CityPULSE

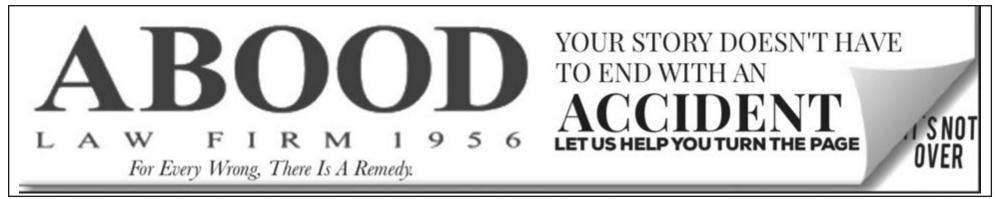
a newspaper for the rest of us

www.lansingcitypulse.com

June 21 - 27, 2017



CityPulse's Summer of Art: "Three," by Brady Carlson. See page 19 for story.





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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES

The City of East Lansing is seeking one or more firms to provide as-needed Professional Engineering Services to assist and/or supplement the work of the City's Engineering Department.

Firms interested in providing such services should contact the City of East Lansing Department of Public Works, Engineering Division for additional information and a copy of the Request for Proposals. Contact Nicole McPherson, Engineering Administrator, nmcpher@cityofeastlansing.com, or (517)

Proposals will be due at 11:00 AM, Friday, July 7, 2017.

CP#17-183

NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 8, 2017 FOR MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SAFETY MILLAGE

Please take notice that Meridian Township will hold an election on Tuesday, August 8, 2017.

To vote on the following proposal:

Shall Meridian Charter Township impose an increase of up to 1.483 mills (\$1.483 per \$1,000 of taxable value) in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution and levy it for ten (10) years, 2017 through 2026 inclusive, to provide police and fire protection, which increase would raise an estimated \$2,497,738 in 2017?

Full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained at the Meridian Township Clerk's office, 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos, MI 48864, telephone 517-853-4300 or by viewing your ballot at www.michigan.gov/vote.

MONDAY JULY 10, 2017 IS THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER OR CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS for the August 8, 2017 election. Any qualified elector who is not already registered to vote may register for the August 8, 2017 election. Persons registering after 5p.m. on Monday, July 10, 2017 are not eligible to vote at this election.

To register to vote, visit any Secretary of State branch office, Ingham County Clerk's office or the Meridian Township Clerk's office located at 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos, MI 48864, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, telephone 517.853.4300.

Brett Dreyfus, CMMC Meridian Township Clerk

CP#17-182

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING WEST SIDE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM WEST SIDE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM DISTRIBUTION IMPROVEMENTS

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the construction of the West Side Water Supply System Distribution Improvements will be received, by the Charter Township of Lansing West Side Water Supply System at the office of the Manager, Randy Seida, 3209 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48917, until 2:00 pm local time on July 21, 2017, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. The Project consists of constructing water main and ancillary work.

Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis, with additive alternate bid items as indicated in the Bid Form.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Lockwood, Andrews, and Newnam, Inc., 2121 University Park Drive, Suite 100, Okemos, MI 48864. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.

Bidding Documents also may be examined at Builders Exchange of Lansing and Central Michigan, and Builders Exchange of Michigan (Grand Rapids). Builder's Exchanges are authorized to share the contract documents with other plan rooms.

Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office during the hours indicated above. Bidding Documents are available as portable document format (PDF) files) at no cost via email. An email request of the Bidding Documents may be sent to Dylan Simmer at DCSimmer@lan-inc.com. Alternatively, printed Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office either via in-person pick-up or via mail, upon Issuing Office's receipt of payment for the Bidding Documents. The non-refundable cost of printed Bidding Documents is \$100.00 per set, payable to Lockwood, Andrews, and Newnam, Inc., plus a non-refundable shipping charge. Upon Issuing Office's receipt of payment, printed Bidding Documents will be sent via the prospective Bidder's delivery method of choice; the shipping charge will depend on the shipping method chosen. The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered the prospective Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

Charter Township of Lansing West Side Water Supply System Owner:

Randy Seida By: Title: Manager

CP#17-181 Date: June 21, 2017

CityPULSE

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Summer Solstice Jazz Festival serves up musical treats



Your guide to Greater Lansing Farmers Markets



"Three," by Brady Carlson

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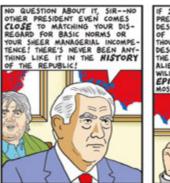
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NEWS & OPINION PULSE

Climate change at EPA

MSU professor loses post, fears 'weakening' role of science

Scientists love an unanswered question, but one mystery has a lot of them on edge these days: Will the Trump administration listen to them?

Robert Richardson studies the interplay of the economy and environment at MSU. He's a quiet, in-the-trenches researcher and a national park fanatic. (He's been to almost all of them.) He isn't thrilled about stepping into the media spotlight, but he has a unique window into the uncertainty rippling through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

For the last three years. Richardson, 49, served with a select group of scientists, the Board of Scientific Counselors, that advises the EPA on how to do research. He loved the job.

"It has been the most intellectually stimulating activity I've been involved in in recent years," he said.

In May, he got an "unexpected" email saying he would not

be reappointed. He was one of five members of the board whose appointments weren't renewed, even though they were eligible for another three-year term.

Richardson isn't saying he was fired, let alone wrongfully, but he said it's "a break from common practice" not to reappoint board members for a second three-year term.

"People on the board serve across administrations," he said. "It's not a political appointment. It has no policy role."

Tuesday, the board's members got another email from the EPA, saying that all of the subcommittee meetings for summer and fall were canceled.

Richardson said the email is "consistent with previous actions to wipe the slate clean and begin anew."

"I expect that this is also a way of weakening the role of advisory boards by effectively disbanding them," he said.

The advisory board's subcommittees were not exactly counting the angels on the head of a pin. They are packed with specialists of all stripes, from engineers to chemists to private sector experts.

One item taken up by Richardson's subcommittee in its October review of EPA projects was the effectiveness of various ways to disperse oil spills.

"I think we'd all argue that that's important work," Richardson said. "If there are going to be oil spills — and there are oil spills every year, many of which don't

other Michigan cities," he said. Richardson was especially pleased to

be appointed to the EPA advisory board because it meant his own field was getting high-level recognition.

the cities of Detroit and St. Louis and

Richardson chaired the committee that advises the EPA on maintaining sustainable and healthy communities.

It's the only EPA research program that includes social science.

"It studies human beings — impacts of changes in the environment on human health, which is an important part of the agency's mission," Richardson said.

As an environmental economist,

Richardson studies the economic and social impacts of changes in the environment.

Growing up, he was fascinated with the idea of visiting every national park. He studied economics and business as an undergraduate and saw environmental economics as a way to combine his passions.

His wrote his

doctoral thesis on the economic impacts of national parks — how, on one hand, parks pull land out of development, but on the other, create opportunities for tourism, gateway towns and growth in nearby areas.

Since then, he's been involved in a wide range of projects. He is now studying the potential of energy transition to transform sub-Saharan Africa, where reliance on charcoal and wood for fuel is wrecking people's health, polluting the air and contributing to climate change.

One of the smaller projects he's worked on is helping the EPA label energy-saving light bulbs so people will buy

among people who self-identified as "politically conservative" if the word "envi-



Lawrence Cosentino/CityPulse

MSU environmental economics professor Robert Richardson was dropped from an advisory board to the federal EPA in May.

get reported at all —what is the most effective way of cleaning them up? I don't think that's politically charged research. It's just about how to clean up a mess in the best way."

One of the spills discussed in the October review was the July 2010 Kalamazoo River oil spill, in which a heavy grade of oil sank to the bottom of the river instead of floating on the surface. Richardson said research on dispersants was "relatively underdeveloped" at the time, making cleanup more challenging.

"That kind of research is important, so that when you have fresh water oil spills, with tar sands oils, you know how to clean it up," he said.

The October policy review also included research related to containing and cleaning up superfund sites in Michigan.

"That's important work that affects





Property: 1623 S. Washington Ave. Lansing

This property was featured as an Eyesore in May 2013 (below), when the site was being used as a storage site for nearby road construction. The property is still vacant and the conditions are not perfect, but the site and structure are now much

With a single exception, the traffic cones and road signs are gone and the overgrown shrubs have been cleared. The broken gooseneck lighting fixtures have been removed and although the exterior paint is a drab color, at least it is uniform. The corroded interior of the marquee sign at the street might be masked with information advertising the building's availability and contact information.

- Daniel E. Bollman, A1A



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

and use them. He found that the bulbs sold faster

See EPA, Page 6

6 www.lansingcitypulse.com City Pulse • June 21, 2017

Prevention a challenge

Volunteers of America Michigan opens a dental clinic for the homeless

The pain was so intense, it awakened Nelsene Davenport. When she got to a dentist, the only option was extraction.

"He finally got it out. He was twisting — you could hear it all up in my head. He took this one first and he got it out and after all that pain it bled just a little bit," Davenport said. "He removed two teeth."

The process was long and painful, but without it, Davenport might have had more serious consequences.

"He told me I was a miracle. He said I'm surprised it didn't go to your brain or to your heart and you didn't get pyrea," Davenport said, referring to a severe gum disease. "He said, 'You're just real lucky."

That was 32 years ago. Davenport has never had consistent access to quality dental care. And her tooth pain flared up again this year. But this time things are different. She was one of the first patients at the Volunteers of America Michigan's brand new dental clinic.

"We decided to get dental because the research is very clear that the average homeless person hasn't seen a dentist in nine years," said Patrick Patterson, executive vice president of VOA Michigan.

Made possible by a \$300,000 donation from the Delta Dental Foundation, it also took help from institutions and private donors to get the clinic built and furnished. The clinic's unique setup means that customers aren't charged directly, but it also means that billing is complicated — most

homeless people don't have insurance. In order to create a self-sustaining system, additional funds were needed. The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation donated \$100,000 and the Ingham Health Plan donated \$50,000, along with other donors.

"This clinic is set up by Volunteers of America primarily to treat homeless people and their dental concerns. We've been doing that since Feb. 14 — Valentine's Day," Said Peter Chiaravalli, a dentist and the clinic director. "We've seen quite a few people ,and we've done quite a few treatments and mainly with the homeless."

Chiaravalli, who retired two and a half years ago, was in practice for over 40 years. He was approached to help with the clinic in 2014. Since then he has been a dedicated volunteer to get the new facility up to snuff.

"I said I'd do this for six months, three days a week, but I've been doing this longer than that for five days a week," Chiaravalli said.

Since then Chiaravalli has cut back to two days a week but still stands in as a dentist until a full-time dentist can be found and a self-sustaining model can be organized. Chiaravalli also hires staff and set up an agreement with the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine that allows the clinic to have specialized Medicaid billing.

Yet even with all its progress, it's still

not where it could be. Comparing the new clinic to his old practice where Chiaravalli could see over 300 patients monthly, he said it's fully operational, but far from fully "optimized."

"Since April we have probably seen 200 people, so we're underutilized at this point," Chiaravalli said. "We're quite sure that if the word gets out that we're seeing Medicaid patients we'll get more.



Eve Kucharski/CityPulse

Chiaravalli

"Our primary focus is on this population that either lives here or either uses this facility for support in one way or another."

Patterson said that the dental program's newness could be another reason behind the clinic's low turnout.

"In our world, there is no familiarity with preventative or regular care because in the past the only thing available was the emergency room, which never gets you to outpatient care," Patterson said.

That's exactly what Chiaravalli hopes to change.

"It would be nice if we could go beyond just taking care of what I like to call pain,

swelling, bleeding emergencies — in other word,s those are the true dental emergencies, but that's kind of a low level of care. The hope with this clinic was for not just to be an emergency clinic," Chiaravalli said.

To achieve this, hiring a full-time dentist is priority, but barriers to entry can be broken down in other ways. Chiaravalli said that introducing patients to the importance of preventative care is important to combat fear and "felt need."

"Nothing's hurting, nothing's bleeding. They may have advanced periodontal or gum disease, they may have a situation that's deteriorating slowly, but they have no felt need," Chiaravalli said.

And for people like Davenport, it's understandable why her teeth aren't at the top of her list.

"It hasn't been bothering me. I have so many things going at one time. I have so many friends I'm worried about right now, my grandson and then the job and getting all my paperwork done and then the apartment," Davenport said. "It's a whole bunch of stuff. I know as soon as I get everything solved then I can go to this before it starts flaring up again, because I know it'll start flaring up again."

Yet strides are being made. The importance of her dental and overall health is not lost on Davenport. When asked if she would continue going to the clinic even after she fixed her dental issues, she said yes.

"I want to make sure everything else is working," Davenport said. "I went a whole lot of years without medical care.

- EVE KUCHARSKI

EPA

from page 5

ronment" did not appear on the label.

(I suggested that if the EPA itself were to follow suit, it might escape President Trump's proposed 30 percent cut to its budget. He laughed, but weakly.)

It was gratifying for Richardson to see human factors such as consumer behavior and other staples of economics and sociology get a hearing at the federal level.

"So much of our behavior is shaped by culture," he said.

"The amount of attention social science gets in federal science overall — it's very minute."

While serving on the EPA advisory board, he and his subcommittee vice chairman, Utah State University sociologist Courtney Flint, led agency-wide workshops on how to integrate social sciences into environmental health sciences.

The assignment sprang from President Barack Obama's executive order mandating all federal agencies consider the social and behavioral sciences in its research and policy making.

Advising the EPA was an eye-opener for Richardson. He found a deeply grounded respect for science embedded in the culture.

"I'm not sure what I expected," he said. "They took our advice so seriously."

He was impressed to learn that an auditor general kept careful track of how closely EPA staff responded to the scientists' recommendations.

He relished learning from colleagues in his committee with specialties other than his.

"Interacting with sociologists, pediatricians, political scientists and understanding how their work relates to these issues was a tremendous learning experience and one I'll miss a great deal," he said.

Now he's watching the EPA reshuffling from the sidelines. Besides wondering what will become of the Board of Scientific Counselors, he's concerned about the fate of the agency's research and development arm.

"I got to know those managers and researchers very well when I served on the BOSC," he said. "I've come to appreciate the value of their programs, and I hope they can continue doing their good work."

Does Richardson have any good news?

On the day Donald Trump was elected last fall, he got in front of his MSU students in environmental studies and sustainability and told them there is "great reason to feel optimistic."

"To be fair, we've never really had a federal climate policy from Congress," he said. "All of the action in terms of climate policy, in meaningful reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, is happening in cities and in corporations and it's largely been market driven. This train has left the station and it's not coming back."

Richardson works frequently with colleagues overseas. He says many of them are "baffled" by recent events in the U.S., especially the pullout from the Paris accords and the denial of climate science.

"These debates do not happen elsewhere," he said.

But if Richardson the environmentalist is disappointed in the new administration, Richardson the economist is still optimistic. Even without federal action, he said, natural gas is out-competing coal, renewable energy sources are getting close to being competitive and battery technology is developing fast.

"It's happening here in our state," he said. "Michigan will be an exciting place to be as this transition unfolds."

- LAWRENCE COSENTINO

3rd time the charm?

New developer in talks with township over plans for downtown Okemos

Wanted: Transformative developer for downtown Okemos.

That's the message Meridian Township officials are sending far and wide after two multi-million-dollar projects fell through.

And that message is getting through, said Township Manager Frank Walsh. He said officials have met three times with a developer who has interest in developing "the entire area" — at the intersection of Okemos and Hamilton roads - encompassing both failed developments.

But who that developer is will remain a mystery, at least for now.

"I don't think he is ready to come out of the woods," Walsh said by email.

Scott Weaver, president of Douglas J Aveda Institutes, which owns 1.5 acres up for grabs, confirmed he has a "mutually agreed upon" purchase agreement with a developer, whom he declined to

Weaver said he expects the purchase agreement to be signed "by the end of the week, or early next week."

"We're far enough along that I think things are starting to come together," he said. "I think they'll be wanting to make announcements after securing this property, which would be the largest of them for the development proposal."

If that development materializes, it would replace a \$15 million project that fell through earlier this year and a \$10 million project that was abandoned in September 2016.

The \$15 million project would have created a Tavern and Tap location as a 1,700-square-foot addition to the MARC building near the southwest corner. Developer Kris Elliott had proposed the project, but said last month he was abandoning it after he was unable to purchase adjacent buildings, including Ace Hardware.

In September, Douglas J. Aveda Institutes dropped its plans to redevelop 1.5 acres on the northwest corner of the intersection. That area includes the former Travelers Club and White Brothers Music. Both buildings stand empty today. The Travelers Club is overrun with wild grapevines, its garden choked with weeds. The White Brothers building has a crumbling asphalt parking lot and a tattered awning.

Douglas J. had proposed building two three-story buildings for apartments, retail space and its corporate headquarters. But the deal fell apart because Meridian Township officials refused to pay to move high voltage electrical lines from overhead to underground, said

Brent Dreyfus, the clerk of Meridian Township.

The cost to move the lines would have been \$1.2 million, Weaver told USA Today last year.

Weaver said the question of the powerlines and who paid for their relocation was not the reason the deal collapsed.

"It just got too big for me," he said Tuesday. "That's when I decided to start looking for another developer."

Weaver bought the property in 2012 for \$600,000. He's asking \$899,000 for the 1.5 acre plot.

The Elliott properties are for sale for \$995,000.

Dreyfus said focus groups have said they want to retain the quaintness of the intersection, but the reality is that a transformative development is unlikely to be eclectic small businesses and boutique shops.

Walsh said the intersection needs an "out of the box" approach from a developer.

And Dreyfus has some ideas on what that out of the box might look.

He wants to see a mixed-use development of apartments, stores and office space combined with a small pocket park that includes fitness stations.

"That would tie into Wonch Park," on the other side of the Red Cedar River, he said.

"That sort of space would be transformative," he said. "It would encourage people to interact, to connect."

He said it would be a "town square," vital to the walkable, green community the township has pledged to be.

But potential developers should be wary about seeking tax incentives, he said.

"They don't need a brownfield," he said. "The site was not contaminated."

As for Tax Increment Financing or Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act funding, he is cautious as well. He believes there should be community investment fees to increase the funding rather than acting as a bank. Such a fee would cover additional costs to the township.

"I think it's inappropriate to do it this way," he said. "It's been abused, it's getting increasingly abused, and we have to be very, very careful. With budgets getting so tight, who can afford to pay for basic sewer and water lines? It's very expensive."

- TODD **HEYWOOD**

PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF INGHAM NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate File No. #17-1568-DE Estate of Robert D. Alexander. Date of birth: 10/31/44. TO ALL CREDITORS:* NOTICE TO CREDITORS:* NOTICE TO CREDITORS:* The decedent, Robert D. Alexander, died 04/26/2017. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Julie Hom Alexander, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: 6/13/17

Julie Horn Alexander 1429 Somerset Close East Lansing M 400

CP#17-177

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Z-8-2016, 3001 S. Washington Avenue Rezoning from "D-1" Professional Office & "J" Parking Districts to "F" Commercial District

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, July 10, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan to consider **Z-8-2016**. This is a request by Green Key Properties, LLC to rezone the property at 3001 S. Washington Avenue from "D-1" Professional Office & "J" Parking Districts to "F" Commercial District. The purpose of the rezoning is to permit a commercial retail establishment on the subject property.

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.fac www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#17-176

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF EAST LANSING PROPOSED PY 2017/2018 HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL ACTION PLAN (PY 2017/2018 CDBG PROGRAM & BUDGET)

The 2017 Action Plan represents the second year of the City's current Consolidated Plan. The proposed projects and activities would be funded with federal government Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funds awarded to the City through the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD). The City's anticipated PY 2017/2018 CDBG Entitlement Grant is \$413,150. The proposed budget has been approved by City Council as part of the City's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget and Program of Services. This is to provide notice that the formal 14 calendar day comment period on the proposed Action Plan commences on June 22, 2017 and will conclude on July 6, 2017. During this period, copies of the Action Plan may be reviewed at the City of East Lansing, Department of Planning, Building and Development Department, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823, and the East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Rd, East Lansing, MI 48823.

Proposed PY 2017/2018 CDBG Program and Budget

	Section 108 Loan, Virginia Avenue Project, Repayment of principal and 2. Capital Area Housing Partnership, Home Owner Rehabilitation Program 3. Capital Area Housing Partnership, Home Owner Assistance Program 4. East Lansing Department of Public Works, CDBG Neighborhood Sidev 5. Greater Lansing Housing Coalition, Tuesday Toolmen Program	n	\$ 2 \$ 2 \$1	16,003 21,735 21,735 06,075 3,000
	6. Public Services Activities a. Legal Services			
l	Legal Services of South Central Michigan		\$	4,228
l	b. Shelter and Support Services for Dating and Domestic Violence EVE Inc.		\$	7,728
l	c. Homeless Shelter for Families Haven House		\$:	30,004
l	e. Shelter & Support Services for Survivors of Domestic Violence MSU Safe Place		\$	7,728
l	f. Youth Services through iMath program		Ψ	1,120
l	Information Technology Empowerment Center		\$	5,228
l	East Lansing Department of Parks, Recreation & Arts		\$	3,628
	h. Senior Assistance through Meals on Wheels Program Tri County Office on Aging		\$	3,428
	7. Program Planning and Administration	TOTAL	\$ 8 \$4 1	32,630 13 150

Anticipated Program Income During PY 2015/2016: Program income from the repayment of second mortgages through the Home Ownership Assistance Program or Homeowner Rehabilitation Program is estimated at \$20,000.

Proposed Use of Program Income: Program income typically returns to the program which generated the income; i.e., recapture of second mortgage proceeds, through the Home Ownership Assistance Program (HOAP) and Homeowner Rehabilitation program, will be budgeted for additional homebuyer or homeowner assistance

Beneficiaries: Activities under Project 1 meet the objective of low-moderate income housing benefit. Projects 2, 3, 5, and 6 are limited clientele benefit, meaning that households and individuals assisted with these activities must meet the low-moderate income guidelines established by HUD or be considered by HUD to be members of a clientele generally presumed to be low-moderate income. Project 4 is a public improvement activity, which meets the low-moderate income area benefit. This activity is undertaken in areas in which at least 51% of the households have low-moderate income, as defined by HUD. Project 7 is planning and/or administrative activities

Displacement: As required by HUD regulations, the City will follow the Federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Properties Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended and all applicable minimized to the greatest extent possible

Range of Activities Eligible for CDBG Funding: Activities which may be undertaken with CDBG funds include but are not limited to: acquisition, disposition, public facilities and improvements, clearance, public (human) services homeownership assistance, housing rehabilitation and preservation, renovation of closed buildings, lead-based paint hazard evaluation and reduction, special economic development activities, micro-enterprise development, technical assistance, and planning and administration. For additional information on eligible activities, refer to 24 CFR 570. Subpart C

Further Information and Comments: If you wish to obtain further information regarding anything contained in this public notice, please contact the East Lansing Planning, Building, and Development Department at 319-6930 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Comments may be submitted to the East Lansing Planning, Building, Development Department at City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823.

Dated: June 21, 2017 Marie E. Wicks City Clerk

CP#17-184

CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDINANCE NO.1411 LANSING BOARD OF WATER AND LIGHT ELECTRIC FRANCHISE ORDINANCE

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

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS

SECTION 1. GRANT, TERM. The CITY OF EAST LANSING, INGHAM AND CLINTON COUNTIES, MICHIGAN, hereinafter City, hereby affirms the right, power and authority to the Lansing Board of Water and Light, a municipally owned utility, its successors and assigns, hereinafter called the "Grantee," to, in the defined service area, construct, maintain and commercially use electric lines consisting of towers, masts, poles, crossarms, guys, braces. feeders, transmission and distribution wires, transformers and other electrical appliances, hereinafter referred to collectively as electric lines, for the purpose of, in the defined service area, transmitting, transforming and distributing electricity on, under, along and across the highways. streets, alleys, bridges, waterways, and other public places, and to do a local electric business and have an exclusive franchise to provide electricity and electric service in the defined service area only, in the CITY OF EAST LANSING, INGHAM AND CLINTON COUNTIES, MICHIGAN, for a period of thirty years, with said defined service area being shown and depicted on Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2. <u>FRANCHISE FEE</u>. During the term of this franchise, or the operation of the electric system pursuant to this franchise, and to the extent allowable as a matter of law, the Grantee shall, upon acceptance of the City, collect and remit to the City a franchise fee in an amount of five percent (5%) of the revenue, excluding sales tax from the retail sale of electric energy by the Grantee within the City, for the use of its streets, public places and other facilities, as well as the maintenance, improvements and supervision thereof. Such fee will appear on the corresponding energy bills.

The fiscal year for purposes of determining the annual franchise fee to commence on July 1, 2017, with the new fiscal years commencing on July 1st for each year thereafter, with the first franchise fee to be paid by the Grantee to the City of East Lansing on October 1, 2017, with the Grantee to pay the franchise fees to the City of East Lansing on a quarterly basis thereafter.

The City shall at all times keep and save the Grantee harmless from and against all loss, costs, expense and claims associated with the collection and remittance of this franchise fee.

Either party, upon sixty (60) days written notice by the party may terminate this Ordinance granted franchise, franchise fee collection and remittance. However, to the extent the Grantee is precluded from collecting such franchise fees remittance to City will cease.

SECTION 3. CONSIDERATION. In consideration of the rights, power and authority hereby affirmed, said Grantee shall faithfully perform all things required by the terms hereof.

SECTION 4. <u>CONDITIONS</u>. All of Grantee's towers, masts, and poles shall be so placed on either side of the highways, streets, alleys and bridges as not to unnecessarily interfere with the use thereof for highway, street, alley and bridge purposes. All of Grantee's wires carrying electricity shall be securely fastened so as not to endanger or injure persons or property in said highways, streets, alleys, and bridges. All work performed by said Grantee in said highways, street[s], alleys, and bridges shall be done so as to minimize interference with the use thereof, and when completed, the same shall be left in as good condition as when work was commenced. The Grantee shall have the right to cut or trim trees if necessary in the conducting of such business.

Said lines and appurtenances shall be constructed so as to interfere as little as possible with the proper lawful use of the streets, alleys, and public places. The installation of all poles, conduits, and appurtenances shall be according to industry standards and shall be subject to such reasonable regulations as shall be prescribed by said City from time to time.

SECTION 5. <u>HOLD HARMLESS</u>. Said Grantee shall at all times keep and save the City free and harmless from all loss, costs and expense to which it may be subject by reason of construction or maintenance. Provided, however, that Grantee's obligations under this Section 5 shall not apply to any loss, cost, damage or claims arising out of the negligence of the City, its employees or its contractors. Grantor shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the Grantee from any and all claims, losses or litigation which result from the Grantee's compliance with this Ordinance. However, Grantor is not responsible for Grantee's negligent or intentional misconduct associated with the provision of utility services.

SECTION 6. EXTENSIONS. Said Grantee shall construct and extend its electric distribution system within the defined service are of said City, and shall furnish electric service to applicants residing in the defined service area in accordance with applicable laws, rules and regulations.

SECTION 7. NONEXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE. Certain rights, power and authority herein granted, are exclusive as to providing electricity and electric service in certain areas of the City of East Lansing as described in Exhibit A. Otherwise, with respect to jurisdiction of East Lansing, this remains a nonexclusive franchise.

The exclusive right to service certain areas of the City of East Lansing as described in Exhibit A is a condition concurrent to the collection and remittance of the Franchise Fee described in Section 2. As such either party may terminate the exclusive right to serve upon 60 days prior written notice. Therefore, to the extent either shall cease, both ceases.

SECTION 8. <u>RATES.</u> The rates and Regulations governing the supply and use of electricity shall be the same as in the City of Lansing except that the rates shall be increased within the boundaries of the City by the amount of any taxes, license fees, franchise fees, or any other charges against the Grantee's property or its operations, or the production and/or sale of electrical energy, levied or imposed by the City or otherwise incurred by Grantee as a result of this Ordinance.

SECTION 10. SERVICE AREA. To the extent permitted by law, Grantee shall furnish electric service to all customers requesting such service within Grantee's service area or the nonexclusive area.

SECTION 11. FOOTE ACT FRANCHISE. Nothing herein shall be construed as either party rendering an opinion or position of the Grantee's vested franchise rights under the Foote Act, 1905 PA 264. The City does not waive any right to contest, and the Grantee does not relinquish any right to assert.

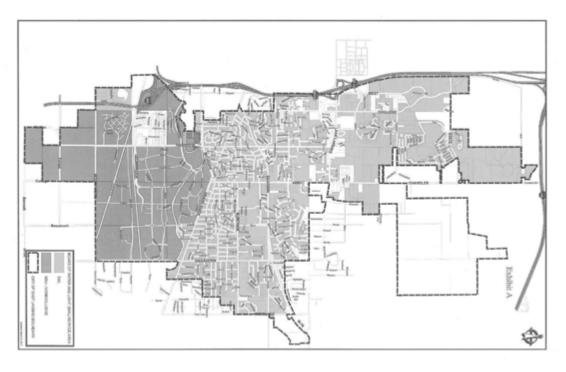
Section 12. <u>GRANTEE RULES</u>. The Grantee shall have authority to promulgate such rules, regulations, terms and conditions governing the conduct of its business as shall be reasonably necessary to enable the Grantee to exercise its rights and perform its obligations under this franchise, and to assure uninterrupted service to each and all of its customers. Provided, however, that such rules, regulations, terms and conditions shall not be in conflict with the provisions hereof or of laws of the State of Michigan.

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

SECTION 14. PUBLICATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS. The City shall assume the cost of publication of this franchise. A BWL administrative charge of 1/2 percent (0.5%) of collected franchise fees for the quarterly billing will apply.

We certify that the foregoing Franchise Ordinance was duly enacted by the City Council on 6th the day of June, 2017.

Marie Wicks City Clerk



CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDINANCE NO. 1412 CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY ELECTRIC FRANCHISE ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE amending the existing electric franchise with CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY to delineate and define the service area to which the electric franchise applies, and repealing ordinance No. 1280 and granting to CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY, its successors and assigns, the right, power and authority to, in the defined service area, construct, maintain and commercially use electric lines consisting of towers, masts, poles, crossarms, guys, braces, feeders, transmission and distribution wires, transformers and other electrical appliances on, under, along and across the highways, streets, alleys, bridges, waterways, and other public places, and to do a local electric business in the defined service area in the CITY OF EAST LANSING, INGHAM AND CLINTON COUNTIES, MICHIGAN, for a period of thirty

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS: SECTION 1. GRANT, TERM. The CITY OF EAST LANSING, INGHAM AND CLINTON COUNTIES, MICHIGAN, hereinafter City, hereby grants the right, power and authority to the Consumers Energy Company, a Michigan corporation, its successors and assigns, hereinafter called the "Grantee," to, in the defined service area, construct, maintain and commercially use electric lines consisting of towers, masts, poles, crossarms, guys, braces, feeders, transmission and distribution wires, transformers and other electrical appliances, hereinafter referred to collectively as electric lines, for the purpose of, in the defined service area, transmitting, transforming and distributing electricity on, under, along and across the highways, streets, alleys, bridges, waterways, and other public places, and to do a local electric business and have a franchise to provide electricity and electric service in the defined service area only in the CITY OF EAST LANSING, INGHAM AND CLINTON COUNTIES, MICHIGAN, for a period of thirty years, with said defined service area being shown and depicted on Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. In the event that Consumers Energy Company is currently providing electricity and electric service to properties that are not shown in the defined service area on Exhibit A, Consumers Energy Company during the term of this Franchise shall be permitted to continue to provide electricity and electric service to said properties and said properties shall be deemed part offthe defined service area. Any of Grantee's electric lines, towers, masts, poles, crossarms, guys, braces, feeders, transmission and distribution wires and other electrical appliances that are currently located outside of the defined service area shall be permitted to remain during the term of this franchise. If Grantee needs to locate electric lines, towers, masts, poles, crossarms, guys, braces, feeders, transmission and distribution wires, transformers and other electrical appliances on City highways, streets, alleys, bridges, waterways and other City public places that are outside of the defined service area, the Grantee must first obtain approval for said location from

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

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

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

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

SECTION 6. FRANCHISE NOT EXCLUSIVE. The rights, power and authority herein granted, are not exclusive as to providing electricity and electric service in the entire City of East Lansing.

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

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

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

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

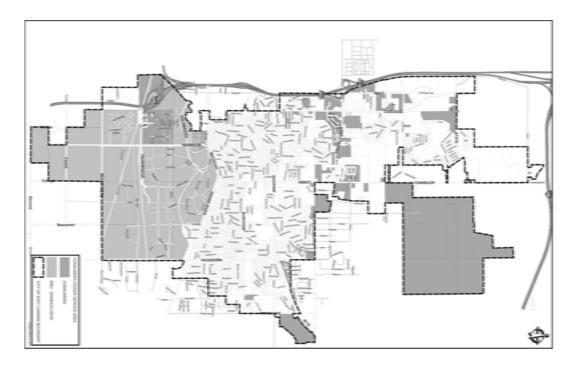
SECTION 11. MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION. JURISDICTION. Said Grantee shall, as to all other conditions and elements of service not herein fixed that fall within the jurisdiction of the Michigan Public Service Commission, be and remain subject to the rules and regulations of the Michigan Public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

SECTION 12. REPEALER. This ordinance, when accepted and published as herein provided, shall repeal and supersede the provisions of Ordinance No. 1280, an electric ordinance adopted by the City on December 4. 2012

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

We certify that the foregoing Franchise Ordinance was duly enacted by the City Council on the 6th day of June, 2017.

Marie Wicks City Clerk



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE BONDS BY THE COUNTY OF INGHAM, MICHIGAN AND THE RIGHT OF REFERENDUM THEREON

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the County of Ingham, Michigan, intends to issue its bonds in the principal amount of not to exceed \$10,000,000 in one or more series for the purpose of defraying costs of acquiring, constructing and equipping an approximately 61,600 square foot addition to the existing Ingham County Medical Care Facility located at 3860 Dobie Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864, to be located on the southeast corner of the medical care facility's 110 acre campus, and the renovation and equipping of the existing medical care facility (together, the "Project"); the Project will provide for the transfer of 48 rehabilitation beds, the addition of 64 private rooms, and the renovation of the entire long-term care portion of the Facility, for use by the Ingham County Medical Care Facility to provide long term care, rehabilitation services and memory care and related services; and

The bonds will mature within the maximum term permitted by law and will bear interest at a rate or rates to be determined at a competitive or negotiated sale but in no event to exceed such rates as may be permitted by law.

SOURCE OF PAYMENT

The bonds will be issued under and pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001, as amended, and will be payable in the first instance from revenues generated from services provided by the Ingham County Medical Care Facility (the "MCF Revenues"). In addition, the full faith and credit of the County of Ingham will be pledged to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds as the same shall become due. The County of Ingham will be obligated, as a first budget obligation, to advance moneys from its general funds or to levy ad valorem taxes on all taxable property within its corporate boundaries to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds as the same shall become due to the extent that the MCF Revenues are not sufficient for such purpose; provided, however, that the amount of taxes necessary to pay the principal and interest on the bonds, together with the taxes levied for the same year, shall not exceed the limit authorized by law.

RIGHT TO PETITION FOR REFERENDUM

This notice is given, by order of the Board of Commissioners of the County of County, to and for the benefit of the electors of the County of County in order to inform them of their right to petition for a referendum upon the question of the issuance of the aforesaid bonds. The bonds will be issued, without submitting such a question to a vote of the electors, unless within 45 days after the date of publication of this notice a petition requesting a referendum upon such question, signed by not less than 10% or 15,000 of the registered electors residing within the County of Ingham, whichever is the lesser, shall have been filed with the undersigned County Clerk. In the event that such a petition is filed, the bonds will not be issued unless and until the issuance thereof shall have been approved by the vote of a majority of the electors of the County of Ingham qualified to vote and voting thereon at a general or special election.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information relative to the issuance and purpose of said bonds and the subject matter of this notice may be secured at the office of the County Clerk of the County of Ingham, 341 S. Jefferson, P.O. Box 179, Mason, Michigan 48854.

This notice is given pursuant to the provisions of Act 34, Public Acts of Michigan, 2001, as amended

> Barb Byrum, Clerk County of Ingham

CP#17-178

NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION FOR THE TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017 ELECTION

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing

Please take notice that the City of Lansing will hold an election on August 8, 2017.

Monday, July 10, 2017 is the last day to register in order to be eligible to vote at the August 8, 2017 Election. Any qualified elector who is not already registered to vote may register for the August 8, 2017 Election. Persons registering after Monday, July 10, 2017, are not eligible to vote at this election.

For the purpose of nominating candidates to the following offices: City: Mayor, Council Member At Large (2), Council Member Ward 2, Council Member Ward 4

Eligible persons may register to vote, change their voter registration address or change their name in any of the following ways:

- In Person At your county clerk's office; the Lansing City Clerk's Office (124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933, (517) 483-4133); any Secretary of State Branch office; designated agencies administered under the Department of Human Services, the Department of Community Health, and the Department of Labor and Economic Growth; or military recruitment offices.
- By Mail By submitting a mail-in voter registration application to the Lansing City Clerk (124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933) or your county clerk.
- Online Voter registration addresses may be changed with a driver's license or personal I.D. number at www.expressSOS.com.

Chris Swope, CMMC/CMC **Lansing City Clerk**

CP#17-160

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, MAY 30, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hayes, Clerk Aten, Treasurer Rodgers

Trustees: Broughton, Harris, McKenzie

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee DeLay

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Gresens, Attorney

ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes. Minutes of the meeting held on May 16, 2017 approved.

Agenda approved as amended. Approved rezoning request R-17-2. Approved sidewalk request SW-17-5.

Approved Bees Prep and Asphalt, Inc. sidewalk repair bid.
Authorized Supervisor and Clerk to sign the Supplemental Water Service Agreement #10.
Authorized Fire Chief to list fire engine #52 with auction company.

Claims approved. Meeting adjourned.

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor Susan L. Aten, Clerk

CP#17-175

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Zoning Board of Appeals on **Wednesday, July 12, 2017**, beginning at 7:00 p.m., in the 54 B District Court, Courtroom 1, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

- A public hearing will be held to consider a variance request from East Arbor Architecture for the property located at 522 Meadowlawn Avenue, in the R-2, Single-Family, Medium Density Residential District from the following requirement of Chapter 50 Zoning Code of the City of East Lansing:
- a. Section 50-301. Maximum Building Coverage 25 percent and Maximum Ground Coverage Ratio 40 percent, to allow a building addition that would result in a total building coverage of 29 percent and a total ground coverage of 47 percent.
- 2. A public hearing will be held to consider two variance requests from Hagan Realty Inc. for the property located at 534-536 Sycamore Lane, in the R-2, Single-Family, Medium Density Residential District from the following requirement of Chapter 50 Zoning Code of the City of East Lansing:
- a. Section 50-301 Maximum Ground Coverage Ratio 40 percent, to allow the reconstruction of a driveway that would add additional driveway surface totaling 41.9 percent; and
- b. Section 50-816(4) Parking and Driveway Setback minimum of three feet side yard setback for residential driveways, to allow a driveway with zero side yard setback.

The applicant currently shares a driveway with the neighbor to the east and is proposing to separate the driveways to ensure clear access to their property.

Call (517) 319-6930, the Department of Planning, Building and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, for additional information. All persons interested in these appeals will be given an opportunity to be heard.

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

> Marie E. Wicks City Clerk

CP#17-179

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on Thursday, July 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request to modify and replace 15 windows of identical size on the house located at 371 Chesterfield Parkway.

Call (517) 319-6930, the Department of Planning, Building and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, for additional information. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

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

Marie E. Wicks City Clerk

CP#17-180

ARTS & CULTURE

ART · BOOKS · FILM · MUSIC · THEATER

Time to gorge on jazz

East Lansing Jazz Festival breaks out a two-level box of bon-bons

By the time you pick out the highlights of this weekend's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival, all that's left in the box are crinkly bits of paper.

The festival's artistic director, bassist Rodney Whitaker, keeps on diversifying the mix of local legends, Michigan mainstays and international stars, stuffing two stages with juicy jazz, blues and R&B.

Friday, the most significant figure in the local jazz scene, Whitaker himself, will appear with his quintet at 8:30, followed by phenomenal young Cuban drummer, bandleader and educator Dafnis Prieto and his sextet at 10.

Saturday's big event is an Avengers-style assemblage of top musicians from festivals past, with saxophonist Tim Warfield, guitarist Fareed Haque, B-3 organist Tony Monaco, trombonist Michael Dease and drummer Randy Gelispie at 8 p.m.

Straight ahead is only one of many directions the music will take. On the Ann Street Plaza stage, smooth jazz maestro Phil Denny performs at 8:30 Friday, followed by nationally charting Detroit blues-soul group Laura Rain & the Caesars. The R&B/soul/gospel group 496 West takes the same stage at 8:30 Saturday, followed by vocalist Twyla Birdsong at 10 p.m.

The festival is packed with local favorites of many flavors, including Mike Eyia's Latin supergourp Orquesta Ritmo, Grupo Aye from Grand Rapids, singer Ramona Collins and guitarist Elden Kelly, along with several bands manned by MSU students and alumni.

The Kozmic Picnik, the festival's three-year-old walk on the wild side, boasts a bolder and bigger slate than ever. Saturday afternoon, beginning at noon, a slate of three avant-garde jazz groups curated by Ann Arbor's Kerrytown Concert House perform in the jagged shadow of MSU's Broad Art Museum, culminating in the powerhouse duo of percussionist Kahil El'Zabar and saxophonist David Murray.

To choose from this decadent platter is difficult, but City Pulse writer Lawrence Cosentino picked out a couple of bon-bons to sample at greater leisure in the interviews below.

David Murray: Deepest diver alive

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

The profound partnership of poly-stylistic saxophonist David Murray and transcendent percussionist/neo-griot Kahil El'Zabar reaches beyond musicianship to laugh, cry and talk straight to the soul.

One of jazz's most powerful duos will finish off the Kozmic Picnik, the avant-garde arm of the East Lansing Summer Solstice Jazz Festival Sat-

Summer Solstice Jazz Festival

4 p.m.-1 a.m. June 23; noon- 1 a.m. June 24 FREE Downtown East Lansing (517) 319-6980, eljazzfest.com urday afternoon next to MSU's Broad Art Museum.

"We have a way of playing like a whole band but we're only two people," Murray said.

Both are towering figures in the world of avant-garde and free jazz, though Murray laughs off the label.

"Who plays that? Why'd they get me to come in? I don't play that kind of stuff!" he said.

Murray, 62, may be the deepest diver alive among jazz saxophonists, alert and tuned in to every era of the music, from the Ellington era of Ben Webster and Paul Gonsalves through Albert Ayler's speaking in tongues and Ornette Coleman's brazen breaks from harmony and structure.

To reach all of these realms, Murray deploys an astounding range, from subterranean murmurings on bass clarinet to blinding sunward thrusts on tenor saxophone.

A long list of recordings and gigs has made Murray one of the most prolific and fecund artists on the planet. He has recorded over 300 CDs in dozens of different settings, from solo to big band to the World Saxophone Quartet, of which he is a founding member, yet he seems incapable of repeating himself. On the contrary, he still acts like he's just getting the hang of it.

"My clarinet has a way to go yet, but people say I'm playing as well on tenor as I've ever played," he said. Toward the end of a recent gig with his quintet at New York's Village Vanguard, Murray augmented his quintet to an octet, a difficult format he conquered in the 1990s. He recently moved back to New York after decades of living in Europe.

"All the playing and living I've been doing, all the tours and practicing — it's all starting to come together for me," he said. "I practice a lot, but I'm performing a lot too, and that makes a big difference."

The on-and-off collaboration between Murray and El'Zabar goes back over 25 years and has heated up again recently. At the end of May, their coruscating energy upstaged some of the larger bands at Brooklyn's Vision Festival.

"There's a lot of freedom in that setting,"
Murray said. "When you're playing with percussion it's quite different, the timbres of the skin, they give you more freedom than you have when you're playing with a piano player."

Bound with posumm Picnik.

But El'Zabar is no ordinary percussionist. He toggles from the tight discipline of a jazz drummer like Max Roach or Elvin Jones to a shamanistic, raw directness.

"He is a visionary," Murray said. "I work with a lot of poets." (Amiri Baraka and Ishmael Reed are among Murray's spoken-word collaborators.) "He's somewhere between an orator, a Zenlike musician and singer, but then he plays percussion. He's got a lot of different things that make him a very unique and special artist."

Murray and El'Zabar might drift



Courtesy Phot

Boundary-pushing saxophonist David Murray, along with percussionist Kahil El'Zabar, headlines the Summer Solstice Jazz Festival's avant-garde Kozmic Picnik.

tranquilly on a golden sea of oscillating chords, lulled by the gentle plinks of an African thumb piano, or conjure a sudden storm of sound with flashes of lightning and generating a sudden compulsion to dance barefoot.

When the feeling is right, El'Zabar is moved to sing and chant while accompanying himself on drums.

"Wait until you hear him start to channel," Murray said.

"He gets into this thing where it's brand new, in the moment, almost like

See Murray, page 19



Market Selection Key:

(P) Produce, (O) Organic, (D) Dairy, (M) Meat, (FH) Fish, (PF) Prepared Food, (C) Crafts, (DG) Dry Goods, (BG) Baked Goods, (IG) International Goods, (F) Flowers, (LM) Live Music, (A) Alcohol

Food Benefit Program

(\$) SNAP, (B) Bridge Card, (DU) Double Up, (WIC) WIC Project Fresh, (MF) Market Fresh

Allen Street Farmers Market

P, O, D, M, PF, C, DG, BG, IG, F,

2:30-7 p.m. Wednesday, year round (out-

door market May 20-Oct.14). Allen Market

Place, 1611 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

(517) 999-3911, allenmarketplace.org/

LM

S, B, DU, WIC, MF

farmers-market.

While grocery stores are offering more and more fresh, organic and locally produced goods, farmers markets are still the best way to keep the middlemen out of your farm-to-table experience. And summer is best time to get out and check out your local farmers

Several local markets, like Allen Street Farmers Market and Holt Farmers Market, run year-round indoor markets that sell baked goods and hearty produce during the colder months. But these markets overflow into their parking lots when the summer hits, offering a bounty of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Other markets hibernate for the

winter, then reemerge and set up shop in parking lots and parks as the weather gets warmer.

And it's more than just food. Many markets feature vendors selling craft goods, flowers and even locally made alcohol. Some markets use live music to sweeten the deal, while others offer prepared foods like tacos and ice cream.

Check out our farmers market guide, then get out and check out a market near you. With over 20 markets in the tricounty area, you have plenty of options.

For more information about local farmers markets and food assistance programs, check out the Michigan Farmers Market Association at mifma.org.



of Bridge and Main streets, DeWitt. (517) 624-0284, dewittdda.org.

Dimondale Farmers Market

P, M, PF, DG, BG, F, LM B, DU, WIC, MF

 $3\mbox{-}7$ p.m. Thursday, June-September; $3\mbox{-}6$ p.m. Thursday in October. 136 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. (517) 646-0230, villageofdimondale.org/pages/farmersmarket.aspx.

East Lansing Farmers Market P, O, D, M, PF, DG, BG, IG, F, LM

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, June 4-Oct. 29. Valley Court Park, 280 Valley Court, East Lansing. (517) 319-6888, cityofeastlansing. com/farmersmarket.

Eaton Rapids Community Farmers Market

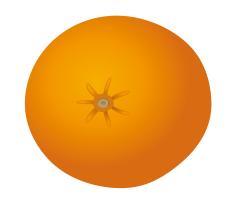
P, O, D, PF, C, DG, BG **WIC**

9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday and 4 p.m.- 7 p.m. Wednesday. Hamlin Court, Eaton Rapids (517) 663-0611.

Eaton Rapids Medical Center Farmers Market

P, O, C, DG, BG, F, LM S, B, DU, WIC, MF

See Farmers Market, page 13



Bath Farmers Market

P, PF, DG, BG, IG, F, LM S. B, DU, WIC, MF

3-7 p.m. Thursday, year round (outdoor market May-October). James Couzens Memorial Park, 13751 Main St., Bath. (512) 809-4433, bathtownship.us.

Bellevue Farmers Market

P, D, PF, DG, BG, F, IG, LM, A S, B, DU, WIC

3-6 p.m. Thursday, June-September. Washington Park at Main Street and Mill Street, Bellevue. (269) 720-2279, battlecreekfarmersmarket.com.

Charlotte DDA Farmers Market

P, D, BG, DG, F, C, LM WIC

3-7 p.m. Thursday and 8 a.m.-noon Saturday, June-October. 100 block of Harris Street, Charlotte. (517) 543-

Charlotte Artisans and Farmers Market

P, O, PF, C, BG, LM **WIC**

3-7 p.m. Thursday and 9-1 p.m. Saturday, May-October. 100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. (517) 543-8853.

DeWitt Farmers Market

P, D, M, PF, C, DG, BG, IG, F, LM, A

S, B

4-7 p.m. Tuesday, June 6-Oct. 13. Corner



25+ farmers & vendors Locally grown, raised, & prepared foods International Food Court & patio seating Live entertainment Outdoor Season Every Wednesday 2:30 - 7:00pm Allen Market Place parking lot 1629 E Kalamazoo, Lansing 48912 www.allenneighborhoodcenter.org

Farmers Market

from page 13

3-6 p.m. Friday, May-October. 1500 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. (517) 663-9453, eatonrapidsmedicalcenter.org.

Farmers Markets at the Capitol

P, O, D, M, FH, PF, C, BG, IG, F S, B, DU, WIC, MF

10 a.m.-3 p.m. July 27, Aug. 24 and Sept. 21 East Lawn of the Capitol Building, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 432-3381, mifma.org/farmersmarkets-at-the-capitol.

Grand Ledge Farmers Market

P, O, BG, C, M, PF, IG WIC

9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, May-Oct 28. 525 E. River St., Grand Ledge. (517) 643-1849, glfarm.org

Hartland Farmers Market

P, D, M, PF, C, DG, BG, F

9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, May-October. 10400 Highland Road, Hartland (810) 599-7603, hartlandchamber.org/ farmers-flea-market.html

Holt Farmers Market

P, D, M, PF, BG, C, IG, F, LM S, B, DU, WIC, MF

2-6 p.m. Friday (mini-market), 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, year round (summer market May 2-Nov. 28) 2150 S. Cedar St., Holt. (517) 268-0024, holtfarmersmarket.org.

Howell Farmers Market

P, O, D, M, FH, PF, C, DG, BG, IG, F, LM





B, DU, WIC

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, May-October. Corner of State and Clinton streets, Howell. (517) 546-3920, howell.org.

Mason Area Farmers Market P, O, D, M, FH, PF, C, DG, BG, F, LM

9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, July 8-Sept. 30; 6-8p.m. July 6 and 20, Aug. 10 and 24, and Sept. 14. 100 block of East Maple Street, Mason. (517) 676-4175.

Meridian Township Farmers Market

P, O, D, M, FH, PF, DG, BG, IG, F, LM

S. B. DU. WIC. MF

8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, May-June; 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday, July-October. Central Park, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 712-2395, meridian.mi.us.

Open Air Market of Stockbridge

P, O, M, PF, C, DG, BG, IG, F, LM

4-7 p.m. Friday, May-October. 125 S. Clinton St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7437, facebook.com/ openairmarketofstockbridge

Old Red Mill Farmers Market P, D, BG, F, C, O, M, DG,

8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, June-October. Old Red Mill on Water Street, Portland.



(517) 647- 6777, facebook.com/oldredmill-farmersmarket.

Peckham Farms Market

P. F

10 a.m.- 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, May-October. 5408 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing (517) 316-4102, peckhamfarms.

South Lansing Farmers Market

P, O, PF, M, D, C, BG, F, LM, S, B, WIC, DU, MF

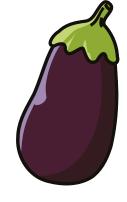
3-7 p.m. Thursday, May-October. If it is raining, the farmers market will move indoors. 800 W. Barnes Ave., Lansing. (517) 374-5700, southlansing.org

St. Johns Farmers Market

P, O, D, C, DG, BG, F WIC

8 a.m.- noon Saturday, June 11-Oct. 22. Maple Street, downtown St. Johns. (989) 224-7863





Westside Farmers Market

B, S, WIC, DU, MF

10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. third Wednesday of the month, June-September. Corner of Pine and Ottawa, First Presbyterian Church. (517) 230-7878, nwlansing. org.

Williamston Farmers Market

P, O, D, M, PF, C, DG, BG, IG, F, LM

S, B, DU, WIC, MF

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday, May-October. McCormick Park, Williamston. (517) 719-6193, williamston-mi.us/ourcommunity/farmersmarket.aspx.



Maureen Choi: 'Everything I love'

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Does that famous picture of Bach, sourly holding a piece of paper, look more sour than usual lately?

He must have gotten a "Dear Johann" letter from violinist Maureen Choi, playing East Lansing's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival 7 p.m. Friday.

The mercurial, muscular Latin jazz violinist is a good musician to have in your corner, but alas, there's only one of her. While studying violin at MSU, Choi was firmly on the path of classical music, but she kept running into jazz studies director Rodney Whitaker, one of the most charismatic performers and persuasive guys around.

Kalamazoo-born Choi's path was pretty clear up to that point. Her father, an avid music lover and classical guitarist, played music in the house all day and even made mix tapes to play in the car. Her mother, a soprano who studied in Vienna, had students coming to the house all the time.

She was almost done with her studies at MSU and had already applied to study

classical violin in Minnesota. Whitaker kept asking her to take one of his jazz classes.

"I'm like, 'No, I'm busy practicing my Bach," she said.

Whitaker told her that she was a jazz musician, but she just didn't know it yet. She was already having fun hanging out with jazz students at concerts and in the halls of the music building.

"I thought, 'What the hell, might as well take the class," she said.

Zwing

"I was literally addicted to jazz," she said. "I felt so liberated. I was playing from my heart, and nobody was telling me what to play."

After much internal debate, she decided to pursue jazz seriously. She got a scholar-ship to the Berklee College of Music in Boston, where a second musical door opened.

In Boston, Choi spent her nights salsa dancing "to blow off steam" after practicing all day. She was a ballet dancer as a child and still loves to dance. At school and in the clubs, she met students from Ecuador, Peru, Mexico and Venezuela who introduced her to a new world of musical forms and styles.

Her passions began to blur together. She started playing Latin gigs, bringing her classical chops, jazz improvisation skills and deep feeling for dance.

Soon she was scoring gigs with salsa king, bandleader and all-around champion of Latin music, Larry Harlow, in New York, Florida and Boston.

"It wasn't something I had to think hard about," she said. "It just kind of flowed, and it was very natural."

Now she lives in Madrid and can't get over the musical and geographical diversity of Spain. Flamenco music, she said, is only one color in a vast mosaic.

"It's like the California of Europe," she said. "The north is completely green and lush and very European. The south, where flamenco was born, is very, dry, hot, desert-like, and the tempo is completely different."

Choi's first CD, with Whitaker and pianist Rick Roe, sticks largely to jazz standards, but her second CD, "Ida y Vuelta," takes the full plunge into the music of



Photo by Angel Alvarez

Violinist Maureen Choi brings her quartet to the Summer Solstice Jazz Festival Friday. The MSU graduate combines classical chops with jazz improvisation and Latin energy.

the Spanish diaspora, from Spain across the ocean and southward through Latin America.

In East Lansing, she'll play music from "Ida y Vuelta" and new compositions that point to more sophisticated, surprising forms of musical fusion.

"We're arranging a couple of pieces from Rimsky-Korsakov's 'Scheherezade' with a flamenco twist," she said. "I'm tying every aspect of who I am and everything that I love and bringing it out in my quartet."

Moving on

Ty Forquer leaving after two and a half years as A&C editor

By TY FORQUER



Forquer

When I "graduated" from sixth grade, my elementary school hosted a ceremony to send us off into junior high. I, along with my fellow graduates, sang Boyz II Men's "It's So Hard To Say Goodbye

To Yesterday," the go-

to graduation anthem of the early '90s, even though I'm fairly certain it's a song about someone dying. It must have been odd to see 50 or so 11-year-olds singing poignant lyrics like "And I'll take with me the memories / To be my sunshine after the rain."

Why do I still remember this? I have no idea. It's a persistent memory, and it seems to return every time I'm at an important juncture in my life. So naturally, it's been in my mind this week as I've prepared to leave City Pulse.

After two and a half years leading the City Pulse's Arts & Culture coverage, I am leaving to join the marketing team at Elderly Instruments. My time at City Pulse has been full of both triumphs and trials, and I

am incredibly thankful for the opportunity to hone my writing and editing skills, but the time has come to move on. I am excited to go to work for another of our area's unique gens

During my time at City Pulse, I've been able to interview some really incredible people. I talked with Peter Yarrow of Peter, Paul and Mary for nearly 45 minutes about music and activism. I asked Ira Glass if he ever worried about running out of stories for "This American Life." I talked with Motown's Suzanne de Passe about discovering the Jackson 5 in her Detroit apartment building. Comedian Brian Regan teased me about the pronunciation of my last name. (It's "fork-er," by the way, in case you've been wondering for two and a half years.)

And while those interviews were interesting and make for great dinner party stories, the most important benefit of my time at City Pulse, the thing that will continue shape my life, is the number of amazing friends I've made in the local arts community. I've met actors and directors in a theater scene I was barely aware of before I joined City Pulse. I've met entrepreneurs and nonprofit leaders who push every day to make mid-Michigan a better place to live. I've met brilliant musicians, poets, painters and authors who live right in our community, and I'm glad to call so many of them friends.

I am confident that I am leaving the Arts & Culture section in good hands with Eve Kucharski, who takes over full time today. She first came to City Pulse as an intern last summer and has stuck around since to work as a reporter, radio show producer and, most recently, calendar editor. As she moves into the arts & culture editor chair, she brings an energy and enthusiasm that will serve her well. City Pulse is the area's premiere arts & culture media outlet. This was true before I arrived, and it will continue to be true after I leave.

I've had the pleasure of working with a stable of brilliant writers and contributors, and I look forward to continuing to read their writings. As editor of this crew, I've learned so much about wine, books, theater, local history and so much more. I learn a new word from Lawrence Cosentino almost every week.

I'd like to thank Berl Schwartz and former City Pulse news editor Belinda Thurston for taking a chance on a musician with no journalism experience who turned in a column on Kim Kardashian for his City Pulse application. It's been a wild ride, and, in the words of Boyz II Men, "I'll take with me the memories."

July 13 - August 20, 2017



Book and Music by Joe Kinosian Book and Tyrics by Kellen Blair

Directed by Rob Roznowski

Featuring: Mark Schenfisch and Andrea Wollenberg

The perfect blend of music, mayhem and murder! In this hilarious 90 minute show, 2 performers play 13 roles - not to mention the piano - in a witty and winking homage to old-fashioned murder mysteries.

You won't want to miss this killer musical comedy!

Pay-What-You-Can Preview
Thursday, July 13 @ 8PM
\$15 Previews
July 14 @ 8PM
July 15 @ 8PM
July 16 @ 2PM
July 20 @ 8PM

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



JUNE SUMMER SOLSTICE JAZZ FESTIVAL PRESENTED AND City of East Lansing MICHIGAN STATE College of Music





16 www.lansingcitypulse.com City Pulse • June 21, 2017

THE SOUL OF JAZZ IN THE HEART OF EAST LANSING



WELCOME TO THE 21ST ANNUAL SUMMER SOLSTICE JAZZ FESTIVAL!

This FREE festival features two days of outdoor jazz followed by performances at Fieldhouse, 213 Ann St. The festival is presented by the City of East Lansing, MSU College of Music, with artistic direction by Rodney Whitaker.

AL & BETH CAFAGNA FOUNDER'S STAGE ★

Join us under the big tent in Lot #1, 230 Albert Ave., for an exciting mix of local, regional and national jazz talent!

MSU OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT EDUCATION STAGE

This performance area gives local high school students, as well as up-and-coming musicians, a chance to perform on stage at a major festival. The stage is located in Ann Street Plaza across from the Marriott at University Place.

KOZMIC PICNIK

At 12 p.m. on Saturday, June 23, join us in the Sculpture Garden at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 East Circle Dr., for the Kozmic Picnik. Bring a picnic basket and enjoy avant-garde jazz performances by the Molly Jones Quartet, BassDrumBone, Kahil El Zabar/David Murray Duo.

SECOND LINE PARADE

At 3:10 p.m., immediately following the Kozmic Picnik, there will be a Second Line Parade with the Gabriel Brass Band. This is a procession from the Sculpture Garden to Ann Street Plaza. The Second Line Parade is a New Orleans tradition where participants follow the grand marshal and brass band while dancing, handing out beads and twirling parasols. It's all about having fun and being seen! The entire community is invited and costumes are encouraged!

JAZZ KIDS CHILDREN'S AREA 🌣

Families love the Children's Area! Volunteers will offer jazz-inspired crafts and activities, with the help of the East Lansing Public Library. The MSU Community Music School will host a sing and move activity every day from 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

FOOD COURT #1

Stop by for great food from Shimmy Shack (vegan), Stu's Classic Foods, and Creative Cheesecake Co.

RIDE YOUR BIKE TO THE FESTIVAL

Free valet bicycle parking will be provided courtesy of the Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council.

Check out the Summer Solstice Jazz Festival on Facebook & Twitter



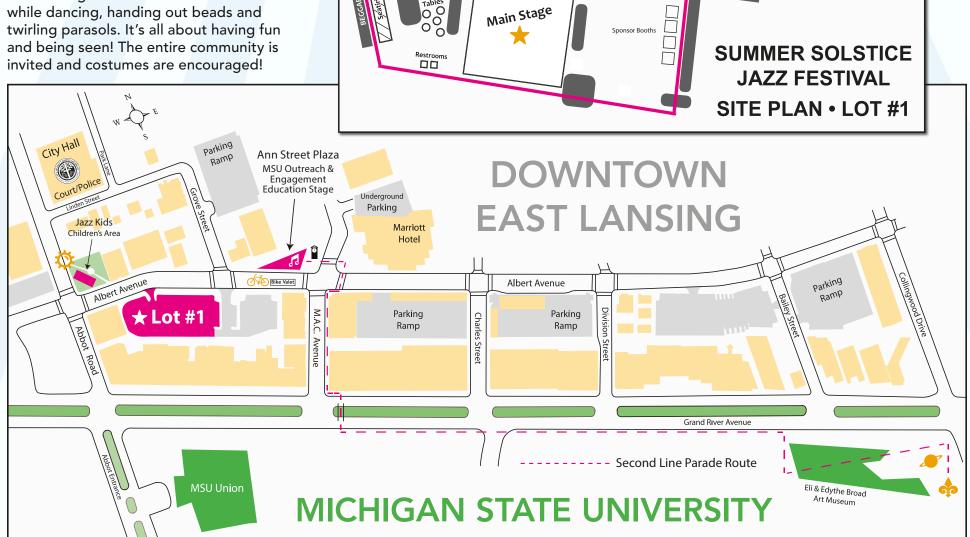
WWW.ELJAZZFEST.COM





MSU OUTREACH &

ENGAGEMENT EDUCATION



TWO NIGHTS OF FREE, LIVE PERFORMANCES

FRIDAY, JUNE 23

AL & BETH CAFAGNA FOUNDER'S STAGE LOT #1 • 230 ALBERT AVE.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Carl Cafagna & North Star

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Western Jazz Quartet

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Rodney Whitaker Quartet

8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Dafnis Prieto Sextet

10:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Grupo Aye

MSU OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT EDUCATION STAGE ANN ST. PLAZA

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. JAMM Scholarship Quartet

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Quintet Ruby

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Maureen Choi Quartet

8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Phil Denny

10:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Laura Rain & The Caesers

FIELDHOUSE • 213 ANN STREET

10:45 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. Arlene McDaniel Quartet

SATURDAY, JUNE 24

AL & BETH CAFAGNA FOUNDER'S STAGE LOT #1 • 230 ALBERT AVE.

LOT #1 • 230 ALBERT AVE.

Planet D Nonet/

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Billy Strayhorn Tribute

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Elden Kelly Trio

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Ramona Collins Group,

8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Randy Gelispie, Fareed Haque, Tony Monaco, Tim Warfield & Michael Dease

10:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Orquesta Ritmo

MSU OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT EDUCATION STAGE ANN ST. PLAZA

3:30 p.m. MSU Community Music School,
Detroit Spartan Youth

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. MSU Jazz Studies Big Band Symposium

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Markus Howell Trio

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Zach Adleman Quartet

8:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. 496 West

10:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. Twyla Birdsong

FIELDHOUSE • 213 ANN STREET

10:45 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. Roger Jones & Higher Calling

KOZMIC PICNIK – BROAD ART MUSEUM

12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. Molly Jones Quartet

1:10 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. BassDrumBone

2:20 p.m. - 3:10 p.m. Kahil El Zabar / David Murray Duo

3:10 p.m. PARADE: Gabriel Brass Band

PERFORMER BIOS

Carl Cafagna & North Star: A band with a hard-hitting, soulful and sophisticated modern sound, formed in 2004 by Detroit saxophonist Carl Cafagna. The band has been featured at the 2010 Detroit International Jazz Festival, at Nighttown in Cleveland, regularly at Baker's Keyboard Lounge in Detroit, and on the Best of the Detroit Jazz Fest., 2005 C.D. (Mack Ave. Records)

Western Jazz Quartet: A resident faculty ensemble in the School of Music at Western Michigan University. Formed in 1974, the quartet combines performing and teaching with uncommon success as they promote jazz music and jazz education through a very active schedule of tours, concerts and workshops.

Ramona Collins Group: Audiences throughout the Midwest have known for quite some time that this performer is one of the region's true treasures. She was born in Toledo but grew up in Lansing MI. She covers all the flavors from honey to hot sauce whether she is half of a duo or fronting an orchestra.

Dafnis Prieto: His revolutionary drumming techniques and compositions have had a powerful impact on the Latin and Jazz music scene. Various awards include "2011 MacArthur Fellowship Award", 2006 Grammy Award Nomination for "Absolute Quintet" as Best Latin Jazz Album. Dafnis has worked in bands led by Eddie Palmieri, Chico and Arturo O'Farrill, Chucho Valdez and Roy Hargrove.

Grupo Aye': Formed just over two years ago by Robert Mulligan, one of the most sought-after percussionists/educators in the Midwest. They play a combination of Cuban Timba, Salsa, Bachata, Merengue and Latin Jazz that will get you on your feet in seconds.

JAMM Scholarship Quartet: Four prior recipients of the Jazz Alliance of Mid-Michigan's Sandy Izenson Scholarship unite.

Zack Adleman Quartet: The Zach Adleman Quartet is an exciting new jazz collective comprised of some of the brightest young jazz musicians of tomorrow. Between the four musicians, they have performed at Carnegie Hall, the 57th Annual Grammy Award After Parties, Jazz at Lincoln Center, and Cliff Bells.

Maureen Choi Quartet: : Their captivating live performance consists of original compositions and arrangements of traditional Spanish and Latin American pieces. Maureen is one of the few violinists in the world who is able to blend the virtuosity of classical music, with improvisation and driving Latin rhythms.

Phil Denny: Impressive artistry, presence and passion combined with a unique ability to connect with people on and off the stage have earned Denny a resume of notable achievements in just a short time. A few of Phil's performances of note include; 2012 Dubai International Jazz Festival, Jazz Under the Stars 2013 in Nairobi, Kenya (Headliner), and appearances at the 2013 and 2014 Arizona Jazz Festival.

Laura Rain and the Caesars: Winning a prestigious 2016 Detroit Music Award for "Outstanding Blues Songwriter", Laura Rain and the Caesars have been touring relentlessly throughout the U.S. and Canada, including performances at the Mississippi Valley Blues Fest and the Edmonton Blues International Fest.

Arlene McDaniel Quartet: Arlene McDaniel has been an active jazz pianist and educator in the Mid-Michigan area and beyond for over 35 years. She earned a Bachelor's Degree in Music Theory & Composition from MSU in 1984. Arlene is on the adjunct jazz faculty (2013) at Hillsdale College and plays in the faculty jazz ensemble The Hillcats. She teaches at the MSU Community Music School (2008), and out of her home studio. Arlene's CD Timeless (2009) has received international airplay and is currently available online or from the artist. This year Arlene will be joined by Lansing area saxophonist Jon Gewirtz, Flint native, bassist Nick Calandro, and long time associate, Lansing area percussionist lan LeVine.

Molly Jones Quartet: Is a jazz improviser, multimedia composer, and poet. Her more-than-65 compositions encompass a wide variety of instrumentations and inspirations, from thorough-composed chamber works to minimally notated and graphic scores, conduction pieces, and electro-acoustic compositions incorporating video collage, sampling, and interactive electronics.

BassDrumBone: A trio that has wedded the uniqueness of its instrumentation with the singular personality of its three members. A true collective, their music combines three distinct compositional and improvisational approaches with an exceptional musical rapport.

David Murray / Kahil El' Zabar Duo: It's impossible to express the depth of history & musical pedigree between these two players. They are consummate virtuosos, possessing ingenious interpretations within the history and future of Great Black Music! You'll be taken on a journey of profound sound that will uplift and transport your spirits away from the mediocre into the bliss of soulfully inspired creative music!

Gabriel Brass Band: A family tradition that has been passed down for 6 generations, beginning with patriarch Narcisse Gabriel, a bass player whom migrated to New Orleans from Santo Domingo in 1856. Continuing the exciting fun-filled brass band second line tradition in the metro Detroit area, the Gabriel Brass Band honors rich history of New Orleans music while delivering a joyful sound that excites the modern ear.

MSU Jazz Studies Big Band Symposium: Under the direction of Professor Rodney Whitaker, is a residential camp for middle- and high-school students with intermediate and advanced playing experience.



Markus Howell Trio: A native of Deerfield Beach, FL., Markus is a graduate of Dillard Center for The Arts, the number one high school jazz band in the nation. He has played with Wynton Marsalis and has performed the Star Spangled Banner at a Miami Heat game. Howell is currently at Michigan State University majoring in Jazz Studies.

Quintet Ruby: A group assembled by MSU Jazz Studies Graduate student, Seth Ebersole, a saxophonist and educator from the Philadelphia area. He has shared the stage with some of the finest musicians in jazz including: Terell Stafford, Rodney Whitaker, Michael Dease, Dick Oatts, Etienne Charles and many others.

496 West: Based in Lansing, Michigan and formed by guitarist Charlie Wilson, 496 West has continued firing up stages since their debut performance in 2008. This group offers soul, smooth jazz, R&B, blues and gospel jazz, styles, with soulful vocals, a powerhouse horn section, killer keys, silky strings and indispensable percussions.

Twyla Birdsong: From the first moment she sets free a deep soulful note, audiences are moved by the raw talent and radiance that pours from this incredible woman. Her rich, resonant voice strikes a balance between diva and divine, making her one of Lansing's most talented – and loved – vocalists.

Planet D Nonet: A down & dirty little swing band from Detroit, was founded by drummer RJ Spangler and trumpeter James O'Donnell. The PD9 is about swing, blues, space-age jazz and classic American songs all served with plenty of good humor with an eye toward turning people onto this kind of music.

Elden Kelly Trio: Is an improviser, band leader, guitarist, composer and singer-songwriter, known for a type of classically-influenced jazz and world music. After graduating from the prestigious New England Conservatory of Music, Elden accepted a full scholarship and teaching assistantship at Michigan State with Rodney Whitaker, earning a graduate degree in 2011 in Ethnomusicology.

Rodney Whitaker Quartet: Internationally renowned bassist and Mack Avenue recording artist, Rodney Whitaker, currently holds the titles of Professor of Jazz Bass and Director of Jazz Studies at Michigan State University where he has built one of the leading jazz degree programs and performing faculty in the United States of America. He is considered one of the leading performers and teachers of the jazz double bass in the United States.

Fareed Haque: Steeped in classical and jazz traditions, his unique command of the guitar and different musical styles inspire his musical ventures with tradition and fearlessness. Haque has been featured on WTTW's ArtBeat and Chicago Tonight, Ben Sidran's New visions, Michelob Presents Sunday Night with David Sanborn on NBC, his own Lonesome Pines special for PBS, and on BET cable jazz channel. Voted 'Best World Guitarist' by Guitar Player Magazine in 2009, His acclaimed 2009 release Flat Planet was twice #1 on the World Jazz Radio

Tony Monaco: In April 2000, Tony met fellow jazz organist Joey DeFrancesco, who offered to produce a debut CD for him. This collaboration resulted in the critically acclaimed "Burnin Grooves". The international success of the recording served as the catalyst for regional and national tours. Tony has since released 8 International releases and toured around the globe many times. Tony also toured and recorded with Pat Martino for over two years! Tony continues to expand his catalogue and has created MotherHenMusicEd.com. He developed a system of giving lessons one on one online and gives lessons to students around the globe!

Tim Warfield: The New York Times Critics poll declared him "...possibly the most powerful tenor saxophonist of his generation." He has performed and toured with Christian McBride, Jimmy Smith, Dizzy Gillespie and many others.

Michael Dease: Is a sought-after, two-time GRAMMY-award winning lead, section and bass trombonist with today's leading jazz orchestras, including those led by Christian McBride, Roy Hargrove, Nicholas Payton, Charles Tolliver, Rufus Reid, Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and the Dizzy Gillespie All-Star Big Band. This year Dease explores the roots and branches of Jazz with All These Hands, his fourth album for Posi-Tone and tenth overall.

Orquesta Ritmo: Prepare yourself for some red-hot salsa dancing courtesy of mid-Michigan's premier salsa orchestra. Ritmo's 10 members have a dedication to introduce, educate and entertain the American public in the electrifying genre of Latin music. ¡Ven y baila!

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improvised paintings and general good-cheer have greatly added to the ambiance of the SSJF.

CURTAIN CALL Divine experience

Owosso's 'Sister Act' goes over the top and below the belt

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

On opening night, Owosso Community Players' production of "Sister Act" had the audience fired up like a church full of Holy Rollers.

These sisters could act, sing and dance. Everyone in the 27-member cast was multi-talented. After songs like "Raise Your Voice," and "Take

Me to Heaven," it seemed the audience's roars were loud enough to rise to heaven. Nuns in habits singing beautifully had the "congregation" in the Lebowsky Center habitually hollering hellacious screams of appreciation.

Savannah Fisher played Deloris Van Cartier, who is placed in witness protection at a convent and changes her name to Sister Mary Clarence. She sang her best numbers as Sister Mary. Fisher never made me miss Whoopi Goldberg, who played Deloris in the movie that was the basis for this stage adaptation.

Sister Mary Clarence led a chorus of nuns in the Queen of Angels convent who — under her inspirational direction — transformed from off-key warblers to angelic singers. With voices like Rachael Cupples (Sister Mary Patrick), Meghan Corbett (Sister Mary Robert) and Kathy Kowalski (Sister Mary Lazarus), the choir was worthy of raucous hallelujahs.

Although "Sister Act" had no standabove-the-others singer, each Mary had her own "Hail Mary" spotlight moment. As did other cast members, including Mandy Bashore as Mother Superior, who sang solos of a superior quality.

The Owosso rendition took a while to hit its stride, but once it did, performance levels kept hitting new heights. Each appearance by Michael McClung, as Monsignor O'Hara, was more likeable than the last. Elaborate costumes designed by Lisa Bradley, Alissa Britten, Cathy Johnson and Mistie Jordan also rose to more heavenly levels as the play progressed. Authentic and detailed habits with multifarious headgear

were embellished and switched numerous times. The costumes — including hysterical nun pajamas — earned their own riotous reactions. As songs got flashier, so did all of the exquisite wardrobes, culminating in gloriously glittered robes and even sequined prison uniforms.

The men in "Sister Act" offered their own flashy moments. Although the play was full of comedy, it was the dudes who deftly dispensed the most definitively droll deliveries. When Curtis (Artis White) sang "When I find My Baby," the crowd howled. White took lyrics referring to acts of stabbing, shooting and killing and somehow made them hilarious.

Actors Michael Windnagle (Joey), Vinnie Lindquist (Pablo), and Holden Santi (TJ) offered over-the-top sexual gestures and below-the-belt humor while performing "Lady in the Long, Black Dress." It was their strongest — and funniest — moment. When the diminutive Santi added a Bee Gees-style falsetto to his disco gyrations, the main floor and balcony reverberated with the audience's deafening glee.

Prince Jerrell Spann, as Eddie, got a rowdy response when his police costume was ripped off to reveal a white suit, à la John Travolta in "Saturday Night Fever." The rowdiness increased when that suit was torn off to reveal yet another cop outfit.

Complex and clever choreography, designed by Erica Duffield, often involved a stage full of dancers. The nuns in habits

boogieing and thrusting hips in perfect unison was another crowd pleaser in the two hour and 35 minute (with intermission) show.

"Sister Act"
8 p.m. Friday June 23 and
Saturday, June 24; 3 p.m.
Sunday, June 25
\$23/\$21 students and
seniors/\$13 children
Lebowsky Center
122 E. Main Street,
Owosso
(989) 723-4003,

owossoplavers.com

For many of the play's 21 songs,

a skillful, six-person rigging crew flawlessly lowered and raised detailed and majestic solid backdrops designed by Dirk Rennick and Dan Wenzlick. Stage lamps and regal lighting designed by Amy Jo Kinyon contributed greatly to the changes. The 11-piece orchestra, conducted by Jillian Boots, was brilliant from the start to the grand finale. Under the direction of Garrett Bradley, this all added up to a divine experience. I'd admit that in any confessional.

Murray

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it's coming from somewhere else."

When the duo reaches fever pitch, Murray's horn spikes up and down, tearing at the fabric of the music, while El'Zabar slips into a zone of uninhibited communion with unseen spirits.

"He puts it into words in a spontaneous kind of way," Murray said. "It's almost like the same way we improvise as players. He's preaching, but he's not preaching — he's not even saying the words, but the words are coming through his body and out of his mouth."

Murray plans to continue working with El'Zabar and with his own quintet, but he wants to keep all his options open.

Despite the odds against it, he hopes to put another big band together.

"We'll probably make a statement in New York, but I don't know about traveling with it," he said. "It's hard."

One way for Murray to get around the difficulties of keeping a big band going is to bring a set of arrangements to a town, as he did recently in Baltimore, and draft local musicians for a few rehearsals and a gig.

"I'd like to do that in 26 cities and see if it works," he said.

MSU, with its burgeoning jazz studies program and world famous director, Rodney Whitaker, seems like a good place to bust out a big-band Murray blowout.

"Rodney Whitaker's great," Murray said. "Put me down. I'd love to be a part of that."

Meet the artist

Brady Carlson discovers his passion for art in time for college

By CLARISSA KELL

Creating art isn't new for Brady Carlson, who has been drawing and sketching since he was a kid. But finding a passion for art is relatively new to the 18-year-old artist.

"Art is a big part of my life and something



I enjoy," Carlson said. "I balanced sports and art in high school. I played sports for four years, golf, soccer and basketball. It wasn't until my senior year when I took an AP art class that I really thought

more about my art."

Carlson created "Three," the painting featured on this week's cover, as part of that AP art class at East Lansing High School. Carlson, who enjoys creating abstract art with vibrant colors and shapes, created the piece using watercolors and watercolor crayons.

"This piece was inspired by fruits and vegetables, but in abstract forms," he said. "I was hoping for interpretation from the viewers."

Carlson said he likes working with watercolors, his preferred medium, because he loves the abstract looks it can create. But he also likes to work with Sharpies and other forms of markers, as well as graphite.

Carlson traces much of his love of art to his family.

"Art is definitely important to me," he said. "My mom has had a huge impact



Courtesy Phot

"Another Day of Sun," by artist Brady Carlson, was created with Sharpie markers. The recent East Lansing High School graduate describes the piece as "ooey, gooey, fun flowing lines of color."

on me and my art, because she has always been really into art."

Carlson graduated from high school just a few weeks ago and will be attending Michigan State University in the fall. While he describes his art as a passion, he is not sure how it will fit in his career. Carlson has not decided on a major, but he is trying to find a path at MSU that will incorporate his artistic side.

"I'm thinking of majoring in something in business or creative advertising and maybe minoring in graphic design, but I'm not sure yet," Carlson said.

The young artist is in no hurry to make a decision, and he thinks things will fall into place once he's on campus and can explore some classes. In the meantime, Carlson is looking into art shows, competitions and other avenues to get his art out into the world.

"No matter what I do in college, I will still find time for art," Carlson said. "It will always be at least a hobby."



Life and death matters

Lansing lawyer lays out case for ending capital punishment

By BILL CASTANIER

This past week a Michigan man, Ledura Watkins, after spending 41 years in prison for murder, became a free man after the Western Michigan Universi-

Fighting the **Death Penalty**

7 p.m. Thursday, June 29 FREE Library of Michigan 702 W. Kalamazoo St., (517) 282-0671, lansinghistory.org

ty-Cooley Law School Innocence Project successfully made a case that the evidence used to convict him was bogus science.

For most of the readers of the incredible story, it was

astonishing news. But for Lansing lawyer

SCHULER BOOKS

===& Music===

Eugene G. Wanger, 84, it was another affirmation of Michigan's stance on capital punishment, which is prohibited in the state.

"In fact, in 1846, Michigan was the first English speaking government in the world to ban capital punishment," said Wanger, who is considered one of the nation's leading experts on capital punishment.

He attributes that action to the makeup of the legislature at the time.

"Most were from New York and New England and didn't support capital punishment," he said.

That attitude was also supported by the large number of immigrants in Michigan from Eastern European countries who, according to Wanger, "had fled savage and cruel criminal justice systems."

The action was hailed by East Coast newspapers with headlines like "The sun has risen in the West," Wanger said.

As a young law student at the University of Michigan in the 1950s, Wanger squirreled away an article torn from a law journal that listed a series of arguments against capital punishment. He knew that capital punishment was al-

ready outlawed in Michigan, but he liked the article's precise arguments. That purloined article would serve him well



when, in 1961, he became the youngest Republican delegate to the Michigan Constitutional Convention.

When it was discovered that the Democrats were outpacing Republicans in writing delegate proposals for consideration, Wanger went on a tear, drafting numerous proposals. One of them was for a constitutional provision to prohibit the death penalty in Michigan. Wanger believed that changes in that prohibition would be harder to make if it was written into the Constitution.

"I thought Michigan's prohibition should go into the Constitution," he said. "That way, we wouldn't have to worry about a heinous murder turning the tide."

As the proposal worked its way through the convention, Wanger said, there was no opposition. When the revised Constitution was ratified in 1963, Michigan became the first — and still the only — state to have the prohibition in a state constitution.

Following his stint as a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, Wanger set out to become an expert on the issues surrounding capital punishment. He scoured book shops looking for material pertinent to the issue, and he was seen going booth to booth at every Mid-Michigan Antiquarian Book Show. At some shows, he even wore a sign around his neck with the words "Capital Punishment?" written on it so that people would know what he was looking for.

Over his lifetime, he has collected an astounding number of books, articles, pamphlets and other ephemera relating to capital punishment. The collection now resides at the University at Albany in New York.

As a supplement to the collection, Wanger recently wrote a book, "Fighting the Death Penalty: A Fifty-Year Journey



Lansing lawyer Eugene G. Wanger wrote the constitutional amendment to prohibit capital punishment in Michigan. His book, "Fighting the Death Penalty: A Fifty-Year Journey of Argument and Persuasion," was recently published by Michigan State University Press and the Michigan Committee Against Capital Punishment.

of Argument and Persuasion," which was published by Michigan State University Press and the Michigan Committee Against Capital Punishment. Wanger and local attorney James Neal will have a discussion on the new book 7 p.m. June 29 at the Library of Michigan in an event sponsored by the Historical Society of Greater Lansing. The event is free and open to the public.

Wanger hopes that the book, along with the work of activists and lawyers, can help end capital punishment in the U.S. A 2016 poll shows that 61 percent of Americans still are in favor of the death penalty. At the end of 2016, 31 states still had the death penalty, and there were nearly 3,000 inmates on death row, including more than 700 in California. The preferred method of execution is by lethal injection, which has come under greater scrutiny in recent years for its lack of precision and several botched executions. Some states still allow inmates to choose alternate means of deaths, such as hanging or firing squad.

Wanger said the goal of the book was to present a series of arguments against capital punishment. In the book, he examines the marginal cost of prohibiting capital punishment, since opponents often point to the cost of keeping someone in prison for life. He said they fail to take into account the costs of building an execution unit in prison and maintaining specially trained staff. He also points out that the cost of death row litigation is costly and divisive.

Wanger also emphasizes that the death penalty may end up with the execution of an innocent person.

"Government is not all that efficient at what it does, and it can make quite a few mistakes," he said.

The book also considers how race affects the application of capital punishment and how one's religious beliefs influence the argument.

"It comes down to respect for life," Wanger said. "A great majority of religious denominations have come out against (capital punishment)."



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Courtesy Photo

Masked EDM artist Marshmello was announced last week as a headliner for the new PRIME Music Festival, coming to Lansing in September. Also on the bill are hip-hop trio Migos and rapper Machine Gun Kelly

PRIME lineup announced Marshmello, Migos headline new Lansing music festival

By CITY PULSE STAFF

When the founders of Common Ground Music Festival announced a new festival launching Sept. 15 and 16 at Adado Riverfront Park, some feared that it would steal patrons from Michigan BluesFest, held the same weekend in Old Town. Now that PRIME Music Festival has announced most of its lineup, it's clear that the fledgling fest is aiming for a much different demographic.

Masked EDM performer Marshmello, influential hip-hop trio Migos and rapper Machine Gun Kelly were announced last week as headliners for the inaugural PRIME Music Festival. The event is co-presented by Columbus-based production company Prime Social Group and MiEntertainment Group, formerly Meridian Entertainment Group, founders of Lansing's Common Ground Music Festival. MiEntertainment Group has produced Common Ground at Adado Riverfront Park since 2000.

Marshmello's 2016 self-released debut, "Joytime," topped the iTunes electronic music charts the day it was released. His YouTube channel has nearly 4.9 million subscribers, and the music video for his "Alone" single has racked up 453 million views. Georgia hip-hop trio Migos broke out in 2015 with its major label debut, "Yung Rich Nation," which peaked at No. 17 on the Billboard

200 chart. The group's 2017 follow-up, "Culture," hit No. 1 on the Billboard 200 chart, fueled by hits like "Bad and Boujee" and "T-Shirt."

"This powerful lineup adds to the already diverse music scene in mid-Michigan" said Jenna Meyer, marketing director of MiEntertainment Group. "The addition of PRIME Music Festival offers more entertainment for music lovers in the Lansing re-

gion."
PRIME Music Festival will also include performances from Blackbear, Cheat

Festival
Sept. 15-16
Two-day pass: \$60/\$109
VIP
Friday pass: \$25/\$55 VIP
Saturday pass: \$40/\$85
VIP
Adado Riverfront Park

300 N. Grand Ave.,

primemusicfest.com

Blackbear, Cheat Codes, JOY-RYDE, Michael Christmas, Par-

ty Thieves, Playboi Carti, Prince Fox, Quinn XCII and Waka Flocka Flame. Local supporting acts include Diamond Jones, Jekyll | Hyde, Packy, Rosco P and VADR.

"PRIME Music Festival brings big name artists like Migos and Marshmello to the Midwest, but also some of the next big things, like rap sensation Playboi Carti and the new 'swerve house' music hero JOYRYDE," said Adam Lynn, managing partner of Prime Social Group. "It will be the September event to attend in Michigan, for festival veterans as well as newcomers."



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Pride: A Celebration and a Statement

By Erica Spitzfaden

When looking at pictures of past Prides, it's easy to believe that Pride is just a huge LGBTQIA party with parades in the streets, full of rainbows and messages of love. That was not always the case. You might even say Pride started

On June 28, 1969, the New York City Police Department raided the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village, which had become a flashpoint between the LGBTQ community and law enforcement. Although the police routinely raided Stonewall and other establishments that catered to the LGBTQ community, on that day, patrons decided they'd had enough. Their resistance spread like wildfire and lasted for six days.

The following year, on June 28, 1970, the first gay pride marches commemorating the anniversary of the Stonewall Inn riots took place in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and other major cities.

Fueled by frustration, the community formed a number of LGBTQ rights advocacy organizations and newspapers during this time period. These organizations worked and are still working to



Intern Olivia Brenner, President Emily Dievendorf, and Board Member Ben Schroff staff the LAHR table during Michigan Pride

change the laws, protect the rights of LGBTQ peoples, help elect LGBTQ officials, and provide legal and economic aid to the community.

We've made progress. Gay and transgender individuals may serve openly in the U.S. armed forces. The first openly transgender started working in the White House under the Obama Administration. We won the fight for marriage equality. And importantly, all 50 states have an LGBTQ person serving in some

capacity as an elected official.

But despite the progress we've made since the Stonewall riots in 1969, Michigan still does not provide civil protec-

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The Origin of Pride

by Olivia Brenner

One of the many ways marginalized communities survive through the generations is by remembering and retelling their histories. It is a way to bind people together beyond blood and kin. For many of us, being reminded of what our forebears went through to get us to where we are can give us the strength to keep fighting—even when the struggle seems endless. In many ways, the queer community has a unique struggle when it comes to inspirational figures and fables. Our achievements before the last 50 years aren't taught in school curriculums, and the multitude of gender and

sex distinctions found around the world are denied and erased by Western concepts of binary sex and gender. Finding ourselves in other people's histories can be like finding a hay-colored needle in a haystack.

One way each of us can make this daunting task easier is by resurrecting the figures from our past who are nearly forgotten. Harvey Milk was an important man, but his story is no more important than others'. One such story that is particularly relevant this month is that of Brenda Howard, the "Mother

Brenda Howard became a national

leader of the Queer Liberation movement and her impact on the culture of Pride can still be felt today. But before all of that, she was a bisexual, polyamorous, Jewish woman from New York who tried to live as fully as possible. A month after being present at the Stonewall Riots in 1969, Howard helped to organize the Christopher Street Liberation Day March, one of the first marches meant to celebrate gay pride in the nation. Only eleven months later, Howard led the organization of an anniversary march in honor of the Stonewall Riots, as well as a week-long series of celebrations and events to commemorate what she termed "Pride day."

For the next 35 years, Howard continued to be a trailblazer for queer

rights while never losing sight of the identities that she held dear. Until her death on June 28, 2005, she fought and marched for the people she had dedicated her life to helping. It is because of Brenda Howard that the New York Area Bisexual Network was founded and became the model for other regional bisexual networks, such as the Bisexual Resource Center in Boston and the first Alcoholics Anonymous chapter for bisexuals.

As we spend this month waving our rainbow flags, we should also take this opportunity to actively remember a few things. First, all polysexual people have always been a part of the quest for liberation, even before being included in the acronym. Second, our celebrations

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Celebration

from page 25

tions for sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

As a result, 39 municipalities provide local protections for sexual orientation, and 35 provide protections for gender identity. These local ordinances protect approximately 21.5 percent of Michiganders, leaving about 78.5 percent without any legal protection from discrimination.

So this year, when you wave your rainbow flag at the annual Pride parade, remember that Pride is not only a celebration of our victories and how far we've come—it's also a statement of how much work we still have to do.

Origin

from page 22

are rooted in commemoration. Brenda Howard was only able to plan the inaugural Pride march because of the dedication and courage of transgender women of color, such as Marsha P. Johnson, Miss Major Griffin-Gracy, and Sylvia Rivera. So while our Prides are often about freedom, never forget that they are also about sacrifice. Last, remember their names. Research your history and raise up your icons. They lived, they did great things, and they deserve to be acknowledged. We honor them by moving forward with their dreams of liberation, but that doesn't mean we should never look back.



A Case for the Closet

by Ben Schroff

During our annual period of celebration, it is still important to note where we can improve. Pride month feels like the one time when our community comes together to celebrate our identities and occupy public, physical space to demonstrate our agency within this world. But we often forget those who come after us.

Even as our community revels in the joys of stepping out of the closet, shedding that skin to become our true selves, many younger LGBTQ people remain in the closet. As we look back at that closeted period of our lives, many of us only remember it by the act of coming out. We forget the power being in the closet can bring us.

Many of us view the closet as a desolate space, one of oppression and fear — something to be escaped. While I agree, the closet can also be a place of nurturing, learning, and understanding. People use the closet for social advancement or to build a reputation. This is not a path of cowardice, but a path of survival. The closet is a lifesaving mechanism, one that allows many of us to survive the horrors of a bad home life, an unaccepting town, or a hostile work environment.

You've probably heard the courageous tales of young people coming out of the closet and claiming identity in a town that they suspected they wouldn't be welcomed in. However, these stories often shame those who are still in the closet. They tend to spin coming out as easier than you'd think. That it's "not a big deal." This is dangerous. We cannot shame our siblings

in the closet, because we do not know the intricacies of their lives. We need to remember that our words have power. Remember when you were there and how the community's words made you feel like you had to conform.

During this Pride month, we need to remember our siblings in the closet. Our words matter to them, and our attitude of distaste needs to be realized. The closet is not just a state of oppression. Many of those who choose not to disclose their sexuality are actually expressing agency through a strategic decision to remain in the closet. We must support our unseen siblings by watching our language and our actions. The best part about Pride is that our whole community comes together. It is our responsibility to create a space where even those who have not left the closet can still feel supported and welcomed.



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OUTHE TOWN

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

Wednesday, June 21 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Alcoholics Anonymous. 6 p.m. Donations welcome. Pennsylvania Ave. Church of God, 3500 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing.

Mindfulness. 7 - 9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington, Lansing.

SMART Recovery. Self Management Addiction Recovery Training for any dependency. 1 - 2:30 p.m. FREE. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing.

Walk-In Wednesdays. Art activities for all ages. 4 to 5:30 p.m. FREE. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643.

MUSIC

Big Band Jazz with the Lansing Concert Band Big Band! Weekly concerts throughout summer. 7-9 p.m. FREE/Donations accepted. William E. Tennant Performance Shell, 805 W. Park St., Saint Johns. (989)

Kari Lynch Concert in the Park. Bring your own lawn chair or blanket. 7 - 9 p.m. FREE. Sycamore Park, 1415 South Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4313. lansingmi.gov/parks.

Tom and Mary at Allen Farmers Market. Live performance. 5-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E Kalamazoo St Lansing. (517) 999-3911. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

Tavern House Jazz Band. 7:30 - 10:30 a.m. Tavern and Tap, 101 S. Washington Square Lansing. (517) 374-5555.

EVENTS

Allen Farmers Market. 2:30 - 7 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E Kalamazoo St Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

ARTS

Conscience of the Human Spirit: The Life of Nelson Mandela. Noon - 2 p.m. Free. Lookout! Gallery, 362 Bogue St., MSU campus East Lansing.

Thursday, June 22 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

(TOPS) Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Weigh-in 5:15 p.m. In room 207. 6 p.m. First meeting FREE.. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 927-4307. A Course in Miracles. Group on peace through forgiveness. 7 - 9 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes, Lansing. (617) 371-3010. unitylansing.org

forgiveness. 7 - 9 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes, Lansing. (517) 371-3010. unitylansing.org Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. All experience levels welcome. 6 - 8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillsdale, Lansing. crisisrfc.com.

Celebrate Recovery. For all types of hurts and hang-ups. 6 p.m. Donations welcome. Trinity Church (Lansing), 3355 Dunckel Road., Lansing. ow.ly/U8DH30clKGX

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

See Out on the Town, Page 27



You can ignore that pile of comedy specials in your Netflix queue this weekend, because the Avenue Café has something up its sleeve that involves both tickling your funny bone and supporting a good cause.

NeNe Izima, a Nigerian model turned comedian, is bringing a variety of acts with her for the High Notes & Fly Jokes charity event. Featured performers include comedians Michael Geeter, Comedy Coven and T. Barb, as well as musical acts V.Soul, Mikeyy Austin, Justin Herrera and dance intermissions by lyrah.

"It's going to be comedy first," Izima said. "After comedy, it will be music. And after the musical performances are done, we'll have breaks for people to eat, drink, whatever. The dance party is after performances are finished."

Izima, a Lansing native, began her journey into comedy just two years ago, attending open mic nights around Lansing and posting funny videos online that eventually went viral.

"I was a pretty goofy kid

coming out the womb," Izima said. "People said to do the whole 'go to college, become a doctor, become a lawyer,' thing. I went to school; I'm a social worker. I got my degree in that. On top of those (videos) going viral, I was presented with the opportunity to move and make myself more of a comedy entity."

Izima, who recently moved to Georgia, has been back in Michigan to promote the show and see family and friends.

"It feels good to be back, to see the love," she said.

Proceeds from the event benefit Haven House, a Lansingbased emergency housing and support service for homeless families and children and victims of domestic violence. For Izima, Haven House has a personal tie.

"I was in a domestic violence relationship," Izima said. "After

High Notes & Fly Jokes 8 p.m.-2 a.m. Saturday, June 24 \$12/\$10 adv. The Avenue Café 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing (517) 492-7403, avenuecafelansing.com therapies and things like that to get myself back on track, one of the resources that I was referred to take in the community was Haven House, and I did. They were pretty important to me during that horrible time in my life, and since I've been back on my feet for a little over two years now, I'm going to continue to give back anytime I'm in Michigan."

Izima said she hopes this event will shine a spotlight on the support system she used when she needed it and that many still use now.

"Whether it's a charity event or not, Haven House exists," said Izima. "Pay it forward as often as you can. Do what you can for the people around you. These families live like two or ten minutes away from all of us that live here (in Lansing). We need to start paying attention to them a little bit more."

- Danielle Chesney

Free Will Astrology By Rob Brezsny

June 21 - 28

ARIES (March 21-April 19): There are places in the oceans where the sea floor cracks open and spreads. apart from volcanic activity. This allows geothermally heated water to vent out from deep inside the earth. Scientists explored such a place in the otherwise frigid waters around Antarctica. They were elated to find a "riot of life" living there, including previously unknown species of crabs, starfish, sea anemones, and barnacles. Judging from the astrological omens, Aries, I suspect that you will soon enjoy a metaphorically comparable eruption of warm vitality from the unfathomable depths. Will you welcome and make use of these raw blessings even if they are unfamiliar and

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): I'm reporting from the first annual Psychic Olympics in Los Angeles. For the past five days, I've competed against the world's top mind-readers, dice-controllers, spirit whisperers, spoon-benders, angel-wrestlers, and stock market prognosticators. Thus far I have earned a silver medal in the category of channeling the spirits of dead celebrities. (Thanks, Frida Kahlo and Gertrude Stein!) I psychically foresee that I will also win a gold medal for most accurate fortune-telling. Here's the prophecy that I predict will cinch my victory: "People born in the sign of Taurus will soon be at the pinnacle of their ability to get telepathically aligned with people who have things they want and need."

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): While reading Virginia Woolf, I found the perfect maxim for you to write on a slip of paper and carry around in your pocket or wallet or underwear: "Let us not take it for granted that life exists more fully in what is commonly thought big than in what is commonly thought small." In the coming weeks, dear Gemini, I hope you keep this counsel simmering constantly in the back of your mind. It will protect you from the dreaminess and superstition of people around you. It will guarantee that you'll never overlook potent little breakthroughs as you scan the horizon for phantom miracles. And it will help you change what needs to be changed slowly and surely, with minimum disruption.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Now that you've mostly paid off one of your debts to the past, you can go window-shopping for the future's best offers. You're finally ready to leave behind a power spot you've outgrown and launch your quest to discover fresh power spots. So bid farewell to lost causes and ghostly temptations, Cancerian. Slip away from attachments to traditions that longer move you and the deadweight of your original family's expectations. Soon you'll be empty and light and free -- and ready to make a vigorous first impression when you encounter potential

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): I suspect you will soon have an up-close and personal encounter with some form of lightning. To ensure it's not a literal bolt shooting down out of a thundercloud, please refrain from taking long romantic strolls with yourself during a storm. Also, forgo any temptation you may have to stick your finger in electrical sockets. What I'm envisioning is a type of lightning that will give you a healthy metaphorical jolt. If any of your creative circuits are sluggish, it will jumpstart them. If you need to wake up from a dreamy delusion, the lovable lightning will give you just the right salutary shock.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Signing up to read at the open mike segment of a poetry slam? Buying an outfit that's a departure from the style you've cultivated for years? Getting dance lessons or a past-life reading or instructions on how to hang-glide? Hopping on a jet for a spontaneous getaway to an exotic hotspot? I approve of actions like those. Virgo. In fact. I won't mind if you at least temporarily abandon at least 30 percent of your inhibitions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I don't know what marketing specialists are predicting about color trends for the general population, but my astrological analysis has discerned the most evocative colors for you Libras. *Electric mud* is one. It's a scintillating mocha hue. Visualize silver-blue sparkles emerging from moist dirt tones. Earthy and dynamic! *Cybernatural* is another special color for you. Picture sheaves of ripe wheat blended with the hue you see when you close your eyes after staring into a computer monitor for hours. Organic and glimmering! Your third pigment of power is *pastel adrenaline*: a mix of dried apricot and the shadowy brightness that flows across your nerve synapses when you're taking aggressive practical measures to convert your dreams into realities. Delicious and dazzling!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do you ever hide behind a wall of detached cynicism? Do you protect yourself with the armor of jaded coolness? If so, here's my proposal: In accordance with the astrological omens, I invite you to escape those perverse forms of comfort and safety. Be brave enough to risk feeling the vulnerability of hopeful enthusiasm. Be sufficiently curious to handle the fluttery uncertainty that comes from exploring places you're not familiar with and trying adventures you're not totally skilled at.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "We must unlearn the constellations to see the stars," writes Jack Gilbert in his poem "Tear It Down." He adds that "We find out the heart only by dismantling what the heart knows." I invite you to meditate on these ideas. By my calculations, it's time to peel away the obvious secrets so you can penetrate to the richer secrets buried beneath. It's time to dare a world-changing risk that is currently obscured by easy risks. It's time to find your real life hidden inside the pretend one, to expedite the evolution of the authentic self that's germinating in the darkness.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): When I was four vears old. I loved to use cravons to draw diagrams of the solar system. It seems I was already laving a foundation for my interest in astrology. How about you. Capricorn? I invite you to explore your early formative memories. To aid the process, look at old photos and ask relatives what they remember. My reading of the astrological omens suggests that your past can show you new clues about what you might ultimately become. Potentials that were revealed when you were a wee tyke may be primed to develop more fully.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Loften ride my bike into the hills. The transition from the residential district to open spaces is a narrow dirt path surrounded by thick woods on one side and a steep descent on the other. Today as I approached this place there was a new sign on a post. It read "Do not enter: Active beehive forming in the middle of the path." Indeed, I could see a swarm hovering around a tree branch that juts down low over the path. How to proceed? I might get stung if I did what I usually do. Instead, I dismounted from my bike and dragged it through the woods so I could join the path on the other side of the bees. Judging from the astrological omens, Aquarius, I suspect you may encounter a comparable interruption along a route that you regularly take. Find a detour, even if it's inconvenient.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): I bet you'll be extra creative in the coming weeks. Cosmic rhythms are nudging you towards fresh thinking and imaginative innovation, whether they're applied to your job, your relationships, your daily rhythm, or your chosen art form. To take maximum advantage of this provocative luck, seek out stimuli that will activate high-quality brainstorms. I understand that the composer André Grétry got inspired when he put his feet in ice water. Author Ben Johnson felt energized in the presence of a purring cat and by the aroma of orange peels. I like to hang out with people who are smarter than me. What works for you?

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"You Sav You Want a Revolution"--it's your

Matt Jones

Across

1 Like "der" words, in 5 "48 Hours Investigates" host Lesley 10 Bus route 14 Palindromic Italian digit 15 Jason who will play

Aquaman in 2018 16 Ride-sharing app 17 "Va-va-_ 18 Bring together

19 "Hercules: The Legendary Journeys" spinoff 20 Character on a cel

23 "Unleaded" drink 24 Maker of Centipede 25 Takes much too seriously, for short?

26 "Carmen" highlight, 30 Some Italian models

33 Third-generation actress who co-starred in "Jackie Brown" 36 "The Secret Success"

39 "Fences" star Davis 40 "Back in the _ (Beatles tune) 41 Did some birthday prep work, maybe 44 Bicycle shorts

45 Sacred promise 46 Trucker's compartment

material

49 Civic's make 52 Like theremin noises, usually

54 Toys that are making the rounds in 2017 news? 58 Waitstaff's handout

59 Crowdfunding targets 60 Moore of both "The

Scarlet Letter" and

"Striptease' 61 Baldwin with a recent 11 Portuguese, by default stint on "SNL"

62 "The Five People You Meet in Heaven" author Mitch

63 Page for pundit pieces 64 Prior

65 Huge amounts 66 Cubs Hall of Famer Sandberg

Down 1 Name in men's watches

2 Made amends 3 Zeno's followers 4 "Girl, Interrupted" character? 5 Blue matter 6 Quality of voice 7 Enclosed in 8 Labor leader Jimmy who mysteriously disappeared

on thick (exagger-

10 Extravagant 12 "The Real Housewives of Atlanta" star Leakes Yes!" (1970s politi-13 " cal placard) 21 Way out there

22 Angler's spear 27 Break apart 28 "Oops! ... ___ It Again" 29 Disco-era term mean-It Again" ing "galore"

31 Six-pointers, briefly 32 Saloth (Pol Pot's birth name) 33 Secondary result of a

chemical reaction 34 Film director Kazan 35 The last U.S. president with a prominent mustache

36 X, of Twitch's "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" marathon, e.g. " (1990 Primus album)

38 Electric can openers and pencil sharpeners,

e.g. 42 Guilty feeling 43 Nostalgic time, perhaps 46 Like porcelain dolls you just know are staring right at you 47 Fly guys 48 Compared with 50 "L'Absinthe" painter 51 Lagoon surrounder 53 "Return of the Jedi" moon 54 Afrobeat composer Kuti 55 "Qui n ?" ("Who knows?") _, that's my 56 "Call Mr. name, that name again is Mr. " (jingle from one of Homer Simpson's business ventures) 57 Unspecified philoso-58 It might cover the

continent

©2017 Jonesin' Crosswords • For answers to this puzzle, call: 1-900-226-2800, 99 cents per minute. Must be 18+. Or to bill to your credit card, call: 1-800-655-6548. **Answers Page 21**

SUDOKU **BEGINNER**

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

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 24

Go to **RealAstrology.com** to check out Rob Brezsny's **EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES** and **DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES**. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 1-877-873-4888 or 1-900-950-7700.



BY RICH TUPICA



LIL WYTE AT THE LOFT

Saturday, June 24 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+, \$15/\$10 adv., 8 p.m.

Memphis-based rapper Lil Wyte headlines Saturday at the Loft; DJ E-Nyce spins throughout the evening. Lil Wyte's big break came in 2002, when he was featured on Project Pat's single "Crash Da Club." Soon after, his debut LP, "Doubt Me Now," featuring fan favorites like "Oxycotton," sold more than 135,000 copies without major-label support. Since then, Lil Wyte — real name Patrick Lanshaw — has issued a stack of records and mixtapes, many released on Hypnotize Minds, the Memphis-based label operated by Three 6 Mafia. In May, Lil Wyte released his latest LP, "Drugs," on the Real Talk Entertainment imprint. Over the years, Lil Wyte has become known for his rapid-delivery rap style and has worked alongside the likes of Pastor Troy, Insane Clown Posse, Young Buck and Bubba Sparxxx.



DEAD HOUR NOISE AT MAC'S

Saturday, June 24 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$7, 8 p.m.

Dead Hour Noise, a Lansing-based metal/punk/grind band headlines Saturday at Mac's Bar; openers are Cruthu, No Breaks and Centenary. Dead Hour Noise formed in fall of 2013 and by early 2014 had already recorded its first record, "Tension," at the GTG House. The band comprises vocalist Collin Spencer, guitarists Ed Emmerich and Cody Hobbins, drummer Nick Deason and bassist Seth Clickner. Known for its late '90s mathcore influences and raucous live shows, the band has earned opening spots for groups like Norma Jean and the Flatliners. In March 2016, the band issued its second EP, "Bad Things Are Going to Happen to Good People" on the locally-operated Silver Maple Kill Records label. To sample some tracks, visit deadhournoise.bandcamp.com.



MIKEYY AUSTIN AT THE ROBIN THEATRE

Friday, June 30 @ The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$10, 7:30 p.m.

Last summer, local emcee MikeyyAustin — real name Michael Austin — released his debut mixtape, "T I N T E D." This year, the 20-year-old soul-infused rapper dropped his first proper LP, "L I F T E D." Austin performs tracks from the new CD on June 30 at the Up(LIFTED) music showcase at the Robin Theatre. Also performing is Detroit rap artist Adam Reverie. Austin, who will perform with his band, the Happy Medium, issued his new record on all streaming services. The album, which features production by YoungHeat of Jackson, also features local hip-hop fixtures like Ozay Moore, Yellokake, James Gardin, Jahshua Smith and more. Aside from his own work, in December, he launched the Reo Town Sessions, a monthly event that spotlights local artists. To sample his music or buy the album, visit mikeyy-austinmusic.com.

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT EVE@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LITE & LOOKE				
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	Hordes	Jackpine Snag	Nene Izima
Buddies - Holt, 2040 N Aurelius Rd	Reggae Lou Clement, 6 p.m.	John Persico, 6 p.m.	Joe Burt, 6 p.m.	
Buddies - Okemos, 1937 W. Grand River Ave.			Steve Cowles, 7 p.m.	
Brookshire Inn, 205 W Church St, Williamston			Joe Burt, 7 p.m.	
Classic Bar & Grill, 16219 Old US 27		Karaoke, 9 p.m.	D.J. Trivia, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Claddagh Irish Pub, 2900 Towne Centre Blvd				Steve Cowles, 7 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Live Music	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Rd	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.	Pool Tourney, 7:30 a.m.	Alskn "Walleye" AYCE	DJ, 9 p.m.
Eaton Rapids Craft Co., 204 N. Main St.		Steve Cowles, 6 p.m.	Dan MacLachlan, 6 p.m.	Daryn Larner, 6 p.m.
Eastwood Towne Center., 3003 Preyde Blvd				
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke with DJ Jamie, 9 p.m.	Bingo, 7 p.m.	Music Videos, 9 p.m.	
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 8 p.m.	Story-oke Open Mic., 8:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Blues Night, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze!!	From Big Sur	Soulstice
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 E. Michigan Ave.			Mike Cooley, 5:30 p.m.	
Harpers, 131 Albert Ave	Bobby Standal, 5 p.m.	Reggae Lou, 5 p.m.		
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.,		RESIDIVIS, 8 p.m.		Blake Wilson, 8:30 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Untied Skates / Former Critics, 8 p.m.	Half Waif, 7 p.m.	Captured By Robots, 8 p.m.	Beatz Bangin & Dj Enyce, 8 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic w/ Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.		Rotations, 9 p.m.	Greg nagy, 9 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road	Daryn Larner, 6 p.m.	Mike Cooley, 6 p.m.	Reggae Lou, 6 p.m.	
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27	Jake Stevens, 6 p.m.	Shawn Garth Walker, 6 p.m.	Wise Guys, 6 p.m.	Wise Guys, 6 p.m.
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.	Mike Cooley, 6 p.m.	Jacob Ford, 6 p.m.	Bobby Standal, 6 p.m.	Bill Strickler, 6 p.m.
Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave.,		John DeGenero, 6 p.m.		
Ryan's Roadhouse, 902 E State St.	Trivia, 8 p.m.	Live Music, 6 p.m.		
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Eliminator KC	Brian Lorente and the Usual Suspects, 5 p.m
The Watershed Tavern & Grill, 5965 Marsh Rd.	Alistair Beerens, 7 p.m.	Bobby Standal, 7 p.m.v		



Out on the town

from page 24

Oracle Card Reading Class. Learn how to use the deck. 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. \$20. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515 W. Mt. Hope Ave., Suite 3 Lansing. (517) 402-6727. willowstickceremonies.com

MIISIC

Live Music Session with Jim Fugit. Jazz, 60s and 70s rock and more. 7 - 10 p.m. Henry's Place Neighborhood Gastro Sports Bar, 4926 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 580-3075. pubmeridian.com.

Live Ukulele Concert! With Craig Chee & Sarah Maisel. Kicks off Midwest Uke Camp. 7 - 8 p.m. FREE. Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-7880. elderly.com.

Thursday Night Live! - Life Support Unplugged. Bring chairs, blankets, friends and family. 6 - 7 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Courthouse, 341 S. Jefferson, Mason. (517) 676-1046.

EVENTS

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

Practice Your English. All skill levels welcome. 7 - 8 p.m.



lcc.edu/showinfo

FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org.

Spanish Conversation. All skill levels welcome. 7 - 8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org
Summer Cinema (All ages). Today: Sing (PG). 2 - 3:45

Summer Cinema (All ages). Today: Sing (PG). 2 - 3:45 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 South Capitol Avenue Lansing. (517) 367-6363

Friday, June 23

MUSIC

Live Music w/ Aircriers. 7 p.m. FREE. Lansing Brewing Company, 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. (517) 371-2600. lansingbrewingcompany.com.

THEATRE

Phantom of the Universe. Presentation on dark matter. 8 - 9 p.m. \$3-4. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4676. abrams@pa.msu.edu. Threadbare Mitten Film Festival Opening Night. 41 films. 7 p.m. - 12 a.m. \$25/\$10 VIP Tickets/\$5 Film blocks. Eaton Theater, 235 S Cochran Ave., Charlotte. ow.ly/9PQf30clMwo.

EVENTS

Meridian Senior Center Ice Cream Social Ice Cream, entertainment, games! 1 - 2 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

Saturday, June 24 CLASSES AND SEMINARS



Lean In Lansing. Professional development group for women. 9 - 11 a.m. Grand Traverse Pie, 1403 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 203-3304. leaninlansing.com. Reiki Level 1. Explore the benefits of Reiki. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. \$55 pre-registration. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515 W. Mt. Hope Ave., Suite 3 Lansing. (517) 402-6727. willowstickceremonies.com.

MIISIC

Live Music w/ Dan MacLachlan. 7 - 10 p.m. FREE. Lansing Brewing Company, 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. (517) 371-2600. lansingbrewingcompany.com. Summer Music Series at Henry's Place. Blues, jazz, acquistic 9 p.m. - 10 a.m. Henry's Place Neighborhood

Summer Music Series at Henry's Place. Blues, jazz, acoustic. 9 p.m. - 12 a.m. Henry's Place Neighborhood Gastro Sports Bar, 4926 Marsh Road, Okemos. ow.ly/ j9PZ30clNgv.

THEATRE

Threadbare Mitten Film Festival. 41 films. 12 - 11:30 p.m. \$25/\$5 Individual screening tickets. Windwalker Gallery, 125 S. Cochran Charlotte. threadbaremittenff@gmail.com, ow.ly/y0gq30clNvZ.

VENTS

Annual Rummage Sale. Proceeds for Mission Projects. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. \$6 for full grocery bag of items/FREE parking. Mt. Hope United Methodist Church, 501 E. Mt. Hope, Lansing. (517) 482-1549.

Delta Rocks! Family Festival. Crafts, games, petting zoo, inflatables and more. 12 - 6 p.m. FREE. Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Road Lansing. (517) 323-8555. deltami.gov. Fantastic Fireflies Campfire and Program. Fireflies, s'mores and guided walk. 7 - 8:30 p.m. \$3/\$7/family. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866. bit.ly/HNCprg.

Sunday, June 25 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Charlotte Yoga Club. Beginner to intermediate levels welcome. 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. \$5 annually. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Charlotte. (517) 285-0138. charlotteyoga.net Juggling. Learn to juggle. 2 - 4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St. East Lansing. (517) 371-5119. ruetenik@gmail.com.

Kendo Martial Art Class. Martial arts practice group. From 10 to 11:30 a.m. \$5. Westside Community YMCA, 3700 Old Lansing Road Lansing. 269-425-6677. ow.ly/k05y30clOyN.

Reiki Two Training. Second step on the path. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. \$95 Pre-registration. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515 W. Mt. Hope Ave., Suite 3 Lansing. (517) 402-6727. willowstickceremonies.com.

MUSIC

Lucy/Toma Doe/krissy booth/composetheway. 7 p.m. - Midnight. \$10/\$8 in adv. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan See Out on the Town, Page 28

THURSDAY, JUNE 22 >> MSU PROFESSORS OF JAZZ AT MUSIC ON THE GRAND

Local jazz supergroup MSU Professors of Jazz hits the Grand Concert Series Thursday. The group comprises MSU jazz faculty members Etienne Charles on trumpet, Randy "Uncle G" Gelispie on drums, Diego Rivera on tenor saxophone, Xavier Davis on piano, Randy Napoleon on guitar, Michael Dease on trombone and Rodney Whitaker on bass. The Lansing City Market encourages attendees to bring lawn chairs and a snack, or you can leave the food at home to enjoy a burger and a drink at the Waterfront Bar & Grill. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460, lansingcitymarket.com.

JUNE 21-25 >> 'WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S LAND OF THE DEAD' AT LCC

A zombie horde encroaches upon Elizabethan London, only to be met backstage at the Globe Theatre by William Shakespeare and his troupe of actors in LCC's latest summer theater production. "Land of the Dead," which opens tonight, finds the Bard and his crew fighting a swarm of comedic "Shaun-of-the-Dead"-esque zombies in a family friendly production recommended for viewers 10 and up. Lawn seating is available, and attendees are encouraged to bring blankets, chairs and/or snacks. If rain is in the forecast, the performance will be moved to Dart Auditorium. 7 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. FREE. LCC Outdoor Amphitheatre, between Dart Auditorium and the Gannon Building on LCC's downtown campus. (517) 483-1488, lcc.edu/showinfo.

Ave. Lansing. (517) 484-6795. namelessartcollective@gmail.com

EVENTS

Atheists and Humanists Dinner Meeting. Mindfulness, intention setting and meditation. 5 - 8:30 p.m. Buffet \$10.99 plus tax. Asian Buffet, 4920 Marsh Rd., Okemos. (517) 914-2278. ow.ly/Okki30clP5L.

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

ART

Meridian Artisan Marketplace. Local artisans, crafters, unique items for sale. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Prices vary. Meridian Township Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 643-2707. coolmoon@tds.net.

Monday, June 26 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

A Course in Love. Weekly group dedicated to spiritual pyschology. 1 - 2 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes, Lansing. (517) 371-3010. unitylansin.org. Support Group. For the divorced, separated & widowed. Room 9. 7:30 p.m. St. Davids Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Rd., Lansing. (517) 323-2272.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Out of This World Book Club. All the Birds in the Sky by Charlie Jane Anders. 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl. org.

Read to a Dog. Read to therapy dogs. Email Eva Weihl in advance. 1 - 3 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. eweihl@cityofeastlansing.com, elpl.org.

MUSIC

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

EVENTS

Chess, Cribbage, Hand & Foot. Weekly activities at the Center. 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

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

Tuesday, June 27

Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. Learn public speaking and leadership skills. 7 p.m. FREE for visitors. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing (517) 775-2607

Take off Pounds Sensibly. Have a support system, lose weight. Wheelchair accessible. 6 p.m. FREE first visit. St. Therese Parish, 102 West Randolph Street, Lansing. (517) 487-3749. tops.org.

Yawn Patrol Toastmasters. Hone your speaking and leadership skills with us. 7 - 8:30 a.m. FREE for visitors. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. yawnpatrol.com, vpm@vawnpatrol.com.

MUSIC

Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's. Check Facebook page to see who's playing. 7 - 10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5287. ow.ly/o7FT30cJyWu, jashoup@gmail.com.

The Scratch Pilots Present: Turntable Tuesdays-BOOTY NIGHTS. Tacos, trivia, industry night 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. FREE. The Green Door. 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517)

THURSDAY, JUNE 29 >> ZOO BREW AT POTTER PARK ZOO

Potter Park's Zoo Brew series is back for the summer, with the first of three installments kicking off June 29. Adults over 21 can sip a handcrafted brew from Lansing Brewing Co. while checking out the wildlife Each event in the series will also include live music from local musicians or bands. Shelby and Jake, Be Kind Rewind and Clem Barron are slated to perform for next week's event. Attendees can purchase dinner at the event or bring their own food and enjoy a Potter Park picnic. 5-10 p.m. \$7/\$5 adv./\$10 all three events. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4222, potterparkzoo.org.

MONDAY, JUNE 26 >> BEER AND BACON PAIRING AT REO TOWN PUB

Grand Haven's Grand Armory Brewery teams up with Lansing's Good Truckin' Diner to pair tasty brews with crispy bacon Monday at REO Town Pub. The partnership offers succulent pairings of 5-ounce beer samples and bar-food snacks, including Wheezin' The Juice IPA paired with a BLT sandwich and Nutter Your Business nitro stout served with waffle fries loaded with bacon, cheese, jalapenos, ranch and cilantro. A full menu of pairings can be viewed online, and attendees are strongly encouraged to buy tickets online in advance, as past pairing events have sold out quickly. 7-9 p.m. \$34.75. REO Town Pub, 1147 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 331-0528, imabeerhound.com.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24 >> FESTIVAL OF THE MOON & SUN

Old Town's Festival of the Moon & Sun packs the longest day and shortest night of the summer with fine wine, craft beer and live music for its 18th annual summer solstice celebration. Admission to the 21-and-up event includes a souvenir glass and vouchers for food and drink vendors. Friday's live music lineup features Jen Sygit and Slim Gypsy Baggage, while Saturday brings the Jonestown Crows, the Beggars Banquet Band and the Stick Arounds. A portion of the funds raised during the event will go to the Old Town Commercial Association, a nonprofit organization devoted to the ongoing revitalization of Old Town. 6-10 p.m. Friday; 3-10 p.m. Saturday. Single day pass: \$25/\$20 adv.; Two-day pass: \$42/\$37 adv. Lot 56, Turner Street and Grand River Avenue, Lansing. (517) 485-4283, iloveoldtown.org.

482-6376. ow.ly/aeNB30cCZP6

EVENTS

Acting Up Theatre Company (All ages). The Builder Brothers must cooperate. 2 - 3 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 South Capitol Avenue, Lansing. (517) 367-6363.

Bingo, Bridge, and Euchre. Weekly activities at the Meridian Senior Center. 1 - 4:30 p.m. Cost Varies. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045. ow.lv/5VC130aniFJ.

Build a Better Community (Ages 6–15) Make cat toys to donate to the Capital Area Humane Society. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Foster Branch, 200 North Foster, Lansing. (517) 485-5185.

Game Night at UrbanBeat. Bring your own, or play provided games. 5 - 8 p.m. FREE. UrbanBeat Event Center, 1213 Turner St. Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com, aruff@urbanbeatevents.com.

LCC West Toastmasters. Focused on public speaking and leadership. 5 - 6:30 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708

Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-1314. lccwest. toastmastersclubs.org.

Ming the Magnificent--Build a Better Car (All ages) Craft a race car—then watch it race. 2 - 3 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Webberville Branch, 115 South Main Street.

Overeaters Anonymous. Struggling with food? Overeaters Anonymous offers hope. 7 p.m. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road., Okemos. (517) 505-0068, oa.org.

Trending Topics. Discuss local, state and national headlines. 7 - 8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org.

Wednesday, June 28

MUSIC

The Lansing Concert Band! Weekly summer concert series. 7 - 9 p.m. FREE/Donations accepted. William E. Tennant Performance Shell, 805 W. Park St. Saint Johns. 989-224-2429. clintoncountyarts.org.

JUNE 23-24 >> THREADBARE FILM FESTIVAL IN DOWNTOWN CHARLOTTE

If you're into niche film genres like Neo-Noir, Splatterpunk, Non-Narratives or ZomRomComs, there's finally a festival for you. Threadbare Film Festival, which launches in Charlotte this weekend, promises a wide variety of genres that "won't push you into a box." The multi-venue festival starts Friday with a VIP Party at the Windwalker Underground Art Gallery from 7 to 10 p.m., with screenings running afterward from 10 p.m. to midnight at the Eaton Theatre. The fest continues Saturday with screenings at the from noon to 11:30 p.m. Films are curated into blocks based on content and duration, and include showcases such as a "the Michigan Student Showcase," "Experimental Cinema Lab" and "A Bloody Good Time." See website for locations and times. \$25 festival pass/\$10 Friday VIP ticket/\$5 individual screening ticket. Windwalker Underground Gallery, 125 Cochran Ave., Charlotte. exposurefilmfoundry.com.

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Ty Forquer/City Pulse

The Unicorn Lounge will open in the location formerly inhabited by the historic Unicorn Tavern, which closed on June 10 after 34 years. The building is undergoing a whirlwind makeover before its grand re-opening this Friday.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

On June 10, the book closed forever on a piece of Lansing history when Old Town's longstanding **Unicorn Tavern** gave its final last call. There was a distinctive lack of fanfare about the business' closing, perhaps because the drinks will be flowing again this weekend under new ownership and a slightly tweaked appellation. When it opens on Friday at 327 E. Grand River Ave., the new **Únicorn Lounge** will have fresh interior and exterior looks, new hours, more tap handles and an upgraded sound system. But one thing new owner Pat Gillespie, president of development company the Gillespie Group, said he hopes to maintain is the old place's authentic dive bar sensibilities.

"The Unicorn is part of the fabric of Old Town, and we're trying to preserve that as much as possible," Gillespie said last week, shortly after closing on the building and embarking on a whirlwind, 10-day overhaul. "There were a lot of memories in that place, a lot of history, a lot of love. I never met him, but I'm told it had everything to do with the way Tommy ran it."

That would be former owner Tommy Malvetis, who ran the bar almost right up to his death last year at the age of 94. Malvetis bought the bar when it was a rough-and-tumble biker bar called the Shamrock in the blue-collar North Lansing neighborhood. He renamed it Unicorn Tavern in 1983 to soften its image and serendipitously played a leading role in guiding the community's transformation into the quirky, quaint Old Town we know today.

"It was very important for me to have the blessing of (Malvetis') children," Gillespie said. "I worked very closely with them to make sure that this was something that would pay respects to their father's legacy but could still be its own thing. I think a lot of people are going to be surprised by how much it will still feel like the Unicorn."

After Malvetis' death in December, the bar fell into a trust managed by his children, Alec and Nancy Malvetis. Alec Malvetis said opting to sell the Unicorn was a joint decision between his sister and him.

"If our father was still alive, we would never have considered selling," he said. "Running that place kept his spirits up for years. I think he lived as long as he did because that place helped keep him going. He had a house in Delta Township, but (the Unicorn) really was his home. Working with Pat has been great, and we're really happy he wants to keep my dad's legacy alive."

Malvetis said his father didn't want to drive a car for the last 10 years of his life, so he and his sister had a daily pick-up/drop-off schedule for him so he could still be a hands-on owner/ operator/raconteur. Tommy Malvetis spent hours holding court in his "office" at the Unicorn, an old kitchen table near the bar that had a bright desk lamp and overflowed with newspaper clippings and bits of paperwork. He'd occasionally stroll behind the bar to give firsthand accounts of his nearcentury of experiences or to bask in the massive street's-eye-view mural on the bar's rear wall of Myrtia, his father's hometown in Greece. The mural, done by late local muralist Gary Glenn, was based on a photo Malvetis took when he visited the village with his children in the '90s.

That mural was discarded as part of the renovation process, but beneath it Gillespie's team discovered an older mural, possibly also done by Glenn, of a bar full of imbibing dogs — think da Vinci's "The Last Supper" meets "Dogs Playing Poker." The dogs were subsequently covered up by a newly commissioned mural, which is being kept top-secret until Friday's opening.

"We're sharing a few of the things we're adding, but we want to keep a couple surprises for people showing up this weekend," Gillespie said. "It's not a big place, so we couldn't move many things around, but I think it's a good blend of the old and the new."

Prominent among the incoming décor are a pair of life-sized unicorn sculptures, one of which will appear to burst from the brick above the threshold. The other will find a home somewhere inside, prompting policy No. 9 among the lounge's newfangled house rules: "Never ever ever touch the Unicorn." Other rules include "Don't ask for a mojito," "Don't complain," and "We play music we like." That last one includes the tradition of live music played on the bar's stage, which also got an update. Steve "Frog" Forgey leads Frog & the Beeftones, which served as the unofficial house band for Unicorn Tavern. On Friday he'll christen the new stage at 9 p.m. with his trio, Fragment of Soul.

"It would have been great if Tommy could have run it until he was 1,000 years old, but that didn't happen," Forgey said. "A lot of us (performers) were worried when we heard the Unicorn was closing, that everything we'd built up for all these years was gone. But Pat and his team have assured me that they want to keep the (live music aspect) going. They seem really excited about they're doing, so that's a good indicator. It will never be exactly like it was, but will it have the same vibe? We really hope so."

Forgey said Frog & the Beeftones will continue the tradition of Thursday night performances starting in July. One tradition that won't be carried over will be the bar's early morning opening time, a callback to the Unicorn's history as a shift bar. The new first call won't be until early afternoon on weekdays and noon on Saturdays. But it's clear that Gillespie sees himself as a guardian to the establishment's heritage.

"We're putting up a photo of Tommy behind the bar, and we never would have used the name 'Unicorn' without the blessing of his family," Gillespie said. "We're just doing a little modernizing and trying to get another (34 years) out of it."

Unicorn Lounge 327 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing 3 p.m.-1 a.m. Monday-Friday; noon-1 a.m. Saturday; closed Sunday (517) 485-9910, unicornoldtown. com

Do you know of a new Greater Lansing business that should be featured in New in Town? Send an email to allan@ lansingcitypulse.com.

Out on the town

from page 28

Jill Jack Concert in the Park. Bring your own lawn chair or blanket. 7 - 9 p.m. FREE. Cherry Hill Park, 515 River St., Lansing. (517) 483-4313, lansingmi.gov/parks, emily.stevens@lansingmi.gov.

The Dangling Participles at Allen Farmers Market. Come enjoy a performance. 5 - 6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E Kalamazoo St Lansing. (517) 999-3911. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

EVEN1

Lunch Cruise. Scenic views and buffet. 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. \$41/\$39 Senior/\$20.50 Kids (4-12). Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St. Lansing (517) 627-2154. michiganprincess.com.

Ming the Origami Meister (All ages). Ming puts his magical building skills to the test. All ages. 1 - 2 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries. Webberville Branch, 115 South Main St.

Ming the Origami Meister (Age 12 & up) Learn how the ancient art of Asian paper-folding leads to serenity. 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries. Webberville Branch, 115 South Main St.

Mat Emerick Variety Show (All ages). Comedy skits with juggling and mime. FREE. 2 - 3 p.m., Capital Area District Libraries Dansville Branch, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville.

Puppeteer Alex Thomas. Puppets take the stage with jokes, stories and lots of fun. FREE. 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Williamston Discovery Elementary School, 350 Highland St., Williamston.

Music with The Storytellers (All ages). Captivating stories and musical instruments from around the world. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries South Lansing Branch, 3500 S. Cedar St.

ARTS

Pop Up Demo: Pamela Wilburn. Demos from professional exhibiting artists. 12 - 1 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 113 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 374-6400. lansingartgallery.org.

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HE ATE · · · · · · · · · SHE ATE

Ai Fusion impresses with entrees and ambience



Outsized edibles filled with love

By MARK NIXON

Let's begin with the name, Ai Fusion. Fusion I get, but Ai? Artificial Intelligence? I settled on it being shorthand for Asian Influenced. That's when I got an eye roll from my Japanese-speaking spouse, who informed me Ai is Japanese for love.

Oh.

Linguistic missteps aside, I confess to being a bit love-struck by Ai Fusion. I could write a sonnet about its shrimp tempura, but fortunately for you, I won't. Suffice it to say there is plenty of kitchen love involved in preparing food here.

Begin with the aforementioned shrimp tempura appetizer (\$7). Lightly battered and flash fried, this was the single best thing I tasted in two visits to Ai Fusion. In fact, I loved it so much that for the entree, I ordered the shrimp tempura udon (\$12). It's a huge bowl of thick noodles swimming in rich broth. The shrimp comes on the side. Plop the shrimp into the broth and dive in. Like many of Ai Fusion entrees, the udon is outsized — a full meal in itself.

And speaking of outsized, check out the menu. Sheathed in metal, this tome is hefty enough to double as a door stop. Its interior is encyclopedic. I counted 70 different sushi roll choices -70!

Some delicious puns are scattered throughout it too, including the Star Wars-influenced Han So Roll. This \$14 appetizer is shrimp tempura and cucumber topped by white tuna and avocado. It was outstanding, only to be outdone by an incredible soft-shell crab appetizer (\$7). I'm

beginning to see a pattern here, because the crab was prepared tempura-style. The crab meat is slightly sweet and salty, and so tender you can eat the little crab claws as well. Which we did.

Let us talk tofu for a minute. I hate tofu — or thought I did. Then one night long ago, Judy took me to the now-long-gone Murasaki restaurant in East Lansing. She ordered age-dashi tofu. I mentally gave her an eye roll, but agreed to try this white, gelatinous chunk of spongy soy glop. Agedashi (ah-gay dah-she) is barely battered, quickly fried and served with various kinds of smoky, soy-based sauces. I took one bite, and fell in love with tofu — or at least this dish.

That backstory serves as a way to introduce Ai Fusion's iteration of agedashi tofu. This \$5 appetizer is every bit as good as my first bite at Murasaki. Tofu: Don't knock it until you've tried it, agedashi style.

Moving beyond the fried stuff, I recommend the teppanyaki filet mignon (\$16). These are chunks of tender steak served with al dente broccoli. Teppanyaki roughly translates as "grilled on an iron plate." I ordered the steak rare, and it arrived just that way. Perfect.

Yet every romance has its hiccups, and it's

fair to say Ai Fusion is not an everlasting love story. The \$5 vegetarian gyoza (dumplings) underperformed. In fact, we didn't know they were vegetarian until they reached our table. In our experience, gyoza has some sort of ground meat such as pork.

Other hiccups:

- The fried rice accompanying the teppanyaki was fried only in the theoretical sense of the word.
 - The Sumo Avocado appetizer (\$8) had tuna, crab and cream cheese, sprin-

Authentic and a touch of eclectic

By GABRIELLE LAWRENCE

I am a devoted sushi lover. Last fall, when I was presented with the opportunity to travel to Otsu, Japan, Lansing's Sister City, my first thoughts — after the initial wondering what I was going to do on a 14-hour flight — were for the food. I was so excited to try true Japanese sushi and ramen, and while I

sampled plenty of both of those things, I was happy to learn that we have quality sushi in the Lansing area.

Although I feast on sushi as frequently as possible, I'll admit that I'm a creature of habit and don't often stray from my favorite Okemos Maru. I had never been to Ai Fusion, but after a few visits Mr. She Ate and I made ourselves familiar with most sections of the menu. On our first visit, we started with an order of gyoza (\$5), more commonly known as dumplings. We love these little half-moon shaped, wonton-wrapped packages of minced vegetables, but disappointingly these gyoza ranked among some of the more flavorless we've sampled. Things got better with the bulgogi beef dinner (\$14) — essentially a skillet of thinly shaved steak atop fresh broccoli and sweet potatoes. We chose pan fried noodles for the carby side, and I used them to soak up the savory sauce in the bottom of the skillet.

Sushi lovers that we are, we rounded out the meal with a Michigan roll (\$8.50) and a P.I.T.A. roll (\$9) to share. The Michigan roll was our favorite — crab salad and avocado topped with fresh

salmon and honey wasabi sauce. Still, I only indulged in a piece or two because common practices encourage pregnant women to limit their intake of raw fish, and Baby She Ate will be joining us in December. (Yes, this is our announcement to the world and YES, I have been ravenous since finding out!)

The P.I.T.A. roll is a creation unique to Ai Fusion. The tuna, salmon, crab, steamed shrimp, asparagus and avocado are wrapped in thinly-sliced cucumber, as opposed to the traditional rice and possible nori (edible dehydrated seaweed, the dark green stuff that you frequently see wound around a sushi roll.) A bite of this roll confirmed that while sushi rice is one of the more innocuous ingredients on the block, its flavor is important to a delicious roll. In other words, this cucumber creation might be a boon for those watching their carbs, but it didn't make for a flavorful bite.

I also ordered a seaweed salad (\$4) to accompany my beef and gyoza, but was confronted with a problem I've never experienced. The seaweed strands were cold. Not a little chilly, but positively so frigid that I couldn't eat the salad for the pain it caused

in my teeth. I could have taken it home to finish later, but the thought of left-over, melted seaweed didn't do much to settle my already tentative stomach situation.

On our return visit, we started with the spicy mussel appetizer (\$8). I don't know what my husband was thinking, he of the "I don't think food should hurt" sentiment, because these mussels were giant, tasty, and incredibly spicy. As we mopped up our tooth sweat, we watched our server pile our table with

Ai Fusion Sushi and Grill

11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; Friday 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m.; Saturday 12-11 p.m.; Sunday 12-10 p.m. 2827 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing (517) 853-3700



Gabrielle Johnson Lawrence/Gity Pulse

Ai Fusion's hearty portions, like this Teppanyaki Chicken and Shrimp, make their food easily saved or shared.

See She Ate, Page 31

See He Ate, Page 31

He Ate

from page 30

kled with sesame seeds. The combination was spot on, but then the after-burn kicked in and the spices vanquished the other flavors.

 Our table had mixed reviews about the salad, which comes with every meal. Some loved the sweet-andsour dressing. Judy and I thought it was far too sweet.

If ambience matters - it does to most diners — then consider Ai Fusion a delight. It manages to be spacious and cozy all at once. There are four "dadami" rooms that are semi-private, away from the main dining room. Kick off your shoes, literally, and settle in with a small group of friends.

The dining room itself is wood-centric, highlighted by a drop ceiling that reminded me of parquetry. There's a miniature koi pond next to the bar, and, yes, those are real live koi swimming about. Wait, who am I kidding? I'm no ichthyologist. They were fish of some sort, and I think they were real. Probably.

The dining crowd at Ai Fusion is eclectic. We saw families with youngsters, baby boomers such as ourselves and lots of college-age wannabe hipsters. For me, the kicker came during our second visit. Over the speaker Bruce Springsteen belted out "Glory Days."

"Glory Days." Such a great song. Several years ago, it became my cell phone's personal ring tone. Now, how could a guy like me not fall for a place like Ai?



Gabrielle Johnson Lawrence/City Pulse

Though not always traditional Japanese fare, the sushi rolls on the menu are many and masterfully crafted.

She Ate

from page 30

dishes full of curry chicken (\$16), a Buffalo roll (\$8.50) and teppanyaki chicken and shrimp (\$18). The Buffalo roll, a spicy tuna roll with cucumber topped with avocado, spicy mayo and Sriracha, was delicious. (Before the advice starts rolling in, they say a few bites of sushi is OK.) Strictly speaking, sushi rolls doctored up with things like tempura batter, spicy mayo and the like aren't to be compared with traditional Japanese sushi, which prizes the simplicity of the perfectly prepared rice and delicate raw fish. But man, does the combination of the spice and the creaminess of the avocado make this roll delicious.

My chicken and shrimp skillet had the protein tossed with broccoli, sweet potatoes, and mushrooms, similar to the bulgogi beef entrée on our previous visit. Again, I chose pan-fried noodles over white rice or fried rice, and there was enough left after we sampled the dish for me to have leftovers for lunch the next day.

His curry chicken dish won the texture award for the night, since the thinly-sliced chicken breast was lightly breaded in panko (Japanese bread crumbs). The curry flavor was rich and distinctive, as curry always is. (Has anyone ever said, "Do I detect a hint of curry?" Is a "hint" of curry even possible?)

A word on service — it was above average. Our first visit was on a busy night and our server warned us that the sushi might be a while. It wasn't, and the delivery time was perfectly appropriate, but we appreciated her word of warning. On a return visit, as our server and Mr. She Ate bonded over a mutual love of New Balance shoes, I marveled over the fact that he was juggling numerous tables of large parties with complicated orders. He apologized for his perceived inattention to us - we didn't feel slighted in the least - and offered us a free sushi roll, which we appreciated but declined. We didn't want to make him pay for something we didn't think was an issue.

Covfefe — **Strange Matter** Coffee Co.

"Despite the negative press covfefe"

That incomplete sentence, the seeming result of our President falling asleep mid-tweet, was unleashed on the Internet just after midnight on May 31. Trump's mystery word set off a firestorm of jokes, ranging from hilarious to trying a little too hard. (I'm looking at you, Hillary Clinton's social media team.)

But the best thing to come out of covfefe-mania is Strange Matter Coffee Co.'s new seasonal drink, Covfefe. Described as "a coffee white Russian," this refreshing concoction features espresso, cold brew coffee, cinnamon, vanilla and heavy cream. And you don't need to be a millionaire with secret business ties to Moscow to afford it; the delightful drink costs just \$4 - or 226 Russian rubles, ifyou have some to unload.

Unlike the meetings with white Russians that Trump's campaign and administration officials have trouble recalling, Strange Matter's Covfefe is a truly memorable experience.

- TY FORQUER









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