas in cost effectiveness, the Trump administration suddenly wants to put its thumbs on the scale.

"That's very much what we're seeing," Clift said.

Serkaian said the Grid Resiliency Rule, even if it goes into effect, will not affect BWL's "commitment to a clean energy future for the Lansing region."

The BWL's Strategic Plan calls for 30 percent clean energy by the end of 2020 and 40 percent by 2030.

He said that by expanding its clean energy portfolio and closing its coal plants, the BWL will cut greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent by 2030.

Madigan said the number "is really impressive, and that's the kind of leadership we need to be seeing locally."

The EPA will take public comment on the proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan until noon Dec. 15, 2017, at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0355>.

The Michigan Climate Action Network is gathering public comment on the EPA rollback at its website, [MiClimateAction.org](http://MiClimateAction.org).

— LAWRENCE COSENTINO

City of Lansing  
Notice of Public Hearing

Brownfield Plan #71 – Neogen 1000 South Hosmer Building Redevelopment Project

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on **November 27, 2017** at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, Lansing, MI, for the purpose stated below:

To afford an opportunity for all residents, taxpayers of the City of Lansing, other interested persons and ad valorem taxing units to appear and be heard on the approval of Brownfield Plan #71 – Neogen

1000 South Hosmer Building Redevelopment Project pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, Public Act 381 of 1996, as amended, for property commonly referred to as 1000 South Hosmer Street located in the City of Lansing, but more particularly described as:

1000 South Hosmer Street Lansing, MI 48933. Parcel number 33-01-01-22-103-021; N 245 FT LOT 2 ASSESSORS PLAT NO 26 ALSO LOTS 1 TO 8 INCL & VACATE ALLEY EXC THAT PART USED FOR HWY PURPOSES; BLOCK 3 MANUFACTURERS ADD NO 1.

Approval of this Brownfield Plan will enable the Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to capture incremental tax increases which result from the redevelopment of the property to pay for costs associated therewith. Further information regarding this issue, including maps, plats, and a description of the brownfield plan will be available for public inspection and may be obtained from Karl Dorshimer – Director of Economic Development, Lansing Economic Area Partnership, 1000 South Washington, Suite 201, Lansing, MI 48912, (517) 702-3387.

If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email [city.clerk@lansingmi.gov](mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov).

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk  
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CP#17\_297

CITY OF LANSING  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Act-1-2017, R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, Sale of approximately 01.43 acres

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 27, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, Michigan, to consider a resolution selling the parcel commonly known as 240 Museum Drive, specifically described as:

Act-1-2017, R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, Sale of approximately 01.43 acres

Details of the sale are on file with the City Clerk's Office and are available at Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave. or [www.lansingmi.gov/clerk](http://www.lansingmi.gov/clerk). For more information about this sale, phone City Council Offices on City business days, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 483-4177. For more information, please call 517-483-4177.

If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email [city.clerk@lansingmi.gov](mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov).

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMMC  
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CP#17\_300





**PUBLIC NOTICES**

continued on page 9

**NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES  
AND DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS**

**WILLIAMSTON-LOCKE DRAIN**

**DAY OF REVIEW OF DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that on **Tuesday, November 21, 2017**, the Ingham County Drain Commissioner will hold a Day of Review of Drainage District Boundaries for one day from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the **Office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, 707 Buhl Avenue, Mason, Michigan 48854** or at such other time and place to which I may adjourn. At that time and place, I will hear the proofs and allegations and carefully reconsider and review the description of lands comprising the Williamston-Locke Drain Drainage District, and determine whether the addition or deletion of lands will more accurately define the boundaries of the land benefited by the Drain and is just and equitable pursuant to Section 197 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, as amended. The Drain is located and established in Sections 25 and 36 of **Williamstown Township, T.4N.-R.1E** and Sections 29, 30 and 31 of **Locke Township, T.4N.-R.2E.**; and in Section 36 of the **City of Williamston** in Ingham County, Michigan.

The lands to be added, or partially added, are located in Sections 25 and 36 of Williamstown Township and Sections 30 and 31 of Locke Township and Section 36 in the City of Williamston and are either a portion or all of the following parcels:

33-03-03-25-451-009	33-04-04-29-300-001	33-04-04-29-300-007	33-04-04-29-300-008
33-04-04-29-300-010	33-04-04-29-300-011	33-04-04-30-200-014	33-04-04-30-200-015
33-04-04-30-200-016	33-04-04-30-200-023	33-04-04-30-400-002	33-04-04-30-400-005
33-04-04-30-400-007	33-04-04-30-400-015	33-04-04-31-100-008	33-18-03-36-177-001
33-03-03-25-251-002	33-03-03-25-451-004	33-03-03-25-452-005	33-03-03-36-201-003
33-04-04-30-300-001	33-04-04-30-300-003	33-04-04-30-400-006	33-04-04-30-400-014
33-04-04-30-400-016	33-04-04-31-100-008	33-04-04-31-100-009	33-04-04-31-201-002
33-04-04-31-226-001	33-18-03-36-401-001	33-18-03-36-401-009	

The lands to be removed, or partially removed, are located in Section 36 of Williamstown Township and Section 31 of Locke Township and Section 36 in the City of Williamston and are either a portion or all of the following parcels:

33-03-03-25-451-001	33-03-03-25-451-006	33-03-03-25-453-001	33-03-03-25-479-001
33-03-03-36-201-005	33-03-03-36-251-002	33-03-03-36-251-003	33-03-03-36-252-001
33-03-03-36-252-005	33-03-03-36-276-007	33-03-03-36-276-012	33-03-03-36-276-013
33-04-04-31-100-003	33-18-03-36-401-002		

**YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED** that persons aggrieved by the decision of the Drain Commissioner to add or delete lands from the Drainage District may seek judicial review in the Ingham County Circuit Court within ten (10) days of the decision.

**DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that on **Tuesday, November 21, 2017**, the apportionments for benefits to the lands comprised within the "Williamston-Locke Drain Drainage District," will be subject to review for one day from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the **Office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, located at 707 Buhl Avenue, Mason, Michigan, 48854** or at such other time and place to which I may adjourn. At the meeting to review the apportionment of benefits, I will have the tentative apportionments against parcels and municipalities within the drainage district available to review. At said review, the computation of costs for the Drain will also be open for inspection by any interested parties.

Pursuant to Section 155 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, any owner of land within the drainage district or any city, village, township, district or county feeling aggrieved by the apportionment of benefits made by the Drain Commissioner may appeal the apportionment within ten (10) days after the day of review of apportionment by making an application to the Ingham County Probate Court for the appointment of a Board of Review.

Any drain assessments against land will be collected in the same manner as property taxes. If drain assessments against land are collected by installment, the landowner may pay the assessments in full with any interest to date at any time and thereby avoid further interest charges. For more information regarding payment of assessments, please contact my office.

The following is a description of the several tracts or parcels of land constituting the Williamston-Locke Drain Drainage District:

33-03-03-25-451-001	33-03-03-25-453-004	33-03-03-25-451-006	33-03-03-25-479-008	33-04-04-30-400-016
33-03-03-25-451-002	33-03-03-25-453-005	33-03-03-25-451-004	33-03-03-25-479-009	33-04-04-30-400-014
33-03-03-25-452-001	33-03-03-25-452-006	33-03-03-25-453-006	33-03-03-25-477-001	33-04-04-30-400-010
33-03-03-25-452-002	33-03-03-25-453-007	33-03-03-25-453-007	33-03-03-25-477-002	33-04-04-30-400-006
33-03-03-25-452-003	33-03-03-25-453-008	33-03-03-25-477-003	33-03-03-25-478-001	33-04-04-30-400-015
33-03-03-25-452-004	33-03-03-25-453-009	33-03-03-25-453-009	33-03-03-25-477-004	33-04-04-30-400-005
33-03-03-25-452-005	33-03-03-25-453-010	33-03-03-25-453-010	33-03-03-25-477-005	33-04-04-30-400-007
33-03-03-25-452-006	33-03-03-25-454-001	33-03-03-25-477-006	33-03-03-25-478-004	33-04-04-30-400-002
33-03-03-25-452-007	33-03-03-25-454-002	33-03-03-25-477-007	33-03-03-25-478-005	33-04-04-30-200-023
33-03-03-25-452-008	33-03-03-25-454-003	33-03-03-25-454-003	33-03-03-25-479-001	33-04-04-30-200-016
33-03-03-25-452-009	33-03-03-25-454-004	33-03-03-25-479-002	33-03-03-25-478-007	33-04-04-30-200-015
33-03-03-25-452-010	33-03-03-25-454-005	33-03-03-25-479-003	33-03-03-25-478-008	33-04-04-30-200-014
33-03-03-25-452-011	33-03-03-25-454-006	33-03-03-25-454-006	33-03-03-25-479-004	33-04-04-29-300-001
33-03-03-25-453-001	33-03-03-25-454-007	33-03-03-25-479-005	33-03-03-25-251-002	33-04-04-29-300-010
33-03-03-25-453-002	33-03-03-25-451-008	33-03-03-25-479-006	33-04-04-30-300-001	33-04-04-29-300-007
33-03-03-25-453-003	33-03-03-25-451-009	33-03-03-25-451-009	33-04-04-30-300-003	33-04-04-29-300-011
33-04-04-29-300-008	33-03-03-36-201-026	33-03-03-36-229-005	33-03-03-36-252-004	33-03-03-36-276-007
33-03-03-36-201-005	33-03-03-36-201-027	33-03-03-36-229-006	33-03-03-36-252-003	33-03-03-36-276-012
33-03-03-36-201-003	33-03-03-36-201-028	33-03-03-36-229-007	33-03-03-36-252-002	33-03-03-36-276-013
33-03-03-36-201-010	33-03-03-36-201-029	33-03-03-36-229-008	33-03-03-36-252-001	33-04-04-31-100-009
33-03-03-36-201-011	33-03-03-36-201-030	33-03-03-36-229-009	33-03-03-36-252-005	33-04-04-31-100-002
33-03-03-36-201-012	33-03-03-36-201-031	33-03-03-36-226-005	33-03-03-36-252-006	33-04-04-31-100-003
33-03-03-36-201-013	33-03-03-36-201-032	33-03-03-36-202-001	33-03-03-36-252-007	33-04-04-31-100-008
33-03-03-36-201-014	33-03-03-36-201-033	33-03-03-36-202-002	33-03-03-36-252-008	33-04-04-31-100-006
33-03-03-36-201-015	33-03-03-36-201-034	33-03-03-36-202-003	33-03-03-36-252-010	33-04-04-31-100-010
33-03-03-36-201-016	33-03-03-36-201-035	33-03-03-36-202-004	33-03-03-36-251-008	33-04-04-31-201-002
33-03-03-36-201-017	33-03-03-36-227-002	33-03-03-36-202-005	33-18-03-36-401-009	33-04-04-31-226-001
33-03-03-36-201-018	33-03-03-36-227-003	33-03-03-36-202-006	33-18-03-36-401-008	
33-03-03-36-201-019	33-03-03-36-227-001	33-03-03-36-202-007	33-18-03-36-401-002	
33-03-03-36-201-020	33-03-03-36-228-001	33-03-03-36-201-038	33-18-03-36-401-001	
33-03-03-36-201-021	33-03-03-36-228-002	33-03-03-36-201-037	33-03-03-36-276-018	
33-03-03-36-201-022	33-03-03-36-228-003	33-03-03-36-251-001	33-03-03-36-276-019	
33-03-03-36-201-023	33-03-03-36-228-004	33-03-03-36-251-002	33-03-03-36-276-008	
33-03-03-36-201-009	33-03-03-36-229-001	33-03-03-36-251-003	33-03-03-36-276-009	
33-03-03-36-201-008	33-03-03-36-229-002	33-03-03-36-251-004	33-03-03-36-276-017	
33-03-03-36-201-024	33-03-03-36-229-003	33-03-03-36-251-005	33-03-03-36-276-010	
33-03-03-36-201-025	33-03-03-36-229-004	33-03-03-36-251-006	33-03-03-36-276-011	

In addition to the tracts of land listed above, the following entities will be specially assessed at-large for benefits in the maintenance and improvement of the Drain:

- Locke Township at large
- Williamstown Township at large
- Ingham County at large for benefit of county roads



**CITY OF LANSING  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**SLU-4-2017: Special Land Use Permit, 735 E. Hazel Street  
Special Land Use Permit – Residential land use in the “I” Heavy Industrial district**

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 11, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, to consider SLU-4-2017. This is a request by Funk Zone Investors, LLC for the conversion of the building at 735 E. Hazel Street into residential apartments, up to 160 unit, if a Special Land Use permit is approved by the Lansing City Council.

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

**Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMC**  
[www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk](http://www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk)  
[www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope](https://www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope)

**CP#17\_301**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING  
SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES**

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING WAS HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES LOCATED AT 3209 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hayes, Clerk Aten  
Trustees: Broughton, Harris, McKenzie, DeLay  
MEMBERS ABSENT: Treasurer Rodgers  
ALSO PRESENT: Philip Clark, Attorney

**ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:**  
Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes.  
Minutes of the meeting held on October 17, 2017 approved.  
Agenda approved.  
Special use permit, SP-17-10, for 2703 Harton approved.  
Site plan review, SPR-17-12, for 3225 W. St. Joseph, approved with conditions.  
Public Hearing held on 2017 street lighting special assessment roll.  
Resolution adopted confirming 2017 street lighting special assessment roll.  
2017 special fund budget amendments approved.  
Annual public hearing held on 2018 general fund and special fund budgets.  
Resolution adopted to certify at-large drain millage for 2017 tax rolls.  
Resolution adopted to approve 2018 general fund budget and certify millage.  
Resolution adopted to approve 2018 street light special assessment and certify millage for 2017 tax roll.  
2018 special fund budgets approved.  
Request for conditional rezoning, R-17-14, referred to Planning Commission.  
Re-appointments to Downtown Development Authority Governing Board approved.  
Claims approved.  
Meeting adjourned.

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor  
Susan L. Aten, Clerk

**CP#17\_304**

**CITY OF EAST LANSING  
AMENDMENT OF 2015 SRF PROJECT PLAN  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The City of East Lansing will hold a public hearing on the proposed Amendment to the 2015 Project Plan for Wastewater Treatment Plant and Collection System Improvements for the purpose of receiving comments from interested persons. The hearing will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at the Department of Public Works, 1800 East State Road, East Lansing, MI 48823.

The purpose of the proposed project is to make improvements to the City’s existing sewerage collection and treatment systems. The improvements will ensure that the City can continue to adequately convey and treat all sewerage flows in accordance with its NPDES permit.

The Project Plan Amendment reviewed the status of the eleven projects included in the 2015 Project Plan. Five of the projects have been completed or are under construction. One project was withdrawn from funding. The remaining projects are proposed to be modified under the proposed Amendment. These projects are proposed to be completed in Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) State Revolving Fund (SRF) Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020, as follows:

MDEQ SRF Fiscal Year 2019 Projects:

C-4 Michigan Avenue and Harrison Road Improvements	\$7,587,000
C-5 Woodingham Pump Station Replacement	\$7,942,000
W-3 Solids Handling Improvements (Combined W-3 and W-4 projects from 2015 Project Plan)	\$22,364,000

MDEQ SRF Fiscal Year 2020 Project:

C-2 Oakhill Neighborhood Improvements	\$4,174,000
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The total project cost for the amended projects is \$42,067,000.

Beneficial impacts of the proposed amended projects include improved solids handling at the treatment plant, increased operational efficiency of the treatment plant and collection system, and reduction of surcharging and combined sewer overflow events in the sewer system. Adverse impacts are all short term, including temporary disturbance of the surrounding areas due to construction, traffic disruption, dust, and noise. There are no expected long-term, negative impacts from any of the proposed projects.

The City plans to fund the construction of these projects through low interest MDEQ loans. The estimated cost to a typical residential user in the City of East Lansing will be approximately \$29.04 per quarter for all four projects.

Copies of the Project Plan Amendment will be available for public inspection on and after November 17, 2017 at the following locations:

- East Lansing Department of Public Works, 1800 East State Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823
- City Clerk’s Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823
- East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Written comments will be accepted up to seven (7) days after the date of the Public Hearing and will receive responses included in the Final Project Plan Amendment. All written communications should be sent to: Mr. Bob Scheuerman, PE, Assistant Engineering Administrator, Department of Public Works, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823.

**CP#17\_303**

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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**NOW THEREFORE**, all unknown and non-resident persons, owners and persons interested in the above described lands, and you:

Clerk of Ingham County;  
Chairperson of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners;  
Managing Director of the Ingham County Department of Roads;  
Supervisor of Locke Township;  
Supervisor of Williamstown Township

are hereby notified that at the time and place aforesaid, or at such other time and place thereafter to which said Day of Review of Apportionments may be adjourned, the apportionment for benefits within the Williamston-Locke Drain Drainage District will be subject to review.

**AND YOU AND EACH OF YOU**, owners, municipalities and interested persons in the aforesaid lands, are hereby cited to appear at the time and place of the day of review of apportionments as aforesaid, and be heard with respect to the special assessments and your interests in relation thereto, if you so desire.

This notice is pursuant to Sections 154 and 197 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, as amended, and Act 162 of the Public Acts of 1962.

Proceedings conducted at the day of review of drainage district boundaries and day of review of apportionments are subject to the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation should contact Patrick E. Lindemann, the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, at (517) 676-8395, or through the Michigan Relay Center at 711 (TTY) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

Dated: November 6, 2017

Patrick E. Lindemann  
Ingham County Drain Commissioner  
707 Buhl Avenue  
Mason, Michigan, 48854  
(517) 676-8395

**CP#17\_295**

# Gales of November

## Scandals cloud MSU President Lou Anna Simon's growing legacy

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

As a childhood baseball fan and former athlete, MSU President Lou Anna Simon knows what an asterisk can mean.

In nearly 13 years as president, Simon has led the university through a transformation so thorough and multi-faceted that observers are beginning to compare her tenure to the epic 28-year reign of post-World War II president and campus icon John Hannah.

Fairly or not, however, the year 2017 put a serious crimp in her scorecard.

Attorney David Mittleman and his partner, Mick Grewal, represent 35 of 141 alleged victims who have come forward in civil litigation in Michigan's western district, alleging sexual abuse by former MSU sports physician Larry Nassar.

The cases, tied up in criminal and civil litigation, have gained national notoriety for MSU, from The Washington Post to "60 Minutes," and could cost the university tens of millions of dollars.

"We literally had to bulk up the size of the firm to deal with it," Mittleman said.

Simon has drawn fire for a tepid response, at best, to the unfolding scandal. Despite the gravity of the matter, Mittleman gave in to the Spartan compulsion to put everything in terms of sports.

"Depending on how the largest institutional sexual assault scandal in modern history is handled," Mittleman said Simon "will have, at minimum, an asterisk."

### Hold the retrospective

Simon is showing no signs of hanging it up yet. Not only did she decline to be interviewed for this story, but her spokeswoman, Jennifer Davis, declined to say what Simon considers to be the most significant parts of her legacy.

"That "sort of retrospective ... strikes us as more appropriate for someone who is planning to leave his or her position, which is not the case here," Davis said.

In the head-hunting world of university presidents, Simon is an anomaly. Spartan to the marrow, Simon, 70, has never worked anywhere else. She has led the university since 2003, first as interim president, then as president.

"It's a fairly long period of time for a presidency in this day and age," former Associate Provost Robert Banks said. College and university presidents were serving an average term of seven years in 2011, down from eight and a half in 2006, according to the American Council on Education.

But Banks considers Simon's longevity to be an asset.

"She knows where all the issues are, where all the bodies are buried," he said. "She's bright, energetic, smart, so she can deal with the staleness you can get into if you're in one university for a long time."

For sheer impact and magnitude of change during her tenure, longtime observers are starting to compare Simon to John Hannah — the Washington, Lincoln and FDR of MSU, all rolled into one. Hannah was



Courtesy Photo

As the Larry Nassar sexual assault scandal unfolded, Lou Anna Simon declared that "sexual assault has no place at MSU" in a video posted May 10.

president from 1941 to 1969, when the school shot up from its agricultural college roots to become a national research institution.

"John Hannah was here longer, and really built and developed the university, but she's carried that on that tradition in a lot of respects," Banks said.

Fred Poston, who served two terms as dean of the College of Agriculture, separated by 12 years as vice president for finance and operations, has worked closely with Simon.

"I've served a few of them, from DiBiaggio on, and I think she's easily the strongest president we've had," Poston said. "She has a better grasp of the university than anyone I know."

### Atoms and art

Simon's style is to yoke detail-minded, hands-on involvement with far-reaching ambition.

Two high-profile projects — one in the humanities and the other in the physical sciences — best show off that style.

MSU broke ground in 2014 on the \$550 million Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, which is expected to be finished in three to five years. This year, the project reached the obscure but crucial benchmark of "beneficial occupancy," meaning it is already in limited use.

FRIB is a massive, arcane research complex, the

sort of project usually found at national labs such as Argonne or Oak Ridge, too far out to be tucked into the dorms and classrooms of a Big 10 campus. The creation of rare isotopes not found in nature opens up a window into the fundamental building blocks of the universe and promises a host of medical and other applications.

For Simon, pushing through projects like FRIB is not just a matter of cheerleading.

FRIB Project Director Thomas Glasmacher said Simon's direct involvement with the U.S. Energy Department's selection committee in 2008, including three-day sessions in Rockville, Maryland, and at MSU, were "critical" in convincing the feds to go with MSU instead of Argonne.

"We are building on the MSU campus a discovery machine for which there was no blueprint," Glasmacher said. "Without President Simon's personal support and encouragement, throughout good times and tough times, FRIB would not now be close to being a reality."

Poston was with Simon in Rockville and heard her make the pitch for MSU.

"Lou Anna got up, put her earpiece in and away she went," Poston said. "It was the best presentation I've ever heard anybody give. She was so knowledgeable and so smooth about the topic, everybody was sitting there with their mouths open."



# Simon

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Bookend to the FRIB, on the north end of campus, is an even unlikelier addition to the former agricultural college — the Broad Art Museum, housed in a bold, angular building designed by Zaha Hadid, one of only two of her designs to be built in the United States. (The other is Cincinnati's Rosenthal Center for Contemporary Art.)

Simon overcame an initial reluctance to push Sparty into the contemporary art world and embraced the biggest gift in the university's history, \$24 million from billionaire alumnus Eli Broad, to build the museum.

English Professor Jyotsna Singh called the Broad Museum “one of the best and exciting things that's happened.”

Singh, a member of the English Department faculty at MSU for 18 years, was recruited from Southern Methodist University in Texas, where she already had tenure, and became a full professor at MSU.

“The campus of today is not the campus of 12 years ago, and she deserves the credit,” Singh said. “It's moving in all the right directions. MSU has more recognition worldwide.”

## ‘Vibrant and vital’

The FRIB and Broad Museum are only the most dramatic totems of Simon's push MSU onto the world stage in multiple disciplines.

Simon worked with the Board of Trustees to create a raft of endowed professorships expected to generate research in the physical and biological sciences. A new bioengineering facility was finished in 2015 and an \$88 million medical research facility in Grand Rapids, opened this September.

For decades, MSU's medical schools concentrated mainly on training M.D.s and D.O.s, according to Banks, and not on research until recently.

“The MSU medical environment is a very complicated one, with five campuses,” Banks said. “Some would say it's an administrative nightmare. It's challenging to get all those people working together across a broad set of missions and objectives.”

Simon has also devoted a lot of attention to the arts and humanities. The Broad Museum is only the most conspicuous example.

“She has handled a very difficult time, when the state has divested in its support of higher education,” College of Music Dean James Forger said.

Forger's college and other programs have been subject to budget cuts, but they have also benefited from the spectacular renovation of Fairchild Theater and Cook Recital Hall.

Forger credits Simon with recruiting and retaining key faculty members with international reputations. When jazz studies director and renowned bassist Rodney Whitaker was wooed by the Juilliard School, Simon intervened personally to keep him here.

“That's the way to build a university — to retain people with external offers,” Forger said. “That has made all the difference.”

Simon has also championed environmental initiatives such as putting a stop to the burning of coal at the campus power plant and building the nation's largest solar carport array.

Singh credits Simon with expanding MSU's inter-

national programs, showing a “genuine” commitment to diversity and making “good hires” such as College of Arts and Letters Dean Christopher Long.

“We all have these snobbish friends on the East Coast who say, ‘Are you still in Michigan State?’” Singh said. “I always say very proudly that I'm part of a vibrant and vital English Department built largely during Lou Anna Simon's time as president. I've had other opportunities and offers, and I've never left.”

## Insult to hams

Recent clouds on Simon's tenure have not been limited to the Nassar scandal. When the city of East Lansing moved to put a new income tax on the Nov. 7 ballot, Simon dangled the city a lump sum to drop it, opening her offer at \$10 million. East Lansing Mayor Mark Meadows asked for \$100 million. Simon came back with \$20 million, which she called “extraordinarily generous” in a letter to Meadows.

Their epistolary exchange skirted the shoals of incivility, with Simon needling Meadows about alleged fiscal mismanagement in City Hall and Meadows calling the charges “offensive and misinformed.” MSU and East Lansing couldn't come to an agreement before the deadline to submit the ballot proposal language.

Voters rejected the tax this month, but a testy, seven-figure poker match between two leaders of a much-vaunted “town and gown” relationship was unseemly at best.

Ingham County Commissioner Mark Grebner said that to call Simon's handling of the matter “ham-handed” would be “like an insult to hams.”

“Her exchange with Mark Meadows would have seemed perfectly presidential, except that neither was playing the adult role,” Grebner said.

But the East Lansing skirmish was a minor dustup compared to the Nassar scandal and the attention it drew to what many observers see as an underlying culture of tolerance for sexual assault at MSU.

Simon was branded, fairly or not, as a hypocrite for condemning the Jerry Sandusky sexual abuse scandal at Penn State as chairwoman of the NCAA executive committee, while the Nassar situation festered under her watch.

“People make mistakes, and some of those are purposeful and premeditated, and if you just take the Penn State experience, pretty pervasive,” Simon said in September 2012.

Sandusky, an assistant football coach at Penn State, was convicted that year of 45 counts of having molested young boys.

Penn State President Graham Spanier and iconic coach Joe Paterno lost their jobs over the scandal. Penn State was fined \$73 million by the NCAA and the Big Ten Authority. The school has paid nearly a quarter of a billion dollars in settlements with the victims, according to the Washington Post.

Mittleman expects a replay at MSU of the severe “hammering” on NCAA violations administered to Penn State.

“Look at the sheer numbers — this is four times the size of Penn State,” Mittleman said.

## Joined at the hip

However the Nassar case plays out, Simon's defense has drawn fire from many critics, including some of the victims of alleged assaults.

Simon told the MSU Board of Trustees at an April 2013 meeting, “I have been told it is virtually impossible

to stop a determined sexual predator and pedophile, that they will go to incomprehensible lengths to keep what they do in the shadows.”

After reading the remark in *The Washington Post*, Rachael Denhollander, who alleged that Nassar sexually assaulted her in 2002 when she was a 15-year-old gymnast, was moved to write an open letter to Simon May 1.

“Virtually impossible to stop a determined predator and pedophile?” Denhollander wrote. “If this is what you have been told, you need new advisors.”

Catherine Hannum, a former member of the MSU rowing team and a Nassar patient for four years, also wrote an open letter to Simon, excoriating the university for its slow response to complaints about Nassar.

“I want to know how things got so bad,” Hannum wrote. “I want to know who kept reports of his abuse private. I want to know why it took so long to figure out he was dangerous.”

Mittleman said there is written documentation that William Strampel, dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine, “knew or should have known that there was suspected sexual abuse of a minor going on.”

“There aren't many levels between the dean of the osteopathic school and the top of the food chain,” Mittleman said.

“I don't know what she knew,” Mittleman said of Simon. “We have requested it but we haven't been provided that discovery. Everything has been stayed pending the mediation process, which is confidential.”

The scandal news in 2017 has not been limited to the Nassar case. In February, three MSU football players were charged with criminal sexual conduct. A fourth player was charged in April. All four were dropped from the team.

In April, *City Pulse* reported that a 2015 federal investigation found that MSU had failed in numerous instances to respond in a timely manner to allegations of sexual assault and harassment going back to 2010. The federal study found that “a sexually hostile environment existed for and affected numerous students and staff on campus at the University.”

Simon has argued that the problem is not unique to MSU.

“Sexual assault still plagues our campus and society at large,” she wrote in the April 26 letter to campus.

The April 26 letter outlined steps the university had taken “over the past few years” to “create a safe and supportive campus environment,” including beefing up the campus Sexual Assault Program, requiring students and employees to take an online training program and “accelerating the timeline” for a “top-to-bottom review” of the Title IX program.

But the letter took a defensive tone. Simon again pleaded that “determined sexual predators and pedophiles—people who often exploit positions of personal and professional trust—are very difficult to detect and stop.”

For all his praise of Simon, Poston acknowledged the potential of the Nassar scandal to taint her legacy at MSU.

“It can happen to any president,” Poston said. “You sort of live in fear of — you can't watch everybody all the time, even though you are responsible.”

“But for this, her reputation is sterling at MSU,” Mittleman admitted. “I don't want this to be her legacy, but by the same token, you know where the buck stops. If she flubs the resolution of this scandal, Larry Nassar and Lou Anna K. Simon will be much like Joe Paterno and Jerry Sandusky, joined at the hip forever.”



# ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC • THEATER

## Chasing the Rainbow

Joe Hertler and Rainbow Seekers perform at Silver Bells in the City

By JONATHAN W. THURSTON

In 1984, the Arts Council of Greater Lansing started the annual tradition of Silver Bells in the City. Back then, the event was just the placement of 2,500 lights around the Washington Square Mall and a community sing led by then Mayor Terry McKane. It was not a particularly popular event at first, but it quickly caught on, growing substantially in size over the coming years.

Now, the event has grown to include the lighting of the State Tree, a community sing led by the Steiner Chorale, ice sculptures, fireworks behind the Capitol, live performers and an Electric Light Parade that has over 70 floats, a marching band and more. Also,

### Joe Hertler & The Rainbow Seekers at Silver Bells in the City

Friday, Nov. 17  
8-10 p.m.  
Lansing Center  
333 E. Michigan Ave.,  
Lansing  
See Facebook Event.  
Joehertler.com

the event includes the Silver Bells Village, an addition that was made in 2010. The village features a holiday market filled with a variety of shopping options. But among this year's diverse series of events includes a live concert from Joe Hertler and the Rainbow Seekers.

Kevin Meyer, one of the organizers behind Lansing's Common Ground Music Festival, has been in charge of this year's Silver Bells in the City's entertainment. And he's had a long-lasting relationship with the band.

"He's taken care of us on the years we played for Common Ground," Joe Hertler said. "He's been a mentor to us for many years. Kevin went to the board for the event and mentioned us. They decided to book us."

This year's booking with the Silver Bells in the City is particularly close to Hertler's heart.

He is from Lansing and is proud to call it his home.

"Lansing isn't like Ann Arbor where there's stuff going on every weekend," he said. "When we do something like this in Lansing, lots of people are going to come in."

And performing aside, he's glad to be in town for Silver Bells in the City, for personal reasons, too.



courtesy Photo

Joe Hertler and the Rainbow Seekers is a six-piece band that has its roots in the Lansing area. This year, they will be headlining Lansing's annual Silver Bells in the City holiday festival.

"Lansing is a great city. Silver Bells in the City is a fun event, and I've been going for years."

Not everyone in the group is from Lansing, however. Some of the members of the Rainbow Seekers hail from Detroit, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids and Ann Arbor. The group has been playing since 2011 and met in college.

"I was invited to this stripped down acoustic music performance, a filmed show," Hertler said. "We played in the guy's attic, and they filmed it. The people producing it went on to become my bandmates."

Then, they shared a joint performance at Mittenfest in Ypsilanti in 2010.

"We all booked at this festival at New Year's. We shared a hotel room, and we just practiced in the hotel room and went through five or six of my songs," he said.

Just a few months later, the musicians would call themselves a band. Since then, they've performed at the CMJ Music Marathon in Brooklyn, the Electric Forest Festival in Rothbury, Michigan, the South by Southwest Music Festival in Austin, Texas, and Bonnaroo Music & Arts Festival in Manchester, Tennessee. To date, they have released four albums, including Pluto, their most recent. The album has received critical acclaim: Sound & Silence Magazine is cur-

rently calling the best album of the year.

The Rainbow Seekers based their name off the 1978 album of the same name by Joe Sample. Sample was a jazz fusion artist from Texas who went on to found the Jazz Crusaders. The front cover of Sample's album *The Rainbow Seekers* "had him looking very dignified and stoic," Hertler said.

"Behind him was an outline of a rainbow. I was joking, 'If we're ever a band, we should call ourselves the Rainbow Seekers.' But then, that's what it became," he said.

While Sample is the group's inspiration, the band does not follow in Sample's jazz tradition. The Rainbow Seekers define their music as rock at its core, with elements of bluegrass, Americana and even some soul and funk.

For their Friday performance, Joe Hertler and the Rainbow Seekers will be focusing mostly on playing original songs with a few acoustic covers. However, there might be some holiday music to look forward to, also.

"We might spice it up with some holiday cheer or some holiday-themed songs. It'll be unique given the time of year," Hertler said. They will start their performance shortly after the fireworks over the Capitol begin.

But they have a lot planned for the coming months beyond Silver Bells in the City. At the end of the year, Joe Hertler and the

Rainbow Seekers will be performing at a 90s cover party in Kalamazoo. And next year, they'll be traveling out west. Hertler has been preparing for these travels for more than a year.

"Really excited to go out west. It'll be a lot of fun. We have a lot of new music. I've been taking the last year or so just writing," he said. "Sometimes, it's a couple hours in my studio; sometimes for a couple days. Just trying to work on tunes and doing lots of practice."

However, for the band, music is about a lot more than business. "All work and no play," and all that jazz.

"We've been together for about six years," Hertler said. "We're close. It's more of a brotherhood. It gets to that level of closeness. It's a special thing. We know how to work together. We know how to pick on each other. We're an old group of brothers that has a lot of fun playing together."

When asked for a memorable experience during his time with the Rainbow Seekers, Hertler could not pick a single one, saying there were just too many of them.

"The experiences we have create this shared foundation. It's just great getting to share all of them with people that you love," he said.





Courtesy photo

Monte Pride is a Lansing-born artist who is headlining his newly-formed trio at the Robin Theatre in REO Town. The trio consists of Pride, Evan Taylor and Benjy Joung.

## Healing through sound

### Monte Pride Trio to release debut at Robin Theatre

By **JONATHAN W. THURSTON**

This Saturday, the Monte Pride Trio will have their debut performance at the Robin Theatre, and they are bringing a lot of local flavor into their music. The namesake of the show, Monte Pride, is a folk singer-songwriter and fingerstyle guitarist born and based in Lansing. Currently, he is a senior at Michigan State University, with

#### Monte Pride Trio

Saturday, Nov. 18  
7-9 p.m.  
\$10 in advance; \$15 Day of  
The Robin Theatre  
1105 S. Washington Ave.,  
Lansing  
Brownpapertickets.com

double majors in Environmental Studies and Sustainability, and Sustainable Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

When he's not working on school or music, he's often working at the Old Town General Store. While this weekend will be his first time performing in the trio, it is far from Pride's first personal performance.

"I began playing guitar about six years ago, and have been singing since I was [in] elementary school in Okemos choirs," Pride said.

He started doing live performances his senior year of high school at venues like the Robin Theatre, the Loft, Mac's Bar, the Eli

and Edythe Broad Art Museum and the Old Town General Store. He's performed at a variety of music festivals and events throughout Michigan.

"I've also played local and regional festivals including Farmfest, the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, Pumpstock, Capital City Film Festival, Stoopfest, EastXEast Lansing and Gypsy Goddess Festival."

This list of performances and venues shows that, despite his age, he has the experience. Monte Pride focuses both his stage presence and his music on conveying a form of truth.

"I've never been worried about creating an 'image' because what you get on stage and in recorded music is 'Monte Pride,' through and through," Pride said. "I try my best to share deep experiences and emotion in song. Some folks think my music is 'sad,' but I feel that 'healing' is a much better way to describe what I sing about."

Pride said his greatest achievement to date has been the release of his album Hawthorne Morning Sound. Since then, he was also the event organizer for the first annual Songs for Sustainability Festival, the donations of which benefited Music is the Foundation, a local non-profit dedicated to funding music in small schools.

"I recorded in Ann Arbor with engineer and producer Elan Dantus," the singer said. "With its release met with a sold out show at the Robin Theatre in Lansing on

See Monte Pride, Page 14

## A spirited chorus

### Lansing Symphony, choral forces try to gel in baroque concert

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

Re-discovering the music of Bach, Vivaldi and Handel in all its intricate transparency, you have to wonder: Why aren't there more large-scale baroque music concerts? After many nights of romantic-era thunderstorms and machine age hammerings from the likes of Beethoven or Prokofiev, it's bracing to go aloft in a bright, membranous balloon of baroque melody and drift in pre-industrial skies of blue.

Friday's Lansing Symphony concert suggested an answer why they don't. It's surprisingly hard to get these damn things in the air.

A smudgy, plodding reading of Bach's first Brandenburg Concerto set a less than ecstatic tone for the rest of the night. Two big choral works that followed fared better, but it was not the Lansing Symphony's finest hour and a half.

To say the orchestra struggled through the Brandenburg concerto would not be quite right, because struggle implies lots of energy. Despite some lovely solo turns from individual musicians, the collective kick was oddly dampened and dispersed, resulting in a strangely deracinated, zombie-like performance.

Technical glitches should never keep a listener from appreciating a performance, especially if the passion is there, but the pervasiveness and persistence of the frayed edges Friday made it hard to relax and listen.

The usually buttery violin section turned to vinegar, bringing back a wrinkle of worry that I thought had been smoothed from my forehead forever at Lansing Symphony concerts: Can they stay in tune?

Bach added two horns to put a cherry on top of this exquisite concerto, but the horn players were barely heard, and not entirely welcome when they were.

First chair violinist and concertmaster Mallory Tabb played her featured passages with verve, and was clearly working like mad to put a spine into the intermittently blobby music-making going on around her.

When the orchestra turned to Vivaldi's "Gloria," the blob began to gel, especially when the 200-plus-voice chorus and two vocal soloists were lowered into the muddy water like anchors, under the captaincy of MSU choral director David Rayl.

Soprano Sara MacKimmie's voice flickered with a fragile, candle-lit quality that made you lean forward to catch it all. She often leaned forward herself, looking blissed out to be the vehicle for Vivaldi's bouncing music.

She was at her best when the music called for her to draw a single syllable into a long, sinuous line. At such moments, her inner candle glowed with a hypnotic blue flame and time itself seemed to slow down.

Mezzo-soprano Jane Bunnell projected a distant, teacherly persona (she's an MSU professor) that contrasted awkwardly with MacKimmie's warmth, but she sang well, especially in view of her status as an eleventh-hour rescue mezzo. She was filling in for scheduled guest soloist Meg Bragle, who couldn't make the gig.

Both soloists held the center of gravity well in their own solo turns, but their voices and styles didn't blend well in their duet, "Laudamus te."

The chorus was spirited but spot-on. When they surged into a mighty fugue — an exhilarating juggling act in which each section picks up the melody in turn — it felt like banks of turbines were being activated by a row of big red switches somewhere. Their daunting numbers ramped up the potential for more frayed edges, but the choral blend was like basic Arabica coffee, robust and unwavering.

Things looked up even more when a third soloist, tenor Steven Tharp, joined the group for Handel's little-known "Foundling Hospital Anthem."

Tharp stood up, pushed up his spectacles up his nose and issued forth with a ringing,

See Symphony, Page 15

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# An unusual blend

French Horn Folk Tales blends a variety of genres

By **SHRUTI SARIPALLI**

Grand Rapids Symphony veteran Mary Beth Orr will be performing a fusion project along with three other distinguished artists on Nov. 21 at the Cook Recital Hall. The program fuses two unlikely genres of Appalachian folk and classical music, with Orr singing and also performing solo French horn.

“Often times, folk music is considered porch music and colloquial, but classical has

this elitist stereotype of being formal and stiff,” said Orr. “Despite the differences, people will see that both these genres complement each other.”

## French Horn Folk Tales

French Horn Folk Tales  
Tuesday, Nov. 21  
6 p.m.  
FREE  
Cook Recital Hall  
333 W. Circle Drive  
East Lansing  
(517) 290-0877

Orr grew up in Charleston, North Carolina, with a strong folk music background and has also been playing classical piano since the age of 7. She crafted the program bringing these genres together that incorporate some of the traditional Appalachian melodies of her childhood.

“These genres are not as far apart as we thought they are; in fact, they segue into classical works that absolutely and directly complement each other, with again, the sole purpose of disproving this perceived notion they are unrelated,” said Orr.

This feat of innovation was made possible by the Chris Clark Fellowship Grant she just received from the Arts Council of Greater Lansing. This grant also allows her to shoot her recital.

“I can use the high-quality footage from this program for opportunities in the future which was made possible through this grant,” she said.

Another feature of the show are the lighting effects, which will be used to move the story along. “I am utilizing a commercial element by performing this show in a continuous staged format with story-boarded lighting,” said Orr.

The story of the show will be portrayed through individual songs which Orr said she was compelled to share. Each of the tunes come from a deep place.

“I hope the songs will tell the story, and I want the audience to feel like they are a part of the journey,” said Orr.

The songs are mostly about lost love, death and new life, but Orr said that she wants to set the mood and get the audience to visualize the Appalachian Mountains.



Courtesy photo

Mary Beth Orr is a French horn player with the Grand Rapids Symphony. She will join several other artists in a performance that fuses a variety of genres.

“The opening mood is very majestic, and then it goes into comforting, which will hopefully make the audience nostalgic and then it gets adventurous, towards the end.”

The program includes a unique chamber piece talking about past love and an interesting song by artist Storm Large called, “Stand Up for Me” which talks about love from love’s perspective.

“The last song featured in the program is a pop song, which I think are the modern-day folk songs,” said Orr.

Through the variety of melodies she learned on her grandmother’s porch, combined with the classics she trained in, Orr said that she wants to show how connected people can be through art.

“I have spent my entire life being inspired by two completely different worlds. Traditional Appalachian Folk and Classical/Orchestral. In a world so divided, mostly based on misguided perceptions, I wanted to fuse these two genres to show, through art, how connected we really are.”

Currently, she is third horn for the Grand Rapids Symphony as well as pursuing a master of music in horn performance at Michigan State University as a Distinguished Fellow.

After winning second prize in the professional division at the International Horn Competition of America in 2013, she started exploring artistic opportunities as a soloist. This paid off, when she placed second in the Horn Division of the 2014 International

## Monte Pride

from page 15

Nov. 18, 2016, exactly a year before (to the day) of the upcoming performance next weekend.”

Many of Pride’s sources of inspiration include Paul Simon, Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell and Nick Drake. So, it is no surprise — with Drake’s album *Five Leaves Left* which featured a cellist — that Pride found cellist Benjy Joung to join him.

“I immediately felt connected with him and his playing. It’s very special, musically, when you can predict what one another are going to do,” Pride said. “It has allowed for beautiful, seamless collaboration.”

The third member of the trio is trumpeter Evan Taylor. Pride’s meeting with Taylor was just as magical.

“I met Evan in the past year, when he reached out to me to ask about performing, as he was interested in my music,” he said. “We practiced for the first time a few months back and also clicked; it was seamless as well.”

The trio is excited to get to come to and perform at the Robin Theatre this coming weekend. Even though this will not be Pride’s first time there, he is as grateful as ever to be among the artists who have

had the honor of performing there. As a result, they are doing everything they can to make this weekend’s show memorable, both for longtime fans of Monte Pride and new listeners, too.

“The show will feature older tunes from my album *Hawthorne Morning Sound*, songs with new instrumentation and quite a few brand-new tunes that have yet to be performed live,” he said. “I’m really looking forward to returning to the theatre, too.”

After this performance, Pride plans on taking a break until the new year. Then, he has a lot of writing to catch up as well as his first national bus tour.

“I’ve already booked a busy schedule through March, with exciting performances to be announced in December,” Pride said. “I’m looking forward to getting back to writing, and plan to begin the first steps in recording another full-length album. I’m also planning to embark on my first national tour in 2018, and will be working hard to take my music and its message to communities I’ve yet to visit.”

He will be delivering many of these messages at his performance this coming weekend at the Robin Theatre. Despite his youthful appearance and energy, his rich tenor voice and his adept fingerpicking belie years of experience at this debut performance.

Women’s Brass Conference Solo Competition. She also holds faculty positions with both the Charleston Horn Institute, and the Tucson Summer Brass Workshop as the Hornist for the resident quintet, Variance Brass.

The other artists performing include a freelance violinist, tenor and artist in residence at Central Michigan University, Takeshi Abo. His playing has been praised by critics as “angelic” and “breathtakingly beautiful.” He regularly performs throughout the United States and Japan, with recent appearances as soloist in concertos by Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Brahms.

Tenor William Watson will join the artists, too. He has been teaching voice for over 20 years, including 11 years at Northern Illinois University. He created the role of President Van Buren in the world premiere of the opera, “Amistad” at Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Lastly, but certainly not least, Mina Son will contribute her talents as well. From Joliet, Illinois, she graduated with her professional studies degree in collaborative piano from the Cleveland Institute of Music, earned her masters of music degree from Central Michigan University and her bachelor of music degree from Illinois State University. She is currently a staff pianist at

Central Michigan University, as well as the organist at Sacred Heart Church.

With such distinguished artists on board, Orr hopes that people will appreciate this unique blend of sounds from two distinct genres not usually seen together.





# CURTAIN CALL

## 'S Wonderful'

'An American in Paris' proves to be a timeless classic

By PAUL WOZNAK

Timeless is one of those words that gets tossed around for older movies and shows. But "An American in Paris," the musical now running at the Wharton Center, really is timeless. It may be based on old songs from an old movie, but this production earns the descriptor for making all of its individual elements feel fresh and new. Featuring glittering sets, gorgeous costumes and a stellar cast, "An American in Paris" not only recreates a nostalgic time and place in the past, it just feels timeless.

### "An American in Paris"

Now through Sunday, Nov. 19.  
7:30 p.m. Weds.-Thurs.; 8 p.m. Fri. and Sat.,  
2 p.m. Sat.; 1 and 6:30 p.m. Sun.  
Tickets start at \$43/\$29 students  
Wharton Center  
750 E. Shaw Lane,  
East Lansing  
(517) 432-2000  
whartoncenter.com

This stage version with the book written by Craig Lucas maintains the essence of the film and basic story of complicated love in post-war Paris, accompanied by a slew of classic Gershwin songs.

McGee Maddox plays Jerry Mulligan, a former U.S. Army lieutenant who missed his train to stay in Paris. Mulligan is one part of a love quadrangle that includes fellow American Adam Hochberg (Matthew Scott) and Frenchman Henri Baurel (Ben Michael), all pining for a beautiful dancer Lise Dassin (Allison Walsh). Add in Kirsten Scott as wealthy art financier Milo Davenport who is sweet on Mulligan and you have all the makings for heartbreak and redemption.

Maddox looks like an average guy with short brown hair and a big smile but he's really an extraordinary dancer. He's matched with skill and chemistry by Walsh who plays the guarded Lise. Maddox and Walsh share abundant stage time but their dance duet in the "An American in Paris" ballet number is enchanting.

As fellow G.I. and pianist/composer Hochberg, Scott adds most of the comic



Courtesy Photo

Cast of "An American in Paris" mid-dance.

relief as the nice guy who just can't get the girl. Fellow nice guy Henri may not get the girl either, but he does get one of the show stopping musical numbers "I'll Build a Stairway to Paradise." What starts as an unpolished cabaret number soon turns into a decadent fantasy in Henri's head at the Radio City Music Hall. It's a Busby Berkeley inspired masterpiece that is made complete with art deco set pieces and crystal adorned spandex.

The rest of the cast, including Scott and the entire ensemble, are tight and incredible, moving sets and changing costumes after virtually every scene.

Choreographer and director Christopher Wheeldon creates a seamless blend of ballet, swing and tap dance throughout. But the Gershwin music informs all of the movements turning Wheeldon's choreography into a hybrid of jazz and classical styles that perfectly match the music.

Bob Crowley's set and costume design are just magical. Drawing inspiration from modern and abstract art, jagged surfaces on wheels spin around while video projectors render an impressionist Paris that expand the world of the show without clunky set pieces. Costumes change from Paris pedestrian to nightclub to Mondrian-inspired leotards. Every set and costume piece is refreshing and inspiring.

But the primary inspiration and best reason to see the show is the incredible music. Including classic, American songbook songs like "S Wonderful", "I Got Rhythm" and "They Can't Take That Away from Me," "An American In Paris" is a reminder of the prolific talents of the Gershwins. It's also a charming feast for the eyes and ears.

## Symphony

from page 13

trumpet-like voice perfectly suited to the joyful, ceremonial quality of Handel's music. His pinpoint control didn't detract from his deep delight in the music. He nailed the diction without sounding pedantic or fussy.

The technical issues on stage never went away completely, though. In one passage, the soprano section of the chorus and the violins are called upon to sing and play in unison, like two great wings soaring to the heavens, but they just weren't generating the same note most of the time, making the flight more albatrossy than angelic.

Thanks, in part, to the uplift of Handel's music — and Tharp's clarion voice — the tapestry held together and even skirted the edge of transcendence. The ratio of moments

that made you feel so good you forgot where you were, to moments that made you wish you were somewhere else, kept on getting higher, right up to the evening's closer, the famous "Hallelujah" chorus.

However, it was hard not to notice that the audience seemed mainly packed with choral die-hards. There was a lot of 'Here we are' waving from the seats. And positioning the "Hallelujah" Chorus at the end is a pretty sneaky way of ensuring a standing ovation. (It's a tradition to stand for it.) The concert was originally set to end with the Vivaldi, but the order was changed at the last minute.

The other MasterWorks concerts of the season routinely reach startling levels of excitement and excellence, but if Friday's concert is any sign, the annual choral entry could end up being judged by the second-tier, at-least-they-tried standard associated with end-of-school-year recitals.

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**541 E. Circle Drive East Lansing**

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# Pairings to be thankful for

## Thanksgiving wines that are sure to impress

By **JUSTIN KING**

I don't know what you're eating on the fourth Thursday in November, but if I were a betting man, my odds are on turkey. Still, Thanksgiving is a very personal holiday, with families having their own customs and eating preferences that may dictate a sharp right turn away from the famous fowl.

For instance, I'd rather watch the "Scott's Tots" episode of *The Office* than eat a half pound of turkey. But if you dig on those quirky animals, then who am I to say you're wrong?

If your Thanksgiving meal is the hands of a turkey whisperer, go for the home run bottle of pinot noir. One of my favorites of the past year is the 2013 Hirsch Vineyards San Andreas Fault pinot noir. This is the luxury bottle of the group. Expect to pay about \$70. And if you love elegant wines, it's worth every penny.



This wine screams for cranberries and well-prepared turkey. There is a low weight to this wine; it's completely effortless. And the fruit is tart, savory and complex. It's in the running for wine of the year under \$100.

I admit I'm a sucker for stuffing and mashed potatoes with gravy — I'm a simple man with simple needs. When your plate is filled with nebulous starches and fats, the concept of uber-precious wine pairings is a complete waste of time. So, let's nix that right now.

Feed the id.

Ultimately, this is what Thanksgiving is anyway. You spend hours traveling on both sides of the day or weekend. You don't want to think about much other than a life without stress. Someone puts a plate of food in front of you: Boom, you eat the food.

The same deal goes for wine. But typical Thanksgiving foods aren't usually of the super-hearty variety. It's more about generous portions than anything else.

Zinfandel is the way to go in this case.

What's more American than a grape that made its name in California, that is originally from Croatia, but mistakenly once thought of as Italian?

There are also oceans of well-made zinfandel if you go into it expecting flavorful wine, but not necessarily top-echelon grace. For about \$20, Valravn zinfandel is exactly what it should be: fruity, jammy, borderline-goopy with a spicy, peppery backbone.

Zinfandel got its start as a humble Croatian grape called tribidrag. It achieved notoriety for being a decent workhorse in the southern Italian region of Puglia, where it is known as primitivo.

Truth be told, this worldwide grape's best successes are in the Golden State. Turley, Hartford Family, and Martinelli have put a California spotlight on this grape for a \$40-100 price tag. We've been lucky as consumers, though.

This zin from Valravn is consistently jammy, ripe and lacking in subtleties. But that's OK, because you're staring at a heaping mound of gravy fats. This is what you want. If you're looking for a go-to Thanksgiving weekend wine, think zinfandel. All you want is gobs of fruit. This has it in spades.

What's that? You hate red wine? OK.

Chardonnay will be your spirit animal.

If you like white wine but hate chardonnay, you have not had access to the proper wines for you. Much of this is about oak usage.

If you like oaky, buttery flavors with just a hint of sugar, your grocery shelves have got everything you need. Rombauer, Kendall-Jackson, Sonoma-Cutrer, all make examples of this style of chardonnay. For an oak-driven chardonnay a touch dialed back, Acacia's 2015 chardonnay from Carneros might be the one for you, at about \$18. Its profile is moderately creamy, with flavors of lemon, red apple, and salted caramel.

For the Francophiles, there are not too many wines that go over the top on this kind of dinner. But wines from the Rhone valley in the south may fit the bill. Saint Cosme's 2014 Cotes du Rhone is impressive. Most red wines from Cotes du Rhone are mostly grenache, with syrah playing second fiddle. Not so with this wine. This is all syrah, and it's meaty, peppery notes are generous for the asking price of roughly \$20. That sounds perfectly fine with me to drink during a heartbreaking Lions turkey day loss.

*Justin King is a certified sommelier and owner of Bridge Street Social, a wine and cocktails-focused restaurant in DeWitt, and was named one of Wine & Spirits Magazine's Best New Sommeliers of 2017.*

## CURTAIN CALL

### Fiery, French and Fantastic 'Misanthrope' thrills

By **PAUL WOZNAK**

If the descriptors "classic" or "spoken in verse" usually scare you away from theatre, fear not. Michigan State University Department of Theatre's current production of "The Misanthrope" sounds more like songs from "Hamilton: An American Musical" than a sonnet from Shakespeare. Adapted

#### "The Misanthrope"

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15 & Thursday, Nov. 16; 8:00 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17 & Saturday, Nov. 18 TBD (Pending Football Game); 2:00 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19; \$15 general admission, \$10 MSU students  
Arena Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road,  
MSU campus, East Lansing  
(800) WHARTON,  
whartoncenter.com

by Constance Congdon from a translation by Virginia Scott and directed by Dan Smith, Molière's comedy of manners set in 17th century France is a timeless commentary on

20th century America.

Alceste (Matt Greenbaum) is the misanthrope, a French aristocrat and evangelist for

unvarnished honesty. By the end of the show, Alceste loses his girlfriend, stands trial for insulting a nobleman's poem and ultimately exiles himself from "polite" society. It's a brutal ending to a show that's also brutally frank and funny.

Like Lin Manuel's Hamilton, Greenbaum's Alceste is a brilliant and charismatic man who seems like a terrible person to know. As the only character without a wig or elegantly styled hair, Greenbaum physically stands out from his peers as much as he alienates them through his words. In the opening scene, he debates with friend Philinte (Greg Hunter) about the supposed value or worthlessness of lying as politeness to maintain social civility. As the two master's students in the production, Greenbaum and Hunter are an excellent match, pinging witticisms and philosophical arguments at each other like tennis masters. Given their diction and pacing, their debate is both interesting and beautiful to listen to.

Greenbaum also matches wits and sexual chemistry with his suitor Célimène (Janette Angelini) and Éliante (Brooke Bastianelli) as Philinte's love interest. With each, Greenbaum shows Alceste's shattering vulnerability as a naïve boy unable to comprehend the contradictions of love and courtship. Both Angelini and Bastianelli display an inner strength that perfectly counters Alceste's inner weakness.

Easily, the most entertaining exchanges occur between Célimène and Arsinoé (Katelyn Hodge) as a rival for Alceste's affec-

tions. Like a rap battle without the back beat, Angelini and Hodge throw down with seething barbs, using the restraint required of their polite world as a passive-aggressive channel of eloquent fury. The gist of the argument is two women calling each other ugly liars and sluts but with an avalanche of mic-drop worthy digs like "Do only dogs come when you call?" It's epic shade-throwing that eclipses any other female-centered feud.

The rest of the cast, including Shane Bruno, Evan Phillips and Peter James Florian as fellow suitors, all elevate the show by playing into the flamboyant and vain personalities of their respective characters while maintaining the steady pace of the show. Florian is especially great as the thin-skinned nobleman Oronte who writes the offending poem. Oronte says he seeks Alceste's honest opinion when he really wants glowing praise for his half-assed attempt. Like a Facebook wall with pretty pictures, Florian's placid face masks a sad and desperate person who thrives in a world of false niceties but crumbles under real criticism.

The scenic design by Heather Brown, costume design by Violet Jones and hair and makeup design by Mallory Maxton combine to create the shiny, Rococo world of 17th century French aristocracy without disrupting the flow. Brown's scenic design keeps the audience-surrounded Arena Theatre ornate but open for the actors to glide around. And Jones' costumes make strategic use of color to distinguish the characters for the audience

while adding shiny layers to highlight their regality.

"The Misanthrope" is a comedy that provides perspective more than escape. Alceste leaving heartbroken and in exile is not exactly a happy ending. But it also poses a challenge for audiences in our present moment: It asks them to respond to their own challenges. It's also an extremely polished and quotable production that will make fans of its audience.



Courtesy photo

"The Misanthrope" cast: clockwise from the top: Matt Greenbaum (Alceste), Shane Bruno (Acaste), Janette Angelini (Celimene), and Evan Phillips (Clitandre).



# The forgotten genius

Michael Smith writes a book about Detroit architectural legend, Wirt Roland

By **BILL CASTANIER**

It's likely Detroit's architectural gems, the Guardian Building, the Penobscot, the Buhl and the General Motors Building, looming over the city like art-deco cathedrals, helped land Detroit on the top 10 cities for Lonely Planet's "Best in Travel 2018." Or maybe, it was the beautifully symmetrical manhole cover designed for Michigan Bell, a subsidiary of AT&T, that pushed Detroit to number two on that list.

All of these covers were designed by the little-known architect Wirt Rowland who worked in the shadows of the better-known architects Albert Kahn and George D. Mason. They may have been better known, certainly, but they were not more creative or influential to the skyline



Courtesy photo

Michael G. Smith's book "Designing Detroit" looks at Detroit designer Wirt Rowland's contributions to the city.

of Detroit than Rowland was.

At the height of Detroit's building boom in the 1920s, Rowland was responsible for the design of five of Detroit's 16 skyscrapers. Most people thought and still do today, that they were attributable to Kahn. That's soon to change, in part, due to a new book by Michael Smith, published by Wayne State University Press.

Smith has written a 500-page book, "Designing Detroit: Wirt Rowland and the Rise of Modern American Architecture." The book is as formidable as Rowland's architectural work, and one that examines in detail, the life and prodigious career of Detroit's premier, but virtually unknown, architect.

Smith, like Rowland, had little training in architectural design. In his previous careers, he was a graphic artist and then a recruiter for the printing industry. Smith said it was serendipitous that he began the six-year project to research and write the book.

"In 2011, I was asked to do an architectural tour of the city for a conference. It was then that I first discovered that all the buildings I liked were designed by the same architect: Wirt Rowland," Smith said.

"I'm not sure why he has been overlooked," he said. But Smith was willing to offer an answer: "The other architects were self-marketers."

Also, perhaps contributing to the lost architect mystique was the fact that Rowland's work was unlike any other design going on at the time. The magnificent Guardian Building, home of Union Savings bank, was not overwhelmingly

well-received at the time, but today it is considered "America's premier Art Deco bank building" according to the book "American Art Deco."

Many of the buildings and work of Rowland that Smith details in the book are still as beautiful as the day they were completed. Others, like the Detroit News building, Detroit Free Press Building and the Rayl Hardware Company building — now the upcoming Shinola Hotel — have been beautifully restored and repurposed. Other notable works are the Ambassador Bridge and the Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

Although Rowland's work was primarily in and around Detroit, his designs were also used in buildings in Grand Rapids, Flint, Saginaw and Ann Arbor. In Ann Arbor, the Arthur Hill Auditorium and the Hatcher Library are examples of buildings still in use today.

Smith said that Rowland's work outside Detroit were unique, as from 1900 to 1930 architects in Detroit did not generally have to leave the city for work.

"There was so much building going on in Detroit that the numbers were staggering," he said.

Smith tells how Rowland's used his musical skills — he was an accomplished vocalist — to design the unique acoustics in Hill Auditorium. Contributing to Rowland's innovative work also, was the recent advancement of reinforced concrete which enabled the construction of taller buildings with elegant designs.

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One of the great contributions of Smith's work too, is that it tells the back story of the economic rise of Detroit. It's likely if a community has a Bell Telephone structure within its city limits it was designed by Rowland.

Although his work is not designed as a textbook, "Designing Detroit" is an easily approachable introduction to architectural design. Smith has included geometric sketches, and a crib section that opens the book detailing architectural terms and designs.

Smith's book is particularly refreshing in light of the numerous architectural porn books which were published in the last five years on Detroit's crumbling infrastructure.

"If I could be buried anywhere, the Guardian (building) would be the place," Smith said.

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LANSING ASSOCIATION  
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

# LGBTQIA News

## Message from the Board

It's the season of thanksgiving and we're incredibly grateful to you, our community, and the enthusiasm you've shown for our work. We hope you'll take that energy and spend some time educating yourselves about Native American Heritage Month and the unique challenges many of our indigenous friends and family members still face today. We encourage all of you to remember that most, if not all of us, are living on Native lands. But November also means that it's Transgender Awareness Week (#TransWeek), a time for us to listen and to learn and to celebrate and uplift the lives of our transgender and non-binary community members. There are a number of Transgender Day of Remembrance events scheduled throughout the state, but on November 19, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., the Salus Center will be hosting a service to remember the trans people whose lives were cut short last year. If you want to stay current with the latest and greatest LAHR and community news, we recommend subscribing to our mailing list at <http://eepurl.com/cVOekH>. If you're interested in volunteering your time (or your dollars), email [communications@lahronline.org](mailto:communications@lahronline.org). We'll hook you up.

## Local Author Spotlight: Kate Birdsall

By Ana Wolken

Kate Birdsall is a Lansing author who recently released her debut novel, *The Flats*. Both Kate and her protagonist, Cleveland Police Detective Liz Boyle, are out queer women. LAHR recently chatted with Kate about what it's like being a queer author and bringing that perspective to the world of mystery novels.

**Q: This is your debut novel. Was it important to you that the lead character in your first novel be queer?**

A: Absolutely. Writers need to write the characters and books that they want to read. I noticed a huge chasm in mystery fiction, which is my favorite genre, where I never really saw myself and my own identity being represented especially accurately. There are tons of compelling straight characters, for sure, but they're straight. And most LGBTQ+ mystery fiction is about the characters' sexuality. I didn't want that. I wanted Liz to be a queer character, but the series isn't about her queerness. It's about her cases and her life, which at some point will likely include a love interest, but the stories are mystery stories. We want to know who killed the victim, you know?

**Q: Why did you choose the Rust Belt as the setting for *The Flats*?**

A: I love the Rust Belt! Who doesn't? Seriously though, I grew up in Akron, Ohio, and spent a lot of time in Cleveland when I was a teenager. Liz and I have in common the fact that we used to go to punk-rock shows at dive bars with sticky floors in the Flats, wearing our weird hair and chain wallets and Doc Martens. Even beyond that,

though, I think the Rust Belt is the perfect setting for mystery. It's dark and gritty and very noir.

**Q: Was the process of finding an agent/publisher impacted by you being an out queer woman? If so, how?**

A: Not really, though it did cross my mind. I mean, we all know that one doesn't just come out once—it's a process, and although I'm totally secure in my queer identity, I still sometimes worry that I'll be judged for it. Fortunately, the publishing industry on the whole is really welcoming, and my agent and editors are all remarkable, kind, open-minded people.

**Q: Do you have future plans for more Liz Boyle novels?**

A: Oh, yeah. The second book is well underway, and I plan to finish the draft in November. After that, it'll have to undergo pretty substantial editing and rewriting, but such is the glamorous life of a writer. My hope is to have it to my publisher early next year, which would put its release late next year.

**Q: Where can LAHR members pick up your book? Are you in any local stores? Any plans for local events?**

The book/e-book/audiobook is available on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Kobo, iBooks, and Google Play, through my publisher (Red Adept Publishing), or directly through me. I'm working on getting into Schuler Books, and will likely have another event, probably one that involves beer, in Lansing in December. Stay tuned!

If you read *The Flats* and like it, please leave a review on Amazon or Goodreads!

## LAHR Legislative Update

### Transgender Military Ban

On October 30, 2017, a federal judge blocked enforcement of the Trump Administration's proposed transgender military ban. Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly said that her order protects the status quo and will allow transgender individuals to continue to enlist and serve openly in the armed services.

### Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals

Negotiations continue to find a solution for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. The program was ended by President Trump on October 5, 2017, and Congress has yet to act on a solution. The latest proposal would include a DACA provision in the year-end spending bill. That spending bill is also necessary to keep the federal gov-

ernment funded and operating. Republicans have ruled out this option while Democrats have signaled their willingness to shut down government operations without a DACA provision included.

There have been no hearings or votes on any of the DACA related legislation currently pending in Congress.

### Children's Health Insurance Program and Community Health Center Funding

On November 3, 2017, the U.S. House of Representatives reauthorized federal funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and Community Health Centers. Funding for both programs expired on September 30, and the November 3 vote represents the first significant congressional action on the matter. The House vote was largely along party lines and was supported overwhelmingly by Republicans. Democrats voting "no" cit-

**See Update, Page 19**

## Educating Our Youth

By Kiana Elkins

A couple years ago, I had a falling out with a relative because I asked that they not use homophobic slurs around my younger siblings. This led to an argument with a number of family members where they insisted that kids weren't ready for these conversations. I know my family members mean well and wouldn't consider themselves homophobic or transphobic, but their resistance to acknowledging the existence of LGBTQIA people is concerning. It bothers me that adults, myself included, don't give young people the benefit of the doubt as often as we should. I've certainly walked through the mall and had one of my sisters point out women kissing (or at least, people they assumed were women) or a man wearing makeup at Sephora. These moments are the type of beautiful teaching opportunities that more of us should use to help our young people understand LGBTQIA identities.

This summer, I had the pleasure of working at a summer camp for girls where we encouraged them to develop a community action plan. The seventh and eighth graders who I worked with mentioned over and over how they were concerned with the treatment of LGBTQIA people, and in digging deeper, a lot of them had never had conversations

with an adult about LGBTQIA issues. My girls knew LGBTQIA people were mistreated, but were unaware of the intricacies and ways in which we are mistreated. One day, we had a conversation about violence toward queer and trans women of color, and later that day I heard them teasing a girl by calling her "gay-gay." I had to pull them aside and remind them that I was queer and how it hurt me to hear them doing that. They hadn't realized that their words and actions were connected to the violence LGBTQIA people experience every day.

A number of girls chose to do their community action plans on LGBTQIA rights, and they surprised me with their interest in equity for LGBTQIA people. I know when I was their age, I was only interested in my hair and people I thought were cute. We walked around the community and the girls conducted interviews, which left them disappointed at the number of people who said, "I don't have a problem with gay people, I just don't support them." My girls were frustrated that adults, who they were raised to respect for their wisdom, could disappoint them in this way.

Our young people are starving for knowledge and are more aware of social issues than we give them credit for. We can't continue to ignore their inquiries. The more we do, the more we stand the risk of them perpetuat-

**See Educating, Page 19**



## A Fairer Williamston

By Nicole Ellefson

It was a warm summer day. I sat next to my grandmother in the garden. This visit was not to be like any other visit. Not only would we sit and watch the wind in the trees and admire the flowers. Today was a day that my child had been dreading. My eldest was the first great-grandchild born to GG. The two of them had forged an instant and special bond. When Reid gathered the courage to come out to the world as transgender, it was coming out to GG that scared him most. She was 95 and born of a different time and place. He was scared that she would cut him off, deny him, or refuse to see him, he couldn't even come with me.

When I sat down with her and told her that my eldest was transgender, all she said was, "Are you sure?" By then, we'd seen many therapists, specialists, and doctors. We were sure. From that point on, my grandmother never missed a beat—never called my son by his birth name, never messed up and used she/her instead of he/him. Her support was the most precious gift she ever gave to my son.

Right now, way too many LGBT children are not given this same respect and dignity at school. In 2015, 13% of LGB kids in Michigan reported that they had been threatened or injured with a weapon at school, compared to 6% of their straight peers. The numbers are

even more desperate for transgender kids in schools. A 2015 national survey of transgender people, found that in Michigan:

- 55% of transgender people were harassed for being transgender during their school years.
- 26% of transgender students were physically attacked during their school years because they are transgender.
- 75% of transgender students didn't feel safe at school.

That's appalling. Terrifying.

However, these terrible statistics and the suffering of children they represent aren't because of who they are. The children suffer because of environments that don't support them and because of the discrimination they face. These terrible statistics can be changed. And we have that power. We need to create a supportive space for LGBT kids.

We know what it takes.

LGBT guidance policies, such as the ones proposed by the Michigan State Board of Education and recently passed by Williamston Community Schools, make a huge difference in the school climate our kids live in. We know that when we support LGBT kids, they thrive—and so do their peers.

## Update

from page 18

ed several provisions in the bill which would chip away at funding for the Affordable Care Act. A companion bill has been introduced in the Senate, but because it contains significant differences from the House version, expectations are uncertain.

CHIP is a state and federal partnership providing health insurance to approximately 116,000 low income children in Michigan. Without congressional action, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) estimates that they will end CHIP funded services in April or May 2018.

Community health centers are federally-funded medical facilities that provide access to primary care health services, regardless of the patient's ability to pay or their insurance status. In Michigan there are 45 health centers providing care at more than 260 urban and

rural locations. Community health centers in Michigan serve more than 680,000 patients.

Without renewed federal funding, more than 100,000 of those patients will lose access to critically needed medical care, dental services, and behavioral health services. It's worth noting that here in Lansing, Ingham Community Health Center was one of only two health care facilities in Michigan to receive a 100/100 from the Human Rights Campaign Health-care Equality Index. Health centers are places where LGBTQIA people can go to receive care and know that they won't be turned away, regardless of their insurance (or lack thereof).

Contact your legislators regarding these or any other federal issues:

- Senator Debbie Stabenow 517-203-1760
- Senator Gary Peters 517-377-1508
- Congressman Mike Bishop (8th District) 810-227-8600
- Congressman Tim Walberg (7th District) 517-780-9075
- Congressman John Moolenaar (4th District) 989-631-2552

## Educating

from page 18

ing anti-LGBTQIA violence. I want my sisters and young people I work with to stand up for others and be compassionate. I want them to have the tools to support people who need it, and that starts with education and awareness.



**SUITS AND THE CITY**  
 We would love to see you at our  
 next event  
**Wednesday, December 6**  
**5:30-7:30p.m.**  
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# OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://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 Jonathan at (517) 999-5066.

## Wednesday, November 15

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Five FREE Yoga Classes for Men.** Men are invited to try Bikram Yoga for FREE throughout the month of November. Bikram Yoga Capital Area, 1355 E. Grand River Ave East Lansing. 517-862-8926.

**Homework Help.** Drop-in homework help from Kappa Delta Pi and SMEA. Grades K-12. From 5 to 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Mid-MI Genealogical Society.** Think tank session on brickwalls, new sources and techniques for improving research. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Family History Center, 431 East Saginaw Street East Lansing.

**Mindfulness.** Meditation for beginners and experienced. From 7 to 9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Lansing.

**Open Studio Life Drawing.** Drawing session with nude models. From 7 to 9:30 p.m. Model fee \$2 students (LCC, MSU, high school), \$5 others. Kresge Art Center, 600 Auditorium East Lansing.

**Practice Your English.** Practice listening to and speaking English. All skill levels are welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Shamanic Education & Healing Clinic.** Shamanic education and demonstration. 6-8 p.m. FREE or donation. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave, Suite D Lansing. 517-402-6727.

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**MSU Creative Writing Center Group.** All types of creative writers are encouraged to attend. From 7 to 8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

### MUSIC

**Tavern House Jazz Band.** From 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 a.m. Tavern and Tap, 101 S. Washington Square Lansing.

### THEATER

**An American in Paris.** Tony Award-winning musical. For ages 10+. Tickets from \$43; students \$29. Wharton Center for Performing Arts, 750 E Shaw Ln East Lansing. 5173531982.

### EVENTS

**Cooking with Kids.** Supplies and tips to make a treat to take home and bake. Register at [eipl.org](http://eipl.org). From 5 to 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Lansing Coat Bank.** Families in need of winter gear, may come in and select from our donated inventory. From 5:30 to 8 p.m. FREE. St. Luke Lutheran Church, 5589 Van Atta Road Haslett.

**Lego Palooza.** Activities, snacks and a LEGO movie too! From 5 to 7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St. Grand Ledge.

**Recognizing Our Biases - Senior Discovery Group.** Joann Neuroth and Carolyn LeJuste on how to recognize our internal biases. 10 a.m.-

noon FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing.

## Thursday, November 16

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**(TOPS) Take Off Pounds Sensibly.** Have a support system, lose weight. Wheelchair accessible. At 6 p.m. First meeting FREE. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St. Haslett.

**A Course in Miracles.** Group on peace through forgiveness. From 7 to 9 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Lansing. 517-371-3010.

**Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice.** From 6 to 8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillsdale Lansing.

**Diabetes and the Heart FREE Lecture.** Discuss topics related to Diabetes and the Heart...and more! 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. FREE. Center for Optimal Health, 1520 Ramblewood Drive East Lansing. 5173249400.

**Free Yoga for Kids and Youth.** Kids please bring activities for the first half. 5:30-7:15 p.m. FREE ages 6-13; usual rates parents. Bikram Yoga Capital Area, 1355 E. Grand River Ave East Lansing. 517-862-8926.

**Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous.** At 5:45 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 346-9900.

**Spanish Conversation Club.** Practice listening to and speaking Spanish. All skill levels are welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Chipmunk Story Time: Giving Thanks.** Stories followed by nature activities. 10-11 a.m. \$3/child. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. 517-349-3866.

### THEATER

**Beau Jest by James Sherman.** What do you do when your parents won't approve of your boyfriend? 8-10 p.m. Pay what you can. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Williamston. 517-655-SHOW.

### EVENTS

**Minecraft Game Night (Ages 8-15).** Get your game on with fellow Minecrafters. From 5 to 6:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Foster Branch, 200 North Foster Lansing. 517.485.5185.

**12-Step Meeting.** AA/NA/CA all welcome. Every Tuesday and Thursday in room 209. From 12 to 1 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St. Lansing.

**Ladies Silver Blades Figure Skating Club.** All skill levels welcome. Lessons, practice, exercise and fun. From 9:30 to 11:20 a.m. \$5 and yearly dues fee. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd. East Lansing.

**Lunch at the Meridian Senior Center.** Make friends and also enjoy a hot, healthy meal. From 12 to 1 p.m. \$5.75/\$3 suggested for ages 60+. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

**Party Bridge.** Weekly activity at Meridian Senior Center. From 1 to 4 p.m. \$1 Members/\$2 Public. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

**Solar Stuff: Everything is Going Solar.** Discuss phone chargers, yard lights, grills and lawn mowers. Refreshments. 5:30-6:30 p.m. FREE. Michigan Energy Options, 405 Grove St., East Lansing.

### ARTS

**Ballroom Lessons (Rhumba).** Lessons are in a vibrant and relaxed atmosphere. 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. \$21/person. Jackson School of the Arts, 634 N. Mechanic St. Jackson. (517) 784-2389.

**Coloring Club.** 18+! Enjoy calming and relaxing coloring—crayons, coloring books, sheets, markers and pencils provided. From 1 to 3 p.m. FREE. Delta Township Library, 5130 Davenport Drive Lansing. (517)-321-4014.

## Friday, November 17

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Elementary Economics Class.** 18+! Enjoy calming and relaxing coloring. From 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Mendeley Workshop.** A basic introduction to the citation management program Mendeley. From 1 to 3 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

**Mud & Mug.** Get your hands on clay, try the pottery wheel, enjoy the company of friends or meet new ones. 7-0 p.m. \$25. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave. Lansing. (517) 999-3643.

### HOLIDAYS

**Deb Fehrenbach Jewelry Trunk Show**

See Out on the Town Page 22

## Bringing classics to the masses



Courtesy Photo

The Oculus Trio consists of Brian Do, (left, clarinet) Lisa Summers (center, piano) and Alyssa Moskowitz.

Nov. 14

Presented by the students of the MSU College of Music, a collaborative joint concert with members of the Chicago-based Fifth House Ensemble, Fifth House in House, will be held at the MSUFCU headquarters. This chamber music performance is open to all community members who are interested in a variety of music that ranges from Mozart to works by local composers.

Three MSU chamber groups and the Fifth House Ensemble will perform famous standards such as Brahms'

### "Fifth "

"Fifth House in House"  
Saturday, November 18,  
12 p.m.,  
FREE  
MSUFCU Headquarters  
3777 West Road  
East Lansing, MI

"Trio for Clarinet, Cello and Piano" and Mozart's "Kegelstatt Trio." Music composed by MSU student composers will be performed for the first time as well. Other

pieces include the funk tune "You Can't Fish a Train" and the Balkan folk-music influenced piece "Amaro."

"It's a cool initiative program they put on chamber music for all sorts of the audiences," said Lisa Summers, a third-year piano performance doctoral student who will be on the stage. She is also one of the coordinators who worked behind the scenes to organize this event. The chosen venue allows classical music to enter a non-traditional space — one of the goals of this performance.

"Having the entire room to set up our concert gives us the flexibility to place the audience where we need them to be," said Brian Do, a first-year Master's student in clarinet performance. "We would like to get the audience actively engaged in the performance."

Do said the accommodations will allow the music to reach a different type of audience in order to bring out the classics and to let people know, "how accessible and relatable [the music] is."

Part of the plan involves a unique way of listening to the concert, too.

"We are going to find our own ways of integrating the audience so they can feel more engaged with the performance. Unlike the traditional concert setting, in which the audience is expected to sit in the chair, be completely silent and just watch the entire performance," added Do.

The event is not only going to break the boundary between classical music with the first-time attendees, but also it provides a practical opportunity for MSU music students to gain experience that will be useful in future careers.

And although planning the event has been challenging in a variety of ways, like "deciding how to frame and promote the concert, finding community partners and a venue, and cultivating an audience," Do said.

To him, it's been worth it.

"It's been a process of communicating with local partners about how we can both promote this event in a way that brings in the community," said Do. "All of us gained the skill of being able to adjust faster and faster when things don't work."

Summers hopes it will "attract people that may just come in to do their business with the credit union too."

Beyond just their accommodation of the performance, MSFCU has also played a significant role of mentorship throughout the event by giving helpful advice and providing useful resources to student performers.

"MSU Federal Credit Union is proud to support the College of Music in bringing arts and cultural events to our Community," said April Clobes, President and Chief Executive Leader.

— Min Wang



# TURN IT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE  
BY RICH TUPICA

Sun., Nov. 19

FROG AND THE BEEFTONES



Breakin' Bread With The Blues at the Green Door

Sunday, Nov. 19 @ the Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$10 + food donation, 3 p.m.

The annual Breakin' Bread With The Blues event returns Sunday to the Green Door with a roster of local-blues veterans, all raising funds and food for the Greater Lansing Food Bank and the Capital Area Blues Society. This is the 14th year for the concert, which requires both a \$10 ticket and a non-perishable food item donation at the door. Set to perform are: Nichols and Frog (4 p.m.), Johnny D Blues Band (5 p.m.), Frog and the Beeftones (6 p.m.), and Kevin Nichols and Blue Tuesday (7 p.m.). Closing it out with an 8 p.m. performance is the Twyla Birdsong Band. Emceeding the evening is Daedalian Lowry, general manager of WLNZ 89.7-FM, LCC's radio station. More information on the show is at capitalareablues.org.

Sat., Nov. 18

JEREMY PORTER & THE TUCOS



Jeremy Porter & The Tucos at The Avenue Café

Saturday, Nov. 18 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. FREE, 21+, 8 p.m.

Detroit-based rock 'n' roll band Jeremy Porter and The Tucos releases its new GTG Records-issued LP, "Don't Worry, It's Not Contagious," at a free Avenue Café show. This is the third full-length album from the alt-country trio led by Jeremy Porter, a Marquette native. Before relocating to the Motor City in the '90s, Porter co-founded the Regulars, one of the Upper Peninsula's first punk-rock bands. After stints in Detroit groups like SlugBug, the OffRamps and Fidrych, Porter formed the Tucos in 2009. Rounding out the trio are drummer Gabriel Doman and bassist Patrick O'Harris. Since then, the band has toured across the United States and Canada. Fans of the Replacements, Cheap Trick, Uncle Tupelo or Hüsker Dü might want to check out the new record. Openers at the Avenue are the Plurals and Jake Simmons & The Little Ghosts.

Fri., Nov. 17

WINDBORNE



Windborne at Ten Pound Fiddle

Friday, Nov. 17 @ Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Rd., East Lansing. All ages, \$18, \$15 members, \$5 students. 7:30 p.m.

Windborne, a Vermont-based a cappella quartet, headlines Friday at the Ten Pound Fiddle concert series. The performance, held at Edgewood United Church, is co-hosted by the Peace Education Center, which hosts the church's Alternative Holiday Sale, a free, annual local-craftmaker fair happening Friday-Saturday. Windborne, known internationally for its close-harmony singing, is deeply rooted in American folk-singing traditions, but its repertoire also embraces music from the Corsica, Bulgaria, the Basque region, Quebec and more. In 2014, Windborne even embarked on a month-long tour of Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Angola, performing and teaching workshops as musical ambassadors for the United States. The singers, Lynn Mahoney Rowan, Will Thomas Rowan, Lauren Breunig and Jeremy Carter-Gordon, exude a lively stage presence, but also educate as they entertain, telling stories and explaining the stylistic elements of their setlist.

## UPCOMING SHOW?

CONTACT

EVE@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

## LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	GTG Taco Party	Open Mic.	FREE GTG
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Jackalope, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Road	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.	Pool Tourny, 7:30 a.m.	Alskn "walleye" AYCE	DJ, 9 p.m.
Darb's Tavern, 117 S. Cedar St.				Scott Seth
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.			
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 8 p.m.	Mike Skory & Friends, 8:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Blues Night, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze!!	Avon Bomb	Jonestown Crows
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.	Astronomy on Tap, 7 p.m.		All City Underdogs, 8 p.m.	Fool House '90s Dance Party, 9 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.			The Hotelier, 7 p.m.	Speak Easy, 8 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road			Young Guns, 8 p.m.	Young Guns, 8 p.m.
The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave.	Laura Cortese and the Dance Cards, 8 p.m.	Michigan Comedy Co-Op, 8 p.m.	Broad underground Film Series: Spoils, 7 p.m.	Monte Pride Trio Live, 7:30 p.m.
Sir Pizza/Grand Cafe, 201 E. Grand River Ave.	Stagetime Open Mic. Redbird, 7 p.m.			
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Brent Lowry & the Drifters, 8 p.m.	Mustang Sally, 8 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.	Alistair Beerens, 8 p.m.	Mark Sala, 7 p.m.		
Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr		Open Mic.	Henderseth	

# Out on the town

from page 20

**Reception.** Offering her items just in time for the holiday season. 5:30-8 p.m. FREE. Grove Gallery & Studios, 325 Grove St. East Lansing. 517-333-7180.  
**Silver Bells in the City at the Lansing City Market.** Parade, lighting the State Christmas tree, fireworks and concert. 5-9 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Dr. Lansing. (517) 483-7460.

## LITERATURE AND POETRY

**StoryTime.** Songs, stories and activities to lay the foundation to be great readers. 2-5 years. From 10:30 to 11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

## THEATER

**Beau Jest by James Sherman.** What to do when parents disapprove of your boyfriend? 8-10 p.m. \$19, Senior/military \$17, Student \$10.00. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Williamston. 517-655-SHOW.  
**Auditions: Spring Dance Concert - Painted Ladies.** You will be taught a short center and across the floor combo. From 2 to 4 p.m. FREE. Gannon Building 372, 411 N Grand Lansing.

## EVENTS

**Giving Thanks Storytime (Ages 2-5).** Join us for a Thanksgiving holiday celebration. From 10:30 to 11 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Mason Branch, 145 W. Ash St. Mason. 517-676-9088.  
**Bridge the Years Craft with ACTION.** Join our friends from ACTION and create a beautiful fall leaf wreath! From 3 to 4 p.m. \$2 per person. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.  
**Game Night at Mayflower Church.** Your choice of games to play - Dominos (Mexican Train!), euchre,

etc. 7-9 p.m. \$5. Mayflower Congregational Church, 2901 W Mount Hope Ave. Lansing. (517) 484-3139.  
**MSU Community Club November Meeting.** Discuss Women's Historical Center. 1-3 p.m. FREE. MSU Federal Credit Union (Farm Lane Branch), Corner of Mt. Hope and Farm Lane East Lansing.  
**Peace Education Center's Alternative Holiday Sale.** Local vendors, local economy, and peace and justice! From 5 to 9 p.m. FREE. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road East Lansing.  
**Protest and Struggle: Songs from the Past, Fights for the Future.** Traditional and original American folk music. 12:15-1 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.  
**Silver Bells in the City Celebration (All ages).** Stop for face painting, balloon animals, a photo booth and more. From 5 to 9 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 South Capitol Avenue Lansing. (517) 367-6363.  
**SO. MI Quarter & Paint Horse Auction.** Contact: Tom Moore for more information at (517)-403-1786. MSU Pavilion 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing.

## ARTS

**Alternative Holiday Sale.** Annual sale of handmade items, goodies to eat and social justice information. From 5 to 9 p.m. FREE. Peace Education Center, 855 Grove St. East Lansing. (517) 889-1175.

## Saturday, November 18

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**3D Printing Workshop.** Design with Tinkercad and 3D print it in our Maker Studio. From 2 to 4 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.  
**Lean In Lansing.** Professional development group for women. Check web for location. From 9 to 11 a.m. Grand Traverse Pie, 1403 E. Grand River Ave. East Lansing. (517) 203-3304.

## HOLIDAYS

**Biedermann & Sons Christmas Ornament Signing.** Biedermann signing ornaments. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Mackerel Sky Gallery of Contemporary Craft, 211 M.A.C. Ave. East Lansing. (517) 351-2211.  
**Holiday Heaven Craft Show.** Handcrafted holiday & gift items. From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. FREE. St. Martha Catholic Church, 1100 W. Grand River Okemos.

## LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Books & Bagels Book Club.** Wonder by RJ Palacio. First 15 registered get a free copy of the book! 2-3 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.  
**Children's Social Justice Reading Group.** Books, discussion and craft on non-violence. Pre K-5th. 10:30 a.m.-noon FREE. ELPL, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

## MUSIC

**Monte Pride Trio - LIVE at The Robin Theatre.** Songs and stories, with Monte backed in unique instrumentation. 7-10 p.m. \$10 adv/\$15 at door. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Lansing.

## EVENTS

**Animal Magic with Science Alive (All ages).** Meet animals and learn their amazing adaptations. 11-11:45 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi, 2078 Aurelius Road Holt. 517.694.9351.  
**Climate Legacy Time Capsule Dedication.** Fill our capsule with items that represent what we love. From 12 to 2:30 p.m. FREE. Michigan State Capitol, East Steps, 110 N Capitol Ave Lansing.  
**Come-Write-In Weekend (Adults).** Work on your NaNoWriMo writing and enjoy coffee or tea. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Okemos Branch, 4321 Okemos Road Okemos. 517.347.2021.  
**Dinner Dance.** 5:30-11 p.m. Cost of dinner \$10.00 ( \$4.00 for children 11 and younger). Cost of dance \$6.00 ( free for children 11 and younger). Lansing Liederkrantz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Lansing.  
**Drop-in Thanksgiving Craft (All ages).** Drop in to make a craft (while supplies last). From 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-

Delhi Branch, 2078 Aurelius Road Holt. 517.694.9351.  
**Drop-in Thanksgiving Crafts (All ages).** Drop in to make a craft (while supplies last). 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Aurelius, 1939 South Aurelius Road Mason. 517.628.3743.  
**Drop-in Thanksgiving Wreath Craft (Age 5 & up).** Drop in to make a craft (while supplies last). 2:30-6 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Haslett, 1590 Franklin St. Haslett. 517-339-2324.  
**Family Tree Talk (Teens & Adults).** Share old family recipes. From 2 to 3 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries South Lansing Branch, 3500 S. Cedar St. Lansing. 517-272-9840.  
**Solar Open House.** Come talk to the owner, Heidi Porter and learn about solar power. RSVP to johnsarver3@gmail.com. From 1 to 3 p.m. FREE. Porter Residence, 2335 Huron Hill Dr Okemos.  
**SO. MI Quarter & Paint Horse Auction.** Contact: Tom Moore for more information at (517)-403-1786. MSU Pavilion 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing.

## ARTS

**Movie Screening at NCG Cinemas Eastwood: Wonder.** Special screening. Rated PG, 113 minutes. At 9 a.m. \$5. NCG Cinemas, 2500 Showtime Drive Lansing. (517) 316-9100.

## Sunday, November 19

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Charlotte Yoga Club.** Beginner to intermediate. From 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. \$5 annually. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Charlotte.  
**Juggling.** Learn how to juggle. From 2 to 4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St. East Lansing.

## EVENTS

**Family Activity Fair, hosted by the MSU Friendship.** Afternoon filled with fun activities. From 2 to 4 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.  
**Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance.** At 6 p.m. \$8 dance, \$10 dance & lesson. The Lansing Eagles,

See Out on the Town Page 24

### CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 11, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan to consider the adoption of a form-based code (FBC) and zoning map to replace and repeal the existing zoning ordinance and map, being Part 12, Title 6 of the City of Lansing Codified Ordinances. The FBC incorporates placemaking into a zoning ordinance to more effectively implement the recommendations of the Design Lansing Comprehensive Plan.

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

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk  
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk  
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#17\_298

### CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

#### Act-13-2012: Sale of the Waverly Golf Course, A/K/A/ Waverly Park, and adjacent Michigan Avenue Park

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 27, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, Michigan, to consider a resolution selling the parcel commonly known as Waverly Golf Course, A/K/A/ Waverly Park, and adjacent Michigan Avenue Park, specifically described as:

The West 120.48 acres of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 18, T4N, R2W.

Details of the sale are on file with the City Clerk's Office and are available at Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave. or www.lansingmi.gov/clerk. For more information about this sale, phone City Council Offices on City business days, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 483-4177. For more information, please call 517-483-4177.

If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMMC  
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk  
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#17\_299

### NOVEMBER 17-DECEMBER 31>> WONDERLAND OF LIGHTS AT POTTER PARK

The Potter Park Zoo will be transformed into a winter wonderland this holiday season with flashy lights decking the entire park. Thousands of holiday lights will create visual displays that will leave anyone in awe. Enjoy activities for children and entertainment, as well as, visiting the animals to have a fun filled day at the park for everyone in the family. The event will be happening weekly on Thursday, Friday and Saturday until December 31st.

5-8p.m. \$7 adults, 4% kids, FREE for kids under 3. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. potterparkzoo.com, (517) 483-4222

### NOVEMBER 24, 25, 26 >> CAPITAL BALLET THEATRE PRESENTS 'THE NUTCRACKER'

The Nutcracker is one of the most classic Christmas traditions out there, and it will be making its way to the Wharton Center at the end of November. Featuring Mid-Michigan's best young dancers and the work of award-winning choreographer Gregory M. George, this program will leave everyone with visions of the Sugar Plum Fairy dancing in their head. This event is for the whole family to enjoy and will be sure to get everyone in the holiday spirit. The classic will only be playing for one weekend, so make sure to get out to see the timeless tradition.

7:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m., \$31.50 general admission, \$18 students. Cobb Great Hall, The Wharton Center, 750 E Shaw Ln, East Lansing, whartoncenter.com, (517) 432-2000



## ALL-SCHOOL RECITAL NOV. 18; 3PM



Community Music School  
College of Music  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

www.cms.msu.edu • (517) 355-7661  
4930 S. Hagadorn Rd., East Lansing, MI 48823



## Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsky

Nov. 15-22

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): "Many people go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after," observed Henry David Thoreau. The spirit of Thoreau's observation is true about every one of us to some extent. From time to time, we all try to satisfy our desires in the wrong location, with the wrong tools, and with the wrong people. But I'm happy to announce that his epigram is less true for you now than it has ever been. In the coming months, you will have an unusually good chance to know exactly what you want, be in the right place at the right time to get it, and still want it after you get it. And it all starts now.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): I predict that during the next ten months, you will generate personal power and good fortune as you ripen your skills at creating interesting forms of intimacy. Get started! Here are some tips to keep in mind. 1. All relationships have problems. Every single one, no exceptions! So you should cultivate relationships that bring you useful and educational problems. 2. Be very clear about the qualities you do and don't want at the core of your most important alliances. 3. Were there past events that still obstruct you from weaving the kind of togetherness that's really good for you? Use your imagination to put those events behind you forever.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): You may be entertaining an internal dialog that sounds something like this: "I need a clear yes or a definitive no . . . a tender revelation or a radical revolution . . . a lesson in love or a cleansing sex marathon -- but I'm not sure which! Should I descend or ascend? Plunge deeper down, all the way to the bottom? Or zip higher up, in a heedless flight into the wide open spaces? Would I be happier in the poignant embrace of an intense commitment or in the wild frontier where none of the old rules can follow me? I can't decide! I don't know which part of my mind I should trust!" If you do hear those thoughts in your brain, Gemini, here's my advice: There's no rush to decide. What's healthiest for your soul is to bask in the uncertainty for a while.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): According to storyteller Michael Meade, ancient Celtic culture believed that "a person was born through three forces: the coming together of the mother and father, an ancestral spirit's wish to be reborn, and the involvement of a god or goddess." Even if you don't think that's literally true, the coming weeks will be a favorable time to have fun fantasizing it is. That's because you're in a phase when contemplating your origins can invigorate your spiritual health and attract good fortune into your life. So start with the Celtic theory, and go on from there. Which of your ancestors may have sought to live again through you? Which deity might have had a vested interest in you being born? What did you come to this earth to accomplish? Which of your innate potentials have you yet to fully develop, and what can you do to further develop them?

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): I predict that starting today and during the next ten months, you will learn more about treating yourself kindly and making yourself happy than you have in years. You will mostly steer clear of the mindset that regards life as a numbing struggle for mere survival. You will regularly dream up creative ideas about how to have more fun while attending to the mundane tasks in your daily rhythm. Here's the question I hope you will ask yourself every morning for the next 299 days: "How can I love myself with devotion and ingenuity?"

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): This may be the most miscellaneous horoscope I've ever created for you. That's apropos, given the fact that you're a multifaceted quick-change artist these days. Here's your sweet mess of oracles. 1. If the triumph you seek isn't humbling, it's not the right triumph. 2. You may have an odd impulse to reclaim or recoup something that you have not in

fact lost. 3. Before transmutation is possible, you must pay a debt. 4. Don't be held captive by your beliefs. 5. If you're given a choice between profane and sacred love, choose sacred.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The next ten months will be an ideal time to revise and revamp your approach to education. To take maximum advantage of the potentials, create a master plan to get the training and knowledge you'll need to thrive for years to come. At first, it may be a challenge to acknowledge that you have a lot more to learn. The comfort-loving part of your nature may be resistant to contemplating the hard work it will require to expand your worldview and enhance your skills. But once you get started, you'll quickly find the process becoming easier and more pleasurable.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "Everything that can be invented has been invented." - Charles H. Duell, Director of the U.S. Patent Office, 1899. "Heavier-than-air flying machines are impossible." - Lord Kelvin, President, Royal Society, 1895. "All the music that can be written has already been written. We're just repeating the past." - 19th-century composer Tchaikovsky. "Video won't be able to hold on to any market it captures after the first six months. People will soon get tired of staring at a box every night." - filmmaker Darryl F. Zanuck, commenting on television in 1946. I hope I've provided enough evidence to convince you to be faithful to your innovative ideas, Scorpio. Don't let skeptics or conventional thinkers waylay you.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Of all the signs in the zodiac, you Sagittarians are most likely to buy a lottery ticket that has the winning numbers. But you're also more likely than everyone else to throw the ticket in a drawer and forget about it, or else leave it in your jeans when you do the laundry, rendering the ticket unreadable. Please don't be like that in the coming weeks. Make sure you do what's necessary to fully cash in on the good fortune that life will be making available.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In the game of basketball, if a player is fouled by a member of the opposing team, he is given a "free throw." While standing 15 feet away, he takes a leisurely shot at the basket without having to deal with any defenders. Studies show that a player is most likely to succeed at this task if he shoots the ball underhanded. Yet virtually no professionals ever do this. Why? Because it doesn't look cool. Everyone opts to shoot free throws overhand, even though it's not as effective a technique. Weird! Let's invoke this as a metaphor for your life in the coming weeks, Capricorn. In my astrological opinion, you'll be more likely to accomplish good and useful things if you're willing to look uncool.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In 1991, Aquarius rock star Axl Rose recorded the song "November Rain" with his band Guns N' Roses. It had taken him eight years to compose it. Before it was finally ready for prime time, he had to whittle it down from an 18-minute-long epic to a more succinct nine-minute ballad. I see the coming weeks as a time when you should strive to complete work on your personal equivalent of Axl's opus.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Thomas Edison was a prolific inventor whose work led to the creation of electric lights, recorded music, movies, and much more. When he was 49 years old, he met Henry Ford, a younger innovator who was at the beginning of his illustrious career. Ford told Edison about his hopes to develop and manufacture low-cost automobiles, and the older man responded with an emphatic endorsement. Ford later said this was the first time anyone had given him any encouragement. Edison's approval "was worth worlds" to him. I predict, Pisces, that you will receive comparable inspiration from a mentor or guide or teacher in the next nine months. Be on the lookout for that person.

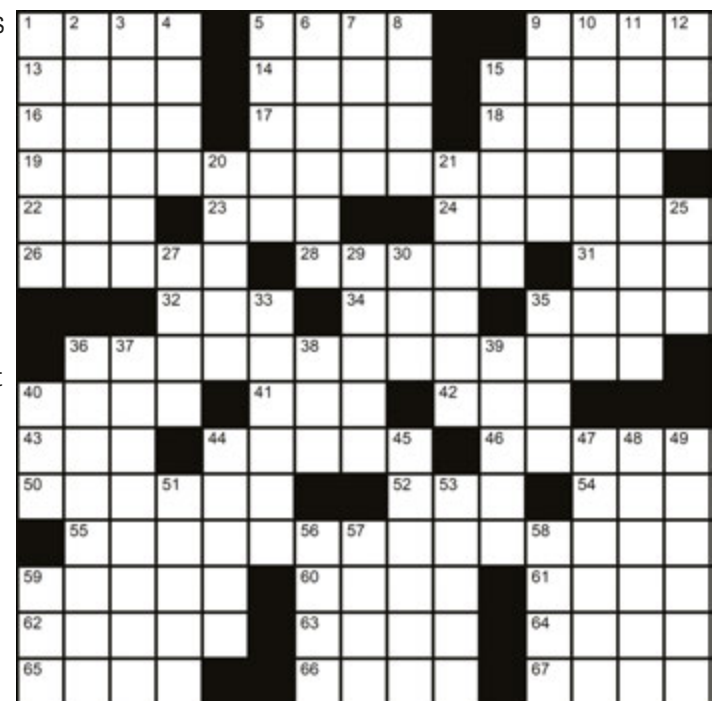
## Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Ate by Ate" — it does not make 64.  
Matt Jones

### Across

- 1 One who saves the day
- 5 \_\_\_ vu
- 9 Pricey violin, for short
- 14 It has pressing work to do
- 15 Bus. boss
- 16 Type of twisted wit
- 17 Rock, in rock-paper-scissors
- 18 Ceremony
- 19 Flaxen fabric
- 20 Warring with words
- 23 Camera or eye part
- 24 Binary digit
- 25 Bat symbol in the night sky, e.g.
- 28 Maggie's big brother
- 30 P.I., slangily
- 33 Start of a rhyming fitness motto
- 34 Timbuktu's country
- 35 Orange pool ball number
- 36 Like some raisins and pretzels
- 39 Took the bus
- 40 Crowning point
- 41 Creator of Winnie-the-Pooh
- 42 Mom on the farm
- 43 Gripe
- 44 Soft stroke
- 45 "Yes" indication
- 46 Stereotypical reactions to fireworks
- 47 "Ignore the critics," in modern parlance
- 55 Pearl Jam's debut single
- 56 Eager



- 57 Graph line
- 58 Fixes, as a piano
- 59 Suspense novelist Hoag
- 60 1996 GOP running mate Jack
- 61 Stylish
- 62 It may go downhill near the end of the year
- 63 Garden in Genesis
- test
- 9 Like some initial P's
- 10 Large family group
- 11 "Class Reunion" author Jaffe
- 12 Work without \_\_\_ (be daring)
- 13 Small unit of force
- 21 Muse of love poetry
- 22 Order of Greek architecture
- 25 Bolivia's constitutional capital
- 26 "This \_\_\_ We Do It" (1995 R&B hit)
- 27 Crystal-centered rock
- 28 "Disjointed" star Kathy
- 29 The "A" in A-Rod
- 30 Book cover info
- 31 2, 4, 6, 8, e.g.
- 32 Gives up
- 34 GPS displays, often
- 35 Reasonable treat-ment
- 37 Glorifies
- 38 Warren Buffett's city
- 43 Wooded area
- 44 Frank
- 45 When to look a gift horse in the mouth
- 46 "Astro Boy" genre
- 47 Roles, proverbially
- 48 Reunion attendee
- 49 "Proud Mary" singer Turner
- 50 Gangsters' heaters
- 51 Horse track shape
- 52 Canned
- 53 End-of-exam announcement
- 54 Channel that debuted in 1979

### Down

- 1 Old audio system
- 2 "\_\_\_ Brockovich" (Julia Roberts film)
- 3 Civil rights icon
- 4 In a risky situation
- 5 Throw off course
- 6 Interstate driver's options
- 7 Ballet leap
- 8 Breezed through a

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Answers Page 25

## SUDOKU

## BEGINNER

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

### TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 25



**November 16 - December 23, 2017**



**By James Sherman**

What happens when your parents want to come over for dinner and meet your boyfriend, but you know they won't approve so you hire someone to impersonate him?

Find out in this hilariously charming family comedy with a tender heart.

**Pay-What-You-Can Preview**  
 Thurs., Nov. 16 @ 8PM  
**\$19 Previews**  
 Nov. 17 @ 8PM  
 Nov. 18 @ 8PM  
 Nov. 19 @ 2PM

**Directed by Tony Caselli**

Featuring: Sandra Birch, Fred Buchalter, Patrick Loos, Michael Lopetrone, Vanessa Sawson, David Wolber

Williamston Theatre  
 122 S Putnam St., Williamston  
 517-655-7469  
 www.williamstontheatre.org



**Out on the town**

from page 22

4700 N. Grand River Ave. Lansing. (517) 321-0933.

**PFLAG Greater Lansing monthly meeting.**

Support, education and advocacy for members, parents, friends, family and allies. 3-5 p.m. FREE. Salus Center, 624 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing.

**SO. MI Quarter & Paint Horse Auction.** Contact: Tom Moore for more information at (517)-403-1786.

MSU Pavilion 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing.

**Monday, November 20**

**CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

**A Course in Love.** Weekly group dedicated to the study of the spiritual psychology. From 1 to 2 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Lansing. 517-371-3010.

**French Club.** Practice listening to and speaking French in a friendly setting. All skill levels. From 7 to 8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Opioid Therapy Group.** Group therapy for those struggling with opiate addiction. From 11 a.m. to noon Free. GPS Guide to Personal Solutions, 913 W Holmes Road Suite 141 Lansing. 5176670061.

**Support Group.** For the divorced, separated & widowed. Room 9. At 7:30 p.m. St. Davids Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Rd. Lansing. (517) 323-2272.

**LITERATURE AND POETRY**

**BabyTime.** Rhymes and finger plays. Ages 0-2

years with adult. From 10:30 to 11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**MUSIC**

**New Horizons Community Band.** Learn to play an instrument or dust off an old one. From 6 to 8 p.m. MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road East Lansing. (517) 355-7661.

**EVENTS**

**Minecraft Game Night (Ages 8-15).** Get your game on with fellow Minecrafters. 5-6:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Aurelius Branch, 1939 South Aurelius Road Mason. 517.628.3743.

**Chess, Cribbage, Hand & Foot.** Weekly activities at the Center. From 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

**Drop-in Job Help (Adults).** Help with applications, resumes or your job search. From 1 to 3 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries South Lansing, 3500 S. Cedar St. Lansing. 517-272-9840.

**Kids Reading to Dogs (All ages).** Practice your skills by reading to our specially trained dogs. From 4 to 5 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road Okemos. 517.347.2021.

**Social Bridge.** Come play Bridge and meet new people. No partner needed. From 1 to 4 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road Lansing.

**Teen Self-Care Club.** Relaxing environment for teens with crafts, activities and hot tea. Program is for teens in 6th-12th grades. 3:30-5:30 p.m. FREE.

See Out on the Town Page 25

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**NOVEMBER 16>> ILYA KALER AND THE ABSOLUTE MUSIC CHAMBER**

As a part of its intimate concert series, the Absolute Music Chamber Series will be welcoming violinist Ilya Kaler to the small stage at Urban Beats on November 16th. Because of the venue, guests will be able to enjoy the stylings of Kaler up close and personal, as well as partaking in a facilitated discussion after the show. Kaler is a Russian-born violinist who grew up and studied in Moscow. He has played with the Detroit, Baltimore, Lansing and Seattle Symphony Orchestras as well as several international orchestras. Kaler will be accompanied by pianist, Genadi Zagor.

7:30 p.m. \$20 online, \$22 at the door, \$5 students. Urban Beat Event Center, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. absolutemusiclansing.org. (517) 256-8913

**NOVEMBER 16>> MICHIGAN COMEDY CO-OP AT THE**

If you're in the mood to laugh, or simply want to check out some local artists practicing their craft, you should stop by the Robin Theatre on November 16th. The Michigan Comedy Co-Op will be hosting a night of stand-up comedy featuring comics from Lansing and around the state of Michigan. The Michigan Comedy Co-Op is a group of comedians throughout Michigan that set up shows like this one, as well as, producing digital content. The featured comics of this show include Robert Jenkins, Nardos Osterhart, Nick Leydorf, Will Green and and Aharon Willows-Hebert.

8:00 p.m. \$10, The Robin Theatre, 1105 South Washington Avenue, Lansing. therobintheatre.com, (989)878-1810

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# Out on the town

from page 24

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

## ARTS

**Monday Movie Matinee.** Going in Style; Rated PG-13, 96 minutes. Movies are intended for an adult audience. Popcorn. At 1 p.m. FREE. ELPL, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Monday Night Life Drawing.** Draw from a nude model. From 7 to 9 p.m. \$10 per session (\$5 for students) to cover the model and studio. O'Day Studios, Suite 115 1650 Kendale Blvd. East Lansing.

## Tuesday, November 21

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Bach Vibrational Stress Relief.** Learn an easy method for helping emotional stress. From 6 to 7:03 p.m. FREE. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave, Suite D Lansing. 517-402-6727.

**Capital City Toastmasters Meeting.** Learn public speaking and leadership skills. At 7 p.m. FREE for visitors. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave. Lansing. (517) 367-6300.

**Duplicate Bridge.** Weekly game. From 1 to 4 p.m. \$2 members. \$3 non members. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

**Science Clubs: Teens in Grades 9-12.** Spaghetti Bridge Building. Teens in grades 9-12. From 4 to 5 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**ToddlerTime.** Build prereading skills in toddlers. Ages 18-36 months with adult. From 10:30 to 11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

## MUSIC

**French Horn Folk Tales.** Mary Beth Orr of the Grand Rapids Symphony performs French Horn Folk Tales. From 6 to 7 p.m. FREE. Cook Recital Hall, MSU Music Building, 333 West Circle Drive East Lansing.

**Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's.** World class jazz every Tuesday! From 7 to 10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 485-5287.

**The Scratch Pilots Present: Turntable Tuesdays Vinyl Only.** DJ McCoy, DJ Cutt-Nice on 45's, and more. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. FREE. The Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 482-6376.

## EVENTS

**Baby Storytime (Ages up to 2).** Stories, songs and movement. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries South Lansing, 3500 S. Cedar St. Lansing. 517-272-9840.

**Bingo, Bridge, and Euchre.** Weekly activities at the Meridian Senior Center. From 1 to 4:30 p.m. Cost Varies. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

**CADL Business Librarian at SBDC: Crafters Networking Meeting.** Share knowledge. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Sq. Suite 110 Lansing.

**Game Night at UrbanBeat.** Bring your own, or play provided games. From 7 to 11 p.m. FREE. UrbanBeat Event Center, 1213 Turner St. Lansing.

**Jug & Mug General Meeting.** Meet the members and see what activities we have planned. From 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. FREE. Tony M's Restaurant, 3420 S Creyts Lansing.

**LCC West Toastmasters.** Learn about public speaking and leadership. From 5 to 6:30 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive Lansing. 5174831314.

**Overeaters Anonymous.** Struggling with food? Overeaters Anonymous offers hope. At 7 p.m. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road., Okemos. (517) 349-9536.

**Play with Purpose (Ages 3-6).** Support early literacy by talking, reading, singing and more. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Haslett, 1590 Franklin St. Haslett. (517) 339-2324.

**Reflexology.** Reflex improvement sessions. Call for appointments. From 10:20 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. \$14/\$12 members. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

**Thanksgiving Make and Take Crafts.** Drop-in crafts in the children's area. From 3 to 4 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

## ARTS

**Knitting and Crochet Group.** All ages and levels welcome. Bring your own supplies or use our basic supplies. 11 a.m.-noon FREE. ELPL, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

## Wednesday, November 22

### HOLIDAYS

**Thanksgiving Dinner-Senior Discovery Group.** Thanksgiving meal and speaking about their Meals on Wheels program. From 10 a.m. to noon FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing.

### EVENT

**Family Storytime (Ages up to 6).** Stories, songs and activities to build early literacy. 11:15 a.m.-noon FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Webberville, 115 South Main St. Webberville. (517) 521-3643.

**PJ Storytime (Age 3 & up).** Kids are welcome to bring a toy and/or wear their PJs for storytime. 7-7:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi, 2078 Aurelius Road Holt. (517) 694-9351.



Allan Ross/City Pulse

Acapulco Mexican Grill is a new upscale Mexican cuisine restaurant coming next month to Frandor Shopping Center. The restaurant is a spinoff of the mid-Michigan-based Cancun Mexican Grill franchise. Courtesy image.

### By ALLAN I. ROSS

Metro Lansing's Central American cuisine trend continues. Last month marked the opening of **Kingston Kitchen** in Okemos, featuring a sophisticated take on traditional Jamaican dishes. Then, the north Lansing Cuban food truck **La Cocina Cubana** announced last week it will open a brick-and-mortar eatery downtown before the end of the year. And now comes word that Frandor Shopping Center is getting back in the full-service dining scene with **Acapulco Mexican Grill**, which is expected to open within the next month.

"We've actually been working on (this concept) for a while, so it's just a coincidence these are all happening around the same time," said Acapulco spokeswoman Haley Vera. "But it shows that people in the area love this type of food."

Vera's father-in-law, Carmelo Vera, will co-own/operate the new restaurant with his partner, Alfredo Melendez. Acapulco Mexican Grill is a spinoff of the Vera family's **Cancun Mexican Grill** franchise, which has seven locations around mid-Michigan, including one in St. Johns. Haley Vera said the menu will look "familiar" to fans of Cancun's cooking, albeit with a few flourishes. "The major difference will be the atmosphere and the feel when you're inside," she said. "We want something a little more rustic but with still a Mexican kick to it. Cancun has more fiesta flair. Acapulco will have more upscale sensibilities."

The family's original Cancun Mexican Grill opened in 2004 at 1754 Central Park Drive in Okemos, just east of Meridian Mall. Acapulco Mexican Grill will take over the 5,000-square-foot former home of Just 4 Fun Hobbies & Comics in Frandor, at 310 Vine St., adjacent to **Blaze Pizza**. Acapulco will have 185 seats, a 20-person patio, and will be Frandor's first full-service dining restaurant (i.e., non-fast casual) since

the departure of Tripper's last year. It will also be the shopping plaza's only bar. Vera said the goal was to bring in a colorful friendly environment with "great Mexican food."

"We met our goal and exceeded our expectations with Cancun," Vera said. "We plan to go above and beyond with this restaurant as well."

Haley said the family chose Frandor as the next location because they felt there was a need for a full-service Mexican restaurant in the area — but competition could get fierce. **Punk Taco**, another planned full-service Mexican restaurant, has been gestating near the verge of Frandor for over two years, and **Taco Bell** recently announced a new location in Frandor in the former location of **Halo Burger**. While it may not be new, longtime cantina **El Azteco** on Lansing's west side just invested in an expansion that includes a massive al fresco dining area, which may draw curiosity-seekers come patio season. Bill Bonofiglio, owner of the forthcoming reboot of **Mr. Taco** on the city's south side, announced this week he's begun the hiring process, so the opening can't be that far off. And then there's a fine-dining Mexican-themed restaurant planned in the area for early next year, but owners are holding off on any formal announcements just yet. (Check back here soon for details.) So is Vera's family concerned the market is approaching saturation point?

"There's plenty of room for Mexican food in Lansing," Haley said. "When we opened the first one, there weren't many options locally. Now there are so many, but business has only been getting better. And if (Acapulco) does well, we may open more of those, too."

Allan I. Ross is a weekly contributor to the Lansing City Pulse. If you know of any new businesses in town, contact him at [allan@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:allan@lansingcitypulse.com).

## NOVEMBER 17>> TEN POUND FIDDLE PRESENTS: WINDBORNE

The Ten Pound Fiddle Concert & Dance Series will bring the A Capella group, Windborne, to East Lansing at the Edgewood United Church on Nov. 17. The Quartet is an internationally acclaimed folk band who include songs from Corsica, the Republic of Georgia, Bulgaria, Quebec and Basque country as well as traditional American folk music in their concert programs. Members of the band include Lynn Mahoney Rowan, Will Thomas Rowan, Lauren Breunig and Jeremy Carter-Gorden. 7:30 p.m. \$18 public, \$15 fiddle members, \$5 students, Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. [tenpoundfiddle.org](http://tenpoundfiddle.org). (517) 355-7661.

## SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 27

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## CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 27

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# HE ATE

# SHE ATE



## Upscale food at Dusty's Cellar

### Attention to detail

By **MARK NIXON**

How a restaurant becomes a great restaurant — and sustains greatness — is a mystery to me. What separates good from great restaurants is best defined by people like Anthony Bourdain (If you haven't read his "Kitchen Confidential," please do).

My only insight boils down to three words: Attention to detail.

I bring all of this up with Dusty's Cellar in mind. This Okemos eatery has the look, the promise, the panache, to be great. Alas, it has not scaled the summit as of yet. Keep the aforementioned three words in mind as we review our three visits to what I will argue is one of Greater Lansing's best restaurants.

We begin with lunch. We wanted something hearty and filling because this would be our only meal of the day. I ordered the club sandwich (\$14), which was packed with applewood-smoked bacon, ham and turkey and served on Zingerman's bread (Do yourself a favor; if you haven't been to Zingerman's Deli or Zingerman's Roadhouse, drop what you're doing right now and head to Ann Arbor). What made this club sandwich extraordinary was the pesto and shallot aioli. If this aioli were any better, I would formally adopt it and bring it home.

Judy had the tuna nicoise salad (\$18), and the bites I had were fantastic. Generous hunks of seared tuna, still rare inside, were made to order for my sushi-loving spouse. The capers, olives, diced potato and roasted red peppers were perfect counterpoints to the tuna.

We also shared an asparagus and mushroom crepe (\$12), with a rich béchamel sauce. The mushrooms' earthiness and the woody notes of the asparagus shone through. I closed my eyes and dreamed I was back in France.

In between courses and sips of chardonnay, I soaked in the surroundings. The decor is all about wine. The lampshades of the hanging lights are all made of wine bottles with their bottoms removed. The tables resemble, or perhaps are, wine boxes. And the service, with one exception, was noteworthy for its efficient and seemingly effortless execution.

Visit No. 2: Dinner. We shared a cheese and charcuterie board (\$16). It was unexciting. Cheese should be served at or near room temperature to maximize the flavor. This cheese was too cold. And I would ditch the skimpy "house crackers" and provide thin slices of baguette instead.

For her entree, Judy chose the lamb chop appetizer plate (\$15). The dainty chops were marinated in a curried liquid and came with a gruyere potato croquettes and a chimichurri sauce. The combination was outstanding.

Then came my aged ribeye steak. My fifty-five-frickin' dollar aged ribeye steak. OK, I ordered it rare. I expect a rare steak to be cool-ish on the inside but seared and hot on the outside. What I got for fifty-five-frickin' dollars was a chilly interior and

See He Ate, Page 27

### Truffles and cheese

By **GABRIELLE JOHNSON LAWRENCE**

Metro Lansingites have kept certain fantasies about Dusty's Wine Bar alive for years. It's one of our most important restaurants, we told ourselves. It's fancy enough for an anniversary dinner, but casual enough for a Friday happy hour. The food is upscale, but approachable, and it's better than anything we were going to make at home for dinner tonight, we insisted.

It was last fall that Mr. She Ate and I headed to Dusty's to use a gift card that we were gifted and enjoy dinner together. Service was a mess. Although the restaurant was half-empty, we sat for 25 minutes before being greeted with a waiter, and a bite of food didn't cross my lips for a full 60 minutes. We lamented the turn that the evening had taken and the status of spotty service that seems to be prevalent in so many of our finer-dining establishments around town. We saw no reason to return until last month, when we again arrived for dinner on a Friday night.

We again started with the garlic truffle frites (\$9), since I fondly remembered them as the bright spot of last year's meal. They are still that — the fries are crisp, hot and seasoned, and tossed in an oversized bowl with roasted cloves of garlic and white truffle oil. I know that truffle oil is a divisive subject among many food personalities (because these are the issues that we debate when the state of our nation has veered beyond debate), but I'm into it. Speaking of all things truffle, if you haven't had the popcorn at Zoobie's yet, head to Old Town and get yourself a couple of bowls. The frites and popcorn are, bar none, my favorite truffled items in town (but if anyone else is offering anything with truffles — and I mean the mushroom, not the chocolate, please send a letter to my attention!).

Charging ahead, he chose the beef tournedos (\$26) for his entrée. Tournedos are simply slices of beef tenderloin, and this version is finished in a hunter sauce — a rich, brown, tomatoey sauce with mushrooms and herbs. His plate was finished with mashed potatoes and asparagus. The potatoes, he said, were better than average, with some texture remaining to them. The asparagus was excellent — not cooked beyond recognition and still with some snap to it. Mashed potatoes are not a priority for me, so I took his word for it and minded my own business.

I chose the filet (\$37), as I've been looking for a new favorite since the demise of the Knight Cap. This one was immediately eliminated from the competition. The texture of the meat was mealy, stringy, more like a flank steak than a filet, which should be smooth and melt in your mouth. The potato croquettes were amazingly, completely void of flavor. It was like chewing on air. The

creamed spinach, however, could be a meal by itself. It was buttery, creamy and tasted like indulgence.

On our return visit, my husband and I hopped into our Delorean and traveled back to the 1990s where we ordered the fondue appetizer (\$15). Yes, it was a little strange

See She Ate, Page 27

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Gabrielle Johnson Lawrence/City Pulse

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# He Ate

from page 26

a not-so-hot crust. I really should have sent it back. Instead, I shrugged and ate on. The steak was on the tough side, by the way.

The saving grace was the cabernet reduction pooled beside the steak, and the garlic-mashed potatoes. Actually they were not enough of a saving grace for a fifty-five ... you know what I mean.

Final visit: We invited my brother, Les, and his wife, Michele, to Sunday brunch. The consensus was that the

food was good, but it was cool to cold. Further, the poached eggs on my crab cakes Benedict (\$16) and Judy's short ribs (\$17) were NOT poached. The yolks were hard-boiled.

We sent the eggs back. And waited. And ate much of the rest of the meal while we waited. The new, correctly poached eggs finally arrived, and we ate what remained of our now barely warm crab and ribs. I give the crab cakes high marks for not having too much filler.

But the overall critique from the four of us was: Inattention to detail.

Les' pork belly hash (\$13) was "cool at the edges but warm 'inland.'"

Both Les and Michele "spleened"

(a favorite word in our clan) against so much pork belly on the menu. I disagree. Pork belly is my new favorite food group.

But they are spot-on about the cool-to-cold food. I am getting to be a curmudgeon about this, but here I go again: Why can't restaurants figure out how to deliver food to a table when it's still hot? This ain't like building a new civilization. Tom Hanks figured out how to make hot food in "Cast Away," and he didn't even have a match!

Attention to detail is what separates the good from the great. I firmly believe Dusty's Cellar has the menu, the look, the creativity and desire to reach the summit. Let us pray.

# She Ate

from page 26

to have a bubbling cauldron of cheese surrounded by sliced baguette sitting between us on the table. Don't get me wrong; I ate my fair share because I can't get enough of those long, pointy forks (and because I'm eight months pregnant and there was bubbly cheese staring me in the face). But in the future I wouldn't stray from the garlic truffle frites as an appetizer.

This time, we both felt like ordering pasta, which has never happened before. My restaurant dining philosophy can be summed up simply — I only want to eat something that will be better than what I can make, or am inclined to make, at home. Pasta never fits into that category for me. Sure, a restaurant pasta dish might taste good, but does it taste 25 times better than what I can make at home with 20 minutes in the kitchen?

This time, I ate my words (along with several bites of his dinner.) Friends, the five-cheese penne (\$18) is one of the best pasta dishes I've had. The mixture of cheeses gives a depth of flavor that is un-

paralleled, and is exactly what is missing in literally all of the restaurant macaroni and cheese offerings that I've had throughout the Lansing area. He added seared steak to the top, and we were blown away by the delicious simplicity of the dish.

My pork tenderloin (\$28) was well-prepared, pink and juicy on the inside, but could have used 15 more seconds in a screaming-hot skillet to develop a sear. The maple mashed sweet potatoes were overly sweet and the roasted eggplant drizzled with BBQ sauce was a head-scratcher. Remember that old song, one of these things is not like the other? I don't know where BBQ eggplant belongs, but it wasn't on this plate.

Dusty's isn't exciting. The menu isn't innovative, and the selection of entrees has clearly been cultivated to please a certain well-heeled clientele, which is going to flock to Dusty's regardless of the fact that there's better



Gabrielle Johnson Lawrence/City Pulse

The beef tournedos (\$26) are served in a hunter sauce with potatoes and asparagus.

food to be found with a little searching. I'd go back for the frites and the pasta, but nothing else would motivate me enough to leave the confines of my own kitchen.

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