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CityPULSE

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January 11-17, 2017

SHOULD LANSING BE A SANCTUARY CITY? P. 8

REFUGE
AND
AMNESTY

KEEP
ICE
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LANSING

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AMAZING!"**

— THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



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Photo by Justin Winters

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Our future is uncertain. The Board of Directors, together with ELFCO owners, will determine our co-op's next steps.

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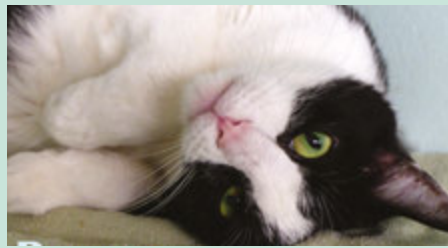
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Porsche

Porsche is a lovable snuggle bug. She's very people oriented and would love a home where she can be the center of attention.

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Pepper

Pepper came to the shelter with his siblings Kody and Bella when their owner passed away. He is very sweet and affectionate but does not care to be picked up sometimes.

In memory of
Rodica's cats



Mikey

Mikey is a lovable hound looking for a home with lots of adventurous things to do. He loves snuggling with his people.

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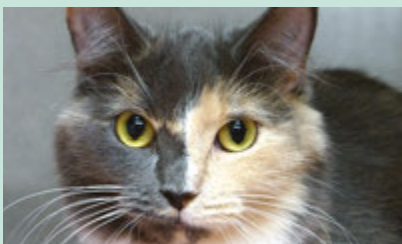


Gemma

Gemma is an awesome girl! She'd do well in a semi-active home where she can have lots of snuggles and play time.

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Moonracer

Moonracer is a sweet, shy girl. She prefers not to be picked up so an adult home is recommended.

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with Sarah Chang & Andrew von Oeyen

Wednesday, January 18 AT 7:30PM

Violin wonder Sarah Chang joins the celebrated Prague Philharmonia for Dvořák's supercharged Violin Concerto, plus piano sensation Andrew von Oeyen performs Mendelssohn's First Piano Concerto.

\$18 Student & Youth Tickets!



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The first Asian-American reporter to win a Pulitzer, Wudunn is one of *Newsweek's* "150 Women Who Shake the World." She is also co-author of *Half the Sky*, about the oppression of women around the world.

**FREE for MSU Students,
Faculty and Staff**
(Limit 2 tickets per MSU ID.)

\$20 general admission

SHERYL WUDUNN


Monday, January 23 AT 7:30PM

The World View Lecture Series is made possible in part by the MSU Office of the President. This presentation is generously supported by the Broad College of Business; College of Communication Arts & Sciences; College of Human Medicine; College of Natural Science; Lyman Briggs College; Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives: Project 60/50; Symposium on Science, Reason, & Modern Democracy (Political Science); and University Outreach and Engagement.

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

Now you have two ways to sound off:

- 1.) Write a letter to the editor:**
 - E-mail: letters@lansingcitypulse.com
 - Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
 - Fax: (517) 371-5800
 - Online at lansingcitypulse.com
- 2.) Write a guest column:**
Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or (517) 999-5061

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

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Meet Jim McClurken, who is now running for the Lansing City Council



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Comedy Coven launches comedy workshop, comedian showcase



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Sarah Chang, Andrew von Oeyen bring star power to orchestra tour



COVER ART

Photo by LAWRENCE COSENTINO

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PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN NOTICE OF POSTING OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

On January 4, 2017, the following minutes of the proceedings of the Meridian Township Board were sent for posting in the following locations:

- Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road
- Meridian Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court
- Hope Borbas Okemos Branch Library, 4321 Okemos Road
- Haslett Branch Library, 1590 Franklin Street
- Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road
- Snell Towar Recreation Center, 6146 Porter Ave.
- and the Township Web Site www.meridian.mi.us.

December 6, 2016 Regular Meeting
December 13, 2016 Regular Meeting

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#17-006

STATE OF MICHIGAN OFFICE OF THE INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

Notice is Hereby Given that on Tuesday, January 31, 2017, the Ingham County Drain Commissioner will hold a Day of Review of Drainage District Boundaries from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, 707 Buhl, Mason, Michigan 48854. At that time and place, the Drain Commissioner will hear the proofs and allegations and carefully reconsider and review the description of lands comprising the Drainage Districts for the Drains listed below, and determine whether the addition or deletion of lands will more accurately define the boundaries of the land benefitted by the Drains and is just and equitable pursuant to Section 197 of 1956 PA 40, as amended. Maps of the proposed Drainage District boundary revisions may be found at the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office or web site (<http://dr.ingham.org>). The Drains are located and established in the following municipalities, and a general description by section number of the lands proposed to be added or deleted in whole or in part include the following:

DRAIN NO.	DRAIN NAME	MUNICIPALITY	SECTION NUMBERS
B 16-00	BULLFROG DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	4
D 36-00	DELTA GRANDE DRAIN	CITY OF LANSING	5, 6
H 73-00	HEATH DRAIN	WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP	28, 29, 32, 33
L 02-00	LAKEVIEW DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	10, 11, 14, 15
M 49-00	MCCLUSKEY DRAIN	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP	11
P 06-00	PHEENY DRAIN	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP	4, 9
S 09-00	SHEARER DRAIN	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP	20, 28, 29
S 17-01	WOOD STREET BRANCH OF SMEDLEY-COOLIDGE DRAIN	CITY OF LANSING LANSING TOWNSHIP	2 2, 3

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Ingham County Drain Commissioner at (517) 676-8395 or the Michigan Relay Center at 711 (TTY) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance. **You are Further Notified** that persons aggrieved by the decision of the Drain Commissioner to add or delete property to or from a Drainage District may seek judicial review in the Ingham County Circuit Court within ten (10) days of the decision.

January 4, 2017

Patrick E. Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#17-005



NOW AT 10:30 A.M.

SATURDAYS ON



THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



FAREWELL ADDRESS
FOR EIGHT YEARS, I'VE BEEN THE SUBJECT OF MORE CONSPIRACY THEORIES THAN YOU'D HAVE EVER BELIEVED POSSIBLE.

SURE, I'VE GOVERNED FOR TWO TERMS AS A SENSIBLE MODERATE, CONSTANTLY SEEKING BIPARTISAN COMPROMISE! BUT IT WAS ALL A RUSE!

AND SO, AS I SPEAK, ELITE PARAMILITARY TEAMS--DRAWN FROM THE RANKS OF THE NEW BLACK PANTHER PARTY--ARE GOING DOOR TO DOOR TO CONFISCATE ALL THE GUNS!

AND YOU KNOW WHAT? THEY'RE ALL TRUE.

BET YOU DIDN'T SEE THAT ONE COMING.

I'VE BEEN PLAYING THE LONG GAME--WAITING UNTIL THE LAST POSSIBLE MOMENT TO UNLEASH MY REAL AGENDA!

ALSO YOUR GOLD.

FURTHERMORE, I'M UNILATERALLY IMPOSING BOTH SOCIALISM AND SHARIAH LAW! AND I'M NULLIFYING THE ELECTION AND PUTTING ISIS IN CHARGE! I'M THEIR FOUNDER, YOU KNOW!

AND NOW, IT'S TIME FOR ME TO SHED MY HUMAN DISGUISE AND RETURN TO MY TRUE HOME, PLANET X--THE EXISTENCE OF WHICH NASA HAS TOTALLY BEEN HIDING FROM YOU!

OH--AT THIS POINT, IT PROBABLY GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT THE BIRTH CERTIFICATE WAS A FAKE.

DONALD TRUMP HAS ALREADY BEEN RELOCATED TO ONE OF THE FEMA CAMPS YOUR UNCLE TRIED TO WARN YOU ABOUT ON FACEBOOK.

CATCH YOU LATER, GULLIBLE HUMANS!

ON MY ORDERS, OBVIOUSLY.

SHOULD HAVE PAID MORE ATTENTION TO ALEX JONES WHILE YOU COULD!

ONE TO BEAM UP.

TM, TMORROW © 2017, TMW-17012

Splitsville

City Council deadlocked over new leadership

Lansing City Council is splitsville. After hours of back and forth debate, the body failed Monday to come to a consensus on who would make up the leadership for this year.

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope, the acting head of the body under the City Charter during the leadership selection process, said the eight-member Council deadlocked, 4-4, seven times.

He said officials voted to a draw twice on electing Lansing City Councilwoman-at-Large Kathie Dunbar to the presidency; twice on elevating Carol Wood, another at-large member; and once each on attempts to place Judi Brown Clarke, who is also an at-large member of the Council, back in the presiding chair, and once to place Patricia Spitzley, also an at-large member, in the position. A motion to name Dunbar to the president's role and 2nd Ward Councilwoman Tina Houghton vice president died on 4-4 vote as well.

Dunbar characterized the split as an "aisle" in the Council, making a reference to different parties in Congress. On Dunbar's side were Houghton, Spitzley and 4th Ward Councilwoman Jessica Yorko. On the other side were Wood, Brown Clarke, 3rd Ward Councilman Adam Hussain and 1st Ward Councilwoman Jody Washington.

There were also eight additional motions offering various councilmember combinations for leadership. Those failed to come to a vote because one, or both, nominated members declined the offer.

The divide has been a longstanding issue on the Council, with the Wood contingent often painted as the "anti-Bernero" group, and Dunbar's group define as "pro-Bernero," in reference to Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero.

Dunbar's tardiness record became an issue during the voting Monday night, with Washington raising it from the Council dais as she had told City Pulse in

December she would. Spitzley opposed Brown Clarke for president because of her potential run for mayor.

Swope, Spitzley and Washington all said the 2017 election was playing a clear role in the fight for leadership. Bernero's third term ends this year, and while he has not formally announced he will seek another term, he is widely expected to do so. If he does, he will face a likely challenge from State Rep. Andy Schor, D-Lansing, and Brown Clarke is also mulling a possible run for mayor. Brown Clarke must de-



The great divide: Councilmembers split 4-4 repeatedly Monday over who will be president along lines generally considered to be pro and anti-Bernero camps. Pictured above, clockwise from top left: Carol Wood, Tina Houghton, Jessica Yorko, Patricia Spitzley, Kathie Dunbar, Judi Brown Clarke, Adam Hussain and Jody Washington. On the middle: Mayor Virg Bernero.

side before the April filing deadline if she will seek reelection to her at-large Council seat or run for mayor — she cannot run for both. Houghton, Yorko and Dunbar are also all up for reelection.

Washington, in a Facebook post and interview on Tuesday morning, said the backroom maneuvering for leadership appears stuck on the composition of the Development and Planning Committee. Those aligned with Dunbar want to see the current committee broken up, with more Bernero allies on it. Wood's team would like to see Brown Clarke, Washington and

Hussain run the committee.

So why is this committee such a sticking point? It's the body that considers developers' proposals for everything from taxpayer-supported developments to payments in lieu of taxes — so-called PILOT developments — to approving simple zoning issues.

That committee has been a source of consternation this year.

Hussain, Washington and Wood are being sued by developer Sam Sabroury. He alleges that they violated the federal fair housing laws and discriminated against low-income residents, particularly of color, when they denied his request for a PILOT early last year. They deny any wrongdoing.

Piling on top of that, Councilmembers have proposed a bidder ordinance in response to concerns from organized labor that the SkyVue project on Michigan Avenue cut out local

organized labor in the bidding process for the build. That proposal would require developers receiving tax incentives from the city to perform an open bidding process, including opening all bids in public. Organized labor is supportive, but the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce opposes the proposal.

"It's about the bidder's ordinance, because the mayor doesn't want to say 'yes' and piss off the chamber," said Washington. "And he doesn't want to say 'no' and piss off labor. If they take it over they can take out the ordinance."

Spitzley, who wants to serve on the committee, said the bidder's ordinance has nothing to do with it for her.

"That was the furthest thing from my mind," she said in a phone interview Tuesday. "I want people on the committee with experience with development."

She works for the Racer Trust, a company working to dispose of former General Motor properties across the country.

Council will reconvene at 5:30 p.m. Thursday to continue the battle for leadership, Swope said. Whether the body can carry out any other business for the city remains unclear, he said.

"It really hampers the ability of anybody to do anything," he said. "That's a detail we'll have to confirm with the city attorney."

— Todd Heywood



Property: 221 N. Washington Square
Lansing

According to a reader's tip, "The AT&T building on Washington Ave. is not a bad example of brutish architecture, but the windows at street level which once held a communication timeline have been left vacant except for trash and storage for quite some time." Indeed, this great hulk of a building exhibits the typical features of the Brutalist style. In many cases, wood grain from the formwork leaves its imprint on the cured concrete. Here, the concrete aggregate is deliberately exposed. Wall surfaces are broken up with awkwardly large fins. Ribbon windows which might run in an unbroken band are broken up by rough-jointed pilasters.

The reader continues, "This dead space influences all foot traffic between downtown and LCC in a very negative way. ATT is communicating a lack of respect for its customers as well as the City of Lansing by creating this dead zone in such a prominent location." While it is difficult to measure of the impact of empty storefronts, there is little question that streetscape continuity makes for good urbanism. It is not unusual to have informational displays when the storefront is not being used commercially. As our reader correctly states, such a treatment would benefit this stretch of Washington Square.

— Daniel E. Bollman, AIA

"Eyesore 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.

Building sale official ELFCO owners determined to keep on truckin'

East Lansing Food Co-op owners decided almost unanimously to sell their store Sunday, with 114 votes yes to 7 no. With operations slated to officially stop Feb. 4, and no sign of the co-op disbanding, ELFCO must now decide its next steps.

"It is going to be quite a discussion. There were clearly a lot of ideas that had legs in this discussion today," said Anne Woiwode, who heads the ELFCO Board of Directors. What's key is that "for 40 years we have moved forward incrementally without necessarily having a really comprehensive view," Woiwode said. "We've gotten a lot of good ideas and gotten good information, but what we don't have is a business plan that says, 'Here's the model that's going to work for the future.'"

The creation of that model rests on the shoulders of the few hundred active members of the cooperative. ELFCO's enthusiastic, nearly 90-minute debate, held at the Allen Neighborhood Center in the eastside neighborhood, generated a slew of ideas to create revenue in a new space and ultimately set the goal to establish a new location as soon as possible.

Ideas ranged from the sale of pre-packaged ready-to-eat foods, the creation

Eve Kucharski/City Pulse

ELFCO's Outreach Coordinator Shiloh Daum fields solutions from owners to revitalize the physical location of the soon-to-be displaced co-op. They met Sunday at the Allen Neighborhood Center



of a cooperative-sponsored food truck and partnerships with local businesses like Go Green Trikes LLC for deliveries. Some members even volunteered to donate their personal funds to help ELFCO costs. Woiwode said that it will take future meetings to truly develop a "smart way" to move ahead.

"If we agree to borrow funds from our owners — there's clearly a bunch of generous people in the room who were thinking that was a good option — how do we do our best by them and the whole cooperative, to have a plan that seems viable," Woiwode said. "Whether it's a food truck or a farmer's market or do we start small and scale up? And all those things will have to

be thought through."

Still, many of the suggested solutions rely on the existence of a new physical location to function. In the time before the building at 4960 Northwind Drive in East Lansing, which is listed for \$675,000, can be sold, funds will stop coming in, and the cost of a new space will be expensive. Various reports from the co-op's own documents estimate a new store costing anywhere from \$800,000 to \$2 million.

This cost is largely why the few who did vote against the sale, like ELFCO's former general manager, David Finet, were apprehensive about losing potential landlord revenue to put toward a new location.

"Nobody's asked the question of what we could rent the building for, of what we could rent the space that we will be vacating," Finet said. "That with the rent that we've got plus the fact that the building's in pretty good shape, we could have easily kept the building for now, and generated revenue to help us launch the co-op perhaps somewhere else. But I think just taking a cash out right now with no way of generating cash is a mistake."

Still, with the building gone, many expenses like building maintenance will disappear.

One ELFCO owner, MSU employee

Connor Meston, suggested a means for the co-op to generate income and marketing clout in the community, particularly with fellow college students.

"If ELFCO could come up with some kind of location in East Lansing that they could have maybe a small distribution point, where they could at least take orders from a point near downtown East Lansing, that would be an interesting way to reach out to sell bulk food to students," Meston said. "Especially houses in the student housing cooperative or other group housing, whether it's a housing cooperative or a fraternity or sorority."

This method might at the very least help the community outreach efforts of the organization, something that board member John Reich said was one of the contributors to the store's closure.

"The problem that the co-op had was that there wasn't enough people that were willing to patronize the co-op to make it sustainable. Whether that was because of marketing or because they didn't know it was there, I don't know," Reich said. "There's a lot of reasons you could say that it didn't succeed, but the bottom line is there simply wasn't enough business volume to make it viable."

For now, ELFCO members must digest the decision made and move forward toward its physical revival. But even before then, work must be done to maintain the cooperative's relationship with local food providers and the support of its members.

"I hope that we're able to move ahead pretty quickly with the enthusiasm that's there," Woiwode said. "I know for me, just figuring out where to shop next is going to take some energy, and I'm looking forward to having a really good discussion about what the options are at the next board meeting. Beyond that we're going to just jump in. Folks who are interested need to get going."

— Eve Kucharski



CityPULSE 2017 TOP OF THE TOWN AWARDS ARE COMING SOON!



It's almost time for Greater Lansing residents to vote for their favorite businesses, places and people in City Pulse's annual Top of the Town Awards. This year, City Pulse is taking reader submissions for contest categories. The best suggestions will be added to this year's contest.

To see a list of last year's categories and to submit your own idea, visit lansingcitypulse.com/totcat

PUBLIC NOTICES

JANUARY 9, 2017

NOTICE OF A SCOPE HEARING

SCOPE HEARING ON THE MONTGOMERY DRAINAGE DISTRICT PROJECT

The Ingham County Drain Commissioner, Patrick E. Lindemann, is holding a scope hearing for the proposed reconstruction and drainage improvements of the Montgomery Drain's Drainage District on **Thursday, January 19, 2017, 7:00 PM at the City of Lansing's Foster Community Center, Room 213, 200 North Foster Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, 48912.** The proposed project is located in the City of Lansing, East Lansing, Charter Township of Lansing in Ingham County, Michigan.

The proposed scope of the project includes reconstruction/repair and replacement of storm sewers in the Montgomery Drainage District. The project will create surface water features such as ponds, wetland areas and streams, together with vegetated walls (vertical rain gardens) and other plantings, along with repairs of existing drains.

In addition, the project will create public access by adding connecting walkways to the current 16-mile long Lansing River Trail at the southern end and the municipal sidewalk systems to the north.

Questions may be referred to:

Patrick E. Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner
P.O. Box 220
707 Buhl Avenue
Mason, Michigan 48854-0220
(517) 676-8395

CP#17-008

Footsteps

McClurken takes on Yorko for City Council

James McClurken is mad as hell. Mad enough to run for the Lansing City Council.

He made that official Tuesday when he filed his paperwork to take on Jessica Yorko for the 4th Ward seat. But he's not just running against her. He's running against the Lansing Board of Water & Light and ultimately against Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero.

And if he does the hard work — the door knocking, the fund-raising, the candidate forums — he will be a formidable candidate.

McClurken vows to not be a one-issue candidate, but one issue has driven him into the race: Scott Park, six acres at Washington Avenue and Malcolm X Street. The Council, with Yorko's support, gave it to the BWL for a new power substation. The decision means that where the Scott House stands, a 40-plus-foot-high power grid will take its place. And the nearly 100-year-old Sunken Garden will be moved to a parking lot, destroying its historical integrity.

McClurken not only opposed the plan as a citizen preservationist, but also as a Bernero appointee to the Park Board, which backed the plan.

"Had this been any other park, there would have been a public vote to deaccession parkland," he says. "That happened with the Waverly and Red Cedar golf courses. Even though I hated to see those parks go, the city actually voted. In the case of Scott Park, there was no vote. There was a gray area of the law that was exploited to deaccession the land. There were no numbers to prove that it was the only site that could have been used. Had that happened, I probably wouldn't have thought seriously about it at all."



BERL SCHWARTZ

Yorko told me during the fight that she intended to vote for the BWL plan, because otherwise the public utility would delay closing the coal-burning Eckert plant. Eckert is scheduled to be closed in 2020, but the BWL cannot close it without the new substation. Were it to miss the 2020 deadline, the BWL contends that necessary upgrades to satisfy the state and federal governments would cost so much that they could only be justified by keeping Eckert open till 2027.

Says McClurken: "Had Jessica looked into this more carefully, she might have reached a different conclusion that would also have allowed Eckert to be closed within a fair time."

But don't expect him to campaign only on Scott Park. He has other issues. One is the rest of Yorko's record.

"She's been in the trenches now for two terms," he says, "and I fail to see that she's really representing the people. A lot of people I've talked to are really dissatisfied with her. She may be progressive in her presentation, but she hasn't really contributed very much to the well-being of the 4th Ward."

Another issue is development. He is skeptical that the tax breaks the Bernero administration has handed out to developers are justified. In his early door knocking, he says he has heard that view from neighbors.

He says he has also heard from residents on the west side about the "non-maintenance of parks," another slam against Bernero.

Regardless of where McClurken stands on issues, he will be competitive because of who he is: a longtime progressive activist with many friends, including politicians.

He and his husband, Sergei Kvitko, frequently open their house to support various causes, including political fundraisers. And since their house is the Potter House, one of the true mansions in the Country Club of Lansing neighborhood, that's a big draw.

Among pols he has helped is Ingham County Drain Commissioner Pat Lindemann, a Yorko supporter — until now.

Lindemann confirmed that he is backing McClurken, "a loyal supporter of all the causes I believe in."

McClurken, 63, came to embrace progressive causes despite growing up on the conservative west side of the state in a family of Dutch farmers. As an undergrad at tiny William James College in the '70s, he co-wrote an oral history book on Native Americans. In the '80s, he earned a Ph.D. in anthropology at MSU, where he fell in love with a professor who left his wife for him. McClurken said he was one of only two openly gay faculty members at MSU in the '80s and the first faculty adviser to the school's gay fraternity.

He is an elder at First Presbyterian

Church in downtown Lansing, where he has been involved in community outreach programs. He also lived for years on the east side. Drugs, delinquency, industrial sprawl: "I'm tuned into those issues," he says.

Yorko, who lives in the less grand Genesee Neighborhood, may try to paint McClurken as an elitist. If so, here's what he will say:

"When I bought this house, I might have been able to claim upper middle class standards, but with the crash of 2008, I live paycheck to paycheck.

"I am self-employed, so I work 50 to 60 hours a week," he adds. "I'm a working guy."

PUBLIC NOTICES

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS EIFERT ROAD FORCE MAIN REPLACEMENT DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Sealed proposals for the construction of the Eifert Road Lift Station Force Main Replacement Project will be received by Delhi Charter Township at the Township Hall located at 2074 Aurelius Road, Holt, Michigan 48842, until 2:00 p.m., Local Time on Thursday, February 9, 2017, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read.

Bidders shall review and comply with the Instructions to Bidders, which are incorporated by reference, and carefully review all Contract Documents, as defined in the Instructions to Bidders. Bids submitted after the exact time specified for, receipt will not be considered.

The Contracts will consist of the following principal items of work and appurtenances as specified herein and shown on the Contract Drawings.

Description of Work

Furnishing and installation of 4,610 L.F. of 10" diameter PVC open cut force main, 1,820 L.F. of 12" diameter HDPE HDD force main, four (4) air release valves and structures along the force main, one (1) carbon canister odor control vessel, two (2) low pressure sewer service connections including road crossings and check/isolation valves in pits, one (1) 10" diameter PVC connection to existing sanitary sewer manhole located in road right-of-way, and associated valves, fittings, restoration, testing and miscellaneous appurtenances.

Plans and Specifications and Bid Proposal Forms are only available online. In order to obtain access to bidding documents, bidders must register by sending an email including the following information to: Bid-20130633@hrcengr.com Company Name; Contact Name; Contact Email; Contact Phone No.; Complete Postal Address. Once the registration information is entered, instructions for site access will then be emailed to the requestor from basecamphq.com or 37signals.com with hyperlinks used to activate a user account on <https://hrcengr.basecamphq.com> where the bidding documents for this project are located.

Plan Rooms, Subcontractors and Suppliers are also required to register, obtain and print their own information using this site. All bidders will be required to register as plan holders. Failure to register may result in the Bidder not being informed of an Addendum, and lack of acknowledgement may result in the bid being rejected as nonresponsive. Registered Bidders shall be responsible for checking the bidding site for addenda prior to the time of receipt of bids.

Questions regarding this project should be addressed to: Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc., 801 Broadway NW, Suite 215; Grand Rapids, MI 49504, via email at: Bid-20130633@hrcengr.com.

A **MANDATORY** pre-bid meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 1:00 pm at the Delhi Charter Township Maintenance Facility, 1492 Aurelius Road, Holt, Michigan 48842.

Proposals submitted by Bidders who have been debarred, suspended, or made ineligible by any Federal Agency will be rejected.

Each bidder agrees to waive any claim it has or may have against the Owner, the Architect/Engineer, and their respective employees, arising out of or in connection with the administration, evaluation, or recommendation of any bid.

Each bid proposal shall be submitted on the proposal forms provided and shall be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond, executed by the bidder and Surety Company, payable to Delhi Charter Township in the amount of Five Percent (5%) of the accompanying bid. Proposal Guarantee shall provide assurance that the bidder will, upon acceptance of the bid, execute the necessary Contract with the Township. No bid may be withdrawn for 90 days after scheduled closing time for receiving bids.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish satisfactory Performance, Labor and Material, and Maintenance and Guarantee Bonds, and Insurance Certificates

Delhi Charter Township reserves the right to reject all bids and to waive irregularities in bidding.

No Proposal will be received unless made on blanks furnished and delivered to the Delhi Charter Township Clerk on or before 2:00 p.m., Local time, February 9, 2017.

DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP

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PROMISE AND PERIL

Lansing considers 'sanctuary city' status as Trump inaugural approaches



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Activists lobbied City Council Monday to make Lansing a "sanctuary city" with local protection for undocumented immigrants.

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Monday night, a group of about 25 activists shrugged off a January cold snap to circle in front of City Hall in support of an idea that goes back to the Old Testament's Book of Numbers.

They want Lansing to be a "sanctuary city."

"Sanctuary" is not a legal term, but it has deep resonance in the immigrant community, especially after the November 2016 election of Donald Trump as president.

During the campaign, Trump promised to deport unspecified millions of undocumented immigrants, potentially uprooting longtime residents and workers and dividing families that have lived in the United States for decades.

Since the election, mayors across the country, from New York's Bill de Blasio to Seattle's Ed Murray, have affirmed their cities' policies limiting local cooperation with federal immigration agents. Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf proclaimed on Nov. 14 that the city would "proudly stand as a sanctuary city — protecting our residents from what we deem unjust federal immigration laws."

Monday's chilly marchers, many of them college students, joined established advocacy groups such as Lansing's Cesar Chavez Committee, which have already lobbied Lansing's City Council to embrace the sanctuary city label.

Guillermo Lopez, a Lansing School

Board member and sanctuary city supporter, said fear is growing in the immigrant community since Trump's election, and it's time to act.



Lopez

"We need Council and the administration to take a stand," Lopez said.

THE WORKLOAD ISSUE

"Sanctuary" meant many things in medieval times, from protection of non-combatants in wartime to shelter for accused criminals, usually in a church.

In the 21st century, sanctuary cities (or counties) protect undocumented immigrants by limiting local cooperation with federal immigration officials. Some big-city mayors, such as Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, have avoided the term as "ill-defined," but others consider it a point of pride and a signal of welcome to immigrants and refugees.

In most sanctuary cities, police making a routine traffic stop or investigating a crime don't ask about a person's immigration status, nor do they notify Immigration and Customs Enforcement, better known as ICE, when an undocumented immigrant is about to be released from custody. In many cases, police in sanctuary cities will not

honor a "detainer" from ICE asking jailers to hold a released prisoner for another 48 hours, unless the feds hand down a warrant or a court order.

Opponents say sanctuary city policies create havens for potential criminals. Supporters counter that such policies improve public safety, because they encourage people to report crimes and talk to the police without fear of being deported.

No one knows exactly how many undocumented immigrants live in the Lansing area. In 2012, Michigan had an estimated 120,000 undocumented immigrants, about 1.2 percent of the state's population and 1.6 percent of its labor force, according to a November 2014 study by the Pew Hispanic Center. The same study estimated that 1.9 percent of Michigan students have undocumented immigrant parents.

Lopez said he has no idea how many children of undocumented parents are enrolled in Lansing schools.

"We don't ask," he said. "It's not even part of the enrollment process."

Depending on who is doing the counting, and by which criteria, anywhere from about 40 to 300 sanctuary cities already exist in the United States.

Many cities, including Lansing, already follow policies that shield undocumented immigrants from inquiry about their status. But they often do so quietly, without City Council resolutions or may-

oral proclamations.

In Michigan, Ann Arbor and Detroit are widely considered sanctuary cities, although both cities selectively cooperate with ICE.

Lansing Police Chief Michael Yankowski said in an email Monday that Lansing police will continue to work with federal authorities "when requested to facilitate the apprehension of violent felons, regardless of their immigration status," but police "will not be engaging in law enforcement activities solely based on somebody's immigration status."

Without referring directly to Inauguration Day, Yankowski used future tense when he said Lansing "will not be conducting sweeps that seek to find and deport undocumented immigrants."

Speaking at public events such as the Nehemiah Public Assemblies held by Action of Greater Lansing, Yankowski has said that LPD does not, and will not, require or consider immigration status during routine traffic stops. Lansing officers are trained to accept the Matrícula Consular, or the Mexican Consular Identification Card, as an ac-



Yankowski

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ceptable form of identification.

Ingham County Sheriff Scott Wriggelsworth talked about immigration enforcement more as a workload issue than as a question of principle.



Wriggelsworth

"I'm guessing this is a topic now because of the next president," he volunteered.

Detaining more people at the request of ICE, Wriggelsworth said, would amount to "asking more help from locals to do ICE work." He said his office has no written policy on how much to cooperate with the feds.

"There's certainly an agreement that ICE, sheriff's offices, local law enforcement — we're all on the same team," Wriggelsworth said.

He expects his office to go on cooperating with ICE, but he didn't rule out a change in policy if Trump ramps up deportations.

"After the new president takes office, if we start to get inundated with federal law enforcement requests (in) reference (to) ICE investigation, deportees and that kind of stuff, then we would have to sit as a command staff here and figure out where we go from there," Wriggelsworth said. "If we were doing that full time, we would not be doing what we're tasked here to do by the state Constitution, which is enforcing state law and housing state prisoners."

THE FEAR ISSUE

Donald Trump's election has raised the temperature in Lansing's immigrant community.

"I know a lot of families who are illegal, who are living in the city, and they are scared," Lansing construction worker Jaime Esquivel said. "If they go on the street, something is going to happen. They don't want to be arrested, because most of them have kids."

Esquivel, a member of the pro-sanctuary group Action of Greater Lansing, has lived in Lansing since 1992. He came to the U.S. with a work visa, but it expired before 2009, when he was arrested at the Canadian border for an immigration violation. He was working on the new entrance plaza to the Ambassador Bridge, got on the wrong exit and accidentally ended up at the checkpoint.

Esquivel got another work permit, but he's still fighting deportation. His next hearing is scheduled for late 2019.

He has a 19-year-old son and two 12-year-old daughters.

"I want to continue providing for them," he said. "Every day I am with fear. The prosecutor, he is watching me, to be sure that I am behaving (until) he can put his hands on me and remove me from the country, and I

don't want to leave. I've been in this country for more than half of my life."

Last month, Guillermo Lopez, on behalf of Lansing's Cesar Chavez Committee, sent a proposed sanctuary city resolution to the City Council. The resolution was first sent to the Council in 2009 but never acted upon.

Parts of the resolution read like a time capsule from different times. It calls on ICE to put a moratorium on enforcement actions until comprehensive immigration reform is passed by the U.S. Congress "so that the debate can be carried out in good faith rather than against a backdrop of fear, repression and intimidation."

The chances of that happening were slim in 2009 and slimmer in Trump's America.

"Children go to our schools, graduate, even go on to college, and ICE finds out they're here," Lopez said. "I know of situations where a parent has been separated from a family and the family struggles. The breadwinner is gone, and it's inhumane."

Seth Kalis, one of the activists who demonstrated at City Hall Monday, noted that President Barack Obama has already deported more people than any president in U.S. history.

"This apparatus is in place for these mass deportations, and turning that over to someone who has made it a political promise — it's one of the easiest things he can do to make his supporters happy," Kalis said. "I'm worried that we're going to see people taken out of their homes, MSU students being kicked out of their apartments."

THE SAFETY ISSUE

In his acceptance speech at the Republican National Convention, Donald Trump said illegal immigrant families "are being released by the tens of thousands into our communities with no regard for the impact on public safety or resources."

"My opponent wants sanctuary cities," Trump said. "But where was sanctuary for Kate Steinle?"

Steinle's fatal shooting in San Francisco, on July 1, 2015, is frequently invoked by Trump and other sanctuary city opponents. Steinle's alleged killer, Juan Francisco Lopez-Sanchez, is an undocumented immigrant who has been deported from the United States five times.

That April, Lopez had been freed from a San Francisco jail, where he was held on a marijuana charge. Federal immigration officials asked for notice of Lopez-Sanchez's release, but San Francisco's sheriff, in keeping with that city's sanctuary city policy, did not give any, according to The New York Times. A 2013 San Francisco ordinance restricts police from cooperating with federal immigration agents without a court order or a warrant.

"We will end the sanctuary cities that have resulted in so many needless deaths," Trump said. "(They) will not receive taxpayer dollars."

Sanctuary city supporters counter that non-immigration offenses will still be prosecuted and punished. The idea that a per-

son is more likely to commit a crime solely because of immigration status is repugnant to them. What is more, Lopez said a sanctuary resolution would buttress community policing efforts, build trust between cops and residents and help "people who are undocumented feel free to report a crime against them or their family."

Even the Police Chief's Guide to Immigration Issues, issued by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, warned in 2007 that "immigration enforcement by state and local police could have a chilling effect in immigrant communities and could limit cooperation with police by members of those communities."

THE MONEY ISSUE

Big-city mayors like de Blasio and Chicago's Rahm Emanuel have publicly doubted that the Trump administration will follow through on its threat to pull federal funding from sanctuary cities, because there are so many of them and the administration has "bigger fish to fry," in Emanuel's words.

Court challenges may also complicate any crackdown on sanctuary policies. In October, a federal judge in Illinois ruled it unconstitutional for ICE to ask local police to detain suspected illegal immigrants on that suspicion alone. The ruling has been appealed, but similar challenges are likely, especially if Trump orders large-scale deportations.

Nevertheless, Trump and his newly named White House chief of staff, Reince Priebus, have repeatedly threatened to cut off funding for sanctuary cities.

In July 2015, Michigan Sen. Majority Leader Mike Kowall, R-White Lake, introduced a bill to bar local units of government

from enacting or enforcing sanctuary city laws. That bill will be picked up during the new session, a spokesman for Kowall said Monday.



Kowall

Lansing would lose about 3 percent of its nearly \$200 million annual budget if Trump follows through

on his threat. Lansing Finance Director Angela Bennett said the city receives about \$6.5 million in federal grants annually, about \$1.7 million of which comes from the Homeland Security and Justice departments.

On "City Pulse Newsmakers" last week, Sarah Anthony, chair of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners, said the county got 7.4 percent of its budget from the federal government in 2016, including a refugee medical assistance program of about \$400,000 she called "vulnerable" because of anti-immigrant rhetoric from Trump and his supporters.

Councilwoman Carol Wood said the federal share of Lansing's budget is "very comparable" to Ingham County's percentage.



Wood

"Community Development Block Grant dollars work with our most vulnerable populations, from emergency shelters to programs for rehabbing homes and things like that," Wood

said. She also cited Justice Department

See Sanctuary, Page 10

PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN CIRCUIT COURT COUNTY OF INGHAM	PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING	FILE NO. 16-493-CZ									
<p>In the case entitled <u>City of Lansing v Whalen re: Holdings of Lansing d/b/a Life O'Riley and Approximately 80 Mobile Home Units Located at 6726 S. Washington Ave, Lansing, MI 48911; Ingham County Circuit Court File #16-493-CZ</u></p> <p>TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, including;</p> <p>Any and all owners of one or more mobile home units located at 6726 S. Washington Ave, Lansing, MI 48911</p> <p>Whose addresses are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be affected by the following:</p> <p>An order of abatement or demolition;</p> <p>TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on January 18, 2017 at 2:15 p.m. at Ingham County Circuit Court, 303 W. Kalamazoo St, Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Clinton Canady III for the following purpose:</p> <p>To allow any and all potential affected owners of one or more mobile home units located at 6726 S. Washington Ave, Lansing MI 48911 to show cause as to why the unit, being a dangerous and unsafe building or structure, should not be abated by demolition.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">December 27, 2016 Date</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;"><u>James D. Smiertka</u> Attorney name</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;"><u>P20608</u> Bar no.</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;"><u>City of Lansing</u> Petitioner name</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><u>124 W. Michigan Ave, 5th floor</u> Address</td> <td style="border: none;"><u>124 W. Michigan Ave, 5th floor</u> Address</td> <td style="border: none;"><u>Lansing, MI 48933 (517)483-4200</u> City, state, zip Telephone no.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"><u>Lansing, MI 48933 (517)483-4200</u> City, state, zip Telephone no.</td> <td style="border: none;"><u>Lansing, MI 48933 (517)483-4200</u> City, state, zip Telephone no.</td> <td style="border: none;"><u>Lansing, MI 48933 (517)483-4200</u> City, state, zip Telephone no.</td> </tr> </table>			<u>James D. Smiertka</u> Attorney name	<u>P20608</u> Bar no.	<u>City of Lansing</u> Petitioner name	<u>124 W. Michigan Ave, 5th floor</u> Address	<u>124 W. Michigan Ave, 5th floor</u> Address	<u>Lansing, MI 48933 (517)483-4200</u> City, state, zip Telephone no.	<u>Lansing, MI 48933 (517)483-4200</u> City, state, zip Telephone no.	<u>Lansing, MI 48933 (517)483-4200</u> City, state, zip Telephone no.	<u>Lansing, MI 48933 (517)483-4200</u> City, state, zip Telephone no.
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SANCTUARY

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grants for emergency management and federal transportation money, which is not part of the city's general fund but has a significant impact on roads.

"Is it our entire budget? No," Wood said. "Would it impact services? Yes, it would."

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Jim DeLine, former budget control supervisor of the LPD and internal auditor for the Lansing City Council, said Lansing's share of federal dollars is "much smaller" than that of Ingham County.

"All I can think of are grants, which would be very hard to renege on," DeLine said.

Lansing gets most of its funding from income tax and property tax, neither of which are available to Ingham County, DeLine said.

Lopez said he's talked with city officials who expressed worry about losing federal money, but that shouldn't deter the administration from doing what he considers to be the right thing.

"The fear factor is something Trump has done very well," Lopez said. "Lansing is such a multi-ethnic community, with a long history of welcoming all kinds of people. We should put people ahead of money."

THE LEGAL ISSUE

The sanctuary city resolution Lopez submitted to the Lansing City Council last month is the same one submitted in February 2009 by No Human Being is Illegal Network. City Attorney James Smiertka said Monday his office is still working on a "legal review."

Wood said the Council asked for the review, in part, because of "some of the ramifications of some of the rhetoric we were hearing out there because of funding."

Wood said Smiertka took a "brief look" at the resolution in 2015, and "a couple of things jumped out — a couple of paragraphs dealing with things you refuse to do that's part of federal law."

The draft language is specific. It would bar local officials from "assisting or voluntarily cooperating with investigation or arrest procedures, public or clandestine, relating to alleged violations of immigration laws." It would also bar local officials from cooperating with ICE "to perform

immigration law enforcement functions to identify, process and detain immigration offenders they encounter during their regular, daily, law-enforcement activity."

Such provisions are the meat of the resolution, but they are also a source of "concern" for Wood.

"If we're ordering an employee not to do something, and there are suits or charges brought by the federal government — there are complex issues in there," Wood said.

For 4th Ward Councilwoman Jessica Yoriko, a January 2015 incident at Lansing's 54-A District Court at City Hall put the prospect of local ICE raids into sharp focus.



Yoriko

Carmen Benavides, wife of former Lansing mayor Tony Benavides, accompanied her neighbor, Argimiro Hernandez-Garcia, to Lansing's 54-A District Court at City Hall, where he was going to pay a parking ticket. Without notifying court officials or City Hall, ICE agents slipped out of an elevator, asked Benavides to identify Hernandez-Garcia and began "screaming at his face from 3 inches away," as Benavides recalled. "Then they started screaming at me," she said. The agents arrested Hernandez-Garcia for alleged immigration violations.

"I was in shock, with tears in my eyes," Benavides said. "How dare they come and treat us this way?" Even as a middle school principal for 14 years, she had never seen "drama" like this.

In early 2015, Benavides asked the City Council to look into a sanctuary city resolution. A'Lynne Boles was president of the Council at the time (and a former student of Benavides' at Otto Middle School). Benavides said she was moved to contact the Council after watching a TV documentary on the Holocaust.

"It happened because nobody spoke up," she said.

Boles formed an Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion and put the

sanctuary city resolution on the Council's agenda, according to Yoriko, who sat on the committee for its first year.

"The charge of that committee was to explore and put forward a resolution on sanctuary cities," Yoriko said.

"That's why the committee was formed."

Since then, Lansing has taken other steps to distance itself from the anti-immigrant feeling expressed by many Americans. On Dec. 14, 2015, Lansing declared itself a "welcoming city" for refugees and immigrants, days after Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder asked for a "hold" on accepting refugees, reacting in part to terrorist attacks in Paris in November. The resolution, Yoriko said, "was meant to be a counterpoint to the xenophobia that was bubbling up."

But the term of the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion lapsed at the end of 2016 without action on the sanctuary city resolution.

At Monday's Council meeting, Wood said, a memo was drafted to be sent to "whoever the next president of Council is," asking that the Sanctuary City resolution be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Lopez said the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion will continue to meet informally, as the Advocacy Committee on Diversity, and act in an advisory role to Council.

"The draft can change," Lopez said. "Some areas might not have been feasible, but we need to know what those were."

Wood said it will be up to the next Council president, whoever that is, to go over Smiertka's legal review and decide what happens next.

Meanwhile, Yoriko said that if ICE again takes enforcement action in Lansing, she at least wants the agency to work with local officials.

"We have conference rooms," Yoriko said. "We have a police station. We don't want you coming and terrorizing our community."

"I cherish the advantage of living with so many different kinds of people," Benavides said. "I've had many dinners in the Polish Hall. Are you going to send immigration in there?"

CityPULSE NEWSMAKERS
HOSTED BY BERL SCHWARTZ

JIM MCCLURKEN
Candidate for Lansing City Council

SCOTT WRIGGELSWORTH
Ingham County Sheriff

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ARTS & CULTURE

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By **TY FORQUER**

When local comedian Emily Syrja didn't see the opportunities she wanted in the local comedy scene, she decided to create her own. Syrja started hosting pop-up comedy shows at her house to create a venue for comics, especially female comics, who were struggling to find a place in the local open mic scene.

"When I started inviting people to my house shows, it was because I wasn't getting booked," Syrja said. "I wanted to know if there were other women not getting booked. I wanted to set up a structure that would give us some space."

Two years later, those house shows have evolved into Comedy Coven, a trio of female comedians who host a monthly comedy show at the Robin Theatre. Syrja, 26, Tricia Chamberlain, 29, and Stephanie Onderchanin, 25, present a new show each month, featuring a

mix of local and regional standup acts, sketch comedy and improv. This month, the trio kicks off two new ventures: Comedy Coven Presents, a monthly showcase for national comedians, and a Comedy Skills Workshop.

In late 2014, Syrja and Onderchanin had already been working together on a blog but were phasing it out to focus on standup comedy. The duo was already frustrated with the local open mic scene.

"We didn't have control. You had to beg for stage time," Onderchanin

Comedy Coven Presents: Jamie Loftus

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\$10
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Lansing
(517) 484-6795, macsbar.com

Comedy Coven XXII: Witchdrawal

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\$7 adv./\$10 at the door (if available)
The Robin Theatre
1105 S. Washington Ave.,
Lansing
therobintheatre.com

Comedy Skills Workshop

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6:30-8 p.m. Thursdays
\$5-10 suggested donation
Allen Neighborhood Center
1611 E. Kalamazoo St.,
Lansing
comedycoven.com/classes

comedycoven.com

said.

"And you're expected to be very grateful for stage time in a way that was kind of patronizing," Syrja added.

There seemed to be no encouragement to be creative or experiment, so Onderchanin and Syrja decided to build a show of their own. The duo met Tricia Chamberlain at an open mic night at the Green Door.

"I was very intimidated by Stephanie and Emily," Chamberlain said. "I was like, 'Oh, these are the cool girls of comedy.' They were

Toil and trouble

Comedy trio branches out to host national comedians, offer workshops



Photo by Marites Grace

Comedy Coven (left to right: Emily Syrja, Tricia Chamberlain and Stephanie Onderchanin) hosts a monthly comedy show at the Robin Theatre. This month, the group also hosts a national comedian and kicks off a comedy skills workshop.

super cool and I was frickin' scared."

Through a mutual friend, they ended up having dinner together. The trio, in Syrja's words, started "scheming together almost immediately." The group hosted its first pop-up show at Syrja's house in February 2015.

"We did stuff at Emily's house, and then we did shows where I work, the Allen Market Place," Onderchanin said. "It worked, but it wasn't a perfect fit. It's basically a warehouse."

In the summer of 2015, a friend told them about a new venue opening in REO Town. They connected with Dylan Rogers and Jenna-Dee Allan, the husband-and-wife team who were turning a 1917 storefront into an Art Deco-influenced theater. Comedy Coven hosted its first show in the Robin Theatre in August, shortly after it opened.

"We were one of the first acts to come into the Robin Theatre," Chamberlain said.

They've been with the Robin ever since. The Coven found that Rogers and Allan understood them better than a more conventional comedy booker or promoter would.

"They're artists, and we're artists too," Syrja said. "I think our approach to comedy is pretty unconventional, and their approach

to booking and running a theater is unconventional."

The trio's monthly show regularly sells out the 90-seat Robin Theatre. The intimacy of the small theater space is a huge asset for Comedy Coven, which highly values audience interaction.

"The comedy climate is changing. You can access anything you want to see on the Internet," Chamberlain said. "That's what makes our show different. When someone takes the microphone at our show, we want the audience and the comedian to have a real connection. Instead of staying home and watching YouTube videos, this is a real thing they can be a part of."

"Because you can get anything on demand, the content you are consuming is customized to you," Onderchanin added. "Our audience doesn't like the bland, comedy club-style stuff. They want people who are weird and have different viewpoints."

In their standup comedy and their sketches, the ladies of Comedy Coven don't shy away from difficult topics.

"There are so many of us who experience mental illness or abuse or trauma, and so many of us are afraid to talk about that kind

of stuff," Chamberlain said. "We create this barrier between each other, and those barriers are responsible for so many of the shitty things in society."

The trio hopes that addressing topics like mental illness through comedy helps their audience deal with traumatic experiences.

"To have a platform to say 'I'm not afraid to tell you I've gone through this' is hopefully allowing people to see that they're not the only person this has happened to," Chamberlain said. "I have anxiety or bipolar disorder, and this is OK, because other people have it. If we didn't have the stigma associated with those labels, we could talk with each other and find common ground and find support in our struggles."

This month, the group is leveraging the popularity of its show to launch a monthly showcase for national comedians.

"What we've been trying to do for a while, and we're finally doing it, is branching out to create Comedy Coven Presents and bring in national acts that are funny and that people in Lansing will love," Chamberlain said.

The series kicks off Sunday at Mac's Bar with Jamie Loftus, a Boston-based comedian and writer whose work has appeared in the New Yorker, Paste and Playboy Magazine. Next month, the series continues at the Robin Theatre with Krish Moran, a self-described "socially conscious Indian standup comedian."

"One thing that's made our show successful is that we're able to help people discover something," Syrja said. "We have a really supportive audience, and we have a good sense of what is accessible to them and what they like."

The group also launches its first Comedy Skills Workshop next week. The six-week program covers topics like comedy writing, promotion and self-confidence.

"This is something I wanted to do as soon as our show started taking off," Syrja said. "I want to see the pool of comedians in Lansing get more diverse — not just in terms of demographics, but in style and formats. I want to see a really vivid scene."

The goal, Syrja explained, is to create an entry point for aspiring comedians who are intimidated by the open mic process.

"The way it's set up now, you have to know somebody to get into comedy," she said. "We have an audience that feels like they know us, and I'm happy to be that gateway."

January 26 - February 26, 2017

WORLD PREMIERE

A Painted Window

By Christy Hall

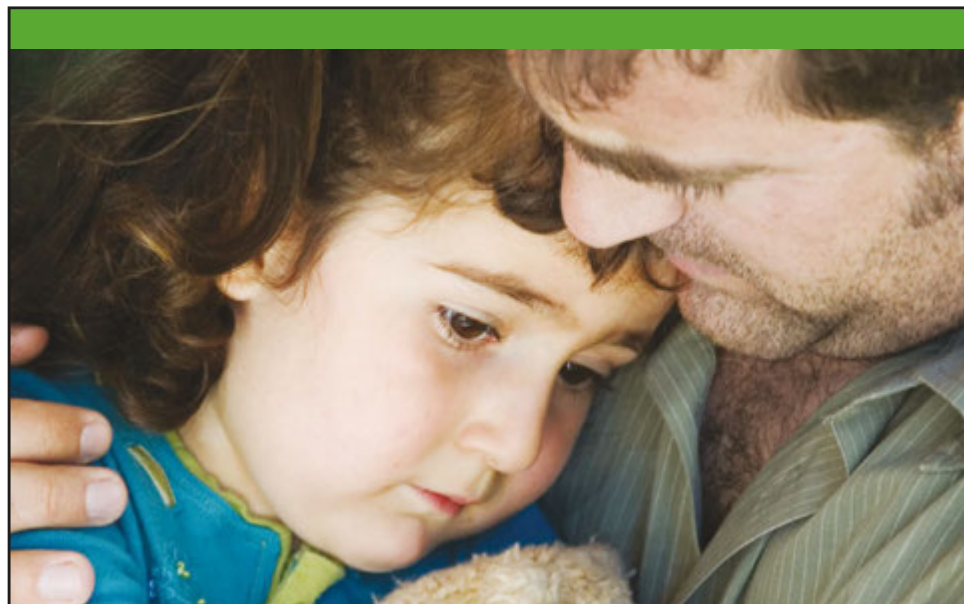
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Featuring: Ruth Crawford
Dominique Lowell, Lynch Travis

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The Eagle has landed

Open Mike Eagle talks quirky titles, writing process and getting started in hip hop

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Innovative rapper Open Mike Eagle, real name Michael Eagle, began his career in the mid-'90s in Chicago, where he developed a punchline style consistent with the region and era. But by 18, he had moved to Los Angeles, where an entirely different, cadence-oriented style of rap was thriving. After years

Open Mike Eagle

With James Gardin and Red Pill
6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13
\$15/\$13 adv.
Mac's Bar
2700 E. Michigan Ave.,
Lansing
(517) 484-6795,
macsbar.com

of creating music as a soloist and with his alternative hip-hop trio, Thirsty Fish, Eagle released his offbeat debut solo album, "Unapologetic Art Rap," in 2010

Last year Eagle, 36, released his fourth full-length album, "Hella Personal Film Festival." His Winter Sweater Tour brings Eagle back to the Midwest for a string of three shows, including Friday at Mac's Bar with local openers James Gardin and Red Pill. Eagle talked with City Pulse by phone from Los Angeles about his style and origins.

You're really brave coming to Michigan and braving the cold weather.

Also known as dumb (laughs).

You often couple humor with serious topics in your lyrics. Is this a style you've always gravitated toward?

I wouldn't say always, no. When I started doing solo work and galvanizing my solo career, I started to lead with more humor, in terms what it was I wanted to say, because I didn't want to just continue "I rap better than other people" kind of rap. That kind of got stale. Where I chose to go was to lean on the things that tickled me, so I would incorporate more humor at that point.

Speaking of that style, tell me about the track "Split Pants in Detroit (Or Hyrule)." Is that a true story?

I tried to hop up on stage, and my pants exploded. I think I only had one pair of pants, because I was only there for the weekend, and I had to go to my car and drive to Target and find a new pair of pants, with them half on. It was a harrowing experience.

Where did your name come from?

On college campuses, I was always known for hosting open mics and rapping at open mics, so they called me Open Mike. When I first started putting out work, that was my name. But it came to my attention that there were a couple of other Open Mikes, so to differentiate, I just added my last name.

Can you remember your first time rapping?

My first time rapping was in the back of



Photo by Andy J. Scott

Rapper Open Mike Eagle brings his unique brand of hip hop to the Loft Friday.

Kentucky Fried Chicken in high school in 1996. Me and my buddy, we were first getting into the hip-hop arts. There was this place in Chicago called 'the Point' where people would come together and cypher, stand in a circle and rap, and we would just be standing there amazed but also secretly really wanting to do it. One day after doing it, we went to this restaurant and stood in the back of it and forced each other to rap.

What's your creative process like? How do you get titles like "A Short Story About a Guy That Dies Every Night" and "Raps for When it's Just You and the Abyss?"

I have a weird process with titling. Artists like They Might Be Giants, Frank Zappa, those kind of artists that tend to have a lot of political satire or have a lot of levels of different meaning in their music, have definitely affected how I title my work.

I'll write a song, and the song will have a demo title for months. When it's time for me to really give it a title, I try to understand the most explicit thread, why I put these words together in this way, and that reveals itself to me, because I'm not always consciously aware of that.

Do you get inspired by daily events?

Yeah, I try to get the most that I can, like a simple concept. The easiest way to mine my brain and mine for content is to catch an idea and then stretch it out to whatever conclusions, as far as it will go. I've gotten a lot of robust songs that way, and I've written a lot of really bad songs that way, too.

Do you turn to music when you're stressed or anxious?

I don't turn to music — I'm always doing music, in my head or wherever. I'm always thinking of something. When something goes well, it is the ultimate release.

Cubicle to comedy

Erik Griffin talks 'Workaholics,' life on the road and new project

By TY FORQUER

Comedian Erik Griffin is best known as recurring "Workaholics" character Montez Walker, the hyper-competitive office worker who shares too much detail about his sex life. The Comedy Central hit, largely written by stars Blake Anderson, Adam DeVine and Anders Holm and co-creator Kyle Newacheck, follows three telemarketers who refuse to give up their college habits of partying, smoking weed and chasing girls. Its seventh and final season begins airing tonight.

Old Town Comedy Showcase, run by local comic Aaron Putnam, hosts Griffin at the Loft Saturday night. City Pulse talked to the comedian about "Workaholics" and the next steps in his career.

How did you get started in standup comedy?

In 2003, I was at a job I didn't want to be at, and I took the plunge, started going to open mics. It took me a year or so to get some paid gigs. Then I got on the "Payaso Comedy Slam" on Showtime, and then I got on "Live at Gotham," where I got an agent. And then a couple years later I auditioned for "Workaholics," and here I am.

Did you know the "Workaholics" guys before you auditioned?

I had briefly met Adam (DeVine). I'd seen him at the clubs doing standup, but I didn't know what was going on with the show. I actually saw him at the audition; I thought he was trying to be an intern or something. I didn't even know that it was his show.

Erik Griffin

Saturday, Jan. 14
6 p.m. with Mike Stanley and Kyle Forsyth
9 p.m. with Nick Leydorf, Aaron Putnam and Louis Michael
\$20/\$15 students
The Loft
414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 931-0103,
theloftlansing.com

The show feels pretty loose. How much do you improvise on set?

It's mostly scripted. They even script the improv — they

have a bunch of alternate lines and stuff like that. They work hard on the show. People think that it's a lot of improv, but that would be awful. It usually is. There's a myth out there; people think that improv is so great. It's usually pretty bad.

Most of the characters have names that are similar to the actors' names. Why isn't your character named Erik?

I know, right? Apparently there's a real Montez out there, someone that Anders knew. So the character's based off of a real person, some crazy person. I never got a



Courtesy Photo

Erik Griffin, who plays Montez on Comedy Central's "Workaholics," brings his standup comedy show to the Loft Friday.

chance to meet the real Montez.

Do think maybe he'll come to one of your shows?

From what I hear, I don't know if I want that. Who knows though? I always think somebody's going to walk up to me

someday talking about, "Man, you tryin' to be me!"

What do you for fun when you're on the road?

I just did something great. I bought one of these portable video game systems. It has a monitor, so I can bring my Xbox with me. I'm kind of a nerd.

I like to go to movies and things like that, but when I come to a place like Lansing, I'm only going to be there for a night, so I don't get a chance to get out and explore the city.

If I'm on the road for a week and I rent a car, maybe I'll go out and explore — maybe this town has the biggest yarn ball in the world. I like that kind of stuff.

But I'm pretty low key. I just rest and write in my room, watch movies, play video games. I'm a pretty simple dude.

So what's next for you now that "Workaholics" is wrapping up?

I'm going to be on a new show on Showtime called "I'm Dying Up Here." That's coming to Showtime sometime this year. It's got a lot of buzz. It's an hour-long comedy — more like a dramedy, really — about the comedy scene in the '70s, and it's produced by Jim Carrey. The characters on the show are fictionalized, but they interact with the real world of the 1970s, like Elayne Boosler, Richard Pryor, that sort of thing. That's the next phase of my career.

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CURTAIN CALL

Just 'Beautiful'

Carole King musical will make you feel like a natural person

By PAUL WOZNAK

Behind every great song is a great songwriter. "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" highlights one such songwriter and the inspiring true story of her successful transition from anonymity to stardom.

Review

In terms of story, "Beautiful" is a formulaic bio-musical in the mold of "Jersey Boys," complete with personal drama and lucky breaks. But the rich

characters and timeless music are precisely calibrated for maximum feel-good vibes.

The book by Douglas McGrath tracks the beginning of King's songwriting career, from a precocious 16-year-old co-writing songs for pop groups to the recording of King's breakout hit album, "Tapestry." The plethora of songs — particularly in the first act — serve to carry the story but also demonstrate the caliber and quantity of King's songwriting output.

Julia Knitel stars as King, combining an affable nerdiness and quiet courage in her thin frame. Far from imitation, Knitel channels King's spirit, from her somewhat mousy demeanor to her strong, folksy singing voice

"Beautiful: The Carole King Musical"

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11-Thursday, Jan. 12; 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14; 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 15
Tickets start at \$41
Wharton Center
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing
(517) 432-2000,
whartoncenter.com

layered with a lifetime of pain and joy. Her voice reaches to the back of the auditorium, particularly when embracing King's solo songs like "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman".

King's writing partner and first husband, Gerry Goffin, is played by

Liam Tobin with power and grace. Tobin and Knitel both complete and disarm each other, particularly at the beginning when Goffin underestimates King's potential.

Knitel and Tobin are supported by Ben Fankhauser and Erika Olson as the songwriting duo Barry Mann and Cynthia Weil, respectively. Weil's Broadway diva spirit and Mann's neurotic Jewishness could be broad caricatures, but Fankhauser and Olson make their roles fully fleshed characters.

The show's first act revolves around King, Goffin, Mann and Weil racing each other to write hit songs for music producer Don Kirshner (Curt Bouril), who turns them into hits with the help of pop groups like

the Shirelles, the Drifters and the Righteous Brothers. There are too many ensemble actors to name, suffice to say these music performances are a definite highlight. Dressed in shimmering dresses and suits from costume designer Alejo Vietti with slick, evocative dance moves from choreographer Josh Prince, the ensemble cast turns the theater into a time machine — all framed by scenic designer Derek McLane's mid-century modern set — with powerful voices to match.

As much as "Beautiful" is a jukebox musical, it's a showcase for King's writing prowess. One of the best scenes is a performance of "Will You Love Me Tomorrow." Before the Shirelles convert the song into the sha-na-na doo-wop classic, King (Knitel) performs it as a slow piano ballad. Sung in King's distinct, nasal Brooklyn voice, you start to see the genius behind the curtain.

If "Beautiful" was just a sing-a-long musical minus the story, it would still sell tickets. The first act alone is an avalanche of feel good hits such as "On Broadway," "The Locomotion" and "You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling." But the story and setup for each song — mixed with lots of humor — hits the right chord in your heart, making the show resonate as much as King's songs. "Beautiful" might just make the earth move under your feet.

"Love has within it a redemptive power... a power that eventually transforms individuals."
— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Shaka Senghor Writing My Wrongs

Growing up in the gravitational pull of poverty, violence and hopelessness, he was convicted of murder at age 17. His inspiring story of forgiveness and redemption was featured on Oprah's Super Soul Sunday—now experience it for yourself.

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Martin Luther King Jr. Day Events Guide

SUNDAY, JAN. 15 >> JAZZ: SPIRITUALS, PRAYER AND PROTEST

MSU's Jazz Studies program celebrates the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. with a pair of concerts featuring MSU's student jazz octets, as well as jazz faculty and special guests. "It's so important to bring to light issues that matter through a language that everyone understands: music," said Rodney Whitaker, director of Jazz Studies. "This annual celebration of King reminds us about what is really important in this life." 3 and 7 p.m. FREE. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, music.msu.edu

MONDAY, JAN. 16 >> LANSING MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY LUNCHEON

The Greater Lansing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission hosts author and activist Myrlie Evers-Williams for its annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Luncheon. Evers-Williams, the widow of civil rights pioneer Medgar Evers, was the first woman to head the NAACP and is founder of the Medgar Evers Institute. 11 a.m. \$40/\$320 for table of eight. The Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-7637, lansingmi.gov/942/mlk-jr-holiday-commission.

MONDAY, JAN. 16 >> QUILTED CONVERSATIONS: MATERIALIZING CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The MSU Museum opens a new exhibit

Monday in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. "Quilted Conversations: Materializing Civil and Human Rights" features 16 quilts from the museum's collection. "Quilt artists are uprooting traditional connotations of what a quilt is to make powerful statements about civil and human rights. We hope that viewing and reflecting on the quilts will prompt visitors to share and discuss—leading to 'quilted conversations,'" explains Mary Worrall, MSU Museum curator of cultural heritage, who organized the exhibition along with the MSU Museum's Dr. Aleia Brown. The opening reception kicks off at 4 p.m.; the exhibit is on display through July 9. 4 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum, 409 West Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 355-2370, museum.msu.edu.

MONDAY, JAN. 16 >> THE ART OF NONCONFORMITY: DISSENT AND CIVIL DISCOURSE

MSU's Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives offers a full day of events centered around the theme of dissent and civil discourse. Activities include a student leadership conference, a commemorative march and community service projects. Call or see website for times and locations; all events are FREE, but some require pre-registration. (517) 353-4563, inclusion.msu.edu.

MONDAY, JAN. 16 >> DAY OF SERVICE AT FENNER NATURE CENTER

Fenner Nature Center and Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council team up to offer a day of environment-focused service projects, including trail clearing and habitat work. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mt. Hope Road, Lansing. (517) 483-4224, mynaturecenter.org.

They shared a bear

Sarah Chang and Andrew von Oeyen bring star power to Prague Philharmonia tour

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

The rare pairing of two major soloists on the Prague Philharmonia's Jan. 18 concert at the Wharton Center makes you wonder: Have the classical poobahs resorted to

Prague Philharmonia

With Sarah Chang, violin, and Andrew von Oeyen, piano

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18

Tickets start at \$22/\$18 students

Wharton Center
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing
(517) 432-2000,
whartoncenter.com

throwing multiple stars on the same bill to rake in extra bucks, à la "Batman v Superman"?

Judging by the way the night's star attraction, violinist Sarah Chang, gushes about her colleagues, no unseemly battles are in the offing. This 10-stop tour is more like a love fest.

Chang and the tour's other featured soloist, Paris-based pianist Andrew von Oeyen, are old friends going back to their days at the Juilliard School. They have even eaten bear meat together.

"We've done several recital tours together and we have a blast," Chang said. "I'm looking forward to this tour, because it's not just work."

Chang will play Antonín Dvorák's epic violin concerto, one of the biggest and grandest in the repertoire, while von Oeyen tears into Felix Mendelssohn's live-wire, razzle-dazzle piano concerto. The conductor, Emmanuel Villaume, has worked with both artists (and is a "riot" to hang out with, according to Chang).

Chang credits von Oeyen with pulling her off the airport-to-concert hall-to-hotel room hamster wheel touring musicians easily fall into. On a recent stop in Moscow, von Oeyen coaxed her out of her hotel room into the Russian winter.

"It was so cold, it was painful to go outside," Chang said. "The wind was excruciating."

He dragged her to a restaurant where they served bear meat.

"You're in Russia, you gotta do it," he told her.

(It's earthy, tangy, and reminiscent of yak, according to Holly Heyser of *The Atlantic* magazine.)

"I would have ordered room service, but he goes out there and tries new things," Chang said.

After marinating in high culture on the stage, Chang prefers to chill out with a Hollywood blockbuster like "Iron Man 2" when she gets the chance — but not von Oeyen.

"He'd take me to French movies with subtitles," Chang said. "He encourages you to think harder, and he's just such a cool friend to have."

One night, after an exhausting day of rehearsing, having seen quite a bit of von Oeyen already, Chang went back to the hotel room and saw that "The Shawshank Re-



Left: Photo courtesy of EMI Right: Courtesy photo

Violinist Sarah Chang (left) and Andrew von Oeyen, piano, supply the star power for the Prague Philharmonia's visit to the Wharton Center next week.

demption" was on TV.

"We both love this movie," Chang said. They got back together and watched it. "You end up spending more time together, because he's such great company."

Chang, 36, has come a long way since her early years as a famous, if not notorious, child prodigy. She auditioned at Juilliard at age 6, performing the Max Bruch concerto.

By the time she made her symphonic debut at age 10, critics were ready to pounce on the next insufferable child virtuoso, but they had to swallow their bile. Chang had more than technique — a luminous tone like the purple edge of a cloudbank at sunset. As the years passed, she wove that tone into darker and deeper tapestries, drawing the audience closer along the way.

In recent years, Chang has opened a new chapter in her career, traveling to Serbia, the Ukraine and South Africa as an artistic ambassador, designated by the U.S. State Department.

"Not everything we do as soloists is in a beautiful, glossy hall with crystal chandeliers and velvet seats," she said. Chang visits rural schools in backwater towns, plays for kids and answers their questions.

"I firmly believe that music in any form has a healing effect," Chang said. "The first time I deeply felt this was when I went to North Korea."

In 2010, Chang played a momentous concert in Pyongyang, with a double orchestra of North and South Korean musicians. It was an profound experience for her. Chang is American, but her parents are from South Korea. Her grandparents grew up in a unified Korea "and then overnight a border was there," Chang said.

"The concert was making a statement, not in a violent and messy way, but in a musical way, in the most poetic and most graceful way you could think of," she said.

Although Chang has worked with nearly every major orchestra and classical artist in the world, she cherishes the few colleagues, including von Oeyen and Villaume, that she never tires of working and hanging with.

"It's not a big circle," she said. "You'd be

amazed. You don't find that nice balance with lot of people. But Andrew definitely has it and Emmanuel definitely has it. Emmanuel is such a rock star."

Not to be out-gushed, von Oeyen joined the love fest, speaking from his apartment in Paris with a spectacular view of Montmartre and the basilica of Sacré-Cœur. The American pianist splits his time between Paris and Southern California, where his family lives.

Von Oeyen called Chang "a dear friend and an amazing performer and Villaume "a soloist's dream to work with."

"He doesn't just accompany, he's making great music with you," von Oeyen said. "Just last week in Jerusalem we did the Rachmaninoff Second (piano concerto) together and it was really a thrill."

Von Oeyen, 37, is an athletic, restless performer with bracing clarity and flow, even in stormy finger-busters like the Mendelssohn concerto.

"You have to approach it with a sense of fun," he said. "It's a mistake to take it too seriously."

It's bravura stuff, but von Oeyen has played it enough times to toy with it.

"You can add a little improvisatory humor in the moment of the performance," he said. "It's exhilarating." The concerto begins and ends in spumes of fireworks, with a calm idyll in the middle.

"Fortunately, the second movement allows you to show some poetry and gives you a rest," von Oeyen said. "It's about mood and color; it's kind of dreamy. You can show quite a lot in 20 minutes."

The concerto relies heavy on the strings, "and the Prague Philharmonia has an outstanding string section," von Oeyen said. He ought to know. He made his most recent recording, concertos by Saint-Saëns, Ravel and Gershwin, with the same conductor and orchestra.

"They will have no problem finding the right color, texture and drama in Mendelssohn," he said. "They are made to play that repertoire."

MSU Music

JAZZ: Spirituals, Prayer and Protest Concert

MSU's annual commemorative concert celebrating the birth and legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.



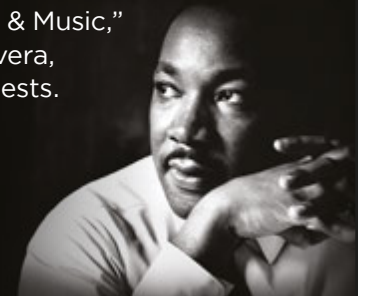
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FREE admission, ticket required, available at the door.

"The Human Movement—Earth, Life, Justice & Music," features Jazz Octets, directed by Diego Rivera, the MSU Professors of Jazz, and special guests.



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Arc of ache

Lansing Symphony, Tanya Ell reach into the heart of Dvorák

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Just in case a piano falls on your head before you finish this review, let's cut to the heart of hometown hero Tanya Ell's noble, graceful performance with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra Saturday night.

As they might say if ESPN did orchestral highlights, it was the bottom of the slow movement and the cadenza was in full swing. Just when Ell seemed to have poured out the last dregs of unfulfilled longing, a hush came over the hall and she dug even deeper, double-stopping low harmonies that extruded from the innermost depths of her soul. Playing alone, she seemed adrift and lost to human com-

fort until a sweet trill from principal flutist Richard Sherman called her back from the brink.

It was an Aztec-sacrifice, beating-heart-torn-out-of-the-chest moment in an otherwise grand, stately and pretty much flawless reading of Dvorák's bittersweet essay in nostalgia.

Ell's command of the music was clear from the start. She cradled the yearning theme of the first movement, rocking it with a vibrato so subtle it never woke this touchy concerto's undignified inner baby. Following a long arc of ache, she breathed a micron-thick layer of frost onto her warm tone, so as not to overdo the schmaltz.

After the heart-yanking sacrifice in the slow movement, Ell and the orchestra settled into a placid acceptance of the passage of time, in tones so convincing I am tempted to ask my loved ones to play it at my funeral — so long as they don't let the recording continue to the last movement, a stiff, inexorable march with a quite a bit of cowbell, err, triangle.

Ell maintained her noble, graceful approach to the very end, but by this point, her consistency was a missed opportunity. Having just retreated from the abyss, the last movement calls for a let-your-hair-down, Scrooge-on-Christmas-morning exultation — otherwise, it makes less sense in the overall narrative. The climax was not exactly pro forma, but it wasn't a cathartic release, either.

With due respect to Saturday's splendid, heartfelt performance, swells of

Dvorák roil the nation's concert halls with almost numbing frequency — the same composer's violin concerto is coming to the Wharton Center next week, thanks to a visit from the Prague Philharmonia and violinist Sarah Chang. (See page 15 for more on that.) Middle-of-the-road romantics crowd many worthy composers off the stage, but Maestro Timothy Muffitt deserves credit for keeping most MasterWorks bills stimulating. The cooler, subtler charms of Igor Stravinsky are aired too rarely, but Igor also got his innings in Lansing Saturday night.

The Russian composer's "Symphony in C" snaps sharply like a summer dress drying in the breeze, pinched in place by a tight, three-note clothespin of a motif.

This was a new and bracing world of sound for the Lansing Symphony audience. The familiar orchestral huffing and puffing — the slow buildups and massive climaxes, the soaring towers of melody — had no place in this exquisite little box garden.

As Muffitt and the orchestra slipped into Stravinsky's intricate, understated world, it took a few minutes for the ears to adjust to the music's almost miniature scale. The brass and woodwinds were a bit fuzzy at first but quickly fine-tuned their intonation and attacks until a palette of tart harmonies and kaleidoscope of finely wrought forms came into focus.

Almost everyone had a solo turn at keeping the ball in the air, but principal oboist Jan Eberle picked up the three-note theme so often, and with such a light touch, that it seemed as if everyone was playing at her house, with her ball.

Muffitt's most important job was to keep you aware of the overall musical thread as the orchestra hurtled through a series of mercurial, ultra-brief episodes. He held his ground so authoritatively that every shift, every pause made the audience suck in its breath — what's coming next? Muffitt timed the pauses so masterfully, neither milking nor rushing them, that silence hit the audience with as much impact as sound.

Stravinsky hated mawkish emotion in music, but this bustling, ant-like soundscape is infused with a surprising amount of tenderness. In the slow movement, the strings added velvety caresses to the pokes and prods of the brass and winds. A heart-breaking bit from principal violist Roman Kosarev captured fleeting sentiment with a gentle pang.

The colors changed ceaselessly from one second to the next. In the last movement, the bassoons slithered in slow circles like snakes, with the trombones murmuring in the mud underneath. The music seemed to coalesce into more formal order toward the end, with quicksilver-y counterpoint spiking out like quartz crystals from all corners.

I wondered whether the audience would lose patience with music that is all but bereft of the usual grand gestures and extended melodies, but the micro-garden of lichen and moss was so vividly brought to life, and the rhythmic undertow was so strong, that all heads and torsos leaned farther and farther forward until a gorgeous brass chorale sounded a valedictory purple burst, and a tangle of quiet bassoon tremors signaled the advance of the shadows.

SCHULER BOOKS & MUSIC

Tour Launch: NYT-Bestselling Author CARL WEBER

Tuesday, January 17 @ 7pm
Eastwood Towne Center location



With 14 New York Times bestselling novels under his belt and twenty-two novels in total, Carl Weber is considered one of the premiere African American authors in the country. With the release of *Man on*

the Run, he delivers a riveting, action-packed drama full of the twists and turns for which he's become known.

MSU Assoc. Professor
Dr. MATT GROSSMANN
presents *Asymmetric Politics*

Thursday, January 19 @ 7pm
Meridian Mall location

Meet Dr. Matt Grossmann, director of the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research and Associate Professor of Political Science as he presents his book *Asymmetric Politics*, co-authored with David A. Hopkins. This fresh, comprehensive investigation reveals how Democrats and Republicans think differently about politics, rely on distinct sources of information, argue past one another, and pursue divergent goals in government.

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OUT ON THE TOWN

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

Wednesday, January 11

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Mindfulness. Meditation for beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 420-5820, ow.ly/CIHU305nMqx.

Ballroom Dance: ChaChaCha/Merengue. For ages 17 and up. 8:30-9:30 p.m. \$21/\$42 couples. Jackson School of the Arts, 634 N. Mechanic St., Jackson. jacksonarts.net.

Beyond Stretching Class. Learn gentle movements to reduce muscle tension. 7:30-8:30 p.m. \$10. LotusVoice Integrative Therapies, 4994 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. beyondstretching.weebly.com.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

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

EVENTS

CADL Meridian Senior Center Computer Group. Computer care, Internet, smartphones and downloads. 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos.

Pokemon Club. Ages 8-15 trade or battle cards, plus movies and snack. 3:45-4:45 p.m. FREE. CADL Williamston, 201 School St., Williamston. (517) 655-1191, cadl.org.

Read to Scout. Ages 6-18 read to therapy dog. 3-4 p.m. FREE. CADL Leslie, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400, cadl.org.

Allen Market Place — Indoor Season. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Farmers Market, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911, ow.ly/Bol1303O4VE.

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

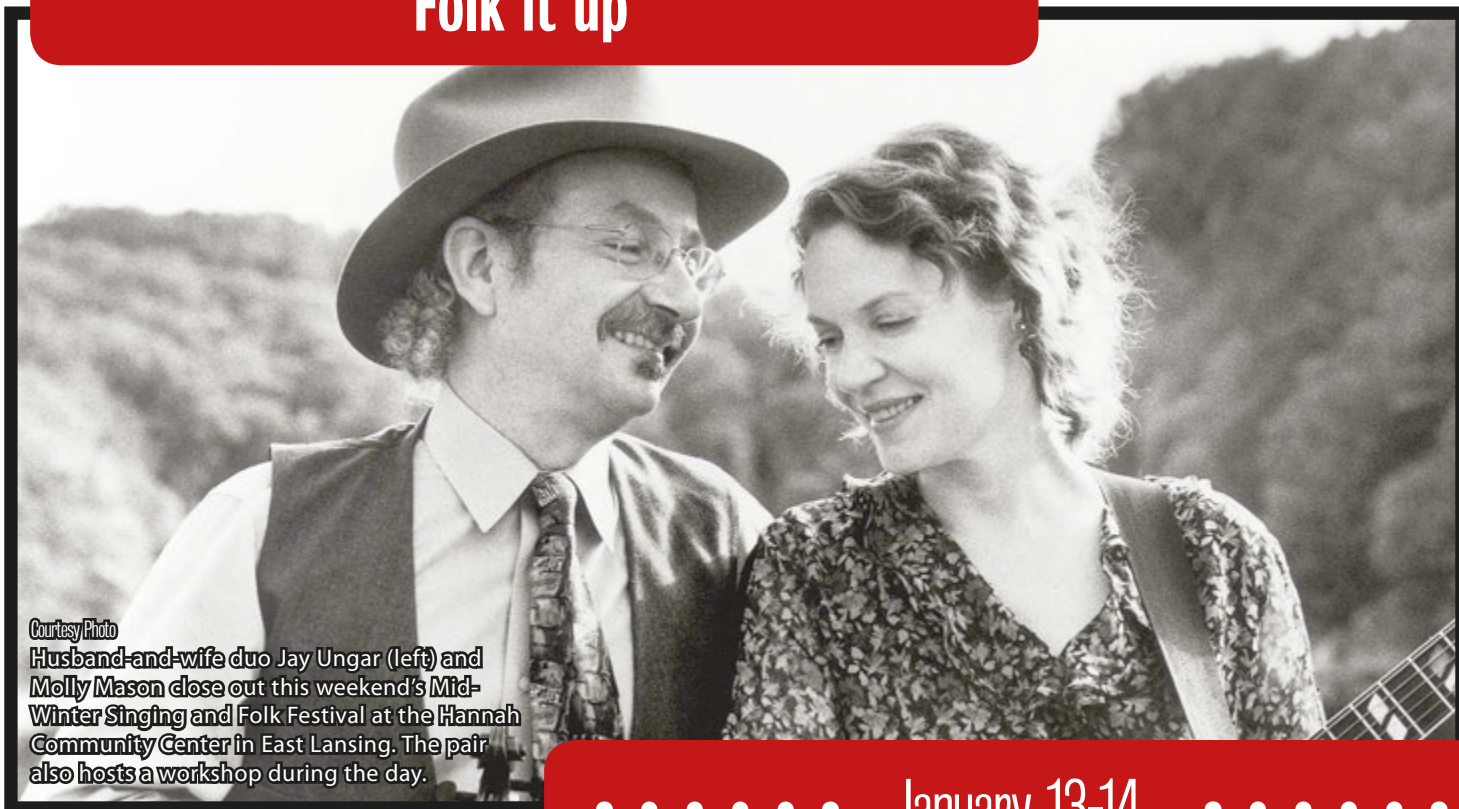
Practice Your English. All levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elp.org.

THEATER

Beautiful: The Carol King Musical. Story of songwriting star. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$41.

See Out on the Town, Page 19

Folk it up



Courtesy Photo

Husband-and-wife duo Jay Ungar (left) and Molly Mason close out this weekend's Mid-Winter Singing and Folk Festival at the Hannah Community Center in East Lansing. The pair also hosts a workshop during the day.

January 13-14

After many years, two longstanding Mid-Michigan musical traditions are merging. The Ten Pound Fiddle's Mid-Winter Singing Festival and its annual big folk concert at East Lansing's Hannah Community Center consolidate under a new name this year: the Mid-Winter Singing and Folk Festival. The two-day event kicks off Friday.

"Every year we would have a big concert in the Hannah Center and then, two weeks later, the Singing Festival," explained Sally Potter, festival director "Expenses for a whole weekend are pretty high. Instead of doing two events, why not one big bang?"

This year, the festival kicks off with a community sing event led by Dan Chouinard. This is the Minnesota-based musician's third visit to the festival. Attendees receive lyric sheets and join together to sing songs from a wide variety of genres.

"He makes it feel like you're in a living room," said Potter of Chouinard. "He's conversational; he's folksy. He sings such marvelous songs."

But the singing doesn't stop there. Saturday afternoon is filled with ten different musical workshops. Singers can join in on workshops like gospel harmony with Lindsay Lou of the Sweet Water Warblers, a sing-along with folk musician Joel Mabus or a discussion of protest songs with singer May Erlewine.

There are also opportunities for instrumentalists, including three focused on the ukulele led by Ben Hassenger and Rachael Davis. Veteran singer/songwriter James Keelaghan offers "The Art of Performance," a two-hour class on how to act before, during and after a show.

"Anyone who is a performer, a teacher, or who presents information should see this," Potter said.

A \$20 wristband gives attendees access to all workshop, as well as an 11:30 a.m. screening of the documentary "Pete Seeger: The Power of Song." Children and college students can attend the workshops and film for free. Saturday also features a free 11 a.m. children's concert presented by Chicago folk artist Mark Dvorak.

Saturday night offers a trio of folk acts. James Keelaghan starts out the night at 7:30 p.m. with a set of folk, roots and Celtic music. The Sweet Water Warblers, comprising Michigan natives Rachael Davis, May Erlewine and Lindsay Lou, take the stage at 8:30 p.m., At 9:30 p.m., seasoned folk veterans Jay Ungar and Molly Mason close out the festival.

The husband-and-wife-duo of Ungar and Mason have been teaching and performing folk music since the 1970s. Ungar is best known as the composer of "Ashokan Farewell," a

slow, melodic piece featured in Ken Burn's "The Civil War." The piece was originally written for the end of sessions at Ashokan Music and Dance Camp, where he and Mason teach. The two also offer a Saturday afternoon workshop.

"A lot of people have been interested in some of our slow pieces," Ungar said. "Our second most popular tune that we wrote together is called 'The Lover's Waltz.' The plan for the workshop is to teach that song for any instrument that shows up, creating a beautiful arrangement together."

Beginners are welcome to sit in, but the workshop is designed for players who can keep up with a fast-paced lesson. Through the session, the duo hopes to create a sense of unity among participants.

"It's been a tense year," Ungar said. "People need to find some common ground, and enjoy some music."

"Happy music," Mason added.

Mid-Winter Singing and Folk Festival

Jan. 13-14
See website for concert and workshop times
Friday sing-along:
\$20/\$18 Ten Pound Fiddle members/\$5 students
Saturday workshops:
\$20/students FREE
Saturday concert: \$30 floor/\$20 balcony
Hannah Community Center
819 Abbot Road, East Lansing
singingfestival.com

— ALLISON HAMMERLY

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE
BY RICH TUPICA

OIGS FEST AT MAC'S BAR



SAT. JAN. 14TH

Lurking Corpses

Saturday, Jan. 14 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 4 p.m. \$12/\$10 adv.

The first big metal show of the year hits Mac's Bar Saturday. The first ever Oigs Fest is an all-day show featuring 10 heavy bands, including the Lurking Corpses, Dagon, Cavalcade and the Revenant. Headliner the Lurking Corpses, formed in 2001 in Fort Wayne, is known for its classic horror film imagery and cryptic sounds. Signed to Hells Headbangers Records, the band blends Misfits-style punk and old-school trash metal with hints of doo-wop, rockabilly and other throwback genres. Lyrically, the Lurking Corpses lean toward the gory, violent side of the spectrum while still including plenty of tongue-in-cheek humor and dark sarcasm. The band's latest full-length LP, 2014's "Workin' For the Devil," features the single "The Leech and The Worm" – the video is streamed on YouTube.

DESMOND JONES AT THE AVENUE CAFE



SAT. JAN. 14TH

Desmond Jones

Saturday, Jan. 14 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+, \$10, 8 p.m.

Jazzy funk-rock quintet Desmond Jones returns to Lansing Saturday for a gig at the Avenue Café. The band, formed in East Lansing in 2012, is based out of Grand Rapids. Desmond Jones has opened shows for the Werks, Kung Fu, Tauk, the Verve Pipe and Here Come the Mummies. The improvisational fusion band, known for its high-energy live performances, cites jammy, experimental influences like Frank Zappa, the Grateful Dead, Phish, Charles Mingus, Led Zeppelin and the Band. Sample some of Desmond Jones' tunes, including its 2014 LP, "Thick Cuts," at desmondjones.bandcamp.com. Opening the Avenue Café show is the Change, a soulful Grand Rapids-based blues-rock band.

C.E.O. CARTER HEADLINES HIP-HOP SHOW AT MAC'S BAR



FRI. JAN. 13TH

C.E.O. Carter

Friday, Jan. 13 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+, \$10, 9 p.m.

Local hip-hop takes over Mac's Bar Friday for a late night "House of Flowing Daggerz" showcase. Taking the stage are Stay True Red, Mista Flintastic, P.O.P.E. Don King, Keesekid, Kam, Kayne YSMG, Maddog McGraw and DJ Leeky. Headlining the event is C.E.O. Carter, a Lansing native now living in Atlanta. Born Sherrod Miguel Carter, the Sexton High School alum has shared stages with the likes of Yo Gotti, Mystikal, Bubba Sparks, Future and the Chi-Lites. Over the years, he's dropped a number of records, including the "Gemini" and "Sweet 16" mixtapes and his "#1Up" EP. His latest releases include the 2016 "iCeo" EP and his brand new collection, "Cookin Up," which features DJ Enyce. Carter became enamored with hip hop after hearing Heavy D as a child. By 2011, he was playing shows, including his first big gig at the Legends Weekend in Gary, Ind., a concert honoring Michael Jackson.

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT ALLISON@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	Fishgutzzz, 8 p.m.	Friday the 13th Party (FREE),	Desmond Jones, 8 p.m. Rob K., 8 p.m.
Black Cat Bistro, 115 Albert Ave.				
Buddies - Holt, 2040 N Aurelius Rd				
Buddies - Okemos, 1937 W Grand River Ave				
Classic Bar & Grill, 16219 Old US 27			Lee Groove, 9 p.m.	
Champions, 2440 N. Cedar St.		Lee Groove, 7 p.m.		
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Donald Benjamin, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Eaton Rapids Craft Co., 204 N Main St.		Steve Cowles, 6 p.m.	Rush Clement, 6 p.m.	
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke with DJ Jamie, 9 p.m.		Karaoke, 9 p.m.	DJ Fudgie, 10 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 8 p.m.	Mike Skory & Friends, 8:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.
Gallery Brewery, 142 Kent St.		Open Mic, 7 p.m.		
Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.			Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.	
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Blues Night, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.		
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 E. Michigan Ave.			Sarah Brunner, 5:30 p.m.	
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.,			Homegrown Throwdown 2, 6:30 p.m.	Erik Griffin, 7 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Where's Walden?, 8 p.m.	Open Mike Eagle, 6:30 p.m.	The Lurking Corpses, 4 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic w/ Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.	Hot Mess, 9 p.m.	James Reeser & the Back Seat Drivers, 9 p.m.	Off The Ledge, 9 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road		Kathy Ford, 8 p.m.	Oxymorons, 8 p.m.	
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27			The New Rule, 8 p.m.	The New Rule, 8 p.m.
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Showdown, 8 p.m.	Showdown, 8 p.m.
Ryan's Roadhouse, 902 E State St		Rush Clement, 6 p.m.		
Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Square	Tavern House Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m.			
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.			David Shelby, 4 p.m.	David Shelby, 4 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.	The Rotations, 9 p.m.	The Rotations, 9 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.	Trevor Compton, 7 p.m.	Dan MacLachlan, 8 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.

LIVE & LOCAL LISTS UPCOMING GIGS! To get listed email allison@lansingcitypulse.com. Only submit for the upcoming week's shows.

Out on the town

from page 17

Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

Thursday, January 12

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

(TOPS) Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Weigh-in 5:15 p.m.; meeting 6 p.m. First meeting FREE. Room 207, 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 St., Lansing. (517) 371-3010, unitylansing.org.

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

Mason Codependents Anonymous. Support group. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Mason First Church of the Nazarene, 415 E. Maple St., Mason.

MUSIC

Lansing's Got Talent. Talent competition. Email

kford47311@aol.com to sign up. 7-11 p.m. FREE. Reno's East, 1310 Abbott Road, East Lansing. (517) 881-8135, kathyfordband.com.

Open Mic Night on the Michigan Princess. Hosted by Fried Egg Nebula. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St., Lansing. (517) 885-8318.

THEATER

Beautiful: The Carol King Musical. Story of songwriting star. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$41. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

The Hemingway Play. Four depictions of famed author at different points in his life. 7-9 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

EVENTS

Pop-Up Stories: Clean Slate. Stories of starting from scratch and redefining oneself. 6:30-8 p.m. UrbanBeat Event Center, 1213 Turner St., Lansing.

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

CADL Family Storytime. Held off-site during library remodeling. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. Library of Michigan, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

English Country Dance Lessons. No experience

needed. 7-9:30 p.m. \$6/\$4 students/MSU students FREE. Snyder-Phillips Hall, C20, 362 Bogue St., East Lansing. (517) 321-3070, people.albion.edu/ram/lecd.

iPad StoryTime. Storytime with interactive learning for ages 3-5. Register online. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org/register.

Ladies Silver Blades Figure Skating Club. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:20 a.m. \$5 and yearly dues fee. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (517) 881-2517, ladiessilverblades.com.

Minecraft Game Night. Ages 8-15 game together. Call to register. 5-6:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Foster, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185.

Play with Purpose. Ages 3-6 build early literacy skills. 1-2 p.m. FREE. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324.

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

Friday, January 13

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Gentle Yoga. Relaxing pace class suitable for beginners. 11 a.m.-noon. First class FREE/\$5/\$3 members. Williamston High School, 3939 Vanneter Road, Williamston.

MUSIC

Friday the 13th w/the Black Barn Band.

See Out on the Town, Page 20

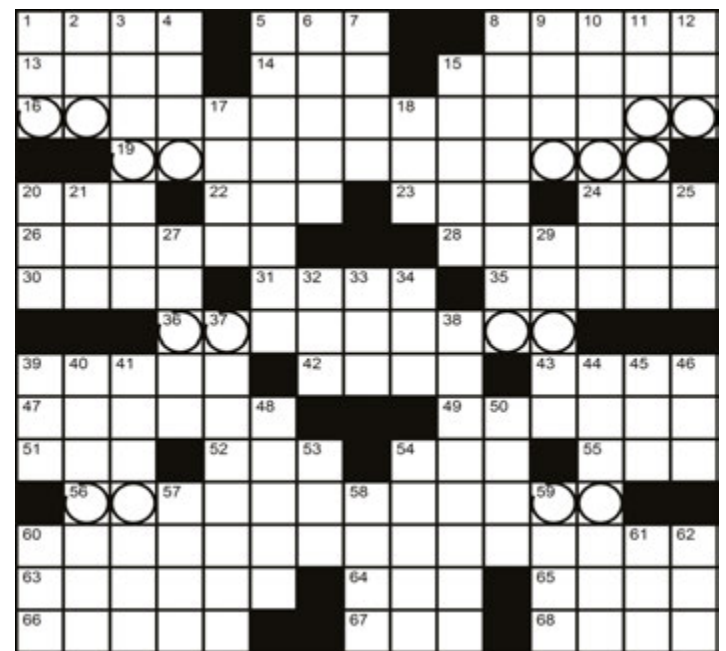
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Sweet!" — getting that glazed-over look.
Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Put in stitches
- 5 Andreas opener
- 8 Cogitates, with "over"
- 13 Antioxidant berry in fruit juices
- 14 Nervous twinge
- 15 Like a game's tutorial levels
- 16 Considered only in terms of money
- 19 Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America bestowals
- 20 Bird that runs 35 mph
- 22 Dating site datum
- 23 1986-to-2001 orbiter
- 24 Hi-___ graphics
- 26 Like "The Polar Express"
- 28 "Ain't happenin'"
- 30 "Friends" friend
- 31 Filet mignon cut
- 35 Foul, as weather
- 36 Number sometimes decoded as "Z"
- 39 Friedlander of "30 Rock"
- 42 Amish, e.g.
- 43 "Buy It Now" site
- 47 ___ of troubles
- 49 Ashley and Mary-Kate, for two
- 51 Christmas tree choice
- 52 Fall back, tidewise
- 54 Quirky comic Philips
- 55 Unagi, at sushi bars
- 56 It's provided by guild members
- 60 Advice that the four long entries with circles failed to follow
- 63 Baby garment with snaps
- 64 Word heard by Marge a lot, I imagine



- 65 Extreme aversion
- 66 ___ Martin (007's car)
- 67 Part of MS-DOS (abbr.)
- 68 Fairy tale preposition

Down

- 1 Trump tweet ender, often
- 2 Prefix before friendly or terrorism
- 3 Brownie ingredients, sometimes
- 4 Khartoum's river
- 5 Uphill battle
- 6 Supermarket section
- 7 March Madness gp.
- 8 Cheese companion
- 9 Exploitative type
- 10 Retired hockey great Eric
- 11 "Dig in, everyone!"
- 12 High-class group, for short?
- 15 Hubble after whom a space telescope was named
- 17 "I've got ___ feeling about this!"
- 18 "Born on the Fourth of July" locale, briefly
- 20 "To ___ is human"
- 21 "Little Red Book" chairman
- 25 James Bond, for example
- 27 "Como ___?" ("How are you?" in Spanish)
- 29 Horns that are really winds
- 32 Iron-___ (T-shirt transfer patterns)
- 33 London or Brooklyn ending
- 34 Home of Times Sq. and Columbus Cir.
- 37 Brings by cart, perhaps
- 38 Bovine quartet
- 39 Peanut butter brand for "choosy moms"
- 40 Instances of agreement
- 41 Hackers' hangout that's tough to find via search engines
- 44 Keg attachment
- 45 "I'd like to buy ___" (request to Pat Sajak)
- 46 Armani competitor, initially
- 48 "I'll have ___ Christmas without you" (Elvis lyric)
- 50 "Rio ___" (John Wayne flick)
- 53 Ask for a doggie treat, perhaps
- 54 Judy Jetson's brother
- 57 "Make ___!" (Captain Picard's order)
- 58 Some PTA members
- 59 Aloha Stadium locale
- 60 Morgue acronym
- 61 Judge Lance played by Kenneth Choi on "American Crime Story"
- 62 First number shouted before a ball drop, often

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Answers Page 21

THURSDAY, JAN. 12 >> MUSIC AT THE MANSION AT THE TURNER-DODGE HOUSE

Is being called a "hillbilly" a compliment? Folk and rock guitarist Bart Moore thinks so. Moore opens the Turner-Dodge House's 2017 Music at the Mansion series Thursday with a concert of songs from his latest album, "Curse of Los Lunas." Moore's sound draws on folk and traditional Irish music, as well as the hard rock he learned to play while living in California. The intimate show raises funds for the restoration and preservation of the historic house. 7 p.m. \$10. The Turner-Dodge House, 100 E. North St., Lansing. (517) 483-4220, lansingmi.gov/938/turner-dodge-house.

JAN. 12-15, 19-22 >> 'THE HEMINGWAY PLAY' AT RIVERWALK THEATRE

The life story of Ernest Hemingway spans the globe, but playwright Frederic Hunter crams four distinct stages of the iconic author's life into a single room. In "The Hemingway Play," four versions of Hemingway meet at a bullfighter's hangout in Madrid. A young wounded soldier (Jared Ross), an ambitious young correspondent (Jesse Frawley), an aging cynic (Joe Dickson) and a man at the end of his career (Michael Hays) explore different aspects of the author's life. The production is directed by Bob Robinson. 7 p.m. Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. \$15/\$12 students, seniors and military. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-5700, riverwalktheater.com.

SUDOKU

ADVANCED

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

TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 21

Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsky

Jan. 11-17

ARIES (March 21-April 19): In Norse mythology, Yggdrasil is a huge holy tree that links all of the nine worlds to each other. Perched on its uppermost branch is an eagle with a hawk sitting on its head. Far below, living near the roots, is a dragon. The hawk and eagle stay in touch with the dragon via Ratatoskr, a talkative squirrel that runs back and forth between the heights and the depths. Alas, Ratatoskr traffics solely in insults. That's the only kind of message the birds and the dragon ever have for each other. In accordance with the astrological omens, Aries, I suggest you act like a far more benevolent version of Ratatoskr in the coming weeks. Be a feisty communicator who roams far and wide to spread uplifting gossip and energizing news.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You have a divine mandate to love bigger and stronger and truer than ever before. It's high time to freely give the gifts you sometimes hold back from those you care for. It's high time to take full ownership of neglected treasures so you can share them with your worthy allies. It's high time to madly cultivate the generosity of spirit that will enable you to more easily receive the blessings that can and should be yours. Be a brave, softhearted warrior of love!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): I love and respect Tinker Bell, Kermit the Frog, Shrek, Wonder Woman, SpongeBob SquarePants, Snow White, Road Runner, and Calvin and Hobbes. They have provided me with much knowledge and inspiration. Given the current astrological omens, I suspect that you, too, can benefit from cultivating your relationships with characters like them. It's also a favorable time for you to commune with the spirits of Harriet Tubman, Leonardo da Vinci, Marie Curie, or any other historical figures who inspire you. I suggest you have dreamlike conversations with your most interesting ancestors, as well. Are you still in touch with your imaginary friends from childhood? If not, renew acquaintances.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): "I never wish to be easily defined," wrote Cancerian author Franz Kafka. "I'd rather float over other people's minds as something fluid and non-perceivable; more like a transparent, paradoxically iridescent creature rather than an actual person." Do you ever have that experience? I do. I'm a Crab like you, and I think it's common among members of our tribe. For me, it feels liberating. It's a way to escape people's expectations of me and enjoy the independence of living in my fantasies. But I plan to do it a lot less in 2017, and I advise you to do the same. We should work hard at coming all the way down to earth. We will thrive by floating less and being better grounded; by being less fuzzy and more solid; by not being so inscrutable, but rather more knowable.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Here's my declaration: "I hereby forgive, completely and permanently, all motorists who have ever irked me with their rude and bad driving. I also forgive, totally and forever, all tech support people who have insulted me, stonewalled me, or given me wrong information as I sought help from them on the phone. I furthermore forgive, utterly and finally, all family members and dear friends who have hurt my feelings." Now would be a fantastic time for you to do what I just did, Leo: Drop grudges, let go of unimportant outrage, and issue a blanket amnesty. Start with the easier stuff — the complaints against strangers and acquaintances — and work your way up to the allies you cherish.

VRIGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): There are some authors who both annoy me and intrigue me. Even though I feel allergic to the uncomfortable ideas they espouse, I'm also fascinated by their unique provocations. As I read their words, I'm half-irritated at their grating declarations, and yet greedy for more. I disagree with much of what they say, but feel grudgingly grateful for the novel perspectives they prod me to discover. (Nobel Prize-winner Elias Canetti is one such author.) In accordance with the current astrological rhythms, Virgo, I invite you

to seek out similar influences — for your own good!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Now would be an excellent time to add new beauty to your home. Are there works of art or buoyant plants or curious symbols that would lift your mood? Would you consider hiring a feng shui consultant to rearrange the furniture and accessories so as to enhance the energetic flow? Can you entice visits from compelling souls whose wisdom and wit would light up the place? Tweak your imagination so it reveals tricks about how to boost your levels of domestic bliss.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): In 2017, you will have unprecedented opportunities to re-imagine, revise, and reinvent the story of your life. You'll be able to forge new understandings about your co-stars and reinterpret the meanings of crucial plot twists that happened once upon a time. Now check out these insights from author Mark Doty: "The past is not static, or ever truly complete; as we age we see from new positions, shifting angles. A therapist friend of mine likes to use the metaphor of the kind of spiral stair that winds up inside a lighthouse. As one moves up that stair, the core at the center doesn't change, but one continually sees it from another vantage point; if the past is a core of who we are, then our movement in time always brings us into a new relation to that core."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The Tao Te Ching is a poetically philosophical text written by a Chinese sage more than two millennia ago. Numerous authors have translated it into modern languages. I've borrowed from their work to craft a horoscope that is precisely suitable for you in the coming weeks. Here's your high-class fortune cookie oracle: Smooth your edges, untangle your knots, sweeten your openings, balance your extremes, relax your mysteries, soften your glare, forgive your doubts, love your breathing, harmonize your longings, and marvel at the sunny dust.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): I recently discovered Tree of Jesse, a painting by renowned 20th-century artist Marc Chagall. I wanted to get a copy to hang on my wall. But as I scoured the Internet, I couldn't find a single business that sells prints of it. Thankfully, I did locate an artist in Vietnam who said he could paint an exact replica. I ordered it, and was pleased with my new objet d'art. It was virtually identical to Chagall's original. I suggest you meditate on taking a metaphorically similar approach, Capricorn. Now is a time when substitutes may work as well as what they replace.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "It is often safer to be in chains than to be free," wrote Franz Kafka. That fact is worthy of your consideration in the coming weeks, Aquarius. You can avoid all risks by remaining trapped inside the comfort that is protecting you. Or you can take a gamble on escaping, and hope that the new opportunities you attract will compensate you for the sacrifice it entails. I'm not here to tell you what to do. I simply want you to know what the stakes are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "All pleasures are in the last analysis imaginary, and whoever has the best imagination enjoys the most pleasure." So said 19th-century German novelist Theodor Fontane, and now I'm passing his observation on to you. Why? Because by my astrological estimates, you Pisceans will have exceptional imaginations in 2017 — more fertile, fervent, and freedom-loving than ever before. Therefore, your capacity to drum up pleasure will also be at an all-time high. There is a catch, however. Your imagination, like everyone else's, is sometimes prone to churning out superstitious fears. To take maximum advantage of its bliss-inducing potential, you will have to be firm about steering it in positive directions.

Out on the town

from page 19

Concert on the Michigan Princess. 8 p.m.-1 a.m. \$10/\$15 couples. Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St., Lansing. (517) 885-8318.

EVENTS

After School Teen Program. For teens in grades 7-12. 2:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Elephant and Piggie Book Party. Ages 2-6 enjoy stories, crafts and treat. Call to register. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Mason, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 676-9088, cadl.org.

Ice Worlds. Examination of icy ecosystems and ice on other planets. 8-9:30 p.m. \$3-4. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. ow.ly/S30L307wkTS.

StoryTime. Ages 2-5 enjoy interactive program of stories and songs. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

ARTS

The Spirit and Soul of Her. Artist reception for painter Julian Van Dyke. 5:30-8 p.m. FREE. Grove Gallery and Studios, 325 Grove St., East Lansing. (517) 333-7180, grovegalleryandstudios.com.

Searching for the Middle Path. Reception for

the paintings of Tatsuki Hakoyama. 5:30 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 374-6400, lansingartgallery.org.

THEATER

Beautiful: The Carol King Musical. Story of songwriting star. 8 p.m. Tickets from \$41. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

The Hemingway Play. Four depictions of famed author at different points in his life. 7-9 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Audio Air Force - Friday the 13th Mystery Theatre. "Sorry, Wrong Number" and "The Hitchhiker." 7 p.m. \$10/\$5 adv. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 881-9746, audioairforce.com.

Saturday, January 14

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Cross Country Ski Class. Class with expert naturalist. 9:30-11:30 a.m. \$15/\$20 with equipment rentals. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCpgr.

Personal Book Collecting for Everyone. Edwina Murphy presents on the details of book collecting. 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Library of Michigan, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. ow.ly/6xmH307P6ev.

Snowshoe Class. With tips from expert instructor. Rentals available. 1-3 p.m. \$15/\$20 with equipment rentals. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road

See Out on the Town, Page 21

FRIDAY, JAN. 13 >> AUDIO THEATRE MYSTERY DOUBLE FEATURE AT THE ROBIN THEATRE

Embrace the spookiness of Friday the 13th with a pair of mysterious offerings from Audio Air Force. The group recreates classic radio dramas live on stage, complete with voice actors and sound effects. Friday brings a double feature of horror/mystery works by 20th century screenwriter Lucille Fletcher: "Sorry, Wrong Number" and "The Hitchhiker." Both works were originally performed in the 1940s. "Sorry, Wrong Number" centers on an overheard murder plot, while "The Hitchhiker" tells the story of a driver and a mysterious figure who seems to follow him. 7 p.m. \$10/\$5 adv. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. audioairforce.com.

FRIDAY, JAN. 13 >> 'SEARCHING FOR THE MIDDLE PATH' RECEPTION AT THE LANSING ART GALLERY

Who said paintings have to be two-dimensional? The works of Grand Rapids-based artist Tatsuki Hakoyama jump out at you — at least, they appear to. Hakoyama's oil paintings feature oddly-shaped canvases and surreal subjects, creating the illusion that the artwork extends toward the viewer. The Lansing Art Gallery hosts an exhibit of Hakoyama's work through Feb. 24, with a reception and artist talk Friday. Visitors can interact with the work through a self-guided activity in the gallery space and learn about and make origami in the gallery's Education Center. 5:30 p.m. artist talk; 6-8 p.m. reception. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 374-6400, lansingartgallery.org.

FRIDAY, JAN. 13 >> 'THE SPIRIT AND SOUL OF HER' RECEPTION AT GROVE GALLERY & STUDIOS

Painter Julian Van Dyke honors women this month with a new exhibition at Grove Gallery & Studios in East Lansing. "The Spirit and Soul of Her" represents mothers, grandmothers, sisters and daughters whose accomplishments often go unrecognized. The show features recent works and is on display until Feb. 26. Van Dyke celebrates the new exhibit with an opening reception at the gallery Friday; light refreshments are available. 5:30-8 p.m. Grove Gallery and Studios, 325 Grove St., East Lansing. (517) 333-7180, grovegalleryandstudios.com.

Out on the town

from page 20

Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Books and Bagels. "Number the Stars" by Lois Lowry. Registration required. 2-3 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

MUSIC

DJClarinet at Lansing City Market. Celebrate the new year with music. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460, ow.ly/DumD307wZ3w.

Elvis Birthday Show. Featuring world champions Matt King and Travis Morris. 7 p.m. Masonic Lodge, 840 Columbia St., Mason. (517) 676-1721.

Tell Yo Mama and Fried Egg Nebula. Two bands perform. 7 p.m.-2 a.m. \$1/\$8 adv. Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St., Lansing. (517) 885-8318.

THEATER

Beautiful: The Carol King Musical. Story of songwriting star. 2 and 8 p.m. Tickets from \$41. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

Number the Stars Special Event. All of Us Express children's theater previews "Number the Stars." 1-2 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

The Hemingway Play. Four depictions of famed author at different points in his life. 7-9 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

EVENTS

Coloring Party for Grown-ups. Relax and express creativity through coloring. 3-4 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos.

Eric Griffin (of Workaholics) Standup Comedy. With Mike Stanley and Aaron Putnam. 6 and 9 p.m. \$20. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. theloftlansing.com.

Lansing Record and CD Show. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE/\$7 for early access. University Quality Inn, 3121 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. rerunrecords.com.

Second Saturday Supper. Baked chicken dinner with sides. All are welcome. 5-6:15 p.m. Mayflower Congregational Church, 2901 W. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-3139, mayflowerchurch.com.

ARTS

A Celebration of Jazz. Artist Reception for Mike Scieszka, artist inspired by colorful riffs of jazz. 5:30-8 p.m. FREE. Eggleston Gallery, 14035 Webster Road, Bath. egglestongallery.com.

Sunday, January 15

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Juggling. Learn how to juggle. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. (517) 371-5119.

Kendo Martial Art Class. Martial arts practice group. 10-11:30 a.m. \$5. Westside Community YMCA, 3700 Old Lansing Road, Lansing. (269) 425-6677, koyokai.wordpress.com/about.

MUSIC

MSU Artist-Faculty Series sponsored by

SUNDAY, JAN. 15 >> BEALE STREET BOUND BLUES PARTY AND TRAVEL FUNDRAISER

The victors of Capital Area Blues Society's Blues Brawl are headed to Memphis for the 2017 International Blues Challenge, and local blues fans can help send them on their way. A fundraising concert for Blues Brawl winners Martila Sanders & Gee-Q comes to the Green Door Blues Bar Sunday. Sanders, a Battle Creek native, began singing blues when the members of Gee-Q approached her at an open mic in 2009. Also performing Sunday are Matchette & Frog and The Lansing Blues All-Stars. The International Blues Challenge takes place at the end of this month on the historic Beale Street in Memphis. 4-8 p.m. \$10/children FREE with adult. Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 482-6376, facebook.com/cabsblues.

WKAR: Tasha Warren, clarinet. 7 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/students and kids FREE. Cook Recital Hall, MSU Music Building, 333 West Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, music.msu.edu/event-listing.

The Alpenhorn in Recital. Recital with horns used by Swiss herders and mountaineers. 3-4 p.m. FREE. Okemos Presbyterian Church, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos.

THEATER

Beautiful: The Carol King Musical. Story of songwriting star. 1 and 6:30 p.m. Tickets from \$41. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

Comedy Coven Presents: Jamie Loftus. First show in new comedy series. 8 p.m. \$10. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. ow.ly/MqAU307IHyo.

EVENTS

Game of Thrones Trivia Night. Live music to follow. 6-9 p.m. \$10 per team. Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St., Lansing. (517) 885-8318.

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.

Monday, January 16

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Gentle Yoga. Relaxing pace class suitable for beginners. 11 a.m.-noon. First class FREE/\$5/\$3 members. Williamston High School, 3939 Vanneter Road, Williamston.

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

Oracle Card Reading Workshop. Course on the intuitive use of an oracle deck. 6-8 p.m. \$20. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515 W. Mt. Hope Ave., Suite 3, Lansing. (517) 402-6727, willowstickceremonies.com.

Painting Basics: Acrylic. Basic painting for ages 14 and up. 6:45-7:45 p.m. \$40. Jackson School of the Arts, 634 N. Mechanic St., Jackson. jacksonarts.org.

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

MUSIC

New Horizons Community Band. Learn to play an instrument or dust off an old one. 9-11 a.m. MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661, cms.msu.edu.

EVENTS

Peace & Justice Planning. Meet to plan local actions and events for peace and justice. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. University United Methodist Church, 1120 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. (517) 803-7813.

Tuesday, January 17

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Bach Stress Relief Q&A. Learn to handle stress using flower essences. 6:30-8 p.m. Suggested donation \$5-\$10. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515 W. Mt. Hope Ave., Suite 3, Lansing. (810) 938-2410, willowstickceremonies.com.

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

Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. Learn public speaking and leadership skills. See website for schedule and meeting locations. 7 p.m. FREE for visitors. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 775-2697, 639. toastmastersclubs.org.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Have a support system, lose weight. Wheelchair accessible. 6 p.m. FREE first visit. St. Therese Church, 102 W. Randolph St., Lansing. tops.org.

MUSIC

Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5287.

THEATER

Auditions for Heidi. 13 roles for all ages. 6:30-8 p.m. 2/42 Community Building, 2630 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 339-2145, mmftf.org.

EVENTS

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

Appreciate a Dragon Day. Ages 5 and up celebrate dragons with stories and crafts. 3:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Webberville, 115 S. Main St., Webberville. (517) 521-3643.

Ask a Lawyer. Stop in for free legal advice from a local lawyer. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Leslie, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400.

Crafternoons. Bring craft project and join us in

the library Community Room. 1-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324.

LCC West Toastmasters. Public speaking group. 5-6:30 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-1314, lccwest.toastmastersclubs.org.

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

ToddlerTime. Active storytime for reading skills. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Wednesday, January 18

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Gentle Yoga. Relaxing pace class suitable for beginners. 11 a.m.-noon. First class FREE/\$5/\$3 members. Williamston High School, 3939 Vanneter Road, Williamston.

Mindfulness. Meditation for beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 420-5820, ow.ly/CIHU305nMqx.

Water As A Resource In Your Landscape. Presentation on rain gardens, rain barrels, green roofs and more. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 887-0596, wildoneslansing.org.

Working for Yourself. Course on start-up costs, pricing and working from home. Call to register. 9-1 a.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, ow.ly/oSij307juna.

EVENTS

Architecture Challenge. Ages 7 and up create structures with cardboard and straws. 4-5 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt.

Paws for Reading. Kids read to therapy dog. Call to register. 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. (517) 627-7014, grandledge.lib.mi.us.

Rock 'n' Read Storytime. Ages 3-6 enjoy books, music and movement. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324.

Allen Market Place — Indoor Season. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Farmers Market, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911, ow.ly/Bol1303O4VE.

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

ICACS Whisker Wednesday. Pet adoptions. All animals spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. Noon-6 p.m. Ingham County Animal Control, 600 Curtis St., Mason. (517) 676-8370.

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

SUDOKU SOLUTION

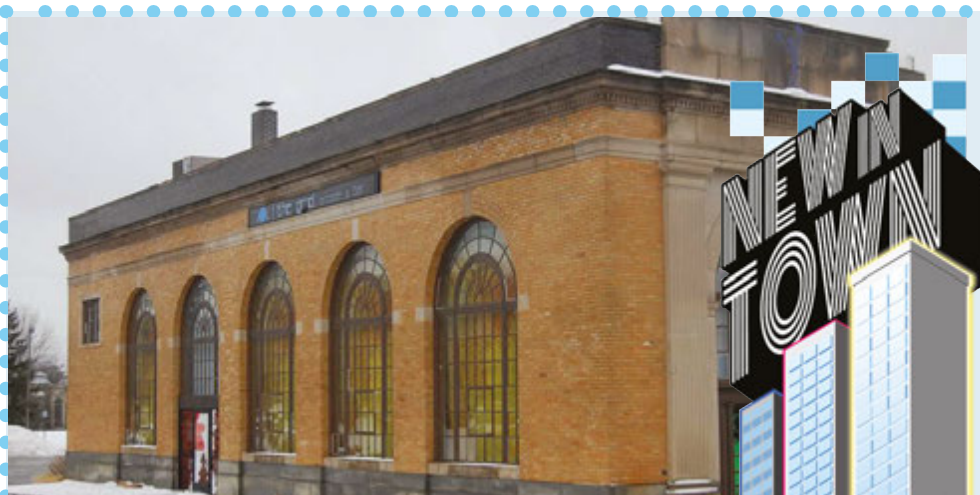
From Pg. 19

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 19

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THE GRID ARCADE AND BAR

Alan I. Ross/City Pulse

The Grid Arcade and Bar will move into the former Chrome Cat building early this year after a \$300,000 renovation job. The bar will feature dozens of vintage video games and pinball machines and a drink menu heavy on craft beer.

By ALLANI I. ROSS

For the last few months, a sign in the former Chrome Cat building in Old Town has teased that a new business is “coming soon.” The sign features the title character from the movie “Wreck-It Ralph,” which takes place inside a video game — fitting, given the nature of the business, which has been formally announced this week. **The Grid Arcade and Bar**, due later this winter or in early spring, will combine the popularity of craft beer and creative cocktails with the growing interest in vintage video games.

“This isn’t going to be just a bar — it’s going to be an experience,” said co-owner Corey Montie. “Even if you don’t play video games, it’s the kind of place where you can walk in, sit down, order drinks and just take it all in. We’re working hard to make sure this is a unique environment that people will crave. The idea is to make a place where our customers will say, ‘I don’t feel like I’m in Lansing anymore.’”

That sense of escapism is central to Montie’s career path. He was born and raised in Mid-Michigan but spent the last

14 years outside the state. He roved the country after college, cultivating a career as an adventure sports guide, eventually settling in San Francisco, where he worked as a contractor for several guide companies.

“If there’s an outdoor adventure sport, I’ve probably taught it at some point,” Montie said. “But the thing that really appealed to me was combining ideas. I would do things like have a white linen table set up with a sushi platter in the middle of a five-mile mountain hike. That sounds silly, but taking two ideas that you don’t think go together and seeing it work is so amazing.”

Montie eventually transitioned from the great outdoors into San Francisco’s bustling high-end social club scene, where he became a minority partner in a business that engineered city events. That led him back to the Midwest, but after six years he sold his shares and moved to Hong Kong, where he spent three years in the wine and charter yacht industries. But then he heard Michigan calling to him.

“My sister was about to have her first, and I decided that I wanted to be here for

that and be closer to my family,” he said. “And it’s great to be home. Rediscovering Lansing has been such an interesting experience. When I left, Old Town was pretty gritty, but now there all these restaurants and boutiques. I can’t believe how far it’s come. Our (vision for) the Grid is going to be the continuation of that transformation.”

Montie’s business partner is Callie Mykut, who moved to Lansing from New York. The city is home to the Barcade chain of concept bars that started in 2004. The Grid is loosely based on Barcade, which has the same video-games-and-craft-beer vibe, but the Grid has an edge over its muse.

“This building itself is an inspiration,” Montie said. “It’s got an impressive (design) and an ideal location in the middle of Old Town. There’s nothing else like this in the area. We took one look at it and knew this had to be the Grid.”

Built as a bank in 1929, the 3,000-square-foot building, 226 E. Grand River Ave., features ornate brickwork and massive arched windows that flood the space with natural light. It was converted into the bar Rendezvous on the Grand in 2008, closed after a year, and reopened in 2009 as the lesbian bar Chrome Cat, which lasted for two years. It’s been empty since 2011. While Montie stressed that they will not alter the building’s original architecture, time has not been kind to the interior.

“The plaster walls were peeling, and it needed new flooring and new electrical and plumbing work,” Montie said. “The bar that was there wasn’t going to work for our concept, so we tore that out and are building a new one from the ground up. Other than that, we’re trying to keep as much as we can intact. That building’s so iconic — we don’t want to do anything too crazy.”

Montie said renovations will cost about \$300,000 but will not include the addition of a kitchen. He said Old Town is “doing great” in the dining department, and that he would be open to working with a food truck, which could potentially set up shop in the massive parking lot, Lot 56/Cesar Chavez Plaza. Although they’ve been working on the space for months, he and Mykut have maintained top secrecy, which has only fueled excitement.

“The word of mouth has been staggering,” Montie said. “All we have is a Facebook page with no information and a landing site for our URL, but people are already talking. It’s a promising sign. Callie has a true business mind, and it’s been great developing this with her.”

Montie said his and Mykut’s sensibilities have lined up nicely, which he said will eventually make the Grid a standout establishment.

“Callie has the same desire I have to create something authentic, and coming from the other coast adds another dimension,” Montie said. “We’re both big city people looking to create something more familiar. The Grid is going to be such a good fit, and neither of us could imagine a better place than Old Town. It took going away and coming back to see the possibilities, and I definitely see more on the way.”

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

THE BEST RESTAURANTS IN
GREATER LANSING AS DECIDED
BY CITY PULSE READERS

Based on your votes in City Pulse’s 2015 Top of the Town contest, we’ve assembled a guide to your favorite Lansing-area eateries. We’ll run single categories in the paper periodically, but the complete dining guide is always available on our website or on our official mobile app, *The Pulse*. The app is available on iPhone and Android platforms; head over to facebook.com/lansingapp or text “pulse” to 77948 for links to download.

Bon appétit!

TOP 5 SEAFOOD

#1 MITCHELL'S FISH MARKET

City Pulse readers love its fresh fish, flown in daily
2975 Preyde Blvd., Lansing.
(517) 482-3474
mitchellsfishmarket.com
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-midnight
Friday-Saturday

#2 RED LOBSTER

Chain restaurant known for its seafood options and
Cheddar Bay Biscuits
3130 E. Saginaw St., Lansing
(517) 351-0610
redlobster.com
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m.
Friday-Saturday

#3 MARU SUSHI & GRILL (OKEMOS)

High quality sushi, upscale atmosphere
5100 Marsh Road, Okemos
(517) 349-7500
marurestaurant.com
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. & 4-9:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday;
11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday

#4 CAPITAL PRIME

Upscale surf and turf restaurant with contemporary
ambiance
2324 Showtime Drive, Lansing.
(517) 377-7463
capitalprimelansing.com
11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11:30 a.m.-midnight
Friday-Saturday; 2-9 p.m. Sunday

#5 SOUP SPOON CAFE

City Pulse readers love Soup Spoon’s breakfast options,
soups and sandwiches
1419 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 316-2377
soupspooncafe.com
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Fool-chickpeas Modammas — Sultan's

Hannibal Lecter, the horrific villain from the "Silence of the Lambs," famously described what he liked with his fava beans. Me? I prefer them with chickpeas in a delightful, liver-free sauce.

Fool-chickpeas Modammas, an appetizer served at Sultan's restaurant, is, well, appetizing. It was the perfect choice when this fool couldn't decide between the restaurant's Fool Modammas, which is made with fava beans, or the chickpeas modammas.



Sultan's

11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday
4790 S. Hagadom Road, East Lansing
(517) 333-4444, sultansmediterranean.com

Fool-chickpeas Modammas features a warm mixture of fava beans and chickpeas immersed in a delicious amalgam of cooked tomatoes, parsley, onions and seasonings. While somewhat spicy, this dish is not especially fiery. The mixture is spread out on a plate and thick enough to be managed with a fork yet soupy enough to warrant a spoon, but I found using pita

bread to scoop up the yumminess is the best choice.

Since the plate is dinner size, the appetizer is enough to share. Or pair it with pita bread and either vegetable or crushed lentil soup, and the Fool-chickpeas Modammas can make a meal for one.

It's appealing enough that even Lecter might approve, despite its lack of liver.

— DAVID WINKELSTERN

What's your favorite dish/drink?

Do you have a go-to dish or drink at your favorite local restaurant? We want to know about it. Email your favorite dish/drink and a short explanation about why you love it to food@lansingcitypulse.com, and it may be featured in a future issue. If possible, please send a photo along with your description — a nice smartphone photo is fine. Cheers!

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Appetizers

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Hot Chicken Kitchen

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Ingham County solicits proposals from qualified and experienced construction management firms for the purpose of entering into a contract with the County to provide professional construction management services for a new Ingham County Animal Control Shelter, where the CM will not be a constructor. Info: <http://pu.ingham.org>, under Current Bids link. PKT 4-17

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• ADVERTISEMENT

 <p>CBD Gardens 6070 Martin Luther King Blvd., Lansing (517) 618-9544 Hours- Noon-10 p.m. daily</p>	<p>An OK place with mediocre staff! Mention this ad and we might give you a free gram :) Check us out on Instagram: @cbdgardens</p>	 <p>Capital Dank 1202 S. Washington Ave., Lansing (517) 657-7885 Hours- 11 a.m.-10 p.m. daily</p>	<p>Lansing's #1 Premium Medical Provisioning Center. Capital Dank is a medical marijuana dispensary with an enormous selection of high quality strains, concentrates, and infused products. We offer safe, well-appointed environments in which certified patients can get quality medical marijuana.</p>
 <p>Cannaisseur 3200 N. East St., Lansing (517) 580-6702 Hours- Mon-Sat: 10am-9 p.m. Sun: 10am-6pm</p>	<p>Our mission at Cannaisseur is to provide MMMP patients with a safe, secure location to obtain high quality cannabis and cannabis products at a fair price from a compassionate, professional, knowledgeable staff. We strive to make your experience great! Stop by today. All new patients receive a free strain specific preroll!</p>	 <p>Nature's Alternative 2521 S. Cedar St., Lansing (517) 253-7290 Hours- Mon-Sat: 11am. to 8 p.m. Sun: Noon-5 p.m.</p>	<p>Our mission at Nature's Alternative is to provide access to high quality, medical marijuana in a safe and professional environment. We are committed to helping patients find the most effective relief for their qualifying ailments. A wide variety of lab tested medical marijuana flowers, edibles and extracts are always available.</p>
 <p>KOLA 1106 N. Larch St., Lansing (517) 999-0994 Hours- Mon - Sat 11am-8pm, Sun 12pm-5pm.</p>	<p>Here at Kola, we have the highest quality, lab tested meds obtainable. We strive to continually raise the bar, bettering the industry and community through excellent quality control, great service and education. You can expect an open, safe facility with professional, knowledgeable and friendly staff - stop by and let us show you what we have to offer.</p>	 <p>Cedar Street MMMP 3205 S. Cedar St., Lansing (517) 708-0577 Hours: Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-11 p.m. Sat-Sun: 10 a.m.-11 p.m.</p>	<p>Our mission is to ensure the highest standards of client relations, make sure each patient feels comfortable, and informed. Come meet our friendly and knowledgeable staff for recommendations on our wide variety of flower, edibles, CBD products, concentrates, and more! Still need to get certified? Stop in and we'll help!</p>
 <p>Budz R Us 1804 W. Saginaw St., Lansing Hours- Mon-Sat 10am-10pm Sun 11am-7pm (517)580-7434</p>	<p>We are an alternative medicine provisioning center, specializing in pain management. We offer a vast selection of top quality, lab tested medication. Stop in and have a conversation with our friendly and knowledgeable staff today. Don't forget to redeem your coupon that's in this weeks edition of City Pulse. Find us on Weedmaps.</p>	 <p>StarBuds 1210 N. Larch St., Lansing starbuds-mi.com Hours- Mon-Fri: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sat: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun: Noon- 5 p.m.</p>	<p>StarBuds combines years of experience serving the Lansing area with an educated staff to bring you an unparalleled selection of quality products and accurate marijuana information. Our mission is to give you high-quality tested medicine with an emphasis on patient education. StarBuds is here to help!</p>
 <p>Got Meds 3405 S. Cedar St, Lansing (517) 253-7468 Hours- Mon-Thurs: 9 a.m.-midnight Fri-Sat: 9 a.m.-2 a.m. Sun: 9 a.m.-10 p.m.</p>	<p>Got Meds is a donation-based organization committed to meeting its customers' needs. As a result, a high percentage of our business is from repeat customers and referrals. Our budtenders are knowledgeable and experienced, allowing us to deliver you the best services and products in a fun, relaxed atmosphere.</p>	 <p>Superior Genetics 1522 Turner St., Lansing Hours- Mon-Sat 10am-9pm Sunday 10am-5pm</p>	<p>Conveniently Located in the Old Town District in North Lansing, Just minutes from 1496 and 169. We Offer ONLY Top Quality Medical Marijuana Strains, Medibles, and Alternative Medicines that are ALWAYS Lab tested. Check us out on the WEEDMAPS app, or stop in today! "Superior Genetics, A Natural Healing Collective."</p>
<p>Advertise your DISPENSARY here!</p>		 <p>The Emerald City 2200 S. Cedar St., Lansing (517) 253-0397 Hours- Mon-Sat: 10 AM-11 PM Sun: Noon-7 PM</p>	<p>Emerald City is one of Lansing's oldest and fastest growing provision centers! We Strive to provide the most comfortable, professional and cleanest atmosphere to access medical marijuana in the state of Michigan. Our meds are the highest quality at the best possible prices we can provide. "City Pulse" to (313) 349-4700.</p>