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June 7-13, 2017



2017 TOP OF THE TOWN WINNERS PAGE 15

“EXQUISITE. AN EMOTIONAL POWERHOUSE” -Chicago Tribune

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SECOND ANNUAL CITY PULSE LGBTQ INCLUSION AWARDS

Thursday, June 15 • 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Spiral Dance Bar • 1247 Center St., Lansing

The honorees have been selected by last year's winners! Come fete them on Thursday, June 15. Doors open at 7 for the Inclusion Awards Cocktail Party. Awards Ceremony at 8 p.m.

Tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door
Tickets include: Admission to the Michigan Pride White Party the next night (\$10 value, courtesy Spiral) - half price on drinks - heavy appetizers from local restaurants, and more

Purchase in advance by credit card at www.lansingcitypulse.com or call Suzi at (517) 999-6704 with credit card information. Mail checks to City Pulse/Inclusion Awards, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing 48912 by June 14. Pay in person by cash or credit weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the mailing address.



State Rep. Sam Singh, D-East Lansing

Rachel Crandall-Crocker
Emily Dievendorf
Susan Hope Dundas
Delicious Jackson

Dwayne Riley
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Between the Lines
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CityPULSE



JUNE 23-24 SUMMER SOLSTICE JAZZ FESTIVAL

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LAURA RAIN & THE CAESARS * GABRIEL BRASS BAND * ROGER JONES & HIGHER CALLING * ARLENE MCDANIEL QUARTET * GRUPO AYE * ELDEN KELLY TRIO * 496 WEST * TWYLA BIRDSONG
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DOWNTOWN EAST LANSING

with artistic direction
by Rodney Whitaker

PUBLIC NOTICES

CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (CATA)

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR PUBLIC INPUT ON DRAFT POLICY FOR DISPARATE IMPACT AND DISPROPORTIONATE BURDEN

Pursuant to federal requirements under Title VI and Executive Order 12898 on environmental justice principles, the CATA Board of Directors is adopting a policy to define when a proposed significant service or fare change would have a disparate impact on members of a group identified by race, color, or national origin or disproportionate burden on low-income persons.

CATA has developed a draft policy that revised Policy #604, Service and Route Changes. The draft policy is available for review by visiting the CATA website, www.cata.org. The notice and link to the draft policy is on the home page. Interested persons or groups can obtain a copy by emailing planning@cata.org (use "Title VI Policy" for the subject) or mailing CATA Title VI Policy, 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing, MI 48910.

Persons or organizations may comment on the draft policy in writing on or before June 16, 2017, to CATA at the address above or by email to planning@cata.org (use "Title VI Policy" for the subject).

CP#17-163

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on Wednesday, June 28, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

1. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Burcham Hills Retirement Center II for a modified special use permit for the property at 2700 Burcham Drive. The applicant is proposing to secure a MCL 436.1545(1)(b)(ii) (License) from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) to serve alcoholic beverages to residents and guests in designated areas of the extended care/nursing facility. The property is a continuing care retirement community located in the RM8, Planned Unit Development District.

2. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from AKC, Inc. d/b/a Charlie Kang's Restaurant for a special use permit to serve and sell alcohol. The applicant is proposing to obtain a Class C and SDM License (which includes a Sunday Sales Permit). The property is located in the B3, City Center Business District.

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

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

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#17-167

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING

NOTICE OF THE PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE NO. 31.236

I, Susan L. Aten, Clerk of the Charter Township of Lansing, Michigan, do hereby certify that the following Ordinance is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance passed by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Lansing at a regular meeting held on Tuesday May 30, 2017

ORDINANCE NO. 31.236
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP BEING A PART OF
ORDINANCE NO. 31 OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING ORDAINS:

Sec. 1. THE ZONING MAP, which by Section 302 of Ordinance No. 31 of the Charter Township of Lansing is made a part of said Ordinance and which Section reads as follows:

Section 302. ZONING MAPS. The boundaries of said zones are shown upon the map or maps attached hereto and designated as Zoning Maps. The zoning maps and all notations, references, and other information appearing thereon are hereby declared to be a part of this Ordinance and of the same force and effect as if the zones therein designed were fully set forth by metes and bounds herein. References, notations, and other information shown thereon are likewise incorporated herein with like force and effect.

Shall be so amended as to fix the zoning classification of properties described as follows:

Ord. 31.236 Case R-17-2: Property located at 714, 716, 718, and 720 Edgemont Blvd has been rezoned from "D" Administrative to "C-3" Medium Density Residential.

Sec. 2. This Ordinance shall take effect and be enforced 7 days after publication.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Township Clerk is hereby instructed to publish this Ordinance once in the City Pulse, a newspaper of general circulation in this Township.

Susan L. Aten, Clerk
Charter Township of Lansing

CP#17-165

CityPULSE

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Lansing chamber picks Schor, Dunbar, Houghton

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Suzanne Fischer wants to make museums noisy, interactive

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Nearing 100, arts patron Selma Hollander feted at MSU

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Top of the Town by Jonathan Griffith

COVER
ART

NOW AT 10:30 A.M.

SATURDAYS ON

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

How did the Ormond Park road proposal get into the Master Plan? Good question

The Bernero administration's plan to build an entrance road to the Groesbeck Golf Course through Ormond Park may have hit a pothole bigger than even those on Michigan Avenue.

A review of public records by City Pulse shows no evidence that the Ormond Park road proposal was ever vetted in any of the dozens of hours of public meetings conducted by the city's Park Board in the lead-up to its February 2015 vote to approve the Five Year Recreation Plan or in all the public meetings in March 2015 when the plan was before the Council.

Yet somehow the road plan is in a current version of the Five Year Plan, also known as the Parks Master Plan.

As a result, three members of the Lansing City Council are questioning the legality of the entrance plan. The Council had rejected the plan last month, but it was unable to overturn Mayor Virg Bernero's veto.

Now, though, Council members Carol Wood, Jody Washington and Adam Hussain are calling for an investigation into how the proposal ended up in the Parks Master Plan without the knowledge of the public or the Council.

They argue that because there is no paper trail showing how the proposal ended up in the plan, including no legislative history showing a motion to include it during Council committee meetings and public hearings, the proposed entrance road has no legal standing.

"I think the City Council was misled," said Hussain. "I think the Park Board was betrayed but, most important of all, the public. I think they deserve the investigation. I think they deserve some measure of restoration of confidence."

City Council President Patricia Spitzley said she could support an investigation "if the Master Plan has, in fact, been altered without public input and without City Council's knowledge."

Hussain and Spitzley served on the Park Board in 2015 and voted to approve the Master Plan at that time. Neither could



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Residents surrounding Ormond Park tried to stop the Bernero administration's plan to put a road through the park, but they were unsuccessful. Now they may have a second chance.

recall if the Ormond proposal was contained in the plan.

However, a copy of the Parks Master Plan adopted by the Park Board provided by the current Park Board president, Veronica Gracia-Wing, shows it was not in the document. Hussain said the Ormond plan was not discussed at any of the dozens of hours of public meetings leading up to adopting of plan.

The issue came to the forefront in the last two weeks as city leaders wrangled over a proposal by Bernero to shift management — and a substantial lump of parks millage funds — to the Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority to manage Groesbeck Golf Course. The Council rejected that plan in a budget it adopted last month, but Bernero vetoed the move. The Council met last week in an attempt to override that veto, but failed. Three of the eight Council members did not attend.

During that debate, the Council learned that the city intended to spend an additional \$385,000 in park millage money to create the road through Ormond Park. Neighbors of the 8-acre park rose up in opposition to the plan, as they have twice before.

Calling "change difficult for people,"

Bernero told WKAR the road was going to happen.

Video from the night of the 2015 public hearing on the Parks Master Plan, combined with a review of hundreds of pages of public documents, including drafts of the plan itself, revealed no evidence that the Ormond Park road was considered. It does not appear in any publicly available drafts of the Parks Master Plan until March 23, 2015, at 12:58 p.m. when Joe Wright, landscape coordinator for the city, submitted the "current draft" to City Clerk Chris Swope for distribution at the meeting that night.

The March 23, 2015, video of the Council meeting and public hearing show Parks and Recreation Director Brett Kaschinske telling the Council of some cosmetic changes, like adding recently appointed Councilman Vincent Delgado to the City Council list and one significant change in objectives: that the city would work to make playground upgrades carried out under the five-year plan ADA compliant.

No mention is made of the Ormond Park plan in any publicly available videos of the meetings, or minutes of any

See Ormond Park, Page 6



Property: 3512 S. Martin Luther King Jr., Lansing

This is an eyesore on the mend. It was featured as an Eyesore in June 2013 (below), but judging from the history on Google Maps, it had been an issue for several years prior. The building served as an auto dealership and the feature suggested that, due to the specific needs of that use, it would be difficult to repurpose the building as something else.

Painted white, the building provides a sharp example of International Style architecture and a home for MySpace Self-storage. Windows have been repaired, graffiti removed and — most significantly — the front of the building was transformed from a parking lot to an attractive lawn.

—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.

Ormond Park

from page 5

of the public meetings held to develop the plan, including the public hearing to adopt the final plan.

Wood said in order for the Ormond plan to have been adopted, the Council would have adopted an amendment to the plan as part of its final resolution. City Attorney Jim Smiertka disagreed. He said there was

no need for an amendment.

Swope distributed the 12:58 p.m. draft that evening as the public hearing was introduced, so the Council had two draft documents before them: one with and one without the Ormond plan.

Wood, Hussain and Washington all believe that the Council voted in March 2015 to adopt the parks plan that did not include the Ormond Park road plan.

As a result, they contend the city can't move forward until the "inconsistencies in the public record" are addressed, and doing

so without resolving those questions was, as Wood said, a "misuse" of those dollars.

The project is currently out for bids.

Washington said that in her opinion because of the "deceit" the master plan "in this instance is null and void."

For his part, Hussain said he does not know if the city can legally move forward with the plan. But he said it appeared the plan had "sidestepped democracy."

Wood said she is not holding her breath that Bernero and his team will halt the project, but she hopes they will consider

what impact moving forward could have on the three-term mayor.

"I would hope as someone who has 208 days left that he would stop and consider what legacy he as a mayor wants to leave," Wood said. "They talked about the legacy that Hollister has left. You know how he turned GM around and all of those things. Does Virg Bernero's legacy want to be the fact that he's misused, misrepresented and has cared nothing about transparency?"

—TODD HEYWOOD

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS Ingham County Drain Commissioner Patrick E. Lindemann

Notice is Hereby Given that a Public Hearing of Apportionment for special assessment of costs incurred by the drainage districts listed below will be held at the office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, 707 Buhl Avenue, in the City of Mason, Michigan, 48854, on **Tuesday, June 20, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

At the meeting to review the apportionment of benefits, I will have the tentative apportionments against parcels and municipalities within the drainage district available to review. Any drain assessments against land will be collected in the same manner as property taxes. For assessments to be collected in installments, the Drain Code (Act 40 of 1956, Sec. 154 [e]) provides that the assessment may be paid in full with any interest to date at any time and thereby avoid further interest charges.

DRAIN NAME	MUNICIPALITY	SECTION NUMBERS
A05-00 ALLCHIN DRAIN	LEROY TOWNSHIP	10, 15, 16
B12-00 BIRD DRAIN	WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	3, 4, 9, 10, 15, 16
B20-00 BROWNELL DRAIN	STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP	27, 28, 33-35
	VILLAGE OF STOCKBRIDGE	26, 27, 35
B22-00 BULLETT LAKE DRAIN	WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP	13, 24, 25
	LOCKE TOWNSHIP	17-20, 29, 30
C20-00 COLLAR DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP	1, 12
	WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	7, 8
C23-00 COLUMBIA STREET DRAIN	VEVAY TOWNSHIP	6, 7
	CITY OF MASON	5-8
C46-00 CHERRY RIDGE NO. 2 DRAIN	WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP	22, 27
D01-00 DANA AND STARKS DRAIN	LEROY TOWNSHIP	4, 5, 8, 9
L16-00 LOWE LAKE DRAIN	WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP	34, 35, 36
	STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP	1-3, 10-15, 22-28, 33-36
	VILLAGE OF STOCKBRIDGE	22, 23, 26, 27, 34, 35
L29-00 LINDSAY DRAIN	VILLAGE OF STOCKBRIDGE	23, 26
L40-01 LOCKE/WILLIAMSTOWN, WOODVIEW DRAIN	WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP	25, 36
L43-00 LOCKE DRAIN NUMBER 3	LOCKE TOWNSHIP	11, 14
M05-00 MARSHALL AND WILCOX DRAIN	LEROY TOWNSHIP	32
	INGHAM TOWNSHIP	1, 12
	WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP	5-8
	CITY OF WILLIAMSTON	12
N05-00 NOTTINGHAM CONDOMINIUMS DRAIN		
P02-00 PATRICK DRAIN	INGHAM TOWNSHIP	25, 26, 36
	WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP	19, 29, 30, 31
	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP	1
	STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP	6
P06-00 PHEENY DRAIN	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP	4, 9
P10-00 POLLIWOG MARSH DRAIN	STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP	15, 16, 21, 22, 27, 28
	VILLAGE OF STOCKBRIDGE	22, 27
P13-00 POWELL DRAIN	WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP	15, 16, 21, 22
S18-00 SMITH AND CONKLIN DRAIN	WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP	23, 24, 25, 26
S31-00 SULLIVAN CREEK DRAIN	LOCKE TOWNSHIP	21, 22, 27, 28, 33, 34
	LEROY TOWNSHIP	3, 4
S42-00 SWAN AND BEATTY DRAIN	WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	13, 24
	LEROY TOWNSHIP	19
S44-00 SQUAW CREEK DRAIN	WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP	13, 24, 25
	LOCKE TOWNSHIP	16-21, 28-33
V01-00 VANDERHOOF AND ROBINSON DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP	36
	WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	31, 32
	VEVAY TOWNSHIP	1, 12, 13, 24
	INGHAM TOWNSHIP	4-8, 17-20
W01-00 WAUBANAKIN DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP	24, 25, 36
	WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	19, 29-32
W11-00 WHEATFIELD NO. 1 DRAIN	WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	17-20
W12-00 WHEATFIELD NUMBER TWO DRAIN	WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	10, 11, 15

Proceedings conducted at the day of review are subject to the Michigan Open Meetings Act. 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 apportionment may appeal to the Ingham County Probate Court within ten (10) days of the Day of Review.

Patrick E. Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#17-164

'Dirty trick'

Schor, Brown Clarke differ on fairness of anonymous 'push poll'

Mayoral candidates Andy Schor and Judi Brown Clarke have pledged to run clean campaigns. But someone conducting an anonymous telephone "push poll" apparently is not onboard, at least in Schor's view.



Schor



Browne Clarke

"There's zero legitimacy to it," Schor said of the calls. "Push polling data is only done to tear down, tear somebody down. In this case they're trying to tear me down with falsification. I think the people Lansing are smarter than that to fall for this dirty political trick."

A push poll is a political tool used to sway a respondent's answers in a particular direction. Schor contended the push poll is designed to place Brown Clarke in a better light.

Brown Clarke views it differently. "I thought the questions reflected controversial votes that both of us made, including my vote against sanctuary cities and how that may affect whether or not

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF INGHAM
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
File No. 17-523-DE**

Estate of Maria Manko. Date of Birth: April 26, 1923.
TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent, Maria Manko, died December 3, 2016. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Elizabeth Wilcox, personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: May 26, 2017

Cummins Woods
Thomas E. Woods P22543
521 West Ionia Street
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 487-0800

Elizabeth Wilcox
811 N. Hayford Avenue
Lansing, MI 48912
(517) 484-4015 CP#17-166

someone would vote for me," she said in an email. She said it also referenced her support of tax incentives for developers.

She said she received the call and "took the poll." Schor said he has not heard the call.

Schor, a state representative, and Brown Clarke, a City Councilwoman, agreed last month

at a joint event to eschew negative campaigning. They are among a field of five candidates in the Aug. 8 primary election. Two will face each other in the Nov. 7 General Election.

One person who received a call, northside community activist Dayle Benjamin, agreed that it asked the questions that Brown Clarke said it did about her.

Benjamin, who support Schor, said it also asked about Schor's votes on police funding when he served on the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and on medical marijuana in the Legislature.

"It seemed skewed to promote the positive about her," he said. "I knew right off the bat it was an anti-Andy thing."

The call does not identify who sponsored the poll. Brown Clarke said, "it is not my poll and I did not pay for it."

But political experts said while she may not have fielded the poll, it was likely her allies did.

"She's way behind in the polls and the endorsements," said political consultant Joe DiSano, who is not working for any mayoral campaign. "The only way to shake things up is for her to go for his jugular. For her to muddy him."

Indeed, polling has placed Schor up over Brown Clarke by at least 15 points. And he's amassed a bevy of local elected officials' endorsements, as well as nods from organized labor and the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce. Brown Clarke lists no endorsements on her website.

"Given where the race is at, it makes sense for Judi Brown Clarke or her allies to put out a push poll rather than Andy Schor," said Susan Demas, editor and publisher of Inside Michigan Politics.

"Ultimately, it doesn't matter what the source is, it's who benefits from it," said DiSano.

Because the poll does not identify who is paying for it, and the number that was reported by those who received the call rings to an automated recorded message that runs a loop, it is raising concerns that this is the opening salvo in what will "probably become a very negative race," DiSano said

It's also raises the specter of so-called dark money groups — unregulated, shadowy political "education" nonprofits. The groups can accept donations and spend them to advocate for political issues and perspectives but they don't have to reveal their donors.

See Dirty trick, Page 7

Dirty trick

from page 6

They've been an issue in past local elections. Last November at least three shadowy groups were expected to play a role in the mayoral race. That was before Mayor Virg Bernero announced he would not seek election to a fourth term.

One such dark money group that has emerged in this election cycle is No Secret Lansing Deals, which took aim at Bernero before he withdrew.

Its spokesman, TJ Bucholz, said the group had no role in the push poll and none in the coming election.

"All Lansing Secret Deals is focused on is asking these questions about the current administration and the relationships with the different businesses and developers in town," he said.

After Schor announced he was running, Bernero, who had not yet pulled out, sent out a press release attacking a Schor for allegedly hiring Bucholz as his campaign spokesman. Schor said that Bucholz was volunteering and dropped him after Bernero's attack.

Two other dark-money outfits, Reform Lansing and Capitol Region Progress, have been active in recent local races.

Capitol Region Progress is a registered political nonprofit with ties to the political campaign consulting group Grassroots Midwest, which went after candidates whom Bernero opposed. That involvement included robocalls as well as mailers. It has been quiet this year.

Reform Lansing formed last year. Spokeswoman Angela Wittrock said it would register as a political nonprofit as well. It seems to have gone silent since Bernero announced he would not seek re-election. Wittrock said her group "isn't engaged in electoral politics."

Brown Clarke would not call for those behind the poll to step forward.

"While government should be transparent because it is public, I am not sure that same scrutiny can be demanded of a private entity or business. However, I can say transparency is generally a good idea," she said in an email.

Schor called on the push pollsters to go public.

"If they want to falsify information, if they want to make claims about me. Let them do it. Let them step up," Schor said. "Hold a press conference. Put something out.

"I'd love to have the opportunity to engage with any of those folks and have that conversation."

— TODD HEYWOOD

New poll

Brown Clarke running close to Schor, who calls survey 'junk'

A poll conducted anonymously places Councilwoman Judi Brown Clarke just three percentage points behind State Rep. Andy Schor in the Lansing mayor's race — much closer than earlier results.

A local public relations, Advantage Associates, said in a news release that an automated poll conducted last week showed Brown Clarke with 48.5 percent support and Schor with 51.5 percent. The news release said 399 "likely voters" responded to the robocall, of whom 210 were women. The respondents were roughly evenly distributed over the city's four wards, it said. It was conducted May 30 to June 1 and has a 4 percent margin of error, the release said.

Earlier polling result showed a wide margin between Schor and Brown Clarke.

In March, Morgan Communications City Pulse commissioned a poll last fall, conducted by the local firm Practical Political Consultants, that showed Schor led Brown Clarke 47 percent to 20 percent. The poll, with 243 respondents, had an error rate of 6 percent.

— TODD HEYWOOD

Last fall, before Mayor Virg Bernero announced he would not seek reelection, a City Pulse poll showed Schor leading Bernero 46 percent to 34 percent, with Brown Clarke receiving 19 percent.

Advantage Associates, is owned by Jake Davison, a self-described tea party conservative. He said in the release that the poll was conducted by Political Marketing International, a Florida automated polling firm.

Misspelling Brown Clarke's last name, Davison said in the press release: "This poll challenges the conventional wisdom that Judi Brown Clark is significantly behind. No one can say who will replace Mayor Bernero at this point."

The press release said Advantage Associates commissioned the poll. It is silent on whether it did so for a client.

Calls to Davison were not immediately returned.

Schor called the results "junk polling."

"All this release does is identify the right-wing political hired gun who conducted this push poll," said Schor. (See related story, Page X.)

Schor said his campaign has not done any polling.

Calls to Brown Clarke were not immediately returned.

Name games

Lansing Chamber adds itself to Schor's long list of endorsers

Andy Schor has a host of endorsements in his race for mayor of Lansing. But none may be bigger than that of Dion'trae Hayes. Who?

Hayes is supervisor of Lansing Township, population 8,126 spread out over five noncontiguous pieces of land in and around the city of Lansing.

And why, when Schor has the backing of state senators and representatives, unions and countywide elected officials, is the endorsement of the leader of little Lansing Township so important?

Because Hayes' endorsement played a role in landing him the support of the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Hayes' endorsement is a "big thing, symbolically," said Steve Japinga, the chamber's director of government relations. Lansing's brash mayor, Virg Bernero, has wasted no love on Lansing Township, which he once dubbed North Korea.

"That relationship has been damaged and it's time to fix it," Japinga said. "Andy will build that bridge."

So, Schor might want to send a thank-you note to Hayes for helping him win over the chamber, the big fish of local endorsements. With it comes serious money.

Independent political action groups, like the chamber's, can mean as much as \$20,000. Individuals can give \$2,000.

Schor added the chamber endorsement to a list of local labor unions: United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitter's Local Union 333; Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters and Millwrights; Greater Lansing Association of Realtors; SMART Local Union No. 7; IBEW Local Union 352; IBEW Local Union 665; Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council; LiUNA Local Union 499; Capitol City Labor Program; Operating Engineers 321; and Michigan Teamsters Joint Council #43.

He's racked up the endorsements of a bevy of local elected officials, including the entire membership of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners, State Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr. and House Democratic Leader Sam Singh of East Lansing.

Judi Brown Clarke, considered Schor's top competitor among a field of five in the Aug. 8 primary election, released a list of endorsements that includes Clarence Underwood, the former athletic director of Michigan State University; Brent Knight, president of Lansing Community College; and Republican activist Linda Lee Tarver. In addition, Brown Clarke claims support from "more than" 50 MSU and 20 LCC faculty members and administrators, 30 Lansing School District teachers and "over 35 large and small businesses."

In the At-Large race, where two seats are up, the chamber endorsed incumbent

Kathie Dunbar and school board member Peter Spadafore. Of the dozen at-large candidates, only Dunbar, Spadafore, Guillermo Lopez, Yanice Jackson, Alexander Rusek and Kyle Bowman were interviewed. The top four vote-getters in the primary will run in the Nov. 7 General Election.

Japinga noted that while the chamber "may not agree with her on every issue, we have a great relationship" with Dunbar. He said Spadafore has a proven track record of "being a consensus builder." He pointed to Spadafore's term as president of the Lansing School Board when the district was able to pass a \$120 million bond proposal to fund improvements to school buildings.

At-large candidates can also receive up to \$20,000 from PACs and \$2,000 from individuals.

Organized labor has not yet announced its endorsements for the Council. Besides the two at-large seats, the 2nd and 4th Ward spots are on the ballot.

In the 2nd Ward, two-term incumbent Tina Houghton got the Chamber nod. She's up against five other candidates. The chamber interviewed three: Jim DeLine, the former internal auditor for the city; neighborhood activist Julee Rodocker; and Jeremy Garza.

Japinga said candidates reported to the interview committee "that things are going well in Southeast Lansing." He said Houghton;s work with others on the Council helped to "allow job creation and economic development."

Ward candidates can receive up to

\$10,000 from independent committees like LRC-PAC and up to \$1,000 in donations per individual.

In a surprise move, the chamber chose not to endorse in the 4th Ward.

"There are some really good candidates out there in the 4th," Japinga said. "We're going to continue to build those relationships and talk with the candidates for possible endorsements in the general election."

After incumbent Jessica Yorke announced she would not seek reelection, seven candidates filed to fill her seat: James McClurken, Elvin Caldwell, Brian T. Jackson, Kathy Raffone, Larry Hutchinson, Jason Durham and Amanda Bernes. The chamber only interviewed McClurken, vice chairman of the Park Board, and Jackson, an attorney.

"I look forward to continuing to talk with the chamber of the course of the primary," McClurken said Tuesday. "It's important to understand their concerns and figure where we can find common ground."

Jackson said he had no comment about the chamber's no endorsement decision.

Both McClurken and Jackson have racked up big national endorsements. McClurken has been endorsed by the Victory Fund, a group that helps train and support LGBT candidates for office. Jackson has been endorsed by Launch Progress, a national political action group designed to "build a bench of progressive candidates for the Democratic Party."

— TODD HEYWOOD

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC • THEATER

NEW LIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

Suzanne Fischer wants to tell untold stories

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

It was hard to find a quiet spot at the Michigan History Museum on a rainy Friday this May to talk with the museum's new director, Suzanne Fischer.

She likes the place loud and interactive.

Against a hair-raising backdrop of suspension cables dangling over the Straits of Mackinac, enthusiastic 60-something volunteer Dick Henshaw had a group of kids enthralled.

"You guys want to hold a bolt from the Mackinac Bridge?" he asked with a conspiratorial wink. "Use two hands — don't drop it and get me fired."

When they all had hefted the bolt, Henshaw pulled out a blue light from the bridge and flashed it on and off. In between the razzle-dazzle, he snuck in a lot of information about the principles behind suspension bridges. The girls in the group lit up when Henshaw told them the bridge's chief engineer is a woman.

Maybe things were quieter in pre-industrial times? No chance. At the entrance to the first-floor exhibits, which run in chronological order, a teacher and a group of 12-year-olds ooh-ed and aah-ed at staff artist Rich Geer's brand-new floor-to-ceiling mural depicting Anishinaabe Native American life in early Michigan.

The panorama is crammed with busy people and fascinating details, like a painting by Pieter Bruegel the Elder but without the disapproving moral tone.

"This is their summer house, and this is their winter house," the teacher explained. "Look what they used for insulation."

"Moss!" a girl cried out.

We gave up on peace and quiet, sat down in a nearby canoe and did our best to talk above the din.

"We're trying to encourage active looking and inquiry," Fischer said.

The building opened in 1989 with second-floor exhibits depicting Michigan up to the 20th century. In 1995, exhibits on Michigan history from 1900 to the present were finished on the first floor. Fischer was named director at the end of 2016 and has been on the job for five months.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Suzanne Fischer, the new director of the Michigan History Museum System, loves the history of gadgets like this Fresnel lens, displayed at the Michigan History Museum in downtown Lansing.

Last fall, the exhibit on Michigan's first peoples was revamped, aided by a grant from the Kellogg Foundation. It's the first stage in a gradual re-envisioning of the whole museum. Curators worked with people from tribal communities across the state to put together the mural, unveiled last fall, and the artifacts that are shown along with it.

"That kind of collaboration was new for us, but that's how museum practice has been going," Fischer said.

Popular parts of the museum — like the nifty U.P. iron ore mining tunnel — will stay, but artifacts like the truly awful effigy of Stevens T. Mason, Michigan's first governor, are on their way out.

"Maybe he'll get a farewell tour," Fischer said. "We're definitely going to

tell this story differently."

The statehood period will expand to tell a lot more untold stories.

"In 1836, there was a major treaty in which native people ceded two thirds of the state of Michigan," Fischer said. "That's not highlighted in our current exhibit. We don't hear the stories of people who lost their land."

Fischer and her staff were surprised to learn that in the late 19th century there were over 400 African-American owned farms in southwest Michigan, and they are looking for ways to tell that story as well.

Fischer, 36, grew up in Oak Park, a suburb of Detroit.

She set out to be a scientist, but her interests skewed more toward the stories behind scientific instruments.

She studied the history of science in graduate school and found work at small medical history museum in Minneapolis.

She still loves to study old gadgets, especially medical ones. She was fascinated by a "DIY iron lung" she just saw last month on a visit to the Marquette Regional History Center.

"It was made from packing boxes and powered by a phonograph motor," she said.

Typewriters are among her obsessions. "The QWERTY keyboard was not inevitable," she explained, warming fast to the topic. "There were all these options, different ways of thinking about the alphabet."

She described a few at some length. "I like that kind of joyful chaos," she

Museum

from page 8

said. “Everybody’s making things, and nobody knows who’s going to win.”

Fischer spent a few years as associate curator of technology at the Henry Ford Museum — “they have a fabulous typewriter collection” — then went to the West Coast to become a curator at the Oakland Museum of California.

An exhibit there about the 1960s typified the community-based approach Fischer wants to apply in Michigan.

“A lot of people in the Oakland area are heavily invested in the 1960s,” she said. “But whose 1960s?”

The exhibit had 24 niches, each curated by a separate person who lived through the decade, from a John Birch Society right-winger to a member of the Black Panther party to a non-Baby Boomer who was in grade school in the 1960s.

At the Michigan History Museum, new exhibit ideas will be tried out in a prototype space — a smallish room where a film about lumbering used to be shown. The first exhibit will begin Sept. 30, an interactive exhibit about the Au Sable River, complete with fly-tying lessons.

Fischer is gradually moving into stories that are more socially and politically current. Next year, “States of Incarceration,” a national traveling exhibit about mass incarceration in America, will be tied into the museum’s items relating to Michigan prisons.

Fischer said she’s gotten a lot of ideas from a talkback board she installed on the second floor, including suggestions for exhibits about the Flint water crisis, contemporary Native American peoples and the state’s South Asian community.

“Sometimes the lowest tech things do very well,” she said.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Stiff artifacts like this waxworks likeness of Stevens T. Mason, Michigan’s first governor, are on their way out as the museum moves toward more dynamic forms of storytelling.

As creepy Stevens T. Mason heads back to the waxworks, Fischer envisions a museum where people can come and recognize themselves.

She already hears from older baby boomers who are shocked to find some of their old stuff carefully arranged in the museum’s Eisenhower-era kitchen exhibit.

“Now everybody’s stuff is going to be in the museum,” she said. “It’s all one story, and it just keeps going.”



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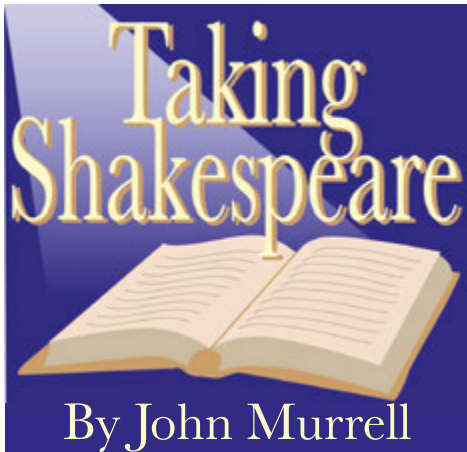
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City of Lansing MAYORAL DEBATE

What:

Candidates for Mayor of Lansing face-off

When:

Wednesday, June 21 @ 7pm
Doors open @ 5pm

Where:

Lansing Brewing Co.
518 E. Shiawassee St.
North of Lugnut Stadium

Watch:

Live on ACD's Facebook page
streaming through ACD's Fiber
Optic Network.



Judi Brown Clarke



Andy Schor

other candidates
to be announced



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‘What it means to be alive’

Nearing 100, arts mega-patron Selma Hollander feted at MSU

By TY FORQUER

On their honeymoon, Stanley Hollander told his new wife, Selma, that she would never have to work. So when he landed a job at Michigan State University and the couple arrived in East Lansing in 1958, she needed something to fill her time. She signed up for a millinery class at Michigan State University, because she enjoyed making — and wearing — her own hats. Selma Hollander has little trouble filling her time these days. On the verge of turning 100 later this month, she is as busy as

ever, attending recitals and theater performances, enjoying the company of her many friends and making art. For decades, Selma and Stanley Hollander were Lansing’s alpha patrons of the arts, supporting the local arts scene — especially at MSU — with both their finances and their attendance. Their names are attached to endowed chairs, scholarships, galleries and programs all over the sprawling university.

“I’m sure I’ve spent more time on campus than any student,” she told a packed Cowles House Sunday afternoon at a celebration of her upcoming June 18 birthday.

The historic MSU house was crammed with friends, artists, university dignitaries and other well-wishers. Stanley Hollander died in 2004, but Selma Hollander has continued her rigorous schedule of philanthropic and cultural outings. While much of the Hollanders’ giving has been university-focused — the couple received the MSU Alumni Association’s Philanthropist of the Year Award in 2002, commemorating their first \$1 million in contributions to MSU — their generosity also extended to the local theater scene and groups like the Lansing Symphony Orchestra.

Kirk Domer, chair of MSU’s Department of Theatre, was in attendance Sunday as both a representative of his department and a friend of Hollander. He noted the value of donors like Hollander who also give their time to the programs they support.

“It’s great to have a patron who loves the arts, but what makes Selma special is



Ty Forquer/City Pulse

Selma Hollander (center), flanked by MSU College of Music Dean James Forger (left) and Advancement Office Senior Director Rebecca Surian, blows out the candle on a birthday cake at Sunday’s party in her honor.

that she spends time with our students,” he said. “She infects them with her passion and generosity.”

James Forger, dean of the College of Music, served as the party’s emcee and even picked up his saxophone as part of an all-star music faculty tribute to the near-centenarian.

“She symbolizes what it means to be alive,” Forger said. “She embraces all the arts

— she attends, she supports, she applauds.”

And while she attended a wide variety of events, Forger noted that she didn’t love everything. But she always tried to get something out of it.

“Selma has a distinct and highly valued opinion,” he said. “She might say, ‘I didn’t care for that, but it was important that I was there.’”

See Alive, Page 12

Museum in a mall

Michigan Women’s Historical Center & Hall of Fame moves to Okemos

By CLARISSA KELL

Visitors to the Meridian Mall can now get a dash of history between picking up an outfit at H&M and grabbing a soft pretzel from Auntie Anne’s.

After nearly 30 years in the historic Cooley-Haze House on the southern edge of

Grand Re-Opening and 30th Anniversary Celebration

Noon Saturday, June 10
FREE
Michigan Women’s Historical Center & Hall of Fame
(Inside Meridian Mall)
1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos
(517) 763-2397,
michiganwomenshalloffame.org

downtown Lansing, the Michigan Women’s Historical Center & Hall of Fame made the move to the Okemos mall last month. And while the museum is still settling into its new space, it has already noticed some benefits.

“There has definitely been an increase in

foot traffic,” said Caitlyn Perry Dial, the executive director for the museum. “The very first week the museum opened, we broke the visitation record for a single month.”

The Michigan Women’s Historical Center & Hall of Fame moved into the north wing of the Meridian Mall, just a few doors down from the Younker’s for Men’s, Home & Furniture store. Aside from better foot traffic, the move also means better accessibility and more room for new exhibits.

“In 2015, our board agreed it was time to look for a new location,” Dial said. “Our organization was outgrowing the Cooley-Haze house.”

The museum re-opened with two exhibits from the Cooley-Haze House, “Michigan Women A to Z” and “Ladies of the Lights,” but it is working on new exhibits that will open later this year. “Michigan Women A to Z” highlights Michigan women who were pioneers in various careers and in Michigan history, while “Ladies of the Lights” spotlights Michigan women in the U.S. Lighthouse services.

“These exhibits are only temporary, until the space is redesigned by the graphic designers,” Dial said. “The Hall of Fame is going to be completely re-envisioned. We are redesigning and reinterpreting this exhibit to focus on the inductees’ achievements.”

Dial said the biographies of the inductees, including Michigan luminaries like Rosa Parks, Diana Ross and Betty Ford, are all



Clarissa Kell/City Pulse

The Michigan Women’s Historical Center & Hall of Fame recently moved to the Meridian Mall from the historic Cooley-Haze House, where it had been located for nearly 30 years. Clarissa Kell/City Pulse

still available on the museum’s website, but the plan is to get a digital kiosk in the museum so people can look up the inductees and their bios. She said the front of the museum will feature the Hall of Fame, and when you walk farther in, past the gift shop area, there will eventually be an exhibit on women’s suffrage, since the 100th anniversary of Michigan’s ratification of Women’s Suffrage Amendment is coming up next year.

One corner of the museum is unofficially called the “Herstory Lab,” which will be an education area for children. There will be a chalkboard wall in that area, so visitors can write messages about what they learned.

“New things take time and money,” Dial said. “Since the move, we’ve had to hire new staff because we’re open more hours.”

The Michigan Women’s Historical Center & Hall of Fame is already open to the public, but a grand re-opening is planned for June 10. The event will feature a ribbon-cutting, light refreshments and several speakers, including founding members of the organization and Michigan elected officials.

“We are waiting to do the official grand re-opening ceremony on June 10, because that will be the museum’s 30th anniversary,” Dial said. “That will also give us a couple weeks to work out the kinks.”



CURTAIN CALL

Powerful and painful 'Luna Gale' takes unflinching look at human suffering

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

It dealt with heartbreaking and uncomfortable issues. It had creepy characters and moments about as cheery as watching your grandfather being brutally clocked by a grandfather clock. Despite that, I enthusiastically endorse "Luna Gale."

Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.'s production of the Rebecca Gilman play was often tortuous to sit through. Descriptions or depictions of child rape and abuse, meth addiction, our over-burdened Child Protective Services system and over-zealous evangelicals might not sound like anything you'd want to buy a ticket for. But the

"Luna Gale"

Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.
8 p.m. Thursday, June 8-Saturday, June 10; 2 p.m. Sunday, June 11
\$15/\$10 students and seniors
Miller Performing Arts Center
6025 Curry Lane, Lansing
(517) 927-3016, peppermintcreek.org

Peppermint Creek cast — deftly directed by Jordon Climie — made the often overwhelming show worth every blood-red cent.

Sarah Lynn, as Karlie, offered a convincing depiction of a meth user confronting the possibility of losing her child, Luna. As believable and potent as Lynn's verbal deliveries were, her jittery and animated body movements alone were enough to sell the role of a woman on the edge. I cannot imagine anyone doing a better job in that role.

Connor Kelly, as the father, Peter, delivered a multi-faceted performance that established his own verbal and physical prowess. Kelly skillfully evolved from a despicable dad to a likeable father. Jean Burk, as Karlie's super-Christian mother, Cindy, went from meek to weird to aggressive to horrified, with each transformation feeling authentic.

Depending on one's religious leanings, Chad Swan-Badgero's Pastor Jay was either a model of a wise evangelical leadership or a bat-guano-crazy lunatic — or maybe both. To me, Badgero was more than an actor playing a part; his pastor impersonation was eerily realistic.

Ben Cassidy as Cliff, the social worker's boss, was also admirable in his portrayal of an un-admirable fellow who had hidden religious motives. I admit that I liked hating him. The role of Lourdes was capably played by Danica O'Neill, who gave a convincing performance as an alum of the public support system who was still in need of help.

Participants in the Peppermint Creek play powerfully portrayed poignant and perfect portraits of passionate people in perpetual pain. The suffering characters went through transformations during "Luna Gale" that required new levels of acting, and each actor masterfully met the challenge.

That includes Angela Dill, as Caroline, the damaged, ever serious, big-hearted social worker. I remembered Dill for comedic roles in plays like "You Can't Take it With You," "The Amazing Jesus," and "Nonsense: The Mega Musical." In those plays, Dill sometimes had me close to tears of laughter and joy. In "Luna Gale," Dill's moving performance had me near tears of sadness and despair. She conquered the lead role with a fragile fierceness.

The Peppermint Creek set, designed by MJC Construction, was mostly simple furniture and plain chairs. But with five spots on the stage in the Miller Performing Arts Center that were altered to create eight settings, the "basic" set actually becomes quite complex. It suited an unpredictable and gripping story that did not require fancy scenery.

Amid the turbulent language and gale force moments in "Luna Gale" were spots of tenderness and humor. The only time emotion wasn't gusting from the stage was during the 15-minute intermission. In summary, "Luna Gale" blew me away.

tree on the MSU Campus.

"We hope to fell some more trees soon," Forger said, gesturing toward a nearby field adjacent to the Music Building. Hollander has pledged \$1 million toward a proposed addition and expansion to the building, matching the gift she made to the Broad Art Museum.

Hollander herself addressed the crowd, telling a little bit of the story of her journey from Brooklyn to East Lansing.

"I never miss New York," she told the crowd, her Brooklyn accent untouched by

Power through pain

'Fun Home' translates trauma into universal story

By PAUL WOZNIAK

If you've wondered how to turn painful childhood memories into a Tony Award winning Broadway musical, "Fun Home" is a good example of where to start.

Based on the graphic novel by Alison Bechdel with music by Jeanine Tesori and book and lyrics by Lansing native Lisa Kron, "Fun Home" is an intimate, honest, funny and heartbreaking autobiographical musical about personal identity and the power of memories. And although the protagonist is a lesbian woman, only the most literal minded will be unable

Review

to identify with the universal experiences in this story.

"Fun Home" is part coming-of-age and sexual awakening story and part mystery, as Alison tries to understand her own father. Bechdel is played by three actors at different ages; Small Alison (Carly Gold) who is Bechdel around age 10, Medium Alison (Abby Corrigan) who is Bechdel in her first year in college, and Adult Alison (Amanda Naughton). Robert Petkoff plays Bechdel's enigmatic father, Bruce. As Adult Alison explains, "(Bruce) was gay, and I was gay, and he killed himself, and I became a lesbian cartoonist."

The problem is that neither Small Alison nor Medium Alison know about Bruce's secret identity nor why he tends to connect more with ornate furniture than his own children. So the show, with Adult Alison as narrator, jumps through time, re-examining her memories and conversations with her father and mother.

As Bruce, Petkoff is charming and controlling, charismatic and terrifying all at the same time. He seamlessly shifts from a person who sees his children as props in the staging of his perfectly managed house to an empathetic human being who instantly connects with others. It's no wonder that Bechdel spent an entire

novel trying to understand him, because he is a fascinating mystery — and Petkoff turns that mystery into flesh.

The three Alison's are both identical and unique at the same time. More important, each actor gets at least one song to shine. For Gold as Small Alison, the Motown-influenced "Come to the Fun Home" steals the first act. Gold shares sharp singing and dancing duties with Henry Boshart and Luké Barbato Smith as her two brothers.

Corrigan, as Medium Alison, expresses her sexual awakening on "Changing My Major." Finally, Naughton kills the heart-breaking ballad "Telephone Wire" near the end of the show, where she is unable to connect with her father in their final car ride together.

In the show's most important supporting role, Alison's mother, Helen (Susan Moniz), is the one other person who knows Bruce's secrets. In one scene, Helen plays the piano in the living room next to the children to cover the sounds Bruce seducing a young man in the other room. Moniz's face is a chiseled mask barely hiding Helen's pain and misery. She finally breaks down to Alison on her final song, "Days and Days," revealing how she molded herself to please her husband over herself.

Supporting the acting and singing, David Zinn's beautiful set and costume design start with a bare, brick wall before transitioning into the elaborately decorated interior of the house near the end. Ben Stanton's lighting design uses isolated spots to make the most of the stage, but they are especially effective projecting prison bar-like grid lines in a New York City scene.

Finally, sound designer Kai Harada ensures all of the lyrics are clear throughout.

As an adaptation, the musical uses the content in the graphic novel as a jumping off point instead of recreating the story frame by frame. The musical has breath and rhythm. It transposes the awkward scenes and silences from the page into real awkward silences that hang in the air and beg to be broken.

"Fun Home"

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 7-Thursday, June 8; 8 p.m. Friday, June 9; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, June 10; 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, June 11
Tickets start at \$41/\$28 students
Wharton Center
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing
(517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com

Alive

from page 11

At Sunday's party, Hollander, crowned with a floral hat, sat in a cozy upholstered chair and greeted a steady parade of guests that was only briefly interrupted so that MSU officials — including President Lou Anna K. Simon, who was traveling in Europe, via video — could offer birthday congratulations and gifts. One gift, a bowl from the MSU Shadows collection, was made from a felled

decades of Midwestern life.

She recalled her time living with her husband in a small apartment near the corner of Bailey Street and Grand River Avenue, just a stone's throw from the university. While she started with millinery classes, she ended up with bachelor's and master's degrees in studio art at MSU. Still an active artist, Hollander has an exhibition of her screen prints slated for later this summer at the Lansing Art Gallery.

Domer accompanied Hollander on a recent trip to get art supplies. While she uses

a cane to get around, Domer said her energy and passion have continued unabated.

"We spent six hours, but it wasn't about shopping. It was her talking about all the things she wants to do," he said. "At five hours in, she turned to me and said, 'I need charcoal! I'm going to make something new for the Lansing Art Gallery.'"

Domer, who is exactly 60 years her junior — "Selma's my birthday buddy" — said he is inspired by her approach to life and art.

"She's so giddy about creating," he said. "It's beautiful."

Thriller in Yooper country

Karen Dionne's 'The Marsh King's Daughter' a tale of family, survival in the Upper Peninsula

By **BILL CASTANIER**

It's been over a year since Michigan author Karen Dionne hit the literary lottery and her book, "The Marsh King's Daughter," sold for \$1.2 million.

Tuesday, her long awaited work will land on shelves at bookstores, in sweet spots at airport stores and Sam's Club and even on Facebook.

The promotional run-up has been phenomenal, including a mega-blurb from thriller writer Lee Child, plugs in trend-setting magazines like Cosmopolitan and, just a few days ago, a spot in The New York Times' summer reading edition of its book review, which called Dionne's novel "subtle, brilliant and mature."

Dionne, who spoke with City Pulse from her home in southeast Michigan, did not conceal her excitement about finding success after years toiling in the second tier of paperback originals.

"Excuse me if I speak in exclamation marks," she said. "I have a permanent smile."

Dionne has a long catalog of thrillers, which often feature catastrophic environmental events or tinges of the supernatural. But her new book takes place on a much more human level and explores a father-daughter relationship that is both disturbing and loving.

The daughter in the novel, Helena, is the offspring of a teenage mother and her kidnapper, who has hidden them in the woods of Michigan's Upper Peninsula for more than a dozen years. Dionne tells the story in chapters that alternate between a contemporary storyline and flashbacks detailing the captivity, Helena's escape and the ultimate imprisonment of her father.

Some 15 years after escaping captivity,

Helena has created a life of her own, running a successful natural food business while raising two children with a loving husband who knows nothing of her past. Then her father makes a brutal escape from prison, and Helena knows he will come after her. To survive, the hunted must become the huntress.

Helena knows her father will take to the backwoods of the Upper Peninsula, still her home and an environment he is intimately familiar with. We learn from the flashback chapters that Helena, who learned at her father's knee, might be the only one who has the skills to track and capture him again.

She often learned those skills in cruel ways during her 12 years of captivity.

What often makes the book really sing is the authenticity Dionne brings in writing about the northern woods of Michigan. The author and her husband were part of the back-to-nature movement that arose in the 1960s. In early 1974, the couple bought 10 acres in the Upper Peninsula just off M-28 near Seney. The idea was to live off the land and sell her husband's pottery. They lived in a hand-hewn cabin for more than 30 years before moving below the bridge.

"The first year we lived in a tent with no running water and no electricity," she said. "I write what I know. Everything comes from the knowledge I have lived."

The buzz for "The Marsh King's Daughter" is not just limited to the United States. The novel will be published in 21 countries, ranging from Brazil to Romania to Taiwan. Dionne believes that the father-daughter relationship will transcend regional differences.

"Helena loves her father, and she loves the marsh," Dionne said.

Helena's love-hate relationship plays out

through the novel, including a scene where her testimony puts her father in prison for life. That conflict comes to a head when Helena becomes a bounty hunter to save her own life and protect her family's safety.

Readers who are familiar with Emma Donoghue's "Room," or the subsequent movie, might wonder if Dionne was riffing off that kidnapper-captive-offspring plot. Dionne said she wasn't aware of the similarity until she was well into writing "The Marsh King's Daughter."

"I deliberately stayed away from reading it," she said. "I didn't set out to write the reverse 'Room.'"

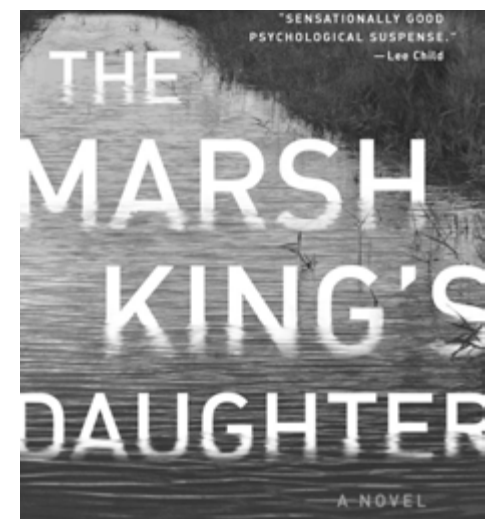
In fact, she remembers the exact moment when her book took shape.

"I woke up in the middle of the night with fully developed sentences," she said.

Anyone familiar with the works of Hans Christian Andersen will know the title was cribbed from his odd fairytale of the same name and roughly familiar plot.

Dionne's experience writing thrillers is clear in the way she builds tension as the daughter who can get into the mind of her father begins tracking his movements. On the other side, he knows exactly how she will react and is waiting for her around every turn.

The book's climax — yes, there are more than one — will keep you guessing until the chaotic end.



Courtesy Photo

"The Marsh King's Daughter," by Michigan author Karen Dionne, hits bookstore shelves Tuesday. The thriller is set in the woods of the Upper Peninsula.

SCHULER BOOKS & MUSIC

Detroit Tigers Talk with Award-Winning Sports Writer TOM GAGE

Thursday, June 8 @ 7pm
Meridian Mall location

Award-winning beat writer Tom Gage recounts the living history of the Tigers, counting down from No. 50 to No. 1 in *The Big 50: Detroit Tigers*.

Skype event w/ M.R. CAREY, author of *Girl With All the Gifts*

Sunday, June 11 @ 3pm
Eastwood Towne Center location

Join us for a special Skype event with bestselling British author M.R. Carey. Some also know him as Mike Carey, writer for DC and Marvel. His novel *The Girl With All the Gifts* (now a major film) was a run-away hit, and now he follows up with *The Boy on the Bridge*, a terrifying new novel set in the same post-apocalyptic world. Signed copies available for purchase!

EPIC READS Summer 2017 Meet-up

Thursday, June 15 @ 7pm
Eastwood Towne Center location

So many YA books...so little time. Epic Reads invites readers of all ages to join a round-table where you'll get to strike up conversation with authors {SO MANY AUTHORS} who will gab about their books and other fan favorites. Visit our website for ticketing details!

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MORE THAN BOOKS

CADL's Library of Things offers lawn games and more

By DYLAN TARR

A book is great for taking to the beach, but Capital Area District Libraries is lending cardholders more than just books for

summer fun this year. Outdoor summer games like bocce ball, cornhole, ladderball and spikeball are all available to be borrowed from CADL's new Library of Things.

"Many librarians noticed the trend of libraries starting a Library of Things," said Jessica Goodrich, CADL outreach librarian.

So in September, CADL created its own Library of Things. In addition to summer lawn games, the Library of Things offers a collection of diverse items, ranging from the utilitarian, like energy meters and air quality monitors, to the explorative, like a Theremin and a Raspberry Pi computing kit. All of these items and many more can be borrowed from any one of CADL's branches for up to two weeks and renewed for an additional week.

The service also lends useful but expensive household items like sewing machines and graphing calculators to patrons who may want to try a new hobby or learn something new without investing a bunch of money.

"One of the criteria we use for picking a thing to add is the cost," Goodrich said. "It gives everyone access to these things, not just those who can afford it."

Goodrich said CADL is always looking for ways to improve and enhance their offerings to patrons and encourages library-goers to suggest new items for the Library of Things through the CADL website. New items are added to the Library of Things every month.

In August, "patrons can look forward to an at-home die cutter with die cuts," Goodrich said. "It will be great for crafting, scrapbooking, card mak-



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Bocce Ball Set

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CE Energy Meter

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Garmin GPS Kit

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Courtesy photo

Through the Capital Area District Libraries' Library of Things, cardholders can check out items like yard games, electronics and more

ing and lots more."

The Library of Things aims to provide the public with things that make patrons say, "I've always wanted to try that, but I can't afford it," Goodrich said.

"These things might be a new experience, something helpful, educational or encourage exploring new areas of interest," she said, adding that she hopes the items available will add value to a patron's life.

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AGAIN, LANSING, GREAT MAKE

TEN YEARS IN, TOP OF THE TOWN SETTLES INTO A SUPERLATIVE GROOVE



Illustrations throughout section by Jonathan Griffith

By **ALLAN I. ROSS**

Ten years ago, if you were caught drinking beer inside **Horrocks Farm Market**, you'd likely find yourself being shown the exit and probably facing an intervention back at home. Today, if you're not enjoying a craft coffee stout while waiting at the olive oil and vinegar filling station or shopping for imported organic snap peas, it's practically a waste of your shopping cart's cup holder.

Ten years ago, **Soup Spoon Café** was an upstart breakfast and lunch diner with a quaint eastside location next to a flower shop. Today, it's tripled in size, has a full dinner menu, a full bar and an effective "second location" in Williamston — if you can call an upscale bistro with fine dining sensibilities second to anything.

Ten years ago, **DeLuca's Restaurant and Pizzeria** was a family-friendly brasserie known for its outstanding pizza and pages-long menu filled with Italian-American staples. Today, it's ... pretty much the same. Maybe a little bit wiser, but it still has the Seafood Pizza, so all is right in the world.

As the annual Top of the Town Awards celebrates a decade of popular culture in Greater Lansing, there are few surprises. Over 17,000 individual votes across 124 categories — the most ever — decided the best people, places and things (very noun-forward) that make the Capital City so capital.

For the second year in a row, Horrocks drew more votes (7,222) than any other competitor, nearly doubling the number that the second-place finisher earned. It handily won in six categories — Best Craft Beer Selection, Best Beer Selection (retail), Best Florist, Best Grocery Store, Best Organic Natural Market and Best Wine Selection (retail) — while coming in second in Best Candy Shop and third in Best Gift Shop. And here, we thought it was all about the flavored popcorn samples and free coffee.

After 57 years, there's not much left to say about DeLuca's that hasn't been said, but when you're the

best, you're the best. Earning 3,857 votes, perennial multi-category favorite DeLuca's won for Best Family Friendly Restaurant, Best Italian and (natch) Best Pizza. Most likely, see you next year, DeLuca's!

No sophomore slump for last year's rookie upstart, **Lansing Brewing Co.** After being named last year's Best New Restaurant and Best Lansing-Area Brewery, the downtown destination drew 3,688 votes, winning again for Best Lansing-Area Brewery and taking the title of Best Bar. It also came in second for Best Distillery and Best Local Outing with Friends and third for Best Craft Beer Selection. With a massive patio perfect for summertime socializing and an ideal location within stumbling distance of practically every single downtown activity, it's easy to see how LBC has managed to rise so quickly to the Top of the Town.

Inarguably the city's most idiosyncratic dining establishment, **Golden Harvest**, has been drawing strong opinions for as long as it's been assaulting customer eardrums with EDM and making them queue up outside, no matter what's falling from the sky (exception: fireballs — it's written right there on the door). Yet again it won for Best Breakfast and Best Diner, but this year it took a couple other notable honors. Ever-upbeat server Tim Gleason was recognized this year as Lansing's Best Restaurant Wait Staff Person. And for some reason, voters only recently discovered the lavatory chalkboards, as Golden Harvest was won for Most Unique Public Restroom. There are no small winners in this contest, folks — everything matters.

MSU Dairy Store earned 3,238 votes between its

repeat wins for Best Dessert and Best Ice Cream Shop. Or if you prefer salty to sweet, you might venture just off campus to HopCat, which won for Best Fries and came in second in Best Craft Beer Selection and third for Best Hangout for Students and Best Happy Hour. Oh yeah, HopCat also came in just behind Golden Harvest in the Most Unique Public Restroom category. The East Lansing beer bar stirred up some controversy when it launched with restrooms wallpapered with Playboy, Cosmopolitan and Vogue magazine covers, but the restrooms have been redone and now feature black and white tiles arranged into trippy crooked patterns.

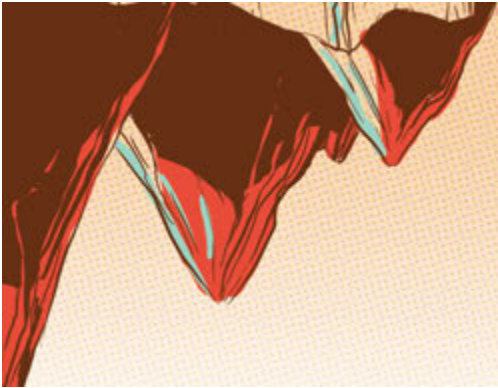
Conjoined twins **Zoobie's Old Town Tavern** and **the Cosmos** earned 2,881 and 2,416 votes, respectively, effectively giving the building the second most votes in town, and the most votes per square foot. Zoobie's won for Best Cocktails, Best Happy Hour and Best Bartender for Heather Haslaker; it came in second for Best Bar and third for Best Local Outing with Friends. Interestingly, even though it came in eighth for total votes, Cosmos didn't actually win anything. It came in second for Best Pizza and third for Best Family-Friendly Restaurant, Best Fries and — there it is again — Most Unique Public Bathroom. Which, in all honesty, you really have to see.

El Azteco in East Lansing won Best Margarita and Best Mexican, coming in second for Best Patio for a total of 2,352 votes. And in its 11th year, Soup Spoon Café still showed up strong, garnering 2,304 votes and winning for Best Vegetarian/Vegan/Gluten-Free Options, and second for Best Breakfast, Best Sandwich/Deli and Best Bartender for Melik Brown.

So take a look through this year's winners over the next 14 pages, and you'll get a good idea of where to go for food, drinks, services and political action here in Lansing. At least you definitely know where to go when you need a public restroom.



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CITY PULSE AND FOX 47 2017 TOP OF THE TOWN WINNERS

BEST DINING

BEST ASIAN BUFFET: HIBACHI GRILL & SUSHI BUFFET

Top of the Town voters praised the “great prices” and “great selection of food choice” at Hibachi Grill & Sushi Buffet. The self-proclaimed “Lansing’s largest buffet” boasts over 250 buffet options.

2. Xiao
3. bd’s Mongolian BBQ

BEST BAKERY: ROMA BAKERY

For nearly 50 years, this family-owned bakery has been churning out traditional cannoli, paczkis, sandwiches and other tasty goodies from a modest storefront on the edges of downtown Lansing.

2. Bake n’ Cakes
3. Glazed & Confused

BEST BBQ: MEAT SOUTHERN BBQ & CARNIVORE CUISINE

The name says it all. This Old Town joint, whose “vegetarian options” menu is a list of soft drinks, is hailed by City Pulse readers for not only its brisket, but also for its heavy metal atmosphere.

2. Saddleback BBQ
3. Crossroads BBQ

BEST BREAKFAST: GOLDEN HARVEST

Don’t let the long line out front dissuade you. Top of the Town voters rave about the punk rock vibe and killer food — Cap’n Crunch french toast, anyone? — at Lansing’s breakfast mecca.

2. Soup Spoon Cafe
3. Fleetwood Diner



BEST BRUNCH: CREOLE

A taste of New Orleans, sans the Mardi Gras beads and hurricane weather, sits right in Old Town. Weekend brunchers can dig into Southern-inspired options like pulled chicken waffles, biscuits and Andouille gravy or NOLA-style beignets.

2. Beggar’s Banquet
3. Tavern & Tap

BEST BURGER: DAGWOOD’S

The neon sign on the front of Dagwood’s, visible from US-127, is a beacon for those seeking unfussy bar food. City Pulse readers describe Dagwood’s as “old school” and praise the “unbeatable prices” and “the best staff.”

2. Five Guys Burger & Fries
3. Crunchy’s

BEST CHINESE: P.F. CHANG’S

The modern Chinese chain with the signature giant horse statues won over Top of the Town voters with creative menu options like Dynamite Shrimp and wok-fired filet mignon.

2. Chen’s Restaurant
3. Charlie Kang’s - East Lansing

BEST COCKTAILS: ZOOBIE’S

With names like the Slow Burn and Louisville’s Revenge, the cocktails at Zoobie’s are almost as fun to order as they are to drink. And if you’re feeling lucky, you can go with the mysterious Trust Us cocktail.

2. American Fifth Spirits
3. Houlihan’s

BEST CRAFT BEER SELECTION: HORROCKS

City Pulse readers praise Horrocks for its wide variety of beers, including rare imports that are difficult to find anywhere else. And thanks to its in-store taproom, shoppers can even sip a brew while picking up groceries.

2. HopCat
3. Lansing Brewing Co.

BEST DESSERT: MSU DAIRY STORE

The only thing the MSU Dairy Store treats better than its cows is its customers. The on-campus ice cream shop offers a variety of Big Ten-inspired ice cream flavors like Badger Berry Cheesecake and Dantonio’s Double Fudge Fake.

2. Grand Traverse Pie Co.
3. Sweetilicious

BEST DINER: GOLDEN HARVEST

When one reader describes this diner’s food as “to die for,” can you really go wrong? But if that isn’t enough, our readers promise the people and atmosphere at Golden Harvest is most definitely worth the wait.

2. Fleetwood Diner
3. Good Truckin’ Diner

BEST FAMILY FRIENDLY RESTAURANT: DELUCA’S

Kids like pizza, right? (Of course they do. Everybody loves pizza.)

2. Cugino’s
3. Cosmos Pizza

BEST FISH FRY: EASTSIDE FISH FRY

From walleye to catfish to Oreos, this you-buy-we-fry joint serves up a huge variety of tasty fried fare. And if you’re feeling exotic, you can order up some mako shark steaks or alligator tail meat.

2. Claddagh Irish Pub
3. Blue Gill Grill

BEST FRIES: HOPCAT

Dining at HopCat and not ordering Crack Fries — beer-battered fries topped with special cracked pepper seasoning and optional cheese sauce — is considered a punishable offense by City Pulse readers.

2. Five Guys Burgers & Fries
3. Cosmos

BEST GREEK: LOU AND HARRY’S

Lou and Harry’s takes its third lap as winner for Best Greek food in the Lansing area. Readers still cannot get over the greek dressing and gyros, not that they would want to.

2. Zeus Coney Island
3. Olga’s

BEST ICE CREAM SHOP: MSU DAIRY STORE

The Dairy Store steals customers’ hearts quicker than they can say Sesquicentennial Swirl.

2. Tasty Twist
3. Lick-ety Split

See WINNERS, Page 18



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WINNERS

from page 17

BEST ITALIAN: DELUCA'S

For over 50 years, Deluca's has provided Lansing diners with traditional pasta dishes, piled-high pizzas and tasty garlic breads. One voter put it simply: "Great family, great food."

- 2. Cugino's
- 3. Bravo

BEST LATE NIGHT FOOD: FLEETWOOD DINER

South Lansing's 24-hour (most of the time) diner serves up Hippy Hash, gyros and other local favorites all around the clock. It's the go-to spot for third shifters, insomniacs and other nocturnal types.

- 2. Famous Taco
- 3. Taco Bell

BEST MARGARITA: EL AZTECO

One voter bragged that EL Azteco is "the real deal." And it seems like much of Greater Lansing agrees, as the Mexican restaurant takes home the top prize in our inaugural Best Margarita category.

- 2. Los Tres Amigos
- 3. Cancun



BEST MEDITERRANEAN: ZAYTOON

One voter described Zaytoon's lamb as life changing, while another voter described its Mediterranean fare as "the best stuff of life." It also won over voters with its signature chicken shawarma and gluten-free options.

- 2. Woody's Oasis
- 3. Sultan's

BEST MEXICAN: EL AZTECO

From classic dishes like burritos and fajitas to specialties like the Topopo Salad and cheese dip, El Azteco's menu earned the local chain this year's Best Mexican award. The only thing our voters can't agree on is which location is better.

- 2. El Oasis Truck
- 3. Cancun Mexican Grill

BEST NEW RESTAURANT: BLAZE PIZZA

Top of the Town voters describe Blaze Pizza as "fast and delicious" — and rightly so, with custom pizzas cooked on the spot in just three minutes. The "fast-fire'd" pies can be inventive or classic, you decide.

- 2. Chik-fil-a
- 3. Zaytoon Holt

BEST PIZZA: DELUCA'S

North Lansing's Italian juggernaut snags the Best Pizza award for the ninth consecutive year.

- 2. Cosmos
- 3. Cugino's

BEST RESTAURANT WINE LIST: DUSTY'S

With a great wine selection and monthly wine tastings, Dusty's is the place to be for local winos.

- 2. Capital Vine
- 3. Bridge Street Social

BEST SANDWICH/DELI: JERSEY GIANT

Top of the Town voters describe Jersey Giant as a "great value" and "amazing sandwiches." The local sandwich chain has won the hearts and stomachs of many readers with its East Coast-style subs.

- 2. Soup Spoon Cafe
- 3. Mancino's

BEST SEAFOOD: MITCHELL'S FISH MARKET

When our readers are in the mood for fresh seafood, they head up to Mitchell's Fish Market. Voters described its seafood as "cooked perfectly" and "so worth it."

- 2. Maru and Ukai Hibachi Grill (tie)
- 3. Red Lobster

BEST STEAK: CAPITAL PRIME

Our voters have declared Capital Prime to have the "best steaks around." One reader even said, "I cried it was so good."

- 2. Knight Cap
- 3. Texas Roadhouse

BEST SUSHI: MARU

Maru is our readers' favorite sushi spot because "the chefs are creative" and "the vibe is not stuffy." One reader went as far as to say that Maru has "the best sushi outside of Japan."

- 2. Sansu
- 3. Ukai West

BEST THAI: BANGKOK HOUSE

Not even a kitchen fire can stop Bangkok House, which takes home the Best Thai award for the third year in a row.

- 2. No Thai!
- 3. Taste of Thai

BEST UPSCALE DINING: ENGLISH INN

For upscale dining, our voters

recommend making the drive out to the English Inn. Housed in a 90-year-old tudor revival house, the restaurant offers classy meals in the formal dining room, or diners can head to the pub for a more casual experience.

- 2. Capital Prime
- 3. Creole

BEST VEGETARIAN/VEGAN/GLUTEN-FREE OPTIONS: SOUP SPOON CAFE

With vegan and vegetarian sandwiches like the Peacemaker and the Gardner, Soup Spoon Cafe has a special place in the hearts of local veggie lovers.

- 2. Zaytoon
- 3. Leaf Salad Bar

BEST HANGOUTS

BEST BAR: LANSING BREWING CO.

Whether you're looking to play a round of corn hole on the patio, take a yoga class in the Stockhouse or just belly up to the bar for an Amber Cream Ale, there's a place for you at Lansing Brewing Co. The Stadium District brewery has become a popular gathering place for Lansing beer lovers.

- 2. Zoobie's
- 3. Dagwood's

BEST BIGGBY: EAST LANSING - 3499 E. LAKE LANSING RD.

Out of all the Biggbys (Biggbies?) in the Greater Lansing area, the one in East Lansing is the fairest of them all. Our voters described this location as fast and friendly with great baristas.

See WINNERS, Page 20

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CITY PULSE AND FOX 47 2017 TOP OF THE TOWN WINNERS

WINNERS

from page 19

- 2. Lansing - 2002 W. Saginaw
- 3. Grand Ledge - 914 Charlevoix

BEST COFFEE SHOP: STRANGE MATTER COFFEE CO.

Despite the influx of craft coffee joints, Strange Matter Coffee Co. remains the Best Coffee Shop in the non-Biggby division. If you think you see a lot of Strange Matter on your Instagram feed now, wait until it starts making doughnuts . . .

- 2. Bloom Coffee Roasters
- 3. Starbucks

BEST DANCE BAR: SPIRAL

Lansing's premier LGBTQ bar is also the best place in town to shake your groove thang. Our voters raved about the diverse crowd that dances the night away at Spiral.

- 2. Green Door
- 3. Tequila Cowboy

BEST HANGOUT FOR STUDENTS: CRUNCHY'S

What's not to love about buckets of pizza nugs and craft beer?

- 2. Pinball Pete's
- 3. HopCat

BEST GAY/LESBIAN BAR: SPIRAL

Spiral's unique atmosphere and themed parties earned the Old Town establishment the Best Gay/Lesbian Bar award for the seventh straight year.

- 2. Esquire
- 3. Sir Pizza Grand Cafe - Old Town

BEST HAPPY HOUR: ZOOBIE'S

Happy hour at Zoobie's is more than just drink specials. Artisanal pizzas, bruschetta and other creative appetizers pair excellently with wine, craft beer and cocktails.

- 2. Houlihan's
- 3. HopCat

BEST KARAOKE: CRUNCHY'S

This East Lansing staple might attract some with its famous Crunchy Burger or buckets of beer, but the real draw is Crunchy's karaoke night. According to voters, the bar wins best karaoke, "no contest."

- 2. Green Door
- 3. Tequila Cowboy

BEST LANSING-AREA BREWERY: LANSING BREWING CO.

With flagship beers like the Angry Mayor IPA and Official Union Golden Ale and a constant rotation of new brews, Lansing Brewing Co. has become of favorite of local beer enthusiasts.

- 2. Ellison Brewery + Spirits
- 3. Eaglemonk Pub & Brewery

BEST LANSING-AREA DISTILLERY: AMERICAN FIFTH SPIRITS

Liquor might be quicker, but at American Fifth Spirits, alcohol aficionados will want to take their time with these creative cocktails. The ever-evolving cocktail

menu at American Fifth's tasting room features a variety of tasty options made with its own vodka, gin, rum and whiskey.

- 2. Lansing Brewing Co.
- 3. Ellison Brewery + Spirits

BEST LOCAL OUTING WITH FRIENDS: LANSING LUGNUTS

It's summertime, which means plenty of opportunities to watch Lansing's home team battle for minor league supremacy. To get even more bang for your buck, go on Thursday nights to stuff yourself with \$2 beers and hotdogs.

- 2. Lansing Brewing Co.
- 3. Zoobie's

BEST MOVIE THEATRE: NCG EASTWOOD CINEMAS

NCG wins over Greater Lansing moviegoers with reclining seats, a "great selection of times" and, most important to our readers, excellent concessions, including great popcorn and "stellar soda refills."

- 2. Celebration! Cinema
- 3. Studio C!

BEST MUSIC VENUE: WHARTON CENTER

East Lansing's Wharton Center beats out the area's rock clubs and blues bars to snag its first-ever win for Best Music Venue.

- 2. Green Door
- 3. Loft

BEST PATIO: WATERFRONT BAR & GRILL

A burger, a cold beer and an exceptional view of the Grand River all add up to the



best patio in Lansing. Our voters love being on the water to eat with friends, meet with clients or catch some live music.

- 2. El Azteco
- 3. Peanut Barrel

BEST PLACE TO TAKE KIDS: IMPRESSION 5

From infants to grandparents, Impression 5 has "something for every age," our voters said. Activities like Impression 5's bubble room and the giant Lite Brite are fun for the young and the young at heart.

- 2. Potter Park Zoo
- 3. District5

BEST SPARTAN SPORTS HANGOUT: SPARTAN HALL OF FAME

If you can't get a ticket to the game, the Spartan Hall of Fame Cafe is the place to be for MSU sports events. Memorabilia galore and a slew of HD plasma tvs cover the walls of this Spartan hangout, so you'll never miss a play.

- 2. Buffalo Wild Wings
- 3. Reno's East

See WINNERS, Page 21

CITY PULSE AND FOX 47 2017 TOP OF THE TOWN WINNERS

WINNERS

from page 20

BEST SPORTS BAR: NUTHOUSE SPORTS BAR

With televisions almost everywhere you look, Nuthouse Sports Grill is our voters' favorite place to catch a game with some friends.

2. Buffalo Wild Wings
3. Crunchy's

BEST LOCAL MUSIC/ARTS

BEST COVER BAND: STARFARM

Sporting track-suits, Aqua Net and leg-warmers, Starfarm and its 1980s-centric setlist takes you back to a time when Alf was still funny and we all fought for our right to party.

2. Tell Yo Mama
3. Frog & the Beeftones

BEST CLASSICAL MUSICIAN: ED FEDEWA

The leader of the Lansing Symphony's bass section and the anchor of many local jazz and rock rhythm sections, low-end guru Ed Fedewa takes home the Best Classical Musician honor for the second year in a row.

2. Rodney Page
3. Ralph Votapek

BEST CLUB DJ: RUCKUS

When he's not slinging ramen at the Avenue Cafe, Ruckus can be found spinning records at local dance clubs.

2. Capitol City DJs
3. Scratch Pilots

BEST EVENT/WEDDING DJ: JAMMIN' DJ'S

Nothing kills a party like a bad DJ. Since 1991, Jammin' DJ's have been serving up the beat for all kinds of events in the Lansing area.

2. Capitol City DJs
3. Tunes by T

BEST FOLK BAND/ARTIST: TAYLOR TAYLOR

Our voters praised Taylor Taylor's voice, her songwriting and her "heart of gold." The 20-something singer/songwriter has become a regular at local festivals, farmers markets and patios.

2. Frog & the Beeftones
3. Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle

BEST HIP-HOP GROUP/ARTIST: SCRATCH PILOTS

Using original vinyl and modern club equipment, Scratch Pilots create their own sound using old school songs that Lansing area residents can't get enough of. One voter declared, "Scratch Pilots spin that perfect golden age era of hip-hop."

2. Ribcage
3. James Gardin

BEST JAZZ GROUP/ARTIST: ROOT DOCTOR

Spanning blues, R&B, Motown, funk, soul and jazz, Root Doctor has been enticing Lansing audiences to dance since the late '80s.

2. MSU Professors of Jazz
3. The Further Adventures of Fat Boy and the Jive Turkeys

BEST RADIO STATION: 97.5 WJIM

Lansing's No. 1 hit music station plays today's top pop songs while also keeping its listeners up to date on local news and traffic jams.

2. 88.9 WDBM
3. 100.7 WITL

BEST ROCK BAND/ARTIST: TELL YO MAMA

Led by the singing cashier himself, Tell Yo Mama rocketed to local fame after a video of Lucas Holliday went viral, the singer appeared on "Good Morning America" and then was invited to join R&B singer Maxwell on stage at the Palace.

2. Taylor Taylor
3. Joe Hertler and the Rainbow Seekers

BEST THEATRE GROUP: RIVERWALK THEATRE

Tucked into a riverside home in downtown Lansing, Riverwalk Theatre is a "great venue with fantastic actors," according to our voters. The company, which is wrapping up its 28th season, offers everything from intimate black box shows to Broadway musicals.

2. MSU Department of Theatre
3. Williamston Theatre

BEST VISUAL ARTIST: KIMBERLY LAVON

Local printmaker Kimberly Lavon has been busy the last few years, opening her own studio and appearing at art events all over Greater Lansing. And

that hard work earned the attention of Top of the Town voters, who awarded her the top spot in our inaugural Best Visual Artist category.

2. Jennifer Medler
3. Ben Graham

BEST PEOPLE

BEST ADVOCATE/ACTIVIST: GRETCHEN WHITMER

Former state senator Gretchen Whitmer takes home the award for Best Advocate/Activist, and while I'm sure she appreciates the win, she definitely has a bigger contest on her mind.

2. Cindy Kangas - Humane Society
3. Tashmica Torok

BEST AM/FM RADIO PERSONALITY: BANANA



DON AND STEPHANIE MCCOY

Our voters describe this duo as hilarious and enjoyable to listen to. One reader said, "They are very good at what they do, and you can tell they enjoy working together."

2. Joey Pants and Deb Hart
3. Josh Strickland

See WINNERS, Page 22

Lou & HARRY'S
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CITY PULSE AND FOX 47 2017 TOP OF THE TOWN WINNERS



WINNERS

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BEST BARTENDER: HEATHER HASLAKER AT ZOOBIE'S
Zoobie's takes home this year's award

for Best Cocktails, and our voters would like those Best Cocktails delivered by Heather Haslaker.

- Melik Brown at Soup Spoon Cafe
- Sarah Fandel at REO Town Pub

BEST BUDTENDER: TARA HAWBLITZEL AT BEST BUDS

Described by our voters as "sweet and very knowledgeable," Hawblitzel is ready to serve your medical marijuana needs. From indicas to sativas to hybrids, she knows her bud.

- Big P (Pablo) at 420 Dank Lansing
- Caleb Wilson at Kola

BEST CATA BUS DRIVER: RON DE LEON

Bus driver and MMA promotor Ron De Leon takes the Best CATA Bus Driver award for the third year in a row. Voters say he has "the absolute best personality for the job" and is handsome to boot. Another voter praised his ability to make "every one of his passengers feel special."

- LaMarr Braggs
- Colleen Whalen

BEST COMEDIAN: MELIK BROWN

While Melik Brown spends more time these days slinging drinks than delivering zings, The Lansing Made entertainer still managed to snag the top spot for Best Comedian.

- Dwayne Gill
- Comedy Coven

BEST HAIRSTYLIST: ELLIE WONG AT THE HEAD ROOM

Ellie Wong not only possesses a command of all things hair, but also a natural ability to entertain and engage. Some patrons drive an hour or more to sit in her chair and leave "feeling and looking amazing."

- Ashley Medina - Bliss Salon and Kelly Delaney at Matthew Ryan Salon (tie)
- Allison Malloy- Glo Salon (Grand Ledge)

BEST HIGH SCHOOL COACH: MATT BIRD, GRAND LEDGE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Coach Bird has posted a winning record in eight of his 10 seasons at Grand Ledge, including a 12-1 season in 2015 that culminated in an appearance in the Division I state semifinals.

- Steve Finamore, East Lansing High School basketball
- Candace Heskitt, DeWitt H S Competitive Cheer

BEST MASSAGE THERAPIST: AMANDA GRIX OF CREATIVE WELLNESS

"Intuitive," "caring," "supportive" and "amazing" are just a few of the ways voters described Amanda Grix and her mastery of massages.

- Bee Queener of Bee Queener Massage
- Kameron Woodend of Lockworx

BEST NAIL TECHNICIAN: SHEILA KYSER OF DOUGLAS J

Sheila Kyser doesn't just do your nails,

See WINNERS, Page 23

Thank You for Voting MSUFCU "Best Credit Union!"

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CITY PULSE AND FOX 47 2017 TOP OF THE TOWN WINNERS

WINNERS

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she “makes magic,” voters say, with her “professional, gentle, artistic” touch.

2. Christina Nguyen of Polished
3. Janessa Davis of Jenny Nails

BEST PERSONAL TRAINER: MIKE BALL AT MIKE BALL FITNESS

Mike Ball pushes clients to their limits in a positive and focused atmosphere.

2. Brian Daniels at Spartan Fit Center
3. Amy Howe at AJ's Howe About Personal Training

BEST REALTOR: MATT SMITH AT KELLER WILLIAMS

Whether it be finding your dream home or selling your old house, Matt Smith is the realtor our voters trust for friendly, professional and knowledgeable service.

2. Angela Averill at Coldwell Banker Hubbell Briarwood and Brian Huggler at Coldwell Banker (tie)
3. Jamie Bates at Berkshire Hathaway Tomie Raines



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www.allenneighborhoodcenter.org

BEST RESTAURANT WAIT STAFF PERSON: TIM GLEASON AT GOLDEN HARVEST

Tim Gleason is the preferred hash slinger at Old Town's temple of breakfast.

2. Rachel Litwiller at Saddleback BBQ
3. Ashley Couthen at Zeus' Coney Island

BEST TV NEWS PERSONALITY: SHERI JONES (WLNS)

When our voters need their local news, they turn to WLNS' Sheri Jones, anchor of the station's 6 and 11 p.m. newcasts.

2. Andy Provenzano (WILX)
3. Emily Wahls (WLNS)

BEST LOCAL/STATE POLITICIAN: GRETCHEN WHITMER

Former Michigan senator and gubernatorial candidate Gretchen Whitmer snagged a lot of votes in our contest. Let's see if she how many voters she can win over in 2018.

2. Debbie Stabenow
3. Virg Bernero

WORST LOCAL/STATE POLITICIAN: RICK SNYDER

No politician in Lansing grinds more gears or gets more goats than Rick Snyder, who takes home this award for the fourth consecutive year. But he's a tough nerd, so I'm sure he won't let that get to him.

voted #1 Top of the Town 2017
CityPULSE

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2. Virg Bernero
3. Mike Bishop

BEST SERVICES

BEST AUTO REPAIR: SHAHEEN CHEVROLET

Our voters look to Shaheen Chevrolet for auto repairs with “fast, friendly service.”

2. A & J Transmission
3. Frankie D's

BEST BANK: DART BANK

Since 1925, family-owned Dart Bank has been providing “competitive rates and products with unbeatable customer service.”

2. PNC Bank
3. Bank of America

BEST BED & BREAKFAST: THE ENGLISH INN

Our voters love the English Inn's “beautiful setting and cozy feel” that's

See WINNERS, Page 24

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CITY PULSE AND FOX 47 2017 TOP OF THE TOWN WINNERS

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both "elegant and affordable."

- 2. Wild Goose Inn
- 3. Cozy Koi

BEST BICYCLE SHOP: RIVERFRONT CYCLE

With over 30 years of cycling experience, Riverfront Cycle carries all

the big names. Our voters praise the shop's "great deals and very helpful staff."

- 2. Denny's Central Park Bikes
- 3. SPIN Bicycle Shop

BEST CAB COMPANY: BIG DADDY TAXI

Yes, there are still real taxis around. Voters who haven't joined the Uber revolution trust Big Daddy Taxi to get them where they need to go on time.

- 2. Green cab
- 3. Spartan Yellow Cab

BEST CAR WASH/DETAILING: FAST EDDIE'S

A Michigan family owned and operated business, Fast Eddie's prides itself in providing quality services at affordable prices for over 39 years. Fast Eddie's even offers an unlimited car cleaning program, so your car can always be sparkling.

- 2. Kwik Car Wash
- 3. Showroom Shine

BEST CHIROPRACTOR: DELTA CHIROPRACTIC CENTER

Delta Chiropractic Center has been serving Lansing and the Mid-Michigan region for over 30 years. Our voters trust the doctors at Delta Chiropractic with their back issues.

- 2. Chiro-Technology
- 3. Volz Family Chiropractic

BEST CLEANING SERVICE: DOMESTIC DIVAS (FORMERLY DISCREET DIVAS)

Our voters describe Domestic Divas as "consistent, friendly and detailed oriented." They have earned the trust and loyalty of many Lansing-area residents because "they are amazing" and "the best" at what they do.



- 2. Kelly Cleaning Services
- 3. Helpful Hands

BEST CREDIT UNION: MSU FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Fans of the green and white team love to stash their green at the MSU Federal Credit Union. One voter declared their love for the credit union, saying, "they have been fantastic to work with and I love having my money with a local business who supports MSU."

- 2. Lake Trust Credit Union
- 3. Lansing Automakers Federal Credit Union (LAFUCU)

BEST DANCE STUDIO: DANCE CITY WEST

"This studio has changed my children in such a positive way," gushed one voter.

See WINNERS, Page 26

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SNOWBLOWERS

SNOWMOBILES
GOLF CARTS
SNOW PLOW
REPAIR

CITY PULSE AND FOX 47 2017 TOP OF THE TOWN WINNERS

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Dance City West offers classes ranging from beginner to advanced for local dance enthusiasts.

2. Stiletto's & Steel
3. Happendace

BEST DENTAL PRACTICE: DEWITT DENTAL ASSOCIATES

The local dentist office, located in downtown DeWitt, has been providing dental care for over 35 years. One voter described this practice as having "gentle, efficient, caring dentists."

2. Valley Dental Spa
3. Dr Susan Maples

BEST GYM/FITNESS STUDIO: PLANET FITNESS

Voters had one thing to say about Planet Fitness: "No judgement." And with great hours, clean equipment and convenient locations, it's easy to see why local fitness buffs want to live on Planet Fitness.

2. YMCA
3. MAC

BEST HEATING/COOLING/ELECTRICAL/PLUMBING: A-1 MECHANICAL

A-1 Mechanical has been helping local Lansing customers since 1983. Our voters love its "great service" and dependability.

2. Michigan Plumbing
3. Hager Fox

BEST LAW FIRM/LAWYER: FOSTER SWIFT COLLINS & SMITH

Foster Swift Collins & Smith has been providing legal counsel to the Greater Lansing area for over 100 years. The law firm has over 95 lawyers all over Michigan, helping clients from many different backgrounds.

2. Abood Law Firm
3. Aaron Matthews at Matthews Law PLC

BEST MARIJUANA DISPENSARY: 420 DANK

Lansing's only drive-thru dispensary creates a welcoming environment with its friendly budtenders and great recommendations. "The prices are good, the bud is great and you don't have to leave your car," raved one voter.

2. Best Buds
3. Got Meds

BEST MEN'S BARBERSHOP: JUDE'S BARBERSHOP

With its "courteous staff" and "great haircuts," readers can't stop gushing about Jude's Barbershop. The men's barbershop chain has three locations around the Greater Lansing area.

2. After Shave Barbershop
3. NorthSide Barbershop

BEST NAIL SALON: JENNY NAILS

According to our voters, Jenny Nails' winning combination is its "high quality products" and "warm

ambiance."

2. Bliss Salon & Spa
3. Douglas J Aveda Institute

BEST NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION: CAPITAL AREA HUMANE SOCIETY

Our voters said they are proud to support Capital Area Humane Society and everything it does for local homeless animals.

2. Ele's Place
3. Homeless Angels

BEST PET CARE/VET SERVICES: CAPITAL AREA HUMANE SOCIETY

Our voters trust the Capital Area Humane Society with the needs of their four-legged friends.

2. Waverly Animal Hospital
3. Miller Animal Clinic and Patterson Veterinary Hospital (tie)

BEST PHOTOGRAPHER/PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO: MCSHANE PHOTOGRAPHY - JENA MCSHANE

Our voters praise Jena McShane's "amazing" work that "makes everything so beautiful." One reader argues there is "none better" than McShane.

2. Express Yourself Unleashed Pet Photography
3. Decadence Dolls - Autumn Luciano

BEST REAL ESTATE COMPANY: COLDWELL BANKER HUBBELL BRIARWOOD

With six locations and 170 realtors,



Coldwell Banker Hubbell Briarwood is the go-to real estate company for our voters.

2. Keller Williams
3. Berkshire Hathaway Home services Tomie Raines

BEST SALON/SPA: DOUGLAS J

The Okemos-based salon strives to create a welcoming environment that will have guests coming back for more. One reader said they go to Douglas J for everything and loves its "very reasonable prices and excellent service."

See WINNERS, Page 27

Thank you voters!

Visit the market: Sundays, June 4 - October 29
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
cityofeastlansing.com/farmersmarket

CITY PULSE AND FOX 47 2017 TOP OF THE TOWN WINNERS

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2. Bliss Salon & Spa
3. Lockworx

BEST TATTOO PARLOR: FISH LADDER TATTOO CO.

Founded in 2007, Fish Ladder Tattoo Co. has built a reputation as a talented group of artists, capable of taking on any project in a clean, professional environment.

2. Splash of Color
3. Vivid Ink

BEST YOGA STUDIO: JUST B YOGA

Community-based and donation-driven, Just B Yoga offers a variety of yoga classes from its REO Town home. Providing classes for novices to advanced students, Just B Yoga lets you B yourself in a comfortable and caring space.

2. East Lansing Hot Yoga
3. Hilltop Yoga

BEST SHOPPING

BEST ANTIQUE SHOP: MEGA MALL

After 22 years in business, Lansing's Mega Mall is still "Michigan's most unique shopping experience." With over 220

vendors, it's easy for antique lovers to spend hours exploring the former supermarket.

2. Williamston Antiques
3. Little Red School House

BEST ART GALLERY: LANSING ART GALLERY

With a focus on local artists and an array of community events, Lansing Art Gallery is a popular destination for local art lovers.

2. Broad Art Museum
3. Katalyst

BEST BEER SELECTION (RETAIL): HORROCKS

Horrock's moved its candy shop and coffee bar to expand its already impressive beer and wine offerings. But why wait until you get home? Our voters love that you can grab a pint to drink while you shop.

2. Oade's Big Ten
3. Tom's Party Store

BEST BOOKSTORE: SCHULER BOOKS - EASTWOOD

Our voters head to Schuler Books for the latest releases, the huge used book section, a great selection of vinyl and a ton of book-related events.

2. Barnes & Noble
3. Curious Books

BEST BUTCHER: MONTICELLO'S MARKET & BUTCHER BLOCK

Grass-fed USDA high choice freshly ground beef and kabobs are just a few of the meaty options Monticello's has to offer. Our voters say the butchers "go out of their way" to cure your carnivore cravings.

2. Mert's Meats - Lansing
3. Merindorf Meats - Mason

BEST CANDY SHOP: FABIANO'S CANDIES

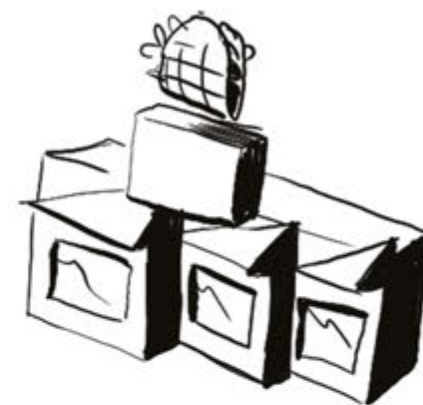
For 93 years, the Fabiano family has been the premier name in Michigan-made chocolate. You know that holidays are coming soon when the lines stretch out the door of this eastside candy shop.

2. Horrocks
3. Cravings Popcorn - Old Town

BEST CLOTHING STORE (LOCAL): PLAYMAKERS

Our voters look to the running and fitness store for their favorite active and casual clothing brands. One voter describes it as "the only place to get shoes that make your feet happy."

2. Curvaceous Lingerie
3. Grace Boutique



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See WINNERS, Page 28

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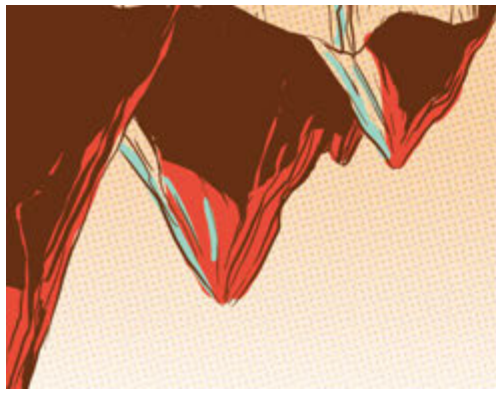
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We are proud to be a part of the Lansing community



CITY PULSE AND FOX 47

2017 TOP OF THE TOWN WINNERS

WINNERS

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BEST CONSIGNMENT SHOP: KELLIE'S CONSIGNMENTS

Voters love Kellie's Consignments for its huge selection of quality clothing that is well organized. And while you're there, you can pick up some jewelry. Or some furniture. Or home decor. Or some ...

2. Plato's Closet
3. Second Time Around

BEST FARMERS MARKET: ALLEN FARMERS MARKET AND MERIDIAN FARMERS MARKET (TIE)

It's a tie! We gave farmers markets their own category this year, and our voters split between Allan Farmers Market and Meridian Farmers Market, which both offer year-round markets.

2. East Lansing Farmer's Market
3. Holt Farmers Market

BEST FLORIST: HORROCKS

Our voters loves Horrocks' floral section, praising its reasonable prices and friendly service.

2. VanAtta's Greenhouse and Flower Shop
3. Smith Floral & Greenhouse

BEST GIFT SHOP: OLD TOWN GENERAL STORE

It may not look that large from the outside, but the Old Town General Store packs in a huge variety of Michigan-made food, beer, wine and gifts.

2. October Moon
3. Horrocks

BEST GROCERY STORE (LOCAL): HORROCKS

Our voters praise the "fantastic selection and quality products" at the west side institution.

2. Meijer
3. Fresh Thyme

BEST INDOOR GROW SHOP: H2O LANSING

Bringing affordable name-brand products to the local gardening community in Greater Lansing is H2O's goal.

2. Superior Growers
3. Indoor Grow Store

BEST JEWELRY STORE: SWEET CUSTOM JEWELRY

Sweet Custom Jewelry is best described through one reader's comment: "beautiful custom designs with exceptional customer service."

2. Medawar Jewelers
3. Becky Beauchine Kulka

BEST MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS STORE: ELDERLY INSTRUMENTS

With a huge selection of folk instruments, electric guitars and more, Elderly Instruments has become a must-stop site for visiting musicians.

2. Marshall Music
3. Music Manor

BEST ORGANIC/NATURAL MARKET: HORROCKS

Looking for quality organic produce? Lettuce head over to the west side, because no one else can beat the selection at Horrocks.

2. Fresh Thyme
3. Foods for Living

BEST PAWN/SECONDHAND SHOP: DICKER & DEAL

With an eclectic selection of used items big enough to impress any collector, gear-hor or casual shopper, Dicker & Deal takes the number one spot for Best Pawn/Secondhand Shop.

2. Kellie's Consignments
3. Volunteer's of America

BEST PET STORE: PREUSS PETS

Preuss Pets isn't just a pet store, it's a destination. Visitors can spend hours ogling fancy fish, looking for sneaky

lizards or feeding the koi fish.

2. Soldan's
3. Petsmart - Marketplace

BEST RECORD/CD STORE: FLAT, BLACK & CIRCULAR

Nestled in an upstairs storefront on Grand River Avenue, FBC is our voters' preferred vinyl vendor. With an expansive selection of vinyl, CDs, DVDs and cassettes, no format is dead or gone at Flat Black and Circular.

2. Record Lounge
3. Disc Traders and Schuler Books & Music - Eastwood (tie)

BEST WINE SELECTION (RETAIL): HORROCKS

Whether you're looking for hard-to-find imports or your mom's favorite red blend, Horrocks probably has it. And you can stop at the new wine tasting nook to sample a few bottles before you buy.

2. Dusty's Cellar
3. Vine & Brew

BEST EYE CANDY (PLACE): OLD TOWN, LANSING

Our voters describe Lansing's boutique neighborhood as "eclectic" and "peaceful." The many festivals, restaurants, shops and parks exude "sidewalk charm."

2. Fitzgerald Park (The Ledges)
3. MSU 4H Gardens

BEST WHATEVER

BEST INSTAGRAM ACCOUNT: LOVELANSING, @LOVELANSING

If you're expecting Pure Michigan vibes from this Instagram account, think again. The heavily ironic commentary on Lansing is worth the follow.

2. Bloom Coffee Roasters, @bloomcoffee

3. Dan Price @danpricephoto

MOST UNIQUE PUBLIC BATHROOM: GOLDEN HARVEST

It's nice to have a unique bathroom to deposit all of the coffee you drank while standing in line.

2. HopCat
3. Cosmos

BEST TWITTER ACCOUNT: THE BLACK SHEEP, @BLACKSHEEP_MSU

MSU's satirical paper is our voters' recommended Twitter follow.

2. WLNS Newsroom, @WLNS
3. Bloom Coffee Roasters, @bloomroasters

WORST EYESORE (PLACE): ABANDONED BUILDINGS IN DOWNTOWN EAST LANSING

Some at least a decade old, the abandoned buildings that greet visitors at the east edge of downtown East Lansing are a blemish on a beautiful college town. For now, just avert your eyes.

2. Life O'Riley Mobile Home Park
3. Deja Vu

WORST POTHOLE: FRANDOR ENTRANCE

Out of all the places to pop a tire, our voters agree that the pothole at the Frandor entrance is the worst. Stay alert, drivers — that is an accident begging to happen.

2. All of Pine Street
3. Jolly Road between MLK and Pleasant Grove

BEST LOFT LIVING SPACE: THE OUTFIELD APARTMENTS - STADIUM DISTRICT

Some may question the wisdom of placing an apartment complex in the direct line of baseball fire, but the Outfield Apartments have become a downtown hotspot and attracted the attention of national outlets like ESPN.

2. Riverview Lofts, Old Town
3. MW Lofts

BEST BUDS



**in the City Pulse TOP OF THE TOWN contest
for BEST MARIJUANA PROVISIONING CENTER**

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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, June 07

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Alcoholics Anonymous. 6 p.m. Donation welcome. Pennsylvania Ave. Church of God, 3500 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Lansing. (517) 882-4114.

Mindfulness. Meditation for all levels. 7-9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Lansing. (517) 899-3215.

SMART Recovery. Addiction help. 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St. Lansing. (517) 507-9166.

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

MUSIC

Alex Mendenall at Allen Farmers Market. Performance at the Allen Farmers Market. 5-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing. (517) 999-3911. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

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

EVENTS

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

Green Themes Presentation: Haslett Community Church Solar Project. David Arnosti presents. 7 p.m. FREE. Meridian Township Hall, 5151 Marsh Road Okemos.

Toastmasters Club. Club to develop communication and leadership skills. 6 p.m. AgroLiquid, 3055 W. M-21 Saint Johns. (517) 719-2797.

Wine Night. Wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres, conversation and more. 5:30-7:30 p.m. \$15. UrbanBeat Events Center, 1213 Turner St. Lansing. (989) 482-7910. urbanbeatevents.com.

ARTS

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

Thursday, June 08

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Beal Botanical Garden Tour: Plant and Insect Inter-Dependency. Tours begin near shed in garden. 12:10-12:50 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

See Out on the Town, Page 31

Lady of the low end



Photo by Ian Frank Photography

Divinity Roxx, former touring bassist and assistant music director for Beyoncé, brings solo tour to the Robin Theatre Wednesday.

June 14

Next week, a crucial worker bee from the Beyhive buzzes into Lansing for a show at the Robin Theatre.

Wednesday, the REO Town venue hosts Divinity Roxx, a bassist with credentials ranging from Victor Wooten's opener to Beyoncé's touring bass player and assistant musical director. In addition to her performance, Roxx will participate in a free pre-show Q&A session hosted by All of the Above hip-hop academy.

Roxx, 41, said she began her journey with music as a kid, when her mother would play records around the house.

"I always had an early relationship with music and what it can bring to a household," Roxx said. "It always made the house feel joyful and fun. Music has always been an intricate part of my life."

She began singing in the school choir and playing the clarinet in third grade. But it wasn't until she began college at UC Berkeley that she discovered her love for the bass.

"I always say the bass chose me," Roxx said. "I was hanging out with some friends in college, and I mentioned to a friend of mine that I wanted to play something, because I hadn't played an instrument in a long time. He mentioned the bass. He said, 'You walk like a bass player and talk like a bass player.' I didn't know what that meant, but I didn't care. I went out and bought a bass and

fell in love with it."

Still a student, Roxx went on to attend a bass camp under the guidance of bass virtuoso Victor Wooten, a five-time Grammy winner and bassist for Béla Fleck and the Flecktones. Three months after the camp, Wooten called and asked her to join him on tour as his opening act.

"I'm always striving for something bigger, better and more amazing," Roxx said. "During my time with Victor Wooten, who is probably one of the best bass players in the world, I thought that was the most amazing thing that could ever happen to me."

But then her career hit another level.

"Then I auditioned for Beyoncé's band, and I got the gig, and I thought that was the most amazing thing that could happen," Roxx said. "Then I toured the world with her, and I played at the White House for President Barack Obama. I have played in front of thousands and thousands and thousands of people, and I thought that was the most incredible thing that could happen. I've been so blessed, hopefully I can be a blessing to others in some way."

Roxx has now moved on to her own solo, cross-country tour, the Dream Work Tour.

"I think the biggest thing that I've

learned is that you've got to take your fate into your own hands and do what it is that you want to do," Roxx said. "Touring with Beyoncé was the most amazing thing, but there was still something that I needed to do for myself as an artist. Doing my solo thing is giving me the opportunity to do that and to keep spreading this message of love."

Roxx said she has a simple wish for listeners of her music, whether they catch her live or pick up her latest album, "ImPossible."

"I want people to feel good," Roxx said. "I named this album 'ImPossible,' because when you look at the word 'impossible,' the words 'I'm possible' are staring you in the face. I always want people to feel uplifted after they listen to my music and feel like they can do anything, be anything and accomplish anything."

Divinity Roxx

8:00 p.m. Wednesday,

June 14

Tickets start at \$15/\$10 adv.

Robin Theatre

1105 S. Washington Ave.,

Lansing

(989) 878-1810,

therobintheatre.com

Pre-show Q&A

7 p.m. Wednesday, June 14

FREE

Riverview Church REO

Town Venue

1115 S. Washington Ave.,

Lansing

alloftheabovehiphop.org

alloftheabovehiphi

— DANIELLE CHESNEY

Out on the town

from page 30

(TOPS) Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Get the tools and information to lose weight. 6 p.m. First meeting FREE. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St. Haslett. (517) 881-2513.

A Course in Miracles. 7-9 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Lansing. (517) 371-3010.

Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. All experience levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillsdale Lansing. crisisrfg.com.

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

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

MUSIC

Music at the Mansion - Monte Pride. House concert featuring folk artist, Monte Pride. 7 p.m. \$10. Turner-Dodge House, 100 North East Street Lansing. (517) 483-4220.

Thursday Night Live! - Mason Orchestral Society. Held on Ingham County Courthouse lawn. 6 p.m. FREE. (517) 676-1046. masonchamber@masonchamber.org, masonchamber.org.

THEATRE

Fun Home. Log on to whartoncenter.com/promo, type in PFLAG to purchase tickets to benefit Lansing

chapter. 7 p.m. Wharton Center for Performing Arts, 750 E. Shaw Ln. East Lansing. (517) 432-2000.

EVENTS

12-Step Meeting. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St. Lansing.

Capitol Area Greens Working Session/Meeting. Working session on fundraising. 6-8:30 p.m. FREE. Barnes and Noble (Lansing), 5132 W. Saginaw Highway Lansing. (517) 327-0437.

Dapper Dads Challenge and Fashion Show. Fundraiser for women's health. 6-9 p.m. \$30/\$60 VIP. Kositchek's, 113 N. Washington Sq. Lansing. (517) 364-3632. SparrowFoundation.org/dapperdads.

Drop-in LEGO Club (Age 4 & up). Imaginative play develops reading skills. 3:30-4:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Webberville Branch, 115 S. Main Street Webberville. (517) 521-3643.

My Big Fat Greek Gyro Drive Thru. Drive thru event. Tickets online. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. \$12. Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, 1701 E. Saginaw St. Lansing. (517) 482-7341. ow.ly/awL630ccDH2.

Friday, June 09 MUSIC

Live Music w/ The Lost Hitch Hikers. 8-11 p.m. Free. Lansing Brewing Company, 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. (517) 371-2600.

Taste of Country Lansing. Annual one-day country music festival. 4 p.m. \$30. Cooley Law School Stadium, 505 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 887-3255. witi.com/toc-lansing/.

EVENTS

***Minecraft Game Night (8-18)**. Get your game on with fellow players. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 S. Capitol Avenue Lansing. (517) 367-6363.

Howl at the Moon: Guided Night Walk. Dogs on

non-retractable leashes/flashlights welcome. Three miles. 9-10 p.m. \$3.00. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Meet the Machines Summer Program Kick-off. Celebrate the beginning of summer program. 4-6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St. Grand Ledge. (517) 627-7014.

No Fear Computing (Adults). Today's topic: Files & Folders. 1-2 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Foster Branch, 200 N. Foster Lansing. (517) 485-5185.

Phantom of the Universe. Presentation on dark matter. 8-9:30 p.m. \$3-4. Abrams Planetarium, 755

See Out on the Town, Page 34

JUNE 15 >> BRIDGE FEST

The Accidentals headline the first-ever Bridge Fest, a new riverside event that takes place under Shiawassee Bridge. The festival, hosted by young professional networking group Lansing 5:01, highlights local culture with live music, food and art installations. In addition to the Accidentals, local acts Young Pioneer and Tangelo take the stage, and mobile eateries like the Pie Hole Pizza Truck and Clint's Hotdog Cart are on hand to keep attendees well fed. River Town Adventures helps patrons burn off those delicious calories with bike and kayak rentals for a little active fun. Bridge Fest also offers an expo featuring local sports clubs, galleries, museums and other Lansing organizations, helping attendees stay connected with their community. 5:30 p.m. FREE. Under the Shiawassee Bridge on the River Trail, Lansing. (517) 884-1313, Lansing501.com.

JUNE 8-11, 15-18 >> 'CATCH ME IF YOU CAN' AT RIVERWALK THEATR

Conman extraordinaire Frank Abagnale Jr., cons, dupes and impersonates his way into airplane cockpits, operating rooms and courtrooms in Riverwalk Theatre's latest production. Under the direction of Jane Falion and based on the Hollywood movie of the same name, "Catch Me If You Can" follows Abagnale's exploits as he crisscrosses the country evading FBI officers and charming the ladies he meets along the way. Brian Farnham plays the cunning conman, while Adam Woolsey plays Carl Hanratty, the FBI agent obsessed with bringing him to justice. 7 p.m. Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. \$22/\$20 senior, student and military. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

standards

BY BERL SCHWARTZ

Ella and Louis ... together forever

England's newspaper The Telegraph eulogized Norman Granz as "the most successful impresario in the history of jazz" in its 2001 obituary. Granz created five record labels, the best known being Verve. His artists included Count Basie, Billie Holliday, Dizzy Gillespie, Oscar Peterson, Stan Getz, Art Tatum ... well, the list goes on and on. And he stood for integration in post-war America of the 1940s and '50s both of performances and audiences. White or black, his performers received equal pay and accommodations.

But had Granz done nothing else than bring together Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald, he'd still deserve a place in American Songbook history.

In 1956, when Granz teamed them in a Verve studio, both were internationally known stars. They had recorded a few numbers on Decca starting in the late '40s.

Fitzgerald was part of a stellar Hollywood Bowl show produced by Granz on Aug. 15, 1956, that comprised Fitzgerald, Peterson, Tatum, Roy Eldridge, Ray Brown and Buddy Rich. Armstrong happened to appear on the same bill.

The next day, Granz brought Fitzgerald and Armstrong together to record 11 duets. Because of Armstrong's heavy travel schedule, Granz recalled, "I think literally I might have had only a day or two days to do an album."

And what an album it is: "Ella and Louis." From the opening vocal by Armstrong on "A Foggy Day" to the closing moments of Fitzgerald and Armstrong on "Tenderly," this is close to an hour of pure joy. Granz smartly followed it in 1957 with "Ella and Louis Again," a double album this time, with a fine mix of duets and solo cuts. Both of these monumental recordings feature such Verve artists as Peterson, Rich, Louis Bellson, Ray Brown and Herb Ellis. It really doesn't get much better than this.

Those two albums are at the heart of a new release: "Ella Fitzgerald & Louis Armstrong Complete Studio Master Takes." And if that's all there was, that would be plenty.

But this handsome box set comes also with another of Granz's brainstorms: high-

lights from the George Gershwin opera "Porgy and Bess" performed by Armstrong and Fitzgerald, the third and final time Granz put them in the studio together. As the five-star Down Beat review said at the time, "As the tracks progress, you think she is cutting Armstrong — only to turn around and believe that Armstrong is cutting her. The truth, of course, is that they are outdoing themselves."

And, at the risk of sounding like a late-night TV pitchman — But wait! There's more! — it should be noted that the collection includes a short LP of the eight duets released on Decca.

Overall, 12

sides of vinyl, with a 12-page booklet of background and reviews, in a 1"-thick box that even features some padding to keep the contents secure — a very impressive presentation, but no less than these seminal recordings deserve.



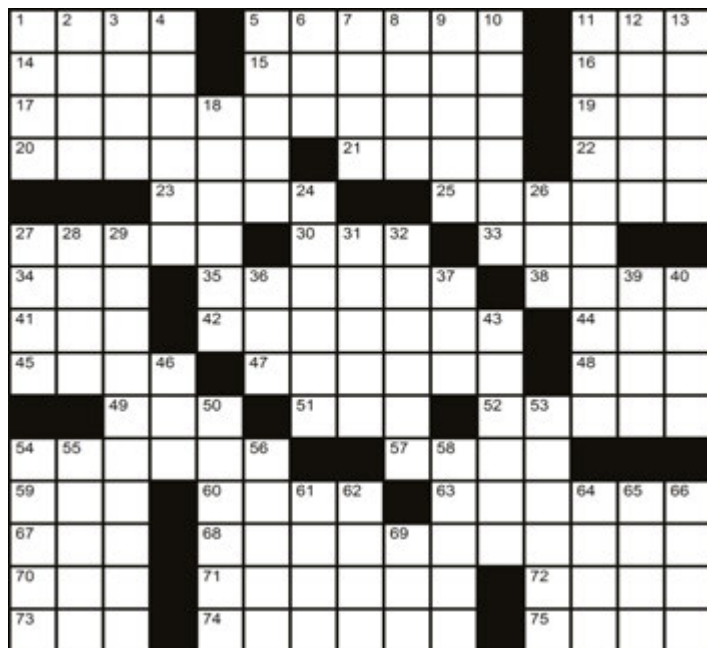
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"NATO Allies" — phonetically speaking, anyway.
Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Be furious
- 5 Everglades beasts
- 11 Letters on a bucket
- 14 High hair
- 15 Home state of the Decemberists
- 16 Former Fighting Irish coach Par-seghian
- 17 A look inside Mr. Gladwell?
- 19 Dorm supervisors, briefly
- 20 "The magic word"
- 21 Do bar duty
- 22 "The Two Towers" creature
- 23 Like a cooked noodle
- 25 Medium capacity event?
- 27 "Yeah!" singer
- 30 Busy ___ bee
- 33 Song with the lyric "she really shows you all she can"
- 34 Author Harper
- 35 By title, though not really
- 38 "Let me know" letters
- 41 ___ Khan
- 42 It shows the order of songs a band will play
- 44 Disney Store collectible
- 45 Force based on waves?
- 47 Top-of-the-line
- 48 Took a course?
- 49 Orangey tuber
- 51 Gridiron units, for short
- 52 Run off, as copies
- 54 Compadre from way back
- 57 Diplomat's forte



- 59 Kickoff need
 - 60 The haves and the have-___
 - 63 Pointer on a laptop
 - 67 "Shallow ___" (Jack Black movie)
 - 68 The dance of talk show employees?
 - 70 More than -er
 - 71 Aim high
 - 72 Not-so-sharp sort
 - 73 "The Crying Game" actor
 - 74 Crystal-lined stones
 - 75 Ovine moms
- 8 Shrek talks about being one a lot
 - 9 Chestnut-hued horses
 - 10 Original "The Late Late Show" host Tom
 - 11 Award for "Five Easy Pieces" actress Black?
 - 12 Monetary unit of Switzerland
 - 13 Unit of social hierarchy
 - 18 God of the Nile
 - 24 Canned goods closet
 - 26 Inhaled stuff
 - 27 ___ Bator (Mongolia's capital)
 - 28 Maker of the Saturn game system
 - 29 Weighty river triangle?
 - 31 Type of bar with pickled beets
 - 32 In the center of
 - 36 Battery terminal, briefly
 - 37 Suffix similar to "-speak"
- 39 President's refusal
 - 40 Suffix for movie theaters
 - 43 Common campaign promise
 - 46 Talk too much
 - 50 It may be also called a "murse"
 - 53 One of their recent ads features "an investor invested in vests"
 - 54 Different
 - 55 Tenant's document
 - 56 Almost ready for the Tooth Fairy
 - 58 Parcels of land
 - 61 "Ed Sullivan Show" character ___ Gigio
 - 62 Racetrack trouble
 - 64 Winter forecast
 - 65 Eye rakishly
 - 66 Breaks down
 - 69 "Able was I ___ I saw Elba"

Down

- 1 Displace
- 2 Gem mined in Australia
- 3 Monty Python alum Eric
- 4 Place setting?
- 5 Automaton of Jewish folklore
- 6 Biceps' place
- 7 SMS exchange

©2017 Jonesin' Crosswords • For answers to this puzzle, call: 1-900-226-2800, 99 cents per minute. Must be 18+. Or to bill to your credit card, call: 1-800-655-6548. **Answers Page 35**

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsny

March 22-28

ARIES (March 21-April 19): If you chose me as your relationship guide, I'd counsel you and your closest ally to be generous with each other; to look for the best in each other and praise each other's beauty and strength. If you asked me to help foster your collaborative zeal, I'd encourage you to build a shrine in honor of your bond -- an altar that would invoke the blessings of deities, nature spirits, and the ancestors. If you hired me to advise you on how to keep the fires burning and the juices flowing between you two, I'd urge you to never compare your relationship to any other, but rather celebrate the fact that it's unlike any other in the history of the planet.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The Milky Way Galaxy contains more than 100 billion stars. If they were shared equally, every person on Earth could have dominion over at least 14. I mention this because you're in a phase when it makes sense for you to claim your 14. Yes, I'm being playful, but I'm also quite serious. According to my analysis of the upcoming weeks, you will benefit from envisaging big, imaginative dreams about the riches that could be available to you in the future. How much money do you want? How much love can you express? How thoroughly at home in the world could you feel? How many warm rains would you like to dance beneath? How much creativity do you need to keep reinventing your life? Be extravagant as you fantasize.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): "When I grow up, I'm not sure what I want to be." Have you ever heard that thought bouncing around your mind, Gemini? Or how about this one: "Since I can't decide what I want to be, I'll just be everything." If you have been tempted to swear allegiance to either of those perspectives, I suggest it's time to update your relationship with them. A certain amount of ambivalence about commitment and receptivity to myriad possibilities will always be appropriate for you. But if you hope to fully claim your birthright, if you long to ripen into your authentic self, you'll have to become ever-more definitive and specific about what you want to be and do.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): As a Cancerian myself, I've had days when I've stayed in bed from morning to nightfall, confessing my fears to my imaginary friends and eating an entire cheesecake. As an astrologer, I've noticed that these blue patches seem more likely to occur during the weeks before my birthday each year. If you go through a similar blip any time soon, here's what I recommend: Don't feel guilty about it. Don't resist it. Instead, embrace it fully. If you feel lazy and depressed, get REALLY lazy and depressed. Literally hide under the covers with your headphones on and feel sorry for yourself for as many hours as it takes to exhaust the gloom and emerge renewed.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In the early days of the Internet, "sticky" was a term applied to websites that were good at drawing readers back again and again. To possess this quality, a content provider had to have a knack for offering text and images that web surfers felt an instinctive yearning to bond with. I'm reanimating this term so I can use it to describe you. Even if you don't have a website, you now have a soulful adhesiveness that arouses people's urge to merge. Be discerning how you use this stuff. You may be stickier than you realize!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Ancient Mayans used chili and magnolia and vanilla to prepare exotic chocolate drinks from cacao beans. The beverage was sacred and prestigious to them. It was a centerpiece of cultural identity and an accessory in religious rituals. In some locales, people were rewarded for producing delectable chocolate with just the right kind and amount of froth. I suspect, Virgo, that you will soon be asked to do the equivalent of demonstrating your personal power by whipping up the best possible chocolate froth. And according to my reading of the astrological omens, the chances are good you'll succeed.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Do you have your visa for the wild side? Have you packed your bag of tricks? I hope you'll bring gifts to dispense, just in case you'll need to procure favors in the outlying areas where the rules are a bit loose. It might also be a good idea to take along a skeleton key and a snake-bite kit. You won't necessarily need them. But I suspect you'll be offered magic cookies and secret shortcuts, and it would be a shame to have to turn them down simply because you're unprepared for the unexpected.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You're like a prince or princess who has been turned into a frog by the spell of a fairy tale villain. This situation has gone on for a while. In the early going, you retained a vivid awareness that you had been transformed. But the memory of your origins has faded, and you're no longer working so diligently to find a way to change back into your royal form. Frankly, I'm concerned. This horoscope is meant to remind you of your mission. Don't give up! Don't lose hope! And take extra good care of your frog-self, please.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): People might have ideas about you that are at odds with how you understand yourself. For example, someone might imagine that you have been talking trash about them -- even though you haven't been. Someone else may describe a memory they have about you, and you know it's a distorted version of what actually happened. Don't be surprised if you hear even more outlandish tales, too, like how you're stalking Taylor Swift or conspiring with the One World Government to force all citizens to eat kale every day. I'm here to advise you to firmly reject all of these skewed projections. For the immediate future, it's crucial to stand up for your right to define yourself -- to be the final authority on what's true about you.

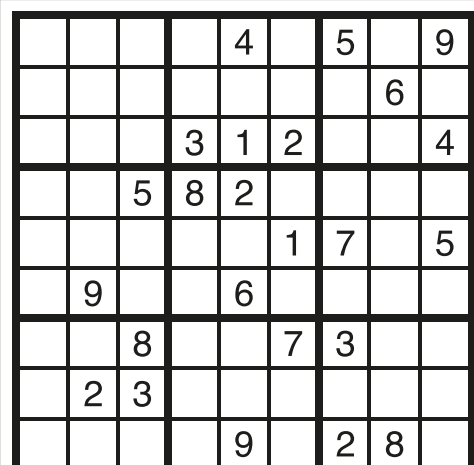
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "God doesn't play dice with the universe," said Albert Einstein. In response, another Nobel Prize-winning physicist, Niels Bohr, said to Einstein, "Stop giving instructions to God." I urge you to be more like Bohr than Einstein in the coming weeks, Capricorn. As much as possible, avoid giving instructions to anyone, including God, and resist the temptation to offer advice. In fact, I recommend that you abstain from passing judgment, demanding perfection, and trying to compel the world to adapt itself to your definitions. Instead, love and accept everything and everyone exactly as they are right now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Lysistrata is a satire by ancient Greek playwright Aristophanes. It takes place during the war between Athens and Sparta. The heroine convinces a contingent of women to withhold sexual privileges from the soldiers until they stop fighting. "I will wear my most seductive dresses to inflame my husband's ardor," says one. "But I will never yield to his desires. I won't raise my legs towards the ceiling. I will not take up the position of the Lioness on a Cheese Grater." Regardless of your gender, Aquarius, your next assignment is twofold: 1. Don't be like the women in the play. Give your favors with discerning generosity. 2. Experiment with colorful approaches to pleasure like the Lioness with a Cheese Grater, the Butterfly Riding the Lizard, the Fox Romancing the River, and any others you can dream up.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take your seasick pills. The waves will sometimes be higher than your boat. Although I don't think you'll capsize, the ride may be wobbly. And unless you have waterproof clothes, it's probably best to just get naked. You WILL get drenched. By the way, don't even fantasize about heading back to shore prematurely. You have good reasons to be sailing through the rough waters. There's a special "fish" out there that you need to catch. If you snag it, it will feed you for months -- maybe longer.

SUDOKU

INTERMEDIATE



TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 35

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

THORNETTA DAVIS AT BLUES ON THE GRAND



WED., JUNE 14TH

Thornetta Davis

Wednesday, June 14 @ Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Dr., Lansing at 6 p.m., FREE

Nothing, a Relapse Records-signed band, headlines Thursday at the Loft; opening the all-ages show are two heavy, Lansing-based bands: Hordes and Cavalcade. Nothing formed in 2010 in Philadelphia, but the alt-rock/shoegaze band's frontman, Domenic Palermo, got his start leading Horror Show, an early 2000s hardcore-punk act. Horror Show's career was cut short after a 2002 incident landed Palermo in prison for two years for aggravated assault. (He pleaded self-defense.) After his release, Palermo formed Nothing, and by 2014, the group debuted on Relapse Records with its "Guilty of Everything" LP. All Music hailed it as an "impressively dark and beautiful debut album." Last year, after touring the United States and Europe, the band released its sophomore LP, "Tired of Tomorrow."

DESMOND JONES AT MAC'S BAR



FRI., JUNE 9TH

Desmond Jones

Friday, June 9 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$12, \$10 adv., 8 p.m.

Aside from a couple shows in Illinois and Minnesota, the Grand Rapids-based road warriors of Desmond Jones are stacked with shows across Michigan throughout the end of July. Last year, the progressive-fusion band played more than 160 shows across the Midwest. The group, which headlines Friday at Mac's Bar, originally formed in East Lansing in 2012 and promptly became known for its experimental blend of rock, funk and jazz. Desmond Jones is also known for never repeating the same show twice, opting for fresh, improvisational versions of its 55-plus catalog of originals each night. Since the five-piece relocated to West Michigan, its energetic live show has warmed up stages for the Werks, Tauk, the Verve Pipe and Here Come the Mummies. Fans of Frank Zappa, Phish or the Band might want to check out the group's "Thick Cuts" LP.

SAM CORBIN AT CONCERTS IN THE COURTYARD



THURS., JUNE 15TH

Sam Corbin

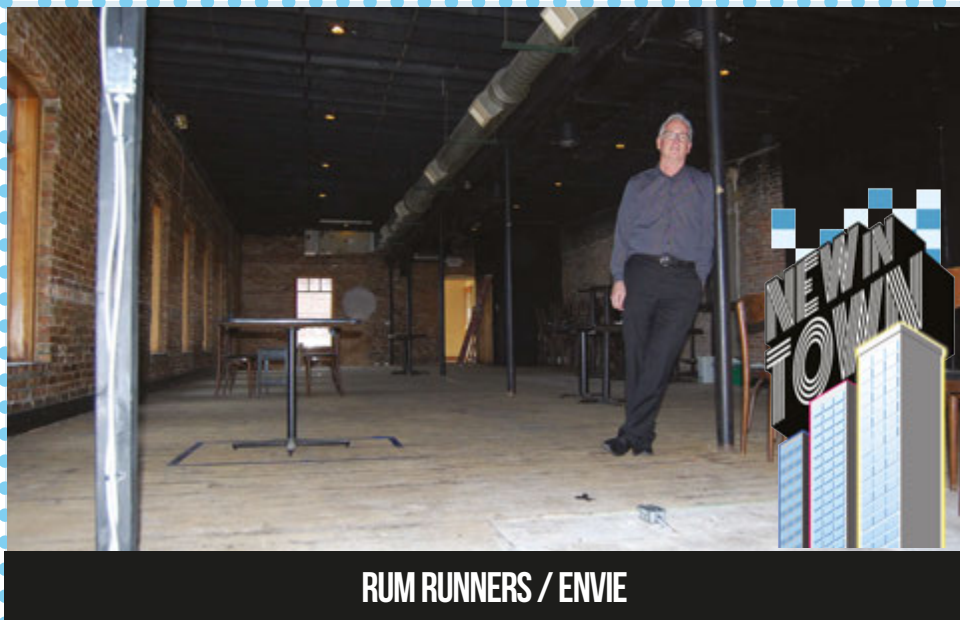
Thursday, June 15 @ Old Town General Store, 408 E Grand River Ave., Lansing. \$15, \$9 students, 7:30 p.m.

In 2010, songwriter Sam Corbin joined the Earthwork Music Collective and has since traveled and performed across the East Coast, Midwest and deep South – June 15 he performs at Concerts in the Courtyard at the Old Town General Store. The Ypsilanti-based songwriter, who doubles as a full-time father, performs authentic Americana tunes, often pairing up with fellow Earthwork mate Jen Sygit. Together, Corbin and Sygit – alongside other Michigan folk vets – formed Lincoln County Process, a full-on roots-rock quartet. The band issued the seven-song CD "Live at Buses by the Beach" in 2013. In November, Corbin issued his latest record, "Let the Fire Burn Strong." The disc is Sam's third full length studio album and includes eight original tracks, and a cover of Townes Van Zandt's "If I Needed You."

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT EVE@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	Karaoke, FREE 9 p.m.	GTG Show, Plurettes, Bat Yulefly, FREE 7 p.m.	80's Party, FREE
Black Cat Bistro, 115 Albert Ave.				Daryn Lerner Jr., 8-11
Brookshire Inn, 205 W. Curhc St.			Bobby Standal, 7 p.m.	
Buddies - Holt, 2040 N Aurelius Rd	Rush Clement, 6 p.m.	Jon Persico, 6 p.m.	Reggae Lou, 6 p.m.	
Buddies - Okemos, 1937 W Grand River Ave			Chris Laskos, 9 p.m.	
Claddagh Irish Pub, 2900 Town Center Blvd.			Bobby Standal, 7 p.m.	
Champions, 2440 N. Cedar St.	Kyle's Open Mic Jam, 7 p.m.	Big Rig's Band Bike Night, 7 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Karle Delo, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Alskn "Walleye" AYCE	Jammin' DJ, 9 p.m.
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Rd	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.	Pool Tourny, 7:30 a.m.	Daryn Lerner, 6 p.m.	
Eaton Rapids Craft Co., 204 N Main St.		Steve Cowles, 6 p.m.	HenderSeth	
Dublin Square, 327 Abbot Rd.			Karaoke with DJ Jamie, 9 p.m.	
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke with DJ Jamie, 9 p.m.		Summer of Sol, 9:30 p.m.	The Knock Offs, 9:30 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 8 p.m.	SkoryOoke Open Mic, 8:30 p.m.	Bill Malone "Hendrix" Experience	Stan Budzynski
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Blues Night, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze!	Alistair Beerens, 5 p.m.	
Harpers, 131 Albert Ave.	Bobby Standal, 5 p.m.	Sara Brunner, 5 p.m.	The Tenants, 5:30 p.m.	
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 E. Michigan Ave.				Revelations, Motorbreath, 8 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.,		Turn Up The Bricks, 8 p.m.	Desmond Jones, 8 p.m.	Carousel Kings, 7 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Awake at Last, 6 p.m.	Birdhouse, 12:00 p.m.	Cris Antonik, 9 p.m.	Spoonful, 9 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic w/ Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.	Fat Boy & Jive Turkey, 9 p.m.	New Rule, 6 p.m.	The New Rule, 8 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road		Mike Cooley, 6 p.m.	Life Support, 6 p.m.	Life Support, 6 p.m.
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27	Mike Cooley, 6 p.m.	Reggae Lou, 6 p.m.	Alistair Beerens, 6 p.m.	Kathy Ford - duo
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.	Cris Laskos, 6 p.m.	Jacob Ford, 6 p.m.		
Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave.,				
Ryan's Roadhouse, 902 E State St.				
Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Square	Tavern House Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m.			
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.		Collateral Damage, 4 p.m.		
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.	Live music, 9 p.m.	Live music, 9 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.		Mark Sala, 7 p.m.		
Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr.	Scott Seth Open Mic			



RUM RUNNERS / ENVIE

Alan I. Ross/City Pulse

This summer, Paul Rathbun will transform the ground floor of the former Rum Runners building in downtown Lansing into a new retail space, while the second floor will become a loft apartment — and his new home.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

A prime two-story location in downtown Lansing that has sat vacant for four years will be renovated into a mixed-use retail space this summer. Last month, Paul Rathbun, executive vice president at Lansing-based insurance company the Rathbun Agency, purchased the former home of **Rum Runners**, 601 E. Michigan Ave. His goal is to transform the second story of the 110-year old building into a loft apartment and allow an aspiring local entrepreneur to rebuild the first floor into ... something.

"There are so many people living downtown now that just about any business servicing that crowd should do very well," Rathbun said. "I'm thinking a convenience store or a small grocery would be huge. There's a built-in (customer base) looking for something to fill that niche. But there are so many other ideas that I'm sure would do well, too. It's a great spot for a creative person with good business sense."

Rathbun, 55, plans to move into the apartment himself and rent out the lower level. Both floors are about 2,100 square feet and almost completely gutted at the moment, but there's tape on the floor of the soon-to-be living space marking out what different areas will become. You can see where the kitchen and bathroom will go; a folding table and chairs stand in for the grand dining room in the works.

"I love living downtown," Rathbun said. "I don't want to have a lawn to cut, and I don't need a place to accumulate stuff. I'd rather spend my money doing things and going places. The advantage of (urban) apartments is that you're so close to so many things to do. If you want to take off for a couple weeks, you don't need to worry about things that a homeowner does."

Rathbun has been testing out the urban living waters at a nearby luxury loft. He currently rents, but he had a desire to own

his own space. He envisions eventually creating a rooftop patio on top his new building, carrying over his favorite feature from his current living situation.

"I'm the only one in my building with a patio, and I'm going to miss it," Rathbun said. "The view here overlooks (Cooley Law School Stadium), so it will be like having a free balcony seat at all kinds of concerts and fireworks events. It'll be a great place to host parties."

Any festivities on the premises will likely pale in comparison to those held in the building's heyday. Rum Runners opened in the building in 1996 as a tiki-themed piano bar and, for more than a decade, served as a destination draw for birthday and bachelorette parties. The first floor was a separate nightclub that opened in 2003, but both levels suffered stiff competition when a glut of bars flooded the downtown area in the late '00s and early '10s. Rum Runners closed in 2013, shortly after a rebranding effort to shift the business into more of a performance venue concept. Rathbun inherited a Class C liquor license with the sale, but sold it last week to an undisclosed party.

"I didn't want to bring another bar downtown — I think there are enough already," Rathbun said. "And I don't want to see (the downstairs) become a pot shop, either. I want to see something that's good for downtown Lansing. I've been a part of this community for a long time, and I want to see it continue to thrive."

Rathbun's father, Gene Rathbun, joined Rathbun Insurance in 1966, 10 years after his brothers, Jack and Jim Rathbun, founded the agency. After majoring in insurance/business administration at Ferris State University and spending time working at a national insurance company, Paul Rathbun came aboard in 1983. In 1990, he became a partner.

City records show Rathbun bought

the Rum Runners building for \$318,999, nearly \$200,000 less than it went for when it was last sold in 2006. The block is undergoing a resurgence based around craft beer and spirit manufacturing; **American Fifth** Spirits next door recently celebrated its second anniversary, and **Lansing Brewing Co.** down the street has become a massive draw.

"It's harder to find places downtown, which is why I bought it," Rathbun said. "I like industrial spaces, and the architect has come up with some really good designs. I really think (this space) could become a gem for downtown."

Rathbun said anyone interested in opening a business on the building's first floor should contact him by email at paul@rathbunagency.com. The business owner will be responsible for build out, but Rathbun said the space is in excellent condition, and the exposed brick and open floor plan make for an attractive dose of urban chic.

"I don't want to run the business, but I'll provide guidance for (whomever) decides to do something," Rathbun said. "I wish I had the time. It's a great location and a great space."

Green with EnVie

After a couple of private friends-and-family events last week, downtown Lansing's newest eatery opened to the public on Monday. EnVie is a French-themed bistro featuring a menu with lunch and dinner items, as well as a full bar with an eclectic cocktail list and extensive wine menu.

"We're going to go for familiar favorites, but we also want to create new things no one has ever seen before," said co-owner James Cheskaty, who also serves as executive chef. "It's a lot more French than we were originally planning."

In addition to the French dishes — which include duck à l'orange, ratatouille and cassoulet — diners can also choose between burgers, salads and cheese plates. There's even a breakfast item for late risers: the duck Benedict features sliced duck breast and a poached egg served on a croissant and topped with Hollandaise sauce and Michigan cherry coulis.

EnVie

210 S. Washington Square, Lansing
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday;
closed Sunday
(517) 318-6135, envie517.com

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

Out on the town

from page 31

Science Road East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.

Summer Reading Kick-off Open House (All ages). Button-making, construction toys. 2-5 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Webberville Branch, 115 S. Main Street Webberville. (517) 521-3643.

Summer Reading Kickoff (All ages). Make screen print bag. Prize entry with sign-up. 1-5 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries South Lansing Branch, 3500 S. Cedar St. Lansing. (517) 272-9840.

Williamston Food Truck Throwdown. Largest collection of food trucks in the greater Lansing area. 6-9 p.m. FREE. Williamston Farmers' Market, 200 N. Putnam St. Williamston. (517) 719-6193.

ARTS

Pop Up Art: Special Edition Kick Off 2017.

A re-imagining of downtown Lansing. Activities also. 5-7 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 113 S. Washington Square Lansing. (517) 374-6400. ow.ly/WNdX30ccCON.

Saturday, June 10

MUSIC

Live Music w/ Jake and Shelby. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Lansing Brewing Company, 518 E. Shiawassee St. Lansing. 517.371-2600.

EVENTS

Five Ways for Men to age like a Champ. Seminar on Men's Health. 3 p.m., FREE. Frandor Better Health Market, 305 N. Clippert St.

***CADL Girls Gymnastics Clinic.** 90-minute gymnastics clinic for girls K-4. Parents must sign waiver. Call ext. 3. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. FREE. Holt High School, 5885 Holt Road Holt. (517) 694-9531.

***Henna Body Art with Anshu Varma (Ages 8-18).** Use new or traditional designs. Call ext. 3. 11 a.m.-noon. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi Branch, 2078 Aurelius Road Holt. (517) 694-9351.

ARTS

Williamston Pop Up Art & Crafts Show. Illustration, photography and more. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. FREE. Keller's Plaza Upstairs, 107 S. Putnam Williamston. (517) 325-3097. ow.ly/dftC30ccC40.

Sunday, June 11

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Charlotte Yoga Club. 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \$5 annually. ALIVE, 800 W. Lawrence Charlotte.

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

Kendo Martial Art Class. 10-11:30 a.m. \$5. Westside Community YMCA, 3700 Old Lansing Road Lansing.

EVENTS

89th Key & Synergy. Lansing bands perform. 2-5:30 p.m. \$10. Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St. Lansing. (517) 627-2154. michiganprincess.com.

Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance. 6 p.m. \$8 dance, \$10 dance & lesson. The Lansing Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave. Lansing. (517) 321-0933. **Leafy Tree Walk.** Naturalist-led. 3-4:30 p.m. \$3/\$7 Family. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866. bit.ly/HNCprg.

Out on the town

from page 34

Monday, June 12 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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 Lansing. (517) 371-3010.

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

MUSIC

New Horizons Community Band. 6-8 p.m. MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road East Lansing. (517) 355-7661.

EVENTS

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

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

Social Bridge. 1-4 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road Lansing.

Tuesday, June 13 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. 7 p.m. FREE for visitors. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave. Lansing. (517) 367-6300.

Take off Pounds Sensibly. 6 p.m. FREE first visit. St. Therese Parish, 102 W. Randolph Street Lansing. (517) 487-3749.

Yawn Patrol Toastmasters. 7-8:30 a.m. FREE for visitors. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St. Lansing.

MUSIC

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

Michigan Princess Classical Series: Schubert and Mendelssohn. Cash bar and refreshments. 7-8:30 p.m. \$20. Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St. Lansing. (517) 627-2154. michiganprincess.com.

EVENTS

Bingo, Bridge, and Euchre. 1-4:30 p.m. Cost Varies. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

LCC West Toastmasters. 5-6:30 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Dr. Lansing. (517) 483-1314.

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

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 349-9536.

Wednesday, June 14 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Endnote X7 and Endnote Online. Basic Introduction. 10 a.m.-noon FREE. MSU Library, 366

W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

MUSIC

Turn Up the Bricks at Allen Farmers Market. 5-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

ARTS

Pop Up Demo: Juanita Baldwin. Demonstrations by professional artists. Performance from Turn Up the Bricks. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 113 S. Washington Sq. Lansing. (517) 374-6400. lansingartgallery.org.

JUNE 9 >> ARTS NIGHT OUT DOWNTOWN ST. JOHNS

Arts Night Out goes on the road this week, bringing the pop-up art event to downtown St. Johns. The event, which turns local storefronts and businesses into temporary art galleries and performance spaces, includes St. Johns locations like Bruno's Wonder Bar, Oh Mi Organics and Unique Reflections. The event is pet friendly, too, so you and your four-legged friend can meander through the mix of creative people and urban spaces. To top it off, there will be raffle drawings for kids and adults and live music starting at 8 p.m. 5 p.m. FREE. Downtown St. Johns. (517) 372-4636, myartsnighout.com.

JUNE 8 >> MONTE PRIDE MUSIC AT THE MANSION

Local folk singer/songwriter Monte Pride presents an intimate evening of music Thursday in the latest installment of Music at the Mansion at the Turner-Dodge House. Pride blends haunting lyrics with fingerstyle guitar playing to create a brand of folk music reminiscent of folk masters Paul Simon and Bob Dylan, while also incorporating modern influences like the Tallest Man On Earth and the Soil & the Sun. Thursday's set list includes music from Pride's recently released album, "Hawthorne Morning Sound." 7 p.m. \$10. Turner-Dodge House, 100 East North St., Lansing. (517) 483-4220.

JUNE 11 >> VERVE PIPE AT ELEP

Local legends the Verve Pipe help East Lansing Public Library kick off its Summer Reading Program with a special performance Sunday. The Michigan-based band, known for hits like "The Freshmen" and "Photograph," will be performing music from its two children's CDs, "Are We There Yet?" and "A Family Album" in the ELPL parking lot. If rain is in the forecast, the show will be moved indoors. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and picnic lunches, and \$2-off passes to the East Lansing Family Aquatic Center are available for attendees. The theme for this year's summer reading program is "Build a Better World," and children, teen and adults are invited to participate in the summer-long series of activities. 2-3 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, www.elpl.org.

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SUDOKU SOLUTION From Pg. 32

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

CROSSWORD SOLUTION From Pg. 32

BOIL	GATORS	KFC
UPDO	OREGON	ARA
MALCOLM	XRAY	RAS
PLEASE	TEND	ENT
	LIMP	SEANCE
USHER	ASA	RIO
LEE	INNAME	RSVP
AGA	SETLIST	CEL
NAVY	GRADEA	ATE
	YAM	YDS
XEROX		
OLDPAL	TACT	
TEE	NOTS	CURSOR
HAL	BOOKERT	TANGO
EST	ASPIRE	DOLT
REA	GEODES	EWES

ARTS NIGHT OUT

June Venues

- ASK Counseling
- Back Alley Pet Grooming
- Bruno's Wonder Bar
- Butler Financial
- Clinton County Arts Council
- Courthouse Cuts Barber Shop
- Kurt's Appliance Center
- Mercantile Bank
- Oh MI Organics
- Rehmann's Clothing
- Salon Fiji
- Studio Retreat and Gallery
- Unique Reflections
- Whimsical pARTy Gallery

JUNE 9TH / 5-8 PM

St. Johns

Arts Night Out: Paint the Town

Arts Night Out is coming to St. Johns on June 9th! Come explore as local artists invigorate the town with their unique work and talents and get in on the fun with the Children's Raffle and Community Art Project. If you're looking for a family-friendly Friday night, Arts Night Out has something for everyone!

#MyArtsNightOut



For more information, visit
www.MyArtsNightOut.com

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Mediterranean marvels

Hunting for little known gems in Greek wine

By JUSTIN KING

Back in January, I recommended a Greek wine to a person looking for bottles to go with their dinner, which was cooking in the oven at home. The wine was made from the assyrtiko grape by Estate Argyros.

I caught up with this person about a week after, and asked about the wine. In her words: “I didn’t like it. I don’t know ... it was just too Greek.”

Estate Argyros has been named one of Wine & Spirits Magazine’s best 100 wineries in multiple years, and it’s garnered glowing reviews across the spectrum of mainstream wine writing, including Wine Advocate, Wine Spectator and The New York Times.

Suffice to say, the image problem for Greek wines is real, and it’s wrong. And it’s not exactly true that Greek wine has finally transformed, evolved or modernized. It’s more accurate to say that we are finally getting access to good Greek wine.

For this blessing, there is no American more important than Ted Diamantis, proprietor and president of Diamond Wine Importers. Diamantis founded Diamond in 1992 “out of the belief that Greece, with its natural terroir of mountain vineyards, maritime influenced climate, volcanic and alluvial soils, and over 200 ancient indigenous varieties, can once again become a source of some of the greatest wines in the world.”

A quarter century later, the buzz on Greek wine has trickled downstream broadly enough that there’s a proven market need for these wines, even in a tertiary market like Lansing.

The wine industry might be the most romantic industry of all, so it’s no surprise that wistful wanderlusters might be enticed by the otherworldly sea, volcanic cliffs and blue-domed churches on the crescent-shaped island of Santorini. While Piedmont, Italy, might have a better argument for most impressive confluence of food and wine, Santorini is an embarrassment of riches for all things romance.

Assyrtiko is the most important grape on the island, and arguably for Greece as a whole. The grapevines are grown in basket shapes, mostly to protect the berries from getting blown off or damaged by the blustering winds off the Aegean Sea.

Greece is plenty hot, and perhaps assyrtiko’s best trait is its ability to retain acidity while surrounded by heat. What does this mean for the wine? Assyrtiko wines tend to be refreshing and

thirst-quenching, as opposed to borderline flabby.



The sun sets over wine drinkers at Santo Winery, a Greek winery on the island of Santorini.

thirst-quenching, as opposed to borderline flabby.

A prime example is a wine from maybe Greece’s best overall producer, Domaine Sigalas. My notes go five vintages deep on this wine, and I’m consistently amazed at its expressive style.

Putting one’s nose into a glass of the assyrtiko 2015 vintage is like walking through an apple orchard as the blossoms bloom. In flavor, the wine shows more tropical, like kiwi or papaya. At about \$22, this wine will forever be on hand for me as a must-have companion for Greek cuisine, saltier fish dishes or olives.

Paris Sigalas, founder of Domaine Sigalas, is also directly responsible for the promising trend of Santorini wines made from the mavrotragano grape, another native to the island. Should the good results continue, we will hopefully see representatives of this grenache-like grape on local shelves.

Of course, if you can’t wait to see them stateside, you can visit the winery on Santorini. It might be the most beautiful place in the world.

Most island hoppers bus up to the northern Santorini town of Oia to take in those legendary sunsets, but Santo Wines, on the west coast of the island, might have the best spot for nature ogling.

And to sweeten the deal, its sparkling brut, at just \$25, beats out Veuve Clicquot

any day. Once again, this is 100 percent assyrtiko, only the fruit of this is more subtle and green, and the body is less minerally and more, well, party-like. This is party wine.

Side note: For anyone looking to find wines that are vintage dated the same year as your children were born, consider Vinsanto from Santorini. It is a dessert wine generally made from the assyrtiko, athiri, and aidani grapes. Often you will see current releases carry an old year, due to the extensive cask aging.

Take a boat leaving Santorini southward, and you’ll eventually climb ashore on the island of Crete. Home to the Minoans, the earliest recorded European civilization, Crete is also home to wine that tastes way better than its price would lead you to believe.

Possibly the star of the show is Douloufakis Winery. Pumping out wine since 1930, these fine folks have had their wine shipped stateside for a few decades, but they’re still reasonably new in the Michigan market. The soil of the tiny region of Dafnes, where Douloufakis is located, is similar to much of France: calcareous clay and limestone. The land is shaped like an amphitheater, with olive trees and grapevines dominating the landscape.

At about \$16, Douloufakis’ Dafnios liatiko is a pinot noir fan’s dream, light

bodied and refreshing with hints of dark fruits and a slight touch of earthiness. It’s a struggle to get that from Burgundy for less than \$30.

Back on mainland Greece, there are other wineries dedicated to quality. Based in the small Greek Macedonian subregion of Naoussa, Domaine Karydas makes a thrilling wine from the xinomavro grape. Meaning “acid black,” this grape is a bit finicky at times, but for \$30, the truffle-like aroma with rose petals and black olives should make any fan of northern Italian wine swoon.

As a rule, xinomavro is damned near perfect with lamb and beef. Alpha Estate’s 2006 xinomavro, currently on the market for about \$40, is proof that Greek wine can age well and develop a brooding style all its own. Aromas and flavors of tobacco, cedar, black olive, cherry skin, black licorice are there, but it’s all so graceful and never in your face.

Alpha Estate is a high-performing winery in Amyntaio. Its malagouzia, at \$20, is another refreshing patio wine, much like its assyrtiko brethren, only a little leaner around the edges. At \$18, its sauvignon blanc is one of the prettier dry wines I’ve had lately. Not carrying much of the grapefruit or green notes so common in New Zealand or Loire, France, examples,

See Marvels, Page 42

Marvels

from page 37

this wine shows more floral and soft. It's an impressive wine for those looking for something between a sauvignon blanc and a chardonnay.

Michigan readers may find it helpful to think of Greek wine producers like morel mushroom hunters. The best in both fields need patience, need to understand timing and need to be cognizant of temperature and climate. Come to think of it, morels sound darn tasty with a nice xinomavro.

Justin King is a certified sommelier and owner of Bridge Street Social, a wine and cocktails-focused restaurant in DeWitt. He likes his souvlaki on any day that ends in y.



Justin King/City Pulse

Olive trees and grapevines dominate the landscape in Dafnes, Crete, which is home to Dououloufakis Winery.

Basil Fizz - The Cosmos

I doubt many pizza joints that blast loud rock music boast drinks served in a martini glass — especially drinks as classy as the Basil Fizz.

The Cosmos is a small restaurant attached to Zoobie's in Old Town. While the Cosmos and Zoobie's each have their own vibe, both establishments share the same kitchen, bar and restrooms. The Cosmos is known for its wood-fired pizzas, wild sci-fi murals and non-stop "Star Trek" reruns. But I'll remember it for its unique Basil Fizz.

The heart of the cocktail is cucumber and basil infused vodka. The taste of the plant and the herb were obvious from the first sip, but neither were overpowering. I immediately found the Basil Fizz to be delicious, which, to be honest, is

not a trait I usually associate with martini glass drinks.

Accompanying the appealing flavor was the delightful tingle of club soda. I find that sometimes adding soda can add bitterness to a drink. Not so with the Basil Fizz. St-Germain — a liqueur made from elderflowers — is one of the ingredients, and the extra sweetness cancelled any bitterness and an extra kick to the drink.

But the Basil Fizz was not too sweet, either. The inclusion of lemon juice produced a perfect balance. The finishing touch, a slice of fresh cucumber on the rim of the glass, added more class and more taste. (I quickly plopped mine into the concoction.) It tasted so good that I ordered a second one — even if it meant risking waiting in line for a chance to use the shared restroom.

— DAVID WINKELSTERN



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M-F, 3-6 pm & 9-close. A fun neighborhood cantina featuring daily food and drink specials. Menu offers fresh made Mexican and American fare. Open 7 days. Call us for takeout, catering and banquets. Like us on facebook-lasenorita.com



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THE PULSIFIEDS

BACKPAGE CLASSIFIEDS

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Education: The Michigan State University Dept. of Entomology seeks qualified candidates for the following full time position: Research Assistant Professor (East Lansing, MI) Work across multiple domains of World Technology Access Program and African Biosafety Network of Expertise project, responsible for research, training and outreach activities related to crop biotechnology, biosafety, food safety, technology transfer and commercialization of agricultural technologies relevant to Africa. Conduct research and implement project activities related to biotechnology regulatory, intellectual property and technology transfer. Develop scholarly articles for publication. Qualified candidates will possess Ph.D. in Agriculture, Biochemistry, Plant Science or related field + 1 year experience as Science Officer or related position in biotechnology research in Africa. Must have experience or education in biotechnology transfer research, project development, and grant seeking, must have knowledge of Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, intellectual property rights and technology transfer issues related to plant biotechnology. To apply for this posting, please go to www.careers.msu.edu and search for posting number 437533. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The university actively encourages applications and/or nominations from women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities. MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

It's time for the Westside & Old Oakland Neighborhoods Garage Sale!
Over 40 houses participating.
 Saturday, June 10 from 8am-5pm. Some sales on Friday and Sunday. Between Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Clare St and Olds Ave, Willow St
 Map and more information at wnalansing.org.

SENIOR QUALITY ANALYSTS Okemos, MI area. Conduct testing to assure that products meet design specs and requirements. Work with SQL, .NET, Selenium, SoapUI, Apache Jmeter & HP LoadRunner. Travel/reloc to various unanticipated locations as required. Send res to RICEFW Technologies Inc., 4295 Okemos Rd., Ste. 102, Okemos, MI 48864.

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Ingham County seeks bids for the purchase and installation of a turnkey new digital recording system. Info: <http://pu.ingham.org>, under Current Bids link, Pkt 32-17

Ingham County seeks proposals to provide ambulance and blood drawing services. Info: <http://pu.ingham.org>, under Current Bids link, Pkt 129-17

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City Pulse and the Arts Council of Greater Lansing are joining forces this summer to put original art by area artists on the cover of City Pulse each week for 15 weeks, beginning June 14. To find out how you can get YOUR art in front of over 50,000 readers visit:

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 High quality and nothing over \$10 a gram for all your medical needs. We also have a convenient drive-through. Check us out on weedmaps!



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 3205 S. Cedar St., Lansing
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 Hours: M-F: 8am-11 pm
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Our mission is to ensure the highest standards of client relations, make sure each patient feels comfortable, and informed. Come meet our friendly, 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!



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 Hours:
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Conveniently Located in the Old Town District in North Lansing. Just minutes from I496 and I69. 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!



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 Hours: Open 7 days a week
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Spartan Meds is a MMMP friendly location with all of your medical needs. We guarantee to have the best prices in town without losing any quality. Come in today and ask about one of our many \$25 1/8's, along with our \$150 1/4 of house wax special!



THANK YOU FOR VOTING FOR US!

#1 TOP OF THE TOWN 2015-17

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