

# Bringing the best of Folk, Roots & Dance to the Greater Lansing Area

# **2018-2019 CONCERT SEASON**



Friday, Sept. 21 Ukes & Steel with The Wilsons & Co. Julianna Wilson, Andy Wilson, loe Wilson and Drew Howard



Friday, Sept. 28 Mustard's Retreat CD Release



Sunday, Sept. 30, 7pm Jarlath Henderson award-winning Uilleann piper trio performs songs and tunes



Thursday, Oct. 4 Don Julin Quartet with Joe Wilson, Kevin Gills and David Collini



Sunday, Oct.7 "Music of the 1960s" Two multi-media extravaganzas





Friday, Oct. 19 Lonesome Ace Stringband featuring banjo virtuoso Chris Coole

Friday, Oct. 12

Jen Sygit

**CD** Release

Friday, Oct. 26 **May Erlewine** 

Friday, Nov. 2

Christine Lavin



Friday, Nov. 9 Laura Love co-produced with The Women in the Arts Festival

Friday, Nov. 16 Sam Gleaves co-produced with the Peace Education Center, held in conjunction with its Alternative Holiday Sale

Friday, Nov. 30

Joel Mabus





Friday, Dec. 7 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Sing hosted by Sally Potter wsg Jamie-Sue Seal, Siusan O'Rourke, Doug Berch & Doug Austin (piano)

by FBC co-founder Dick Rosemon



Monday, Nov. 5 Moira Smiley hosts a **Monday Community** Sing, 7pm

All concerts begin at 7:30pm unless noted

<ul> <li>★ THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE ★</li> <li>1/18/19 Heartland Klezmorim - The Musical Journey From The Shtetl</li> <li>1/25/19 Matt Watroba &amp; Robert Jones - From Roots to Rap, A Musical Celebration of History and Diversity</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2/10/19 Matthew Byrne - Sunday Concert, 7pm</li> <li>2/15/19 John Gorka</li> <li>2/22/19 The Seamus Egan Project, featuring Moira Smiley</li> <li>3/1/19 Strangers in the Night: The Bands of Elderly Instruments</li> <li>3/8/19 Annual Pub Sing @ The AMP: 7:30pm: Finvarra's Wren</li> <li>9pm Pub Sing, led by Sally Potter</li> <li>3/15/19 The Outside Track - Celebrating St. Patrick's Day</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid-Winter Singing &amp; Folk Festival</li> <li>2/1/19 MWSFF Concert with Joshua Davis</li> <li>2/2/19 MWSFF Community Sing with Sally Rogers,</li></ul>	<ul> <li>3/22/19 Crys Matthews</li> <li>3/31/19 The Fretless - Sunday Concert, 7pm</li> <li>4/5/19 The Matchsellers &amp; Red Tail Ring: Old-Time Duos</li> <li>4/12/19 Sweet Water Warblers:</li></ul>
Claudia Schmidt, Joel Mabus <li>2/2/19 MWSFF Children's Concert with Sally Rogers</li> <li>2/2/19 6-8 Afternoon Workshops</li>	Rachael Davis, May Erlewine, Lindsay Lou <li>4/26/19 Pete Seeger - 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration,</li>
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sional milestone. That obscure

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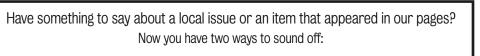




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**VOL. 18** 

**ISSUE** 5



- 1.) Write a letter to the editor.
- E-mail: letters@ lansingcitypulse.com
- Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing,
- MI 48912
- Fax: (517) 371-5800
- At lansingcitypulse.com
- 2.) Write a guest column:

Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or (517) 999-5061 (Please include your name, address and telephone number so we can reach you. Keep letters to 250 words or fewer. City Pulse reserves the right to edit letters and columns.)

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES

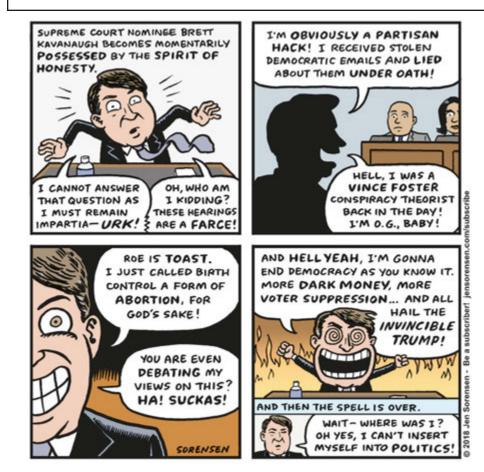
A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING WAS HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES LOCATED AT 3209 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2018, AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hayes, Clerk Aten, Treasurer Rodgers Trustees: Broughton, Harris, McKenzie, DeLay MEMBERS ABSENT None. ALSO PRESENT: Michael Gresens, Attorney ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes. Minutes of the meeting held on August 8, 2018 approved. Agenda approved as amended. Authorized Supervisor to amend sidewalk work agreement with Bees Asphalt. Approved Ordinance #36.24 with revision. Adopted Resolution 18-23: USDA Loan Resolution. Approved special use permit SP-18-13. Approved sidewalk waiver SW-18-14 with conditions. Approved Amendment to Owner-Engineer Agreement, Amendment No. 1 and authorized West Side Water manager to sign agreement. Authorized fire chief to sell apparatus at auction. Claims approved. Meeting adjourned.

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor Susan L. Aten, Clerk

CP#18-219







Developer pushing for January deadline



A look at East Lansing's Poke Lab



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IF THE PRESIDENT SHOT SOMEONE IN THE MIDDLE OF FIFTH AVENUE IN FRONT OF HUNDREDS OF WIT-NESSES, WOULD HE BE SUBJECT TO INDICTMENT?



IN YOUR VIEW, ARE NON-WHITE AMERICANS LEGITIMATE CITIZENS WHOSE VOTING RIGHTS MUST BE PROTECTED AND UPHELD?

I SIMPLY CAN'T TO SUCH AN EN-YPOTHETICAL QUES-SENATOR,



WHAT IF HE DECLARED HIMSELF A GOD EMPEROR WHOSE EVERY WHIN MUST BE OBEYED UPON PAIN OF DEATH?





JUDGE, IS THE SKY BLUE ON SUNNY DAYS?

by TOM TOMORROW

JUDGE, DO YOU BELIEVE EMPLOYERS SHOULD BE ABLE TO TREAT THEIR WORKERS AS LITTLE MORE THAN HUMAN CHATTEL, WITH NO REGARD

FOR THEIR SAFETY OR WELL-BEING?

GAIN, JUDICIAL INDEPEN-ENCE REQUIRES THAT I OT COMMIT TO AN ANSWER

# NEWS & OPINION

# Clock ticking on City Hall hotel plan



# **Gillespie's great land grab**

# How a developer assembled the pieces

Developer Pat Gillespie knows it'll take some work to shape up his latest plans along Michigan Avenue.

It already has.

Blueprints for the first downtown hotel to be constructed in decades — along with dozens of apartments and a grocery store to anchor the project — will require an investment he estimated will tally up to \$40 million. The project required his company to purchase nearly an entire city block before the plans could even be announced.

"It occurred over a four-year period and involved communicating and having discussions with people in the area to see if they had an interest and if they wanted to be a part of the project," Gillespie said. "It was basically conversational: 'Is now a good time? Not today? Call back in a couple months?' It was a dialogue."

City records indicate Gillespie's great land grab began in 2014 when he acquired the corner lot — a former Mobil gas station at the intersection of Michigan Avenue and Larch Street — for 60,000 from the Ingham Co. Land Bank. But the project didn't gain steam until this year, when Gillespie turned his focus south to Barnard Street and made his way down the block.

"I don't think there were any hard negotiations," Gillespie added. "It was just: 'Here's what we want to do. Would you be interested in participating? I wouldn't call any of that a hard conversation with anyone."

James Brogan, who owned the now-shuttered Brogan's Tire and Auto Service, jumpstarted Gillespie's plans in May when he offloaded most of the remaining 600 block of Michigan Avenue for \$600,000, according to city records. By then, only Ed Carpenter, the owner of Liskey's Auto & Truck Service, 119 S. Larch, was standing in the way.

Carpenter ultimately decided to keep hold of his automotive business. But in mid-August he unloaded a series of commercial and residential properties along Barnard and Larch streets to the Gillespie Group to make the project possible. City records indicate Carpenter was paid about \$500,000 through seven separate sales. "I would say that a lot of this was his

See Gillespie, Page 6

# Developer sets January as likely deadline

A Chicago-based developer who wants to transform Lansing's City Hall into a large-scale, high-end hotel remains undeterred by the announcement of a smaller hotel just a few blocks away. But he could divert course by the end of the year.

J. Paul Beitler, president of Beitler Real Estate Services, said he wants to lock down plans by January or else he'll likely take his development to another city.

Beitler wants to renovate City Hall into a ritzy hotel that would cater to regional convention crowds. Developer Pat Gillespie's latest plans along Michigan Avenue didn't change his mind, but Beitler urged officials to move quickly or miss the opportunity.

"If I build, I build. If I don't, I don't," Beitler declared. "It won't be the end of the world for me, but it will likely be the end of the world for the city of Lansing. They're struggling right now. This city has to start thinking strategically, and it has to take a leap of faith forward and do something."

Beitler's proposal was one of four submitted to the city a year ago for City Hall. The others would either tear down City Hall or build in front of it on the plaza. Beitler's is the only one that would preserve the building without blocking the view of what preservationists consider the most important example of mid-century architecture in the Lansing region.

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor said Tuesday it is "feasible" that the city can get over the hurdle by January, that is holding up Beitler's project, which Schor said he still favors. The challenge is finding a place for the courts and the police lockup, which are housed in City Hall.

But he said he will not spend "millions" temporarily locating those facilities in order to accommodate Beitler's deadline.

The Gillespie Group outlined plans last month to swallow almost an entire city block for a nationally flagged hotel, apartment complex and an "urban market" Meijer in the 600 block of East Michigan Avenue. But Beitler — along with a handful of other developers — sees room for continued growth in the market.

"It's a good start but that hotel is not going to be the level of quality that I'm looking to bring to the city," Beitler said



#### Eye for Design Haslett

We received several correct and incorrect guesses regarding last month's Eye for Design, and Bryan Kurtz of Laingsburg provided one of each. But he was the first person to locate correctly the limestone detail over the main entrance at the Michigan State University Student Union (below). The relief work, carved by Samuel Cashwan, depicts Prometheus delivering fire (and the arts) to humankind.

The elaborate column capital (above) may be found in Haslett. The first person to correctly identify the location of the detail will receive a City Pulse Eye for Design mug. Send your answer to daniel@eastarbor.com by Sept. 19. **Daniel E. Bollman, AIA** 



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

# Gillespie

#### from page 5

idea," Gillespie said. He told Capenter, "I'd like to build a 24-unit apartment. He said this property is prime and we'd be wasting a corner if that was all we did there. He was willing to work with us and sell some of the land. He talked about moving. He talked about staying."

Carpenter and Brogan didn't return calls for this story, but their property sales were

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

*Notice is Hereby Given* that a Public Hearing of Revision of Drain District boundaries, and 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, September 18, 2018**, 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.

parcels and municipalities within the drain	age district available to review.	
DRAIN NAME	MUNICIPALITY	SECTION NUMBERS
A02-00 ALAIEDON NO. 2 DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP	21, 28
A03-00 ALAIEDON #3 DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP	20
A04-00 ALAIEDON NO. 4 DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP	12
A21-00 ADDISON DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	21
B02-00 BARNES AND	ONONDAGA TOWNSHIP	22, 23, 26-28, 34, 35
CARPENTER DRAIN		,,, ,,,
	AURELIUS TOWNSHIP	14, 15
B04-00 BATEMAN DRAIN B15-00 BOTSFORD DRAIN B28-02 BUTTON, PONDEROSA	LOCKE TOWNSHIP	7-9, 17, 18
B28-02 BUTTON, PONDEROSA	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	35
BRANCH DRAIN		55
	AURELIUS TOWNSHIP	1, 12
B32-00 BELL DRAIN B69-00 BOBOLINK DRAIN E03-00 EBERLY DRAIN		1, 12
	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	8-10, 15-17, 20
G03-08 GILBERT, CARDINAL	DELHI TOWNSHIP	18
BRANCH DRAIN		1.0
G07-00 GOODNOE DRAIN	ONONDAGA TOWNSHIP	4, 9
G21-00 GRETTENBERGER DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	21
G22-00 GRANDY DRAIN	STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP	8, 17, 18
G24-00 GOULD DRAIN	WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	13, 24
	LEROY TOWNSHIP	18, 19
H03-00 HANNAH FARM DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	20
H04-00 HANCOCK DRAIN	AURELIUS TOWNSHIP	1, 2
	DELHI TOWNSHIP	25, 26, 35, 36
H06-00 HARMON DRAIN	LESLIE TOWNSHIP LEROY TOWNSHIP BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP VEVAY TOWNSHIP	2, 3, 9-11, 14-16
H52-00 HUMMELL DRAIN	LEROY TOWNSHIP	15, 16, 21, 22
H56-00 HEENEY DRAIN	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP	2, 3, 11
H64-00 HUBBARD DRAIN	VEVAY TOWNSHIP	26, 35
102-00 INDIAN HILLS DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	21
106-02 INDIAN LAKES NO.2 DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	20
K04-00 KENT DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	21
M02-00 MARKLEY DRAIN	AURELIUS TOWNSHIP	29-31
M05-00 MARSHALL & WILCOX DRAIN	LEROY TOWNSHIP	32
M05-00 MARSHALL & WILCOX DRAIN	INGHAM TOWNSHIP	1, 12
	WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP	5-8
M06-00 MEAD DRAIN	LEROY TOWNSHIP	28, 29, 32, 33
M14-00 MERIDIAN HILLS DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	10, 15
M18-04 MUD LAKE OUTLET,	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	15
TIHART BRANCH DRAIN		10
M19-00 MULLEN DRAIN	INGHAM TOWNSHIP	1, 2, 11, 12, 14
M20-00 MUTUAL DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	36
W20-00 WO I BAE BRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP	1
	WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	5,6
002-00 OKEMOS PRESERVE DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	32
002-00 OREINOS FRESERVE DRAIN		32
P23-00 PIKE STREET DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	3
P24-04 PINE LAKE N. BRANCH	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	3
P24-12 PINE LAKE, WILDFLOWER	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	10
P44-00 PINE RIDGE DRAIN	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	11
P47-00 PINE DELL DRAIN	DELHI TOWNSHIP	11, 12
R 19-00 ROSSIMAN DRAIN	ONONDAGA TOWNSHIP	30, 31
T05-01 TOWAR SNELL	MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	6
	CITY OF EAST LANSING	6
W67-00 WELLINGTON ESTATES DRAIN	NERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	23, 24

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.

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. Persons aggrieved by the revision of district boundaries may appeal to the Ingham County Circuit Court within ten (10) days of Review.

Patrick E. Lindemann Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#18-211

confirmed both by Gillespie and records filed at the City Assessor's Office. All told, the Gillespie Group paid about \$1.9 milion for 18 separate parcels, including foreclosed properties.

Gillespie aims to transform the 4-acre space into a four-story hotel with a restaurant and an undetermined mix of one- and two-bedroom apartments. Below them will be a comparatively smaller, "urban market" version of Meijer, billed under the name "Capital City Market." The brand behind the hotel has not yet been announced.

Bob Trezise Jr., president and CEO of the Lansing Economic Area Partnership, suggested Gillespie would need to pursue a "very significant" amount of Brownfield funding to clean up the contaminated site following years of automotive-related spills and repair work. Gillespie said multiple underground tanks still need to be excavated.

A "significant" loan and grant request from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and the Michigan Economic Development Corp. will ultimately help float some of the cost, Trezise added. Gillespie declined to provide specific financial estimates for those portions as the plans continue to take shape.

"There's probably a lot of soil that will need to be removed where anything has leaked," Gillespie added. "Most of the buildings also have lead-based paint and asbestos that will need to be removed in a manner that's safe for the environment. We need that toolbox to clean up up the site. Obviously, we can't do anything until then."

Amenities like a cafe and a bar area — in addition to spaces for conference rooms are set to be included in the hotel. Gillespie said about 300 parking spaces behind the building will accommodate both tenants and shoppers. But work will be worth rewards, according to Gillespie, who bills the project as a downtown "game-changer."

"I would love to see more people coming downtown on business trips," Gillespie added. "And they usually bring disposable income that would support more retail and support different venues in the area. The hotel is not the main force of business there. We're optimistic about that, but this started with a grocery store and apartments."

Visit lansingcitypulse.com for continued coverage as development continues along Michigan Avenue.

- KYLE KAMINSKI

kyle@lansingcitypulse.com



#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

**Notice is hereby given** of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on **Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1440, an ordinance to amend the Zoning Use District Map of Chapter 50- Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to rezone a 2.9 acre vacant parcel of land on the east side of Coolidge Road south of the southeast corner of Coolidge and Coleman Roads from A, Agricultural, to B-1, General Office Business.

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.

Jennifer Shuster City Clerk

CP#18-220

#### 7

## Hotel

#### from page 5

from his office in Chicago. "Convention crowds want more of an upscale place they can stay."

"For years with only one hotel in downtown Lansing?" he added. "That has caused a problem for the Lansing Center. Lansing has one of the most modern and beautiful convention centers in the state but they're missing out. The Achilles tendon to that model is that there are no hospitality rooms within walking distance."

Bob Trezise Jr., president and CEO of the Lansing Economic Area Partnership, said at least a half-dozen developers are considering plans for additional downtown hotels "in a serious way." And the way he sees it, the addition of a hotel downtown would only bolster the need for another. And another. "Let the best developer win," he added.

"If we have more hotel rooms, we'll have more conventions, which, ironically, will create the need for more hotel rooms," Trezise suggested. "Burger King is always built next to other fast food places. The average consumer is also more likely to utilize a specific space nearby if there are other like-minded facilities, so they have a choice."

City officials noted the City Hall building regularly siphons a half-million dollars annually in maintenance costs alone. Last year, former Mayor Virg Bernero solicited proposals to offload the aging site into the hands of developers and to relocate the city's offices to another, more cost-efficient location elsewhere downtown.

Beitler's proposal — which includes plans to lease the building and renovate it into a high-class hotel and restaurant — was selected as the frontrunner before Bernero left office. After Schor arrived in January, he tapped the brakes on the project. And Beitler said time is running out for city officials to stepback on the gas.

"This plan is predicated on a very dynamic environment where interest rates are going up every quarter," Beitler added. "The cost to build is going up. At some point, regardless of how much the city may desire to do something there, the cost in order to complete this project will just be too prohibitive."

Schor shares Beitler's urgency but stressed the importance of first finding another location for the district courts and the police lockup that share the space with city offices. Those discussions resurfaced this week at a City Council committee meeting, but it'll likely take months before a plan can move forward.

Louise Alderson, chief judge at Lansing's 54-A District Court, outlined for Council members the early stages of a multi-jurisdictional plan that could potentially



Chicago developer J. Paul Beitler wants to turn City Hall into a hotel, but is growing impatient waiting for approval.

merge facilities with other municipalities in Mason, East Lansing and Lansing Township. Proposed legislation requires a symbolic buy-in from each governing body, she said.

"These are just preliminary discussions," Chairwoman Carol Wood emphasized. "There will be no action."

Still, Schor believes downtown is primed for additional options. He noted two or three hotels "makes sense."

"I think a hotel on that site would make for a great location that a lot of people would want to use," Schor said. "But we have to do our due diligence. We can't sell him the building and not have a courtroom. I'd like to see this done before the end of the year, but I don't set artificial deadlines because I actually want to get things done."

Beitler's proposal aims to move City Hall into the former Lansing State Journal headquarters, on Lenawee Street. He wants to lease City Hall from the city and renovate it into a Hilton or Hyatt — a plan that he suggested would generate revenue for the city, in addition to better utilizing the prominent downtown space.

Gillespie's upcoming plans might tighten a limited market but Beitler sees an opportunity to collaborate. The state capital will always have a need for more hotel accommodations, he said. He wants to tap into a more "upper class" crowd but suggested the dueling hotels could refer guests to one another when vacancies run slim.

"I wouldn't be knocking on Lansing's door if I didn't think there was still an opportunity here," Beitler said.

The historical integrity of City Hall would be preserved while contractors reshape the lower floor into a "glass curtain" adjacent to a plaza that would be kept open to the public. A boutique restaurant and cocktail lounge overlooking the Capitol could play host to a variety of black-tie affairs, Beitler suggested.

Beitler estimated it will take a minimum of three years before the building is ready — assuming officials are even able to OK the project before the end of the year.

Schor has a much more optimistic view of the city regardless of whether Beitler's plans ever come to fruition. He said he plans to honor Bernero's commitment to Beitler but isn't setting any hard deadlines on the project. If the proposal is still on the table when plans for the courts and lockup are decided, he'll give Beitler a phone call.

"We have quite a bit coming for Lansing," Schor added. "He picked one of the most challenging projects because it's City Hall. We have stuff all over the city being developed right now. I'd like to add City Hall to that list, but we need to have a court system before we can ever have a new, bright and shiny building."

Brett Forsberg, President of Forsberg Real Estate Co., also charted ongoing plans for another hotel development downtown. He expects the City Council later this year to review a rezoning request for a 105 to 120 room, moderately priced hotel where the REO Town sign sits onMalcolm X Street.

"We're still working on the branding of what type of hotel it's going to be but we're thinking it's something that will be a nice, mid-range hotel," Forsberg added. "We feel good about the number of hotels that are in the works right now, especially with these being so centrally located to the downtown core. There's potential there."

Visit lansingcitypulse.com for continued coverage as developments continue to take shape downtown.

– KYLE KAMINSKI kyle@lansingcitypulse.com

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

**Notice is hereby given** of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Zoning Board of Appeals on **Wednesday, October 3, 2018** at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 1, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

A public hearing will be held to consider a variance request for the property located at 846 Touraine Avenue, in the R-1, Low Density Residential District from the following requirement of Chapter 50 – Zoning Code of the City of East Lansing:

Section 50-301. – Minimum lot width. Minimum lot width in the R-1 zoning district is 70 feet. The applicant is proposing to split the property into two parcels where lot 94 is proposed to have a lot width of 59 feet and 4 inches and lot 95 is proposed to have a lot width of 66 feet and 3 inches.

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

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

City Clerk

# Younger voters tripled turnout in state primary



More younger voters participated in last month's Michigan election than in any primary in at least the last 10 years, a surge one statistical expert called a "pretty dramatic change."

Voters age 18-29 made up

6.77 percent of the universe of voting Michiganders on Aug. 7, a higher percentage than Michigan has seen since at least 1998. But it's the raw numbers of voters that struck Mark Grebner of Practical Political Consultants in Lansing.

In 2014, 49,000 18-to 29-year-olds voted in the primary, making up 3.72 percent of the 1.3 million voters. Keep in mind the Republican and Democratic gubernatorial contests were not contested that year. However, this year, almost three times as many younger voters -143,000 - cast a ballot in an election that drew a modern-day record 2.209 million people, according to final numbers from the secretary of state.

Meanwhile, the percentage of 30-to 39-year-olds increased at about the same rate. In 2014, the 5.63 percent of primary voters were 30-somethings. In 2018, that percentage shot up to 9.18.

Since 1998, the highest primary election turnout was in 2010, when 1.63 million voters showed up to vote in contested Republican and Democratic gubernatorial elections. The 2018 number is 30 percent higher than that.

"In the primary, I kept guessing 1.85 million voters, with the possibility of as many as 2 million, and I was scoffed at," Grebner noted. "This fall, I'm guessing 3.5 million voters, roughly half a million more than previous gubernatorial elections. The electorate will be younger and more Democratic than recent gubernatorial elections. And, who knows, I may be wrong again, on the low side."

As it has done for several years, the Lansing Clerk's Office set up a table on the Lansing Community College campus to make it more convenient for interested students to register to vote. In years' past, they'll see five or 10 students register a day. If they got 50 students to register, it's a good turnout.

This year, Lansing Clerk Chris Swope said they registered 300 students over four or five days.

"They really seem more into it," he said. Michigan is not an anomaly in this.

Pennsylvania is reporting that registered voters 34 and younger now outnumber those 65 and older, according to The New York Times. Arizona, New York, Florida and Virginia have also "seen sharp increases," the Times reported.

"Not to use a corny word, but they're pumped," said Cayley Winters, a recent 23-year-old Michigan State University graduate who returned to her hometown, Battle Creek, last year to work as a nurse aide until realizing she liked politics more.

Now, her full-time job is political organizing and getting college students to register to vote. She's working for NextGen America, a 5-year-old environmental and progressive advocacy political action committee funded by billionaire fund manager Tom Steyer.

With an initial \$3.5 million investment, NextGen Michigan is registering and organizing voters across the state with a focus on flipping the 7th, 8th and 11th congressional districts. The southeast Michigan 7th includes Eaton County. The 8th comprises Ingham County, Livingston County and northern Oakland County.

NextGen has registered 26,776 Michigan voters since January with more than 20 staff and fellows on the ground.

"It's not necessarily about the numbers," Winters said. "It's more about preparing people to vote and to help them realize that politics is not some far-away thing. It impacts our lives every day."

Take the cost of college tuition, for example. Winters had helped lead a survey of 12,654 college students and found that 71 percent are concerned about the cost of going to college and don't believe Congress is doing enough about it.

Those considered Millennials and Generation Z are not represented with any notable numbers in Congress. According to a 2016 Bloomberg report, five members of Congress were 25 to 35 years of age. The U.S. Constitution requires a person be at least 25 to serve in the House.

Still, 270 members of Congress, more than half, were 52 to 70 years. The college students Winters runs into on the campuses of MSU, LCC, Aquinas and other schools on the state's west side understand what's going on, she said.

"The older generation has said they would take care of politics for us, but they are not representing us in Congress," she said. "They're not talking about the issues we care about so we have to take matter into our own hands."

*Kyle Melinn of the Capitol news service* MIRS is at melinnky@gmail.com.

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#### Lansing pot market withers on regulatory vine State approves 12 dispensaries elsewhere; their licensing bid. The would-be shops submitted a license application by June 15

#### Wild Bill's Tobacco applicant big loser

A dozen medical marijuana dispen- to open a dispensary, records state. Those saries this week were granted operating licenses by Michigan's Medical Marihuana Licensing Board, but hiccups in the local regulatory system ensured none of them were in Lansing.

The board on Monday granted preliminary approval to nine medical marijuana-related business ventures around the state, including pre-qualification for a growing operation along Turner Road in Lansing under the name R&A Distributing LLC. But none of the 19 full-fledged dispensary licenses that have been awarded so far have been distributed within the state capital.

City Clerk Chris Swope has yet to grant local licensure to any of 27 remaining applicants who haven't been denied in their bid

who were turned down will need to fit into the limited regulatory scheme should their appeals succeed, essentially freezing the market in the meantime, he said.

Oasis Wellness Center of Lansing -acompany that was already locally approved for two growing operations and two processing facilities -was denied prequalification status on Monday by state officials for a range of business ventures across mid-Michigan, including plans for pot shops centered around Beech and Hazel streets in Lansing.

The state-registered agent behind Wild Bill's Tobacco, Mazin Samona, was listed as a co-owner of those businesses, along with Paul Weisberger. The state board suggested two undisclosed arrests ultimately nixed

were also turned down based on a perception of poor "moral integrity."

Calls to Samona and Weisberger at Wild Bill's corporate offices were not immediately returned this week. It's not clear why city officials didn't deny the business on the same basis. Swope couldn't be reached for clarification.

A total of 37 medical marijuana-related licenses have now been granted statewide and 73 different businesses have received the nod for prequalification. State officials also opted to provide some leniency to certain pools of applicants, extending a deadline that would have initially forced every unlicensed operation to close by Saturday.

Emergency rules governing the market - already twice extended by Michigan's Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs – were again extended two months to Dec. 15. Applicants who have applied for operation on or before Feb. 15 and have

will be able to continue business. Bureau of Medical Marihuana

Regulation Director Andrew Brisbo said the latest round of approvals should quell concerns over a lack of marijuana availability for patients statewide. The decision to extend the deadline, instead, was based on ensuring businesses can operate while the regulatory system catches up, he said.

"I think there is availability, particularly based on the number of approvals we had. But more certainly couldn't hurt," Brisbo added. "We've heard a lot of concerns over the past month, and we want to make sure those concerns are heard and considered and that we've taken the appropriate action."

Visit lansingcitypulse.com for more previous and continued coverage on medical marijuana regulation.

- KYLE KAMINSKI kyle@lansingcitypulse.com

# **Unfair to Dems**

Snyder denies quick election to replace Conyers



When U.S. Rep. John Convers Jr. of Detroit resigned amid scandal last December, he had served in the House of Representatives for 52 years, 336 days — longer than all but two members

Eric Freedman

in history. Only Michigan's John Dingell and Mississippi's Jamie Whitten had longer House careers.

The winner of this November's election to fill the balance of Convers' term will serve one of the shortest tenures in histo-

ry and will leave Capitol Hill less than two months later, on Dec. 31.

That should be Detroit City Council President Brenda Jones, who won the Democratic primary for the balance of Convers' term but lost the nomination for a full two-year stint to former state Rep. Rashida Tlaib.

Assuming Jones does win in November and is willing to surrender her City Council seat for a brief stint in Washington, she'll join the ranks of another recent Michigan short-termer, ex-U.S. Rep. Dave Curson of Belleville, who spent a mere seven weeks in Congress in 2012 after winning a special election to replace U.S. Rep. Thaddeus

His Democratic replacement, Curson,

McCotter. McCotter, a Republican from Livonia, resigned amid scandal, as did Conyers.

didn't seek a full term in the suburban

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CP#18-223

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CP#18-222

district and - in an ironic touch - as HuffPost reported, "he and his four-person staff camped out in spare cubicles" in Conyers' office.

Republican Kerry Bentivolio of Milford lost the special election to Curson but won the full term, only to be defeated for reelection two years later.

But Jones – again, assuming she takes the job - won't be setting any shorttermer record. That's held by Effingham Lawrence, a Democrat from Louisiana, who served for a single day after a twoyear fight to contest the election of a Republican rival.

Lawrence's fleeting tenure, March 3, 1875, was the last day of the congressional session

For comparison, House members on average had served 9.4 years as of 2017, according to a Congressional Research Service study.

Meanwhile in Michigan, the overwhelmingly Democratic and predominantly African-American residents of Detroit's 13th Congressional District will have gone for 11 months without representation in the U.S. House – a shameful, inexcusable, outrageous denial of their rights by our Republican governor, Rick Snyder. It was Snyder who decided to delay

holding the primary for the balance of Conyers' term until August, eight months after the beleaguered Conyers stepped down.

By contrast, it took only one month from McCotter's resignation in July 2012 for the Snyder-scheduled primary in the usually Republican suburban district and only three months more to hold the general election that gave Curson his brief and unexpected moment in the D.C. spotlight.

A Democratic district - 11 months without representation. A Republicanleaning district - four months without representation. Does that sound fair? - Capital News Service

(Eric Freedman, who won a Pulitzer prize at The Detroit News, is a journalism professor at Michigan State University. A modified version of this commentary appeared in Domemagazine.com.)

#### **CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN** NOTICE OF POSTING OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

On September 5, 2018 the approved minutes of the following proceedings of the Meridian Township Board:

#### August 21, 2018 Regular Meeting

were sent to the following locations for public posting:

Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road and the Township Web Site www.meridian.mi.us.

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#18-218

# Not keeping up with **CityPULSE** Online? Here's what you missed.



**Williamston Schools recall heads to ballot** Williamston voters will decide in the November general election whether to recall four school board members for supporting transgender rights.



**REO Town Art Attack brings music and art together for good cause** 

Working with the Capital Area Partnership nonprofit, the REO Town Commercial Association's Art Attack saw the community paint murals on thin sheets of wood to board up the Walter French Academy's windows beautifying the building while it awaits renovation.



East Lansing police nab suspected 'window peeper'

A 56-year-old man could soon face a criminal prowling charge after authorities said he was caught "peeping" into local neighborhood windows before he was picked up on unrelated traffic violations.



**Good Samaritans unite to 'Serve Lansing'** Looking for volunteer opportunities? The city of Lansing, along with a host of other local nonprofit community organizations, has you covered.

# Visit lansingcitypulse.com for more

# ISING COM

#### **By SKYLER ASHLEY**

No comedy club? No problem. Since the 2014 closing of Connxctions, the de facto Lansing comedy headquarters since 1984, local comedians have survived off support from fellow performers and a cavalcade of comedian-run standup nights at bars and concert halls.

"People put on all kinds of different shows that reflect their style. If you want a specific kind of comedy, you can find it within this city," said Pat Sievart, a Lansing comedian who hosts shows at BAD Brewing Co. and Mac's Bar.

Attempts to replace Connxctions, which hosted comedy titans such as Drew Carey and Kevin Hart, have proven unsuccessful. The biggest push thus far, Tripper's Comedy Club — an addition adjoined to the Tripper's Bar launched in 2014 - closed down with the rest of the restaurant in 2016. Funny-Business Agency, which has long booked acts in the Lansing circuit, has a 2016 posting on its website seeking out somebody brave enough to open a new comedy club in Greater Lansing.

But Lansing hasn't yet crept into a laugh-dystopia. Without a city-defining comedy haunt to call home, comedians have consolidated into a tightknit circle of performers. The scene is interconnected with gigs hosted anywhere from the Unicorn Lounge to private homes bearing catchy names such as the Salsa Parlor.

Michigan Comedy Co-op is a name oftfound on fliers for Lansing comedy shows. It's organized by three independent comedians - two of them transplants from Portland, Maine – trying to keep Lansing's



names, which no one knows, we decided to

put all of the shows under one name. And

The group splits responsibilities. Members

aim their sight on different regions of

Greater Lansing. Green promotes shows

at Windwalker Underground Gallery in

Charlotte, while Nick Leydorf and Aharon

Willows-Hebert put on shows at the Fledge, a newer venue near Sparrow Hospital

described as an "incubator" and "maker

"When you have one club, everyone tries to

get into that club. When you don't have that one club, everyone just kind of goes off on

their own," Green said. "Everyone is trying to

make their own stage time, so the city ends

Michigan Comedy Co-op hopes the DIY

spirit of its shows signals the door is open for

anybody seeking a make a stab at live com-

"We're trying to make it as welcoming as

possible for people that want to participate

and help each other out," Leydorf said. "I

don't know if the lack of a club makes the scene stronger or not, but when everyone's

working to help each other out, it definitely

place."

edy.

up with more shows."

hopefully, we can get that name out there."

wheels turning.

"In Maine, we had the same problem as Lansing. There was no comedy club. We had to put on and promote our own shows," said Will Green, one of Michigan Comedy



Lansing's Comedy Coven performing at the Robin Theatre.

Photo by Julia Kramer

makes it easier to welcome new."

The Lansing comedy includes more than prototypical "that's my life" standup. The Comedy Coven, which began as a house show in 2015, made a name for itself with regular performances - blending improv and sketch comedy — at the Robin Theatre.

Formed as a haven for some of Lansing's women comedians, the Comedy Coven is a refreshing juxtaposition to male oriented stand up comedy, a la countless imitators of Louis C.K. and Bill Burr.

"We wanted a social space where we could talk about our experiences as women in the scene. It very quickly developed into us planning and organizing the show," Comedy Coven member Emily Syrja said.

Comedy Coven members say they view comedy as an easy way for ideas to permeate one's mind.

"Maybe you're not a feminist; maybe you don't understand these issues. But if you hear someone talk about them in an enlightening and hilarious way, you tend to listen," said Comedy Coven member Tricia Chamberlain.

Despite its sometimes provocative political nature, the Comedy Coven's members said the group is hardly just doing political comedy.

"A lot of the things we do are absurd. Not everything has a political statement attached to it," Chamberlain said.

What makes comedians stay once they've dug their heels into the Lansing? Aaron Putnam, who makes his living off comedy, spends his time frantically traveling between Chicago and Lansing – booking shows and performing as a standup comedian. Despite dabbling in markets as large as New York City and Los Angeles, he still returns to the Lansing scene.

"It's special. There is just a bunch of people just really going after it. There is a passion for it. Honestly, it's not about where you're at; where you're doing it - it's all about how you're putting down the work."

While Putnam argues the lack of a flagship comedy club hasn't negatively impacted the spotlight on local talent, he said it's made attracting to stars to Lansing daunting.

"Since Connxctions closed, you can't get headliners from other parts of the country. There's no place for them to perform," Putnam said. "They're going to Detroit or Grand Rapids, and there's no reason for that, considering Lansing's the capital and home of a large university. If there was a club again - and it was done right - I think it would do well."

With much of the control over booking shows spread between different local come-

# **INDERGROUND HOUSE SHOWS K**

#### **By DENNIS BURCK**

Between two purple sconces and a shelf of hot sauce in East Lansing, comedy thrives. The Salsa Parlor comedy show is the latest evolution of monthly house shows in East Lansing booking national and local acts from the big stage to the living room.

The donations funded venue is the closest thing Greater Lansing has to a dedicated comedy club.

"People ask me if I want to open a club and I say, 'Not really, but someone should," Louis Michael, show organizer and homeowner said. "There is clearly a market for it."

For Michael, a touring comedian himself, Salsa Parlor is comedy first and business second.

"A donations bucket, snacks and comedy in my living room is the farthest I want to go.'

In 2014, Lansing comedy club Connxctions closed, leaving Lansing's comedy



scene mostly in the hands of comedy nights at local bars. Michigan State University student Tom Gannon started the first Lansing house comedy show entitled the "825 Albert Comedy Show" in 2014, within months of Connxctions closing.

"I was 20 at the time and any bar or comedy club was 21 plus. I had difficulties finding anywhere to perform in Lansing," Gannon said.

The age difference between him and comedians above 20 lead to a disparity in comedic taste. "College students like the jokes college students tell and I started the show to provide college students a place for comedy."

For Gannon, hosting the first show was "terrifying." With a budget of \$300, Gannon bought a

Mac's Monday Comedy Night is weekly,

"It seems like maybe there's more oppor-

Comedians say a diverse cast of comics

"I'm part of a show that's run by four

microphone and amplifier and used the remaining \$200 to pay Stewart Huff, a tour-

See Underground, Page 13



Photo courtesy of Salsa Parlor Attendees watch comedians perform at the Salsa Parlor's first house comedy show.

and one of them is a woman. I think that's important to have that representation." Jenkins said. "The more diverse your lineup is, the more diverse your crowd is. When you open up the pools of comics you book, you'll have a bigger number of performers that are good. It's that easy."

Putnam said he has the same consideration when he books his shows.

"Nobody really wants to see a lineup of back to back white guys in hoodies," Putnam said.

But nothing's ever perfect, and some comedians have experiences that suggest Lansing needs some improvement.

"When I was doing standup, I did feel like I wasn't part of this sort of boy's club. I always kind of felt like a little sister," Chamberlain said. "If you didn't fit into that little sister role, people would say, "Oh, well I'm going to teach you. You can't be better than me and you can't try these things."

Lansing comedians attest there's a special

energy to live comedy you don't get from taped performances, whether you're watching a comic bomb disastrously, or skillfully slay their audience with laughter.

"The comedians are being their true selves - they're working things out. It's fun to see people grow over time," Sievart said. "You can get on the ground floor, see where they started and watch them evolve. What you're getting on Netflix might just be the end product of all of that work."

Jake Ford, who helps run the Unicorn Lounge's weekly Wednesday comedy night, agreed.

"With the live aspect you get hecklers and other weird things that can happen. It's a much more uncontrolled environment, which makes for a completely different experience."

And above all, Lansing's comedians just want you at their shows. "There's a lot of good opportunities to see comedy in Lansing, and people should check them out," Sievart said.



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# Underground

#### from page 12

ing comedian, to headline his living room. There wasn't a typical first show audience

of a dozen or so people. There was a mob. "We had so many people where the show could no longer fit in the house physically, so I opened up the windows and had people watch from outside."

He could only imagine what passers-by must've thought with so many people looking through the windows and laughing, he said.

Following his early success, Gannon expanded the show, booking more local and touring comedians to do their sets.

Fliers and Facebook posts were the main form of marketing. Most were comedic takes on stereotypes of each, including a missing dog flyer and Facebook post about a family emergency with twist endings saying to come to the comedy show.

"If I put a lot of legwork in with the flyers, people would come," Gannon said.

Some shows would see triple digit attendance.

In 2015, Gannon moved to Austin, Texas to pursue graduate school in mathematics, leaving the torch passed to Louis Michael's home, christened the "1542 River Terrace Comedy Show."

"River Terrace was a dead end street, and the irony isn't lost with me living in my college town with my degree on a dead end street," Michael said. "There is always a handful of young professionals that stick around, and we want cool shit to do too."

As the show began, Michael said he didn't know what he'd be in for.

"For me, it was like a high school party when your parents would leave on the weekend. Roll up the rug, put everything breakable in cabinets and tape them shut. We have the easy to clean hardwood floors, a mop, chairs, couches and pizza on the table."

The new location was met with lower attendance at first, but more and more people slowly trickled in, Michael said.

"Most people think, 'A comedy show in a living room? I don't trust this.' But one by one they would go and see it didn't suck. They came back and told their friends and they too found out it didn't suck."

The audience is not just college students anymore, he added.

"It's nice, because it is starting to be all walks of life. Some townies heard about it and some older people heard about it who went to Connxctions. I get it, but it's not quite a comedy club. It is a once a month showcase of local comics working really hard at comedy."

Comic Myles De Leeuw performed multiple times for Michael's house show, and said he deserves all the donations he can get.

"He takes good care of the people he lets into his home."

The intimacy between the comics and the crowd at house shows is a huge advantage as a comic.

"If you don't have a crowd that is there for comedy, nine times out of 10, the joke is not

going to land well for you," De Leeuw said. However, there are some downsides to house shows.

"I see a lot of house shows fail where people book continuously the same people over and over. The audience might see the same jokes over and over," she said. "But Louis' house show is probably one of the best ones around."

De Leeuw says the house show will beat comedy night at bars everytime.

"If you go into a bar, and people don't know a comedy show is happening there, it is a huge fight to get them on board. It's like, 'Did you come here to talk to your friends? Well goddamn you!"

1542 played its last show in June, moving with Michael to the Salsa Parlor.

The first August show at the Salsa Parlor was a hit. Sixty people came and filled the living room, but the East Lansing Police Department also showed up after a noise complaint.

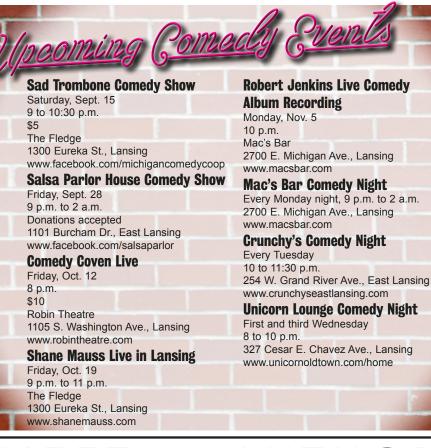
"The cops were very cool about it," Michael said.

House show tours are becoming a popular movement in comedy, Michael said.

"Comics go on house show runs. My buddy Tanner has a house show in Ann Arbor the last Saturday of the month, and he and I will book similar out of town lineups. They will do mine Friday and his Saturday, like doing a club weekend, but with houses.

Michael said he doesn't understand why house shows have a secret reputation.

"I am screaming about it and posting about it all the time. People come over and say, 'It is so cool and secret to have a comedy show in a house.' I have to tell them they aren't special and we want to tell everybody. I don't think I'm doing a grandiose task. I am just an idiot that thought to have fun in my house."



#### EET А THE



ou only read one thriller this year, make it thi

CLARE MACKINTOSH

Dionne is the author of the bestselling suspense thriller, The Marsh King's Daughter. Books will be available for sale and signing.

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6



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# **ARTS & CULTURE**

# ART• BOOKS•FILM•MUSIC•THEATER

# Moores River Drive home tour is grand but cozy

#### **By LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

From a cool modernist cube perched on the banks of the Grand River to a massive edifice with a third-floor, tunnel-shaped ballroom, Sunday's tour of Lansing's Moores River Drive neighborhood is a tantalizing opportunity to peek

#### **Moores River Drive Home Tour**

Sunday, Sept. 16 1 to 5 p.m. \$55 for home tour, brunch, tour of Country Club of Lansing (517) 282-0671 Home Tour only tickets available online or at Country Club on Sept. 16

into some of the city's most interesting private homes with no legal consequences. Only don't say "mansion" Lansing, in

where coziness is key, even in the ritziest part of town. The tour, a benefit for the Historical Society of Greater Lansing, is top-heavy with solid, well-lived-in, century-old specimens built for comfort, not for show. Compulsive labelers will shake their heads when they enter 1917 home of Stephen and Karissa Purchase at 1717 Moores River Dr., formerly the home of the Williams Seamans family, owners of Lansing's legendary Style Shop.

Is this thing a Tudor pile or a Craftsman

cabin? Bungalow or colonial? Just say yes. In the early 20th century, well-off Lansing homeowners suited themselves,

Thankfully, experts will be on hand at all five homes to explain the architectural niceties. Another home celebrating its centen-

taking the best from a menu of styles.

nial is the sorta-arts-and-crafts crib of John and Judy Nash at 1826 Moores River Dr., formerly the home of John Hopkins, a head honcho of Lansing industrial giant Atlas Drop Forge. Here, as in all the homes on the tour, hosts will share historical tidbits of life among Lansing's leading lights from a century ago, from bridge luncheons and golf outings at the nearby Country Club to house parties for bankers and captains of industry.

Home tours give visitors oblique angles on Lansing history. The long, long Tudor home at 2117 Moores River Dr., the home of Troy Wilson, was designed by leading Lansing architect Lee Black, father of Kenneth Black – the father and son team that designed Lansing City Hall, the downtown library and several MSU buildings.

Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

tour is the daring white cube at 2222 Moores River Dr., a modernist home with an Art Deco dynamism that ruffled a few neighborhood feathers when Lansing architect Barry Wood built it in 2006 - he snagged the precious riverfront lot when the country club decommissioned an old pump house by the river. The kitchen has a panoramic view of the river, like the prow of a ship, and despite the sleek exterior, the place is shockingly cozy inside.

And so, believe it or not, is the centerpiece of the tour, the famous Potter House, home to James McClurken and Sergei Kvitko and frequent scene of benefit events and concerts by pianist Kvitko and his cronies, nationally known classical music artists. Visitors will be lost in a thousand details, lovingly restored by the owners, from the fantastic art tiles in the sun room to the custom murals and moldings and, of course, the ballroom, a stucco tunnel like no other in Lansing. A one-afternoon tour like this is just right: you can enjoy it all up close and not wor-The most recently built home on the ry about restoring or maintaining it.

# **Mayor's Arts and Culture Commission focuses on neighborhoods**

Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

#### **By DENNIS BURCK**

Mayor Andy Schor's all-star stable of artists and influencers met for the first time Wednesday.

strengths of Greater Lansing neighborhoods and institutions for a citywide arts master plan.

"We need to give our community platforms to engage in art conversation, and public spaces where people can feel validated, seen and heard," said Tyson Pumphrey, committee member and executive director of All of the Above Hip-Hop Academy.

"This is what the root of what hip-hop was: Feeling the pressure and replying in a way where, 'We will be seen, we will be heard and we will have opportunity to be a part of this whole thing."

Overarching issues for the committee to consider include establishing a perform-

ing arts center, citywide arts policy and an arts master plan, Mavor Schor's chief of staff Samantha Harkins said.

Longtime Lansing Symphony Orches-The group homed leveraging the tra board member and arts donor Jack Davis proposed the committee should look at neighborhoods with strong arts and cultural elements to see what they are doing right and implement it elsewhere.

"When we have a study – not people sitting around the room telling us – but a study where we understand what we are missing, we can organize ourselves and figure out how to accomplish this," he said.

"We have to be coordinated. When we find something we are excited about, let's decide what we want to have and one of the agencies here can be the leader in that effort."

The arts and culture committee should have input, but the decision making power would be the individual group or organization, he added. "Then the committee can make a decision on what emphasis we want to have and ask the group how to carry it out."

Arts Council of Greater Lansing executive director Deborah Mikula said analyzing the neighborhoods would keep the committee on the same page. "We'll know what we consider as lucrative strengths and what we need to work on as a group," she said.

"We have a lot of conversations about master planning and we are really excited about what is possible here. We have a blank slate almost, but at some point maybe we will be oversaturated with public art downtown."

It is important to reach out to all of the Lansing neighborhoods, she added.

There is untapped potential for arts in South Lansing, said committee member Suban Nur Cooley, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Writing, Rhetoric and American Cultures at MSU.

"I am struggling to find the definition of what arts and culture is in a setting like this, we need to look at the development of arts and culture in a community," she said.

"More consistently this happens organically. A place like New York City doesn't happen because people meet in the room - it happens because the people in those neighborhoods step up and meet with people like us in this room."

The commission will be chaired by Erin Schor and split into four sub committees, including arts and culture planning, resource and best practice gathering, metrics and development and events.

Next week's meeting will focus on defining arts and culture in Lansing, and how it fits into a citywide arts master plan, she said.

The Potter House, one of Lansing's biggest homes, is a centerpiece of this year's tour.



The modernist cube at 2222 Moores River Dr., by far the newest of the houses on the tour, is surprisingly cozy inside.







From a meteorological perspective, Fall is the best season.

Still, there's a finality to it, mixed with some foreboding.

That local baseball team I mentioned just before JazzFest? They won the second-most games in team history, sure, and then they were promptly swept from the playoffs.

The Spartans' football team just took their first loss in just their second game of the season in triple-digit temperatures in the Arizona desert, and have a long conference season under more familiar conditions ahead of them.

If you've been here long enough, no one could blame you for experiencing some autumn ennui, as we stare down the barrel of a too long, too cold winter.

But I've been through enough BluesFests to be nearly shaking with excitement at the shot of heat that the Michigan BluesFest is about to inject into the Lansing region's bloodstream. Year after year Michigan BluesFest is about old and new: meeting old friends, making new ones; hearing old blues classics, being introduced to new ones; seeing old buildings, that daily are injected with new life.

In that spirit, we are offering old favorites intermingled with new friends at this year's Michigan BluesFest.

Friday you won't want to miss Old Town favorite Matchette and Frog. When they kick off the festival from our main stage them at 5 pm Friday. Later Friday at UrbanBeat, you can hear Lansing and Michigan favorite Lady Champagne with her Motor City Blues Crew, who has been melting faces for many years at the BluesFest.

Saturday, the slide guitar blues of Stan Budzynski & Third Degree will rock our Main Stage at 2:00, We'll finish out Saturday with an imposing lineup: at 3:30, the tasty licks of James Reeser & the Backseat Drivers, out of west Michigan. At 5:00, the hard-earned, outlaw blues-country tones of Cash O'Riley, this year's CABS Blues Brawl winner as a solo artist. At 6:00, the well-known jams of Root Doctor, followed by Eliza Neal, whose voice will shock you until you learn she was a student of Motown legend Barrett Strong.

The guiding vision of the Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art is to create open spaces in the community to connect with old friends, meet new ones, and engage in conversations about how to make a better community. We also work to encourage economic development and the preservation of historic buildings through quality arts programming, bringing people together to share the joys of music, expression, and so much more. But our story doesn't end there. Over the last three decades Old Town has attracted the highest concentration of creative service businesses in the state, new outside investment, active and vibrant streets, restaurants, art galleries, and much more - so much of which is owed to the small group of artists that formed the North Lansing Art Association in the early 1980s. The people of Old Town were prepared to proudly display the hard work they had invested to create something beautiful in their deserted neighborhood.

The history and diversity of this community continues to live on. Beginning with the oldest settlement in Lansing, continuing through the years with the German, Mexican, Jewish, and LGBTQ communities, those who celebrate the arts, and so many more, Old Town is a community where we celebrate everyone.

This festival is part of a community development arts program provided by Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art (MICA), a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Along with the generous donations from our sponsors and community members, the money collected from the Turnaround Lounge wristbands and beverage tickets support funding for Live performances, Michigan BluesFest, Educational programs - KidzBeat, and Visual displays - MICA Gallery.

Together for our two decades, a team of volunteers and staff at the Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art have worked passionately to bring thousands of people into Lansing every summerand fall to ensure these festivals portray the spirit of Old Town, a growing corner of Lansing that encapsulates much of the journey our city has experienced together over decades.

We can't wait for September 21 and 22 when we get to share this with all of you. So much has changed and continues to change in Old Town and for BluesFest over two decades. We're looking forward to celebrating the incredible progress of the Old Town neighborhood and our amazing old and new friends with you this September. and we're hopeful that you'll keep coming back and helping us create progress and memories here in Lansing for years and decades into the future.



Urban Beat

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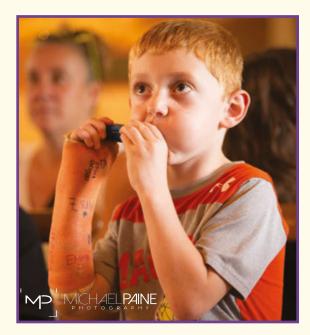
# Michigan BluesFest 2018

#### **Free Admission - Donations Invited**

BluesFest is FREE to the public, thanks to our supporters. And your gift can help keep it that way. Please look for the bucket brigades, and drop in your donation. Or visit MichiganBluesFest.com to donate online by credit card or PayPal.

#### The Turnaround Lounge - \$10 \*GOOD FOR BOTH NIGHTS\*

The Turnaround Lounge is the prime location to enjoy music from both stages while enjoying adult beverages. It will cost \$10 for the Turnaround Lounge, which is good for <u>both</u> Friday <u>and</u> Saturday. We thank you in advance for this contribution to support the festival.



#### **Accessibility**

Michigan BluesFest cares for those with disabilities in the following ways. As an outdoor street festival, the festival venue is naturally wheelchair accessible. Handicap-accessible parking is available on César E. Chávez Ave Wheelchair-accessible restrooms are available



#### KidzBeat & Music Workshops KidzBeat is a range of activities giving kids arts experiences first-hand.

• instrument petting zoo of woodwind and brass instruments, guided by MSU Community Music School at Mother & Earth.

•One-on-one sessions with electric guitar and bass, mentored by professional blues musicians.

• Harmonica for Kids with Andy Wilson Sponsored by Elderly Instruments in Old Town

Learn to play the harmonica with multi-instrumentalist and harmonica specialist Andy Wilson.With over 30 years of experience, Andy has taught workshops at several festivals around the country, and was a featured performer at the 2007 Society for the Preservation andAdvancement of the Harmonica convention. This workshop will be geared towards children, but adults are welcome. Kids will receive free harmonicas while supplies last.

#### **Food Vendors**

*(Subject to change)* Amist Concessions Cinnamon Nuts & More Clint's Hotdog Cart Cottage Inn Pizza Kingston Kitchen Retaurant Mario's Tacos Smok'n Pig BBQ Sweets Rolled Ice Cream

#### **Retail Vendors**

(Subject to change) 3 Stacks Clothing Chloe's Bowtique M'Lady's Jewels Siniyas Collection Sisthas Creative Designs Sunshine Apparel Whimsical Wit

#### Beer, Wine, and Spirits

Draft:

We hope you'll enjoy the following beverage choices (subject to change):

Cans: Miller Lite Coors Light Labatt Blue Corona Blue Moon Uncle Johns Truly Wild Berr

Truly Wild Berry

Wine: Bastide de Piere Rose Always B Sweet Riesling Cherry Creek Wood Duck Riesling Rios de Chile Cabernet Sauvignon Rios de Chile Chardonnay Chateau La France Bordeaux Rios de Chile Reserve Pinot Noir Medrano Estate Chardonnay

#### Spirits by American Fifth:

Lansing Brewing Co. Penninsula Pils

Lansing Brewing Co. Amber Cream

Ellison Crescent Fresh

Ellison Dawn Street Pale

Bourbon Porch Cooler Carmel - Apple Mule

**Dennis Preston** will be signing the posters during BluesFest on Friday, Sept. 21, 6pm-8pm at UrbanBeat.

He began illustration work and graphic design in the late '60s while still in high school. After graduating, a majority of the work he did was concert posters

Photo by Larry Eifert did was concert posters and advertising for local businesses. He retired from Lansing

**BluesFest 2018 Poster Signing** 

Community College after 40 years of teaching courses in graphic design, lettering and mainly humorous illustration (cartooning). He still freelances and draws caricatures as entertainment at events, conventions, holiday parties and more. Besides art, Dennis is into music; recording and jamming with friends. To see more of his artwork go to: *The Preston (Like my stuff?) Page* on Facebook.





# Michigan BluesFest 2018 Performers

### Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018

#### BluesFest Kick Off Jam with Péricles Varella Gomes

7:00pm - 9:00pm | UrbanBeat 1213 Turner Péricles Varella Gomes has bachelor's degrees in Visual Arts and Music from the School of Music and Fine Arts of Paraná (1982); Architecture and Urbanism from the Federal University of Paraná (1982), Masters in Telecommunication: Michigan State University (1990) and Ph.D. in Educational Systems Development - Michigan State University (1996). He is currently professor at Universidade Positivo Brazil. He is a cellist who has performed in Europe, the United States and Brazil. He began his musical studies at the age of 6 (piano); but decided to play the cello at age 10, and started learning percussion at age 16. He has performed in hundreds of orchestral, chamber, jazz and Samba presentations, including: First Cellist and founder of the Parana Symphony Orchestra (Guaira Theater); Bahia Symphonic Orchestra (Castro Alves Theater); Chamber Orchestra of Blumenau (Carlos Gomes Theater); Orquesta de Joinville (Teatro Harmonia Lira); Jaraguá do Sul Philharmonic Orchestra (SCAR Theater); Michigan State University (1987 to 1996) Symphony Orchestra; Midland Symphony, Battle Creek Symphony, Jackson Symphony, Lansing Symphony, Bolshoi Theater School of Brazil (Joinville), Trio Ravello (Italy), Bolshoi Theater (Moscow) among others. He will performing unique blues accompanied by the International Chamber Soloists.

### Friday, Sept. 21, 2018



#### Mattchette & Frog 5:00pm - 5:30pm | Main Stage

Dave Matchette (Harmonica and Vocals) and S.J. "Frog" Forgey (Guitar and Vocals) are beloved fixtures on the Lansing music scene, who have honed their formidable harmonica, guitar, and vocal chops with decades of musical experience in this area. Dave Matchette is one of Michigan's premier harp players, a formidable singer and front man, and a familiar figure with Lansing Blues fans thanks to his years with local favorites the Capitol City Band, Bethlehem Rose, the Uptown Band, Bigfoot Bob & the Toe-Tappers, and many others. Frog is renowned as one of Lansing's hardest and continuously working guitar players, fronting local legends Frog & the Beeftones well into their third decade, along with stints in countless other mid-Michigan bands.



#### Tosha Owens Band 6:00pm - 7:00pm | Main Stage

From her trademark fedora hat to her marvelous mix of Blues, Rock, Funk, and R&B, Detroit singer Tosha Owens has "performer" written all over her. While most singers struggle to create a unique identity for themselves, there's no doubting what Tosha is all about and why audiences are always asking for more. Tosha's distinctive and versatile voice can be heard on the stages of popular Detroit venues like St. Andrews Hall, Bert's Place, Callahan's Music Hall, The Ribs & Blues Festival, The Concert of Colors, The Magic Bag, and MGM Grand Detroit. When Tosha performs, she always packs the house with a longtime following of dedicated fans and new admirers, because she delivers a unique sound and performance that no other Detroit singer can provide. In April 2014, Tosha was chosen by her colleagues and fans as the outstanding Urban / Funk Vocalist and Outstanding Acoustic / Folk Vocalist of the Year at the prestigious Detroit Music Awards at The Fillmore Theatre.

#### **Blues Jam**

7:00 - 7:30pm and 9:00 - 9:30pm Turnaround Lounge Stage



#### Larry McCray 7:30pm - 9:00pm | Main Stage

McCray, was born in Arkansas and moved with his large family to Saginaw in 1972. For years he balanced working full-time on a General Motors assembly line with his budding musical career. He finally committed to music full-time 25 years ago and recorded the first of nine albums. His hardrock guitar playing combined with soulful vocals continues to attract legions of fans worldwide.

The second youngest of nine children, McCray credits older sister, Clara, as his greatest musical influence. She gave him his first guitar at age 12 and taught him how to play. He formed his first band with brothers Carl (on bass), Steve (on drums) and nephew Tony Purifoy (vocals), Clara's son.



#### Up From The Skies: The Michigan Hendrix Experience 9:30pm - 11:00pm | Main Stage

Up From the Skies is the brainchild of Lansing based drummer Jeff Shoup, who has performed with many of the top blues and jazz artists in the state of Michigan. Introduced to the music of the Jimi Hendrix Experience at a young age, Shoup was equally fascinated by Hendrix's guitar pyrotechnics and the serpentine rhythms created by Hendrix's drummer, Mitch Mitchell. A longtime dream has finally come to reality as Shoup has organized an expeditionary force to bring Hendrix's music to life at Lansing Bluesfest. The group features some of our state's best known blues guitar slingers, including Lansing stalwart Steve Forgey (aka Frog), Detroit shredder Erich Goebel, and Michigan blues legend Larry McCray. Joining Shoup in the rhythm section are Mike Smalley, bass, and Mike Skory, keys.



#### Lady Champagne & Blues Man Lester Hambone Brown 11:00pm - 1:00am | UrbanBeat 1213 Turner

Lady Champagne has been singing the blues over 38 years. She has been known for keeping 'Blues Live' going strong every Saturday night at Bert's Market Place in the Eastern Market District,Detroit for over 14 years. She also performs live with the legendary Motown recording artist and former member of the funk brothers Dennis Coffey at the Northern Lights Lounge.

She has performed on stage with some of the latest and the greatest blues singers from KoKo Taylor, Johnny Bassett, Alberta Adams, Chick Willis, and Billy Davis, and has opened for acts including Mr. Bobby Blue Bland andTheodis Earley, Lady Champagne will have you on your feet with her rockin' blues at the UrbanBeat Afterglow.





#### Saturday, Sept. 22, 2018



#### **KidzBeat and Music Workshops**

MSU Community Music School 1:00pm - 5:00pm Mother & Earth Petting zoo – Woodwinds/brass

Bob Wilson & Josh Wilson 1:30pm - 2:30pm 3:30pm - 5:00pm UrbanBeat Electric bass and guitar mentors

Music



Workshop 2:30pm - 3:30pm | UrbanBeat Harmonica for Kids with Andy Wilson



#### James Reeser & The Backseat Drivers (CABS Winning Band) 3:30pm - 4:30pm | North Stage

Chicago born, James has been performing in West Michigan for well over 20 years. He and his band perform an upbeat and energetic style of Blues. Originally the guitarist for the band, James eventually took over the role as the front man, crafting his uniquely raw harp tone and vocals.

Robby Jewett, a veteran bass player formerly based in Austin, Texas, has been at it since 1989 as a full time musician. With years of experience, he has performed with legendary music figures such as Buddy Miles, Dale Watson, and Long John Hunter.

Dan Mish is a drummer who began playing jazz and blues professionally at the age of 16. He also took a residency at Fort Mackinac, were he learned to play traditional fife and bagpipe. As dynamic as he is diverse, and a former member in the North American champion pipe band drum corps, he's an exciting drummer to watch.

Marcus Giddings, a young up and coming guitar player, is building a reputation around West Michigan for his playing style on stage. Taking inspiration from greats like Charlie Baty, Duke Robillard, Ronnie Earl, and Junior Watson. With great tone and tasty licks, he's sure to keep you captivated.

#### **Blues Jam**

4:00 - 4:30pm, 5:30 - 6:00pm, 7:00 - 7:30pm, and 9:00 - 9:30pm Turnaround Lounge Stage



#### Stan Budzynski & 3rd Degree 2:00pm - 3:00pm | North Stage

Stan Budzynski and 3rd Degree specializes in slide guitar blues, and has performed in the Lansing area and around the Midwest since 1998. Through the years they have taken the best of their influences and honed their own distinctive style: a rich mix of Detroit soul, Chicago electric blues, early influences like Eric Clapton and Duane Allman fused with tones of today's Sonny Landreth, Robben Ford and Delbert McClinton.

The band features Stan on guitar, Ron Bretz on bass, Rick Alicea on drums, Roger Little on keyboard, and the recent addition of vocalist Catherine Groll brings a fresh element of energy, new harmonies, and a variety of electrifying material. Stan and the band are two time winners of the Capital Area Blues Challenge and are regular performers at clubs and blues festivals statewide.



**CASH O'Riley** (CABS Winning Duo) 5:00pm - 5:30pm | Main Stage

Born in Jackson, MI and raised in a gypsy kind of life between Eastern Kentucky and Lake County, Florida, Cash O'Riley writes and sings songs about hard living, tough loving, and being torn between good and evil. Before the release of his first album Booze, Lust, Lies & Heartache (2002), Cash O'Riley began to make a strong name and reputation for himself at major U.S. festivals. By the release of Get Lucky, Break Down or Die! (2006) Cash became a regular on many circuits and gained a dedicated and loyal following. Cash was nominated twice (2016/2017) for an Ameripolitan Award in the category of Outlaw Male in Austin, TX.

These nominations began to fuel the fire of Cash's desire to complete his new album and explore a new direction. In the spring of 2016 Cash O'Riley began sessions for Stewed & Screwed Hellbilly Blues Vol. 1 - Music For Sirens & Sinners. Since its release in 2017, it has proven to be Cash's finest work yet. It's expanded his touring regions and helped place him again at major festivals like Sins Of Steel, Moonrunner's Festival, and SYMCO. He's also opened for David Allan Coe at the Machine Shop in Flint, Michigan, for FOUR consecutive SOLD OUT shows.



#### Root Doctor 6:00pm - 7:00pm | Main Stage

Root Doctor, born of the fertile Lansing, Michigan music community, had its humble beginnings in the open mic scene of the late 1980s. The deeply rooted, soulful connection shared by founding members Freddie Cunningham (lead vocals) and James Williams (bass guitar & vocals) anchors the band's sound. Root Doctor has kept one other constant over the years: a powerful soul-blues sound with precious few peers. The current line up features original band mate Mike Skory (Hammond B3, keyboards & vocals), Bill Malone (guitar & vocals), and Bobby Gardner (drums), all veteran performers whose abundant abilities allow Root Doctor to continue their long tradition of amazing audiences and wowing critics. Root Doctor plays a diverse mix of classic soul and R&B alongside traditional blues and inspired original material. Along with over 20 years of club, concert and festival performances, they have released four recordings to local and national acclaim.



#### **Eliza Neals**

#### 7:30pm - 9:00pm | Main Stage

A dynamic front woman, multi-talented musician, prolific songwriter, confident producer and powerhouse outstanding live performer, Eliza sings with unearthly passion and velvety grit, effortlessly pushing air to new heights. None of this is surprising, of course, since Eliza studied with Motown Legend Barrett Strong.

In addition to Eliza's incredible singing, she masterfully plays piano, keys or Hammond B3. She has performed at stages across the United States, from Maine to Florida to Kansas City.



Continued from previous page



#### Abbey Road 2.0

9:30pm - 11:00pm Main Stage Abbey Road 2.0 made its debut on December 4th, 2017 as a benefit for the American Red Cross to raise money for Puerto Rican

hurricane victims. It was the brainchild of acclaimed local and international drummer Glenn Giordano. Immediately a fan base began with the help of social media. Glenn sought the help of international recording star, Greg Nagy, and the work began.

Abbey Road 2.0 is an interpretation of Beatles classics from the post 1966 catalogue. It is put together in a show that will captivate, surprise, entertain, and simply have you singing and smiling for days. If you are a Beatle fan, or just love great musicians doing great music, don't miss them! Starring Greg Nagy on lead vocal and lead guitar, Nicholas Tabarias on lead guitar and vocals, Mike Skory playing keys and vocals, Michael Smalley with bass and vocals and Glenn Giordano on drums and vocals.



#### **Circuit Blues Band** 11:00pm - 1:00am UrbanBeat 1213 Turner

Corey Ingham, bass, from Saginaw, Michigan

has preformed with Larry McCray, Michel'le Toussaint, Clark sisters, Marvin Sapp, and Marvin Winans. Tony Purifoy has performed with several premier soul and funk bands opening for The Commodores and KC and the Sunshine Band. He brings a high-energy style of soul, funk and R&B to every performance. Steve McCray - Drummer: has been performing for well over 30 years, performed in almost every state in America, been half way around the world. Come dance to the funky blues at the Afterglow at UrbanBeat.



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Wenlu Pei was born in 1944 in Kunming, the capital of Yunnan Province in Southwestern China. He taught himself how to paint when he was young, and his work was first published in the newspaper at the age of 18. He has been devoted to art for more than fifty years. Wenlu Pei has participated in Chinese national, international and solo exhibitions and has received various awards. He is a member of the China Artist Association as well as a visiting professor at Yunnan Arts Institute.

Wenlu's main focus is painting portraits and sceneries from around Yunnan Province and capturing the life of its residents, including Tibet, Miao, Naxi and Huayao Dai ethnic groups.







Blues Jam

### **Thursday, September 20**

#### **UrbanBeat**

1213 Turner St.

7:00pm - 10:00pm. ..BluesFest Kick Off Jam with Péricles Varella Gomes

### Friday, September 21

#### **MAIN STAGE**

#### 1200 Turner St.

5:00pm - 5:30pm	Matchette & Frog
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Tosha Owens Band
7:30pm – 9:00pm	Larry McCray Band
9:30pm – 11:00pm	Up From the Skies: The Michigan Hendrix Experience

#### **Turnaround Lounge Stage**

1200 Turner St. Inside Beverage Tent

7:00-7:30pm & 9:00-9:30pm.

#### **UrbanBeat** 1213 Turner St.

6:30-7:30pm & 8:30-9:30pm	Péricles Varella Gomes
11:00pm – 1:00am	Lady Champange & Blues Man

### Saturday, September 22

#### **KidzBeat and Music Workshops**

UrbanBeat - 1213 Turner St.

1:00pm – 2:30pm	Electric bass & guitar mentors - Bob & Josh Wilson
2:30pm - 3:30pm	Harmonica for Kids with Andy Wilson
3:30pm - 5:30pm	Electric bass & guitar mentors - Bob & Josh Wilson

#### Mother & Earth - 1212 Turner St.

MSU Community Music School - Instrument Petting zoo 1:00pm - 5:00pm ..

#### **DANCE** Lansing

1:00pm -2:00pm, 1:55pm, 3:25pm & 4:55pm ..... in front of Main Stage

#### MAIN STAGE 1200 Turper St

2:00pm - 3:00pm	Stan Budzynski & 3rd Degree
3:30pm - 4:30pm	James Reeser & the Backseat Drivers (CABS Winning Band)
5:00pm - 5:30pm	Cash O'Riley (CABS Winning Duo)
6:00pm - 7:00pm	
7:30pm - 9:00pm	Eliza Neals
9:30pm - 11:00pm	Abbey Road 2.0

# Turnaround Lounge Stage 1200 Turner St. Inside Beverage Tent

4:00-4:30pm, 5:30-6:00pm, 7:00-7:30pm, & 9:00-9:30pm..... Blues Jam

#### **UrbanBeat**

1213 Turner St.

6:30-7:30pm & 8:30-9:30pm	Péricles Varella Gomes
11:00pm – 1:00am	Circuit Blues Band





1210 Turner St., Lansing, MI 48906 ·517-371-4600 · MICHArts.org

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place to retire. He loves

people and would love

around with all day.

Sponsored by

Clary is a

very sweet laid

back girl looking

for a new home.

She is very easy

going and is us-

ing just snoozing

or relaxing in her

kennel. She'll do

any home.

In memory of

**Rodica's cats** 

Bear is a friendly out-

going guy looking for a

snuggle buddy. He'd do

best in an adult only

home as a lot of com-

overwhelming for him.

his toys and would love

a new home filled with

He loves to play with

motion can be a bit

to have someone to hang



**Tweety** has been waiting for a family of her own since June 6 and we don't know why! She is housebroken, does not need crating when left alone, loves dogs of all sizes, and is a pro at snuggling.



**Cinder** is a sweet, scared girl. She is a petite little girl who is looking for a very special home. She came to the sheler as a mom and her babies are now ready to find homes of their own.

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them.

**PRIME Music Festival** enters sophomore year

ago through some

nections – they

were looking to

expand into the

Michigan market,"

said Jenna Meyer,

#### By SKYLER ASHLEY

MiEntertainment, purveyors of Common Ground and PRIME Music Festival, aren't too worried about legacy rock acts. PRIME's Friday sophomore effort is loaded with a lineup of rap and electronic flavors.

"We met Prime Social Group several years

PRIME Music Festival industry con-Friday, 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. to 11 p.m. Adado Riverfront Park 300 N. Grand Ave., Lansing For full lineup and tickets, visit: primefestival.com

marketing director of MiEntertainment. "We were also looking to expand our own business, so we thought it was a great fit."

Headliners Diplo, Tyga and Russ are consistent with the direction in which MiEntertainment has taken Common Ground, which has noticeably shifted away from classic rock.

But the audience doesn't seem to mind. PRIME's first go in 2017 commanded a massive crowd; the same year, hip hop became the most dominant music on the Billboard charts for the first time ever.

"I think in Lansing especially, the base is very college-y. It's smart to gear toward your audience, and EDM, pop, hip hop - that's big right now," said Jason Veeder, who will perform at PRIME Music Fest as DJ Jay Vee. "When you are putting on something of that level, you've got to look at who you're trying to please."

PRIME is out to capture the attention of the 18 to 35 demographic, the vast population of Michigan State University.

"PRIME Music Fest really caters to the student body. We specifically targeted a bye week of football."

Meyer said the fall semester date makes perfect sense for MiEntertainment – after all, Common Ground runs when the students

have turned away from Lansing en masse. Smaller Mid-Michigan artists like Day'Shawn Lyons, who performs Saturday

as Chose Lyons, relish the opportunity to get in front the audience that headliners such as Diplo command.

Lyons' politically charged single "Reparations" was released with a music video featuring the rapper dressed in tattered pants with a noose around his neck, but Lyons has a set of more party-oriented music ready for PRIME.

"I've been at a music festival before, and I know it's sometimes hard to try to have fun and be conscious at the same time. Sometimes I just want to let loose, have fun, and I think my fans deserve that as well."

If PRIME Music Fest proves successful, it could further the discussion of whether Lansing needs, or can even handle, more music festivals. Pending renovations to Adado Riverfront Park, both Meyer and Scott Keith, who heads the Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority, believe more big events could be on the horizon.

"I think infrastructure improvements are the first thing that need to be done. It costs \$40,000 a night to produce these events. That doesn't mean improvements would eliminate all of that, because a lot of that is labor - putting in sound and lights, et cetera," Keith Said. "It's stage rental, it's a fence rental, it's power and water. If those costs were eliminated, it would certainly make many events much more palatable and cost effective."

Meyer said pending renovations, MiEntertainment might even be able to get back on the horse for classic rock.

"I think Lansing can support even more music. With the proposed renovations to Adado Riverfront Park and the permanent amphitheater, we're really excited about projects that will see Lansing accept the arts and music even more."



PRIME Music Festival's lineup features headliners Diplo, Russ and Tyga.

walks and running around. Sponsored by Anne & Dale Linn & Owen Jewelers Schrader

ing for a new home. He is very reserved and laid back and doesn't seem to let much bother him. He's a big boy that would enjoy snuggling on the

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Presley is a very sweet and shy boy look-

couch.

**Pepsi** is a fun loving little

and is always ready to hang

guy. He loves everybody

out with his people. He

needs a semi-active home

though because he likes

#### www.lansingcitypulse.com

thoughts.

# CURTAIN CALL **Desolate world of 'Chalk'**

#### **By TOM HELMA**

24

What we see, what unfolds in front of us, is not what it seems - or is it? Review Ixion Theatre Ensemble's

new production opens to a dark desolate room where a woman is scattering a fresh circle of chalk dust around a tiny portion of a minuscule stage. We are informed in the program notes that this is some time

#### "Chalk"

Sept. 15-16 Saturday at 8 p.m. Sunday at 2 p.m. \$15 The Robin Theatre 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing (517) 775 4256 www.ixiontheatre.com

after the end of the world. Frank-Sara Hepfer, in dingy dungarees and drooping flannel shirt, is Maggie. She is quick-

ly joined onstage by Cora, her adult daughter, who arrives breathless and agitated, carrying a bag of what she says is food. Cora is played by Ellie Weise.

Maggie is wary, suggesting that Cora

is not Cora, but instead an alien who has invaded her body.

What? Is she crazy? She looks the part, her face a tired and beaten down mask of no emotions. But wait, Cora admits she is an alien in Cora's body.

So, are we watching yet another updating of the classic "Invasion of the Body Snatchers?"

Is this really, as program notes suggest, after the end of the world? Or is it rather the world of the mind of Cora?

Maggie is a tough-minded retired teacher who once taught cursive writing to third-graders. Cora, we learn, was a lonely isolated child, alone in her mind in an internal world, someone with a dark-side fertile imagination.

Frank-Hepfer is a seasoned actress with many years of experience under her belt. As Maggie, she is gritty, confrontational and will have nothing to do with this alien version of her daughter, who claims to have



Ellie Weise and Sara Frank-Hepfer duel relentlessly in Ixion Theatre's "Chalk."

eaten all Cora's ideas, or stolen most of her emerge.

Resolution comes in a fiery fight scene. Maggie covers herself with chalk dust, steps out of the circle of her comfort zone and embraces her daughter in the iron grip of a mother who will not lose a child.

What do we take away from a play like this? How about this: We are in a time where interpersonal intimacy and emotional connection between people is being threatened by the continued depersonalization of an uncertain and unpredictable future.

# **Bloody Yankees: 'Dancing at Lughnasa'**

#### **By DAVID WINKELSTERN**

"Dancing at Lughnasa" is Review not easy to pull off. Brian Friel's

#### "Dancing at

Lughnasa" Sept. 13-16 Thursday-Saturday, 8 p.m. Sunday, 2 p.m. \$10 adult, \$8 senior, \$6 student The Ledges Playhouse 137 Fitzgerald Park Dr. Grand Ledge (517) 318-0579 www.overtheledge.org

script about 1936 Irish culture goes on for over two hours. The entire play takes place at a singular cottage. "Dancing at Lughnasa" requires mastering tricky Irish accents and expecting bloody Yanks to follow along.

Over the Ledge Theatre's production of "Dancing at Lughnasa" does not seem tedious, incomprehensible or irrelevant. It offers rich character portraits of five very different sisters. The performances, speech and dancing by the actors playing them, help draw us in to make their version succeed.

Amelia Rogocka is Christina - the Mundy sister with an illegitimate son. Rogocka's superb expressions and gestures give the character innocent charm and

sparkle. Rogocka commands attention even when not speaking.

Weise, as Cora, frenetically stalks the

small stage, occasionally morphing into the

actual Cora and at other times pretending to

Weise and Frank-Hepfer are a matched

pair. Maggie and Cora give no quarter to

each other as they duel mercilessly through-

out most of the play, an alien Cora suggest-

ing she will consume her mother, while

Maggie relentlessly calls for the real Cora to

be Cora trying to trick Maggie.

Shannon Bowen is the older, cigarette-smoking Maggie. Bowen's portrayal of a strong and energetic sister is convincing on both counts. Sister Agnes is usually more subdued, but Miranda Sue Hartmann gives her a dynamic personality. Chelsea Witgen, as Rose, smartly plays a not-always-smart sister. Gini Larson is the oldest sister, Kate. With a sharp and likable performance, Larson creates a hard to like character. The men in "Dancing at Lughnasa" also fit Lughnasa" memorable.

their roles. Joseph Dickson convincingly plays a grown-up Michael Evans. Connor Kelly, as Gerry Evans, gives charm to a despicable dad. And Rick Dethlefsen excels as an often-befuddled Father Jack.

Mary Job deserves credit for choosing a well suited and talented cast - and for a direction that keeps a crowded stage fluid. The ingenious set with partial and detailed walls by Job and Jeff Miller is never boring. Liz Cook's accurate and extensive props add much. Bryan Ruhf's many sound cues are exact. Intricate choreography by Lisa Whiting Dobson and Amanda Kennedy is exciting.

Clearly, this Yankee found "Dancing at

# **Bizarre love triangle: 'Jekyll & Hyde'**

#### **By MARY CUSACK**

Riverwalk Theatre seems to relish the challenge of producing large-scale musi-

cals in its modest space. The current production of "Jekyll Review & Hyde: The Musical" is no

exception.

#### "Jekyll & Hyde"

Sept. 13-16 Thursday, 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. Sunday 2 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre 228 Museum Drive, Lansing \$24 for adults, \$20 for seniors, military, and students \$12 for children (517) 482-5700 www.riverwalktheatre.com

Director Tom Ferris assembled a top-notch production team to wedge Broadway the spectacle into the theater, beginning with musical director extraordinaire

John Dale Smith.

Ashley Hampton's elaborate and lush costumes are a nice juxtaposition to Ferris' own minimal set.

Ferris also casts talented vocalists, including recent Michigan transplant Kameron Going as Jekyll and Hyde. Going has the perfect look for the era, as well as the pipes and stamina to carry him through the long show. Kelley Lofton, as Jeckyll's fiancé, and Sally Hecksel, as doomed prostitute Lucy, show off their vocal prowess throughout, but reach a pinnacle in their duet "In His Eyes."

Although the cast and crew do their best to present a quality production, the script is flawed. The show tries to work in too many themes during its bloated running time, scattering its attention between themes of hypocrisy, ethics, the nature of mankind and love. The horrific nature of the source material has been too heavily altered to focus on a love triangle that defies credibility.

It is worth the price of admission to see Hecksel and the ensemble celebrate hedonism during "Bring on the Men." Utilizing every inch of her commanding stature, Laura Croff is magnetic as the Madame Nellie, embracing the carnality of her role with gusto.

While the play is not quite as scary as previous adaptations of the story, the final scene between Hyde and Lucy tops any upcoming Halloween house of horror experience.

and Stephanie Banghart) and comedy/drama ensues.

Rodriguez and DeKatch drive the show with their character's fractious relationship and powerhouse voices on song after song like "Honey, Honey" and "Money, Money, Money". But their resolution on the song "Slipping Through My Fingers" in Act II that provides a surprisingly tender "they grow up so fast" moment that brings the audience to tears.

The male cast provides strong support from the three potential fathers, played by Rusty Broughton, Michael Windnagle, and Chad DeKatch to the ensemble dancers. But

Courtesy photo

the two best characters and comic highlights come from Britten and Banghart. Britten's high-heeled cougar literally steps over men on "Does Your Mother Know". But Banghart steals the show as the demure yet ferocious Rosie playing musical chairs with Windnagle on "Take a Chance On Me".

Kelley Lofton and Kameron Going.

Beyond cast, every technical element shines from the sparkly costumes designed by Britten, the athletic and stylish choreography by Erica Duffield, to the versatile set designed by Dirk Rennick and Dan Wenzlick.

"Mamma Mia!" may be low-brow art, but the high standards of this production make it a winner that takes all.

# Take a chance on 'Mamma

**By PAUL WOZNIAK** 

You don't need to be a "Super Trouper" to enjoy "Mamma Mia!" Owosso Community

"Mamma Mia!"

Friday, Sept. 14 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15 3 p.m. & 8 p.m Sunday Sept 16.3 p.m. \$21/\$19 seniors and students \$13 children 12 and under The Lebowsky Center 122 E. Main St., Owosso (989) 723-4003 www.owossoplayers.com

Players' latest production will turn you into a "Dancing Queen," even if you're not an ABBA super fan. Director Garret Bradley ("9 to 5", "Rock of Ages") has proven himself to be

extremely adept at recreating Review pop Broadway musicals with a miniature stage and a local cast that still look and sound like the touring ver-

sions. "Mamma Mia!" is rom-com jukebox musical set on an island off the Grecian mainland. For her wedding, Sophie Sheridan (Isa Rodriguez) invites the three men who could be her father. Unaware, her mother Donna (Amanda DeKatch) also invites her two long-

time friends Tanya and Rosie (Alissa Britten

# The pediatrician who broke the Flint water crisis wide-open

#### **By BILL CASTANIER**

The next time you take a drink of tap water, brush your teeth or take a bath, think of the residents of Flint and Mona Hanna-Attisha, the crusading pediatrician who established the definitive link between elevated lead levels in Flint water and the poisoning of its residents.

Hanna-Attisha describes her involvement in her new memoir, "What the Eyes Don't See: A Story of Crisis, Resistance and Hope in an American City."

According to Hanna-Attisha, the title of her book tells the most compelling part of the story.

"We chose to turn a blind eye to the crisis. It was about the demographics of the population. The poor, the minority, were neglected."

In 1975, Flint had the highest per capita income of any city in the United States. Less than three decades following a pullout by General Motors, the city had become one of the most poor, dangerous and ignored cities in America.

But Hanna-Attisha said, "The situation is not about Flint, but an issue of democracy. Flint is not an isolated issue. We have to ask: What is our civic responsibility? It can't be just for the privileged. Are we going to have two Americas?"

Hanna-Attisha was thrown into the Flint water fray by accident.

On a warm August night in 2015, Hanna-Attisha, the director of Hurley Medical Center's pediatric division, was enjoying a backyard barbecue with friends from high school.

One of her friends, an EPA employee and water expert, told her about the unfolding water situation in Flint. Her friend explained how when Flint switched its water source, officials had failed to introduce non-corrosive chemicals into the water.

As a result, lead from decades-old pipes began to leak into the water. The friend also sent Hanna-Attisha a leaked EPA memo detailing the problem.

Flint's financial situation became so critical that in 2011, Gov. Rick Snyder appointed an emergency manager to run the city, and in 2014 it was decided to switch the source of Flint water from a Detroit area provider in order to cut costs.

While waiting for a new source to come online, water from the Flint River was used.

When Hanna-Attisha became involved, Flint residents had been drinking the poisoned water for more than a year and had been complaining about the taste and discoloration.

They did not know that invisible to the eye, lead was now in the water.

Lead is poison. It's as simple as that



Hanna-Attisha

and it is especially problematic for young developing children and has been shown to cause attention deficit, learning disabilities and a myriad other problems.

The friend who had been involved in a similar crisis in Washington D.C. put her in touch with national expert Marc Edwards who became key in bringing the Flint water crisis to light.

"Serendipity brought the story together," she said.

But it was only after a month of intensely examining and analyzing lead tests given to the children of Flint by state and local health agencies that Hannah-Attisha was able to put the final exclamation mark on the investigation. Rather than isolated cases the researched showed off-the-chart lead levels.

At a September 2015 news conference Hanna-Attisha, her pulse racing, stood in front of a crowded room holding a baby

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tough pediatrician turned detective, who cracked the case — Rachel Maddow

MONA HANNA-ATTISHA EYES DON'T SEE

A Story of Crisis, Resistance, and Hope in an American City

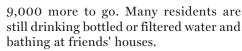
bottle and released her findings. Her message was simple - do not drink the water.

It was then her own personal hell week began and her findings were immediately assailed by local, state and federal officials. However, she stood her ground.

After Hanna-Attisha a series of media appearances, including the Rachel Maddow Show, government officials relented, accepting the facts. One week later, Snyder publicly apologized to Hanna-Attisha for the way she had been treated by his appointees.

Truckloads upon truckloads of bottled water began arriving in Flint to be used for bathing and drinking. Flint switched back to the Detroit water system, and more than a dozen state and local officials were charged with crimes in the ongoing cover-up.

Three years later, the problem still lingers in Flint. About 6,000 lead service pipes have been replaced, but there are



Hanna-Attisha has now changed her focus to working on ameliorating the impact of lead poisoning on the Flint community - especially young children.

Her book is an intimate look at her life preceding the water crisis. The daughter of two immigrants, she was raised to understand the importance of civic responsibility and giving back.

In the book she writes: "There are lots of villains in this story."

Fortunately, there are more heroes and heroines.

"We have to encourage folks to open their eyes," she said.

# Schuler Books

#### Acclaimed Detroit Author **MICHAEL ZADOORIAN**

Thursday, September 13 @ 7p

Meet Michael Zadoorian, author of the critically praised The Leisure Seeker (now a film starring Helen Mirren and Donald Sutherland, released by Sony Pictures Classics this year), as he presents his newest novel, Beautiful Music! Named one of Top Books of Summer by O, the Oprah Magazine, Beautiful Music is the story of one voung man's transformation through music, set in 1970s Detroit, a city still reeling from the 1967 riots.

#### Children's Story Time

Sat., September 15 @ 11a

Join us for a special story-time event on the third Saturday of every month! A local volunteer will read a fun new picture book monthly to help instill the love of reading in your little ones!

#### **ANNA CLARK presents** The Poisoned City

Thursday, September 20 @ 7p

Join us for a talk by Detroit reporter Anna Clark, whose critically acclaimed book The Poisoned City: Flint's Water and the American Urban Tragedy, is both a gripping account of how an entire city was failed by its leaders.

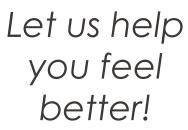
Located in the Meridian Mall 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos www.SchulerBooks.com

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# Lansing theater pillar Bill Helder dies

#### **By PAUL WOZNIAK**

William J. "Bill" Helder, a pillar of the Lansing community, wasn't born in Lansing. But his life and death Aug. 29 at the age of 85 shaped the community he made his home since the '50s.

Riverwalk filled its theater Monday morning for a celebration of life to Helder and tributes have poured in on Facebook. In addition to losing a longtime friend and mentor, Tom Ferris, former Riverwalk Theatre president, said Lansing lost an influential advocate for the arts. "People listened to him," Ferris said. "He was very influential, because of his personality and because of his acceptance of other people."

Among his many titles, Helder was a teacher and administrator with the Lansing School District and the past president of Riverwalk Theatre's board of directors. He also helped found the Okemos Barn Theatre, Riverwalk Theatre, Riverwalk's Blackbox Theatre and is credited with heading the capital campaign that allowed Riverwalk to purchase its building

Jeff Magnuson, current president of Riverwalk Theatre, says Helder's impact was extensive.

"He's one of a very few number of people in my 30 years of community theater in the area that had such a broad impact on so many people," Magnuson said. "There are few people who do all the different things that he did, and who encourage so much participation from so many people. We all looked to him, not just as a mentor, but as a leader who is



Helder

always there. And now he's not." Magnuson first met Helder while attend-

ing Everett High School. "Bill was still at Everett High School as an

administrator and he added me to student council for the district. He was nothing if not encouraging toward my spirit, my creativity and all the dreams I had at the time. That never stopped throughout the 30 years that I knew him."

Ferris also had Helder as a teacher in seventh grade at what was then Otto Junior High School. "He was a wonderful teacher," says Ferris. "However, he was the only junior high school teacher to kick me out of class. I was doing something inappropriate and he called me on it. That didn't deter me from continuing to like him as a teacher."

Ferris says Helder brought his passion for education into theater.

"He was as in charge about his theater, as he was about education," says Ferris. "He always approached it very meticulously. He was detail oriented, with an eye toward mentoring, to bring new people in and help them get started. I think that was the quality I admired most and tried to emulate."

Helder was known to many in Lansing as an actor, director, playwright, grant writer, husband, father and friend. The auditorium of the Hill Center for Academics & Technology was named after him for his contributions to the arts in Lansing schools, and the lobby of Riverwalk Theatre is dedicated to him and three others for their outstanding contributions to the theater's construction.

Magnuson said another important part of Helder's legacy is connecting children with theater.

"I can't say enough about how he put value in children's theater as a part of Riverwalk," Magnuson said. "I believe it goes back to his experience as a teacher, recognizing that in order for theater to thrive ... you have to have a connection with children."

"I don't know that his sense of humor is the first thing that people think of. And yet there was a childish quality about Bill - he appreciated the spirit of young people. There was a kid in there somewhere all the time that was encouraging other children to find the imagination, the wonder and the amazing gift that can be found in theater."

## Lansing celebrates Central United Methodist Church

#### **By DENNIS BURCK**

Chalk it off as a victory for Lansing's historical preservation community.

Preservation Lansing is teaming up with Mayor Andy Shor and local faith leaders to

honor the designation of Central **Historic District** United Methodist **Church Celebration** Church as the city's Wednesday, Sept. 13 first historic district 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Lansing Central United church. Methodist Church

215 N. Capitol Ave. (517) 485-9477 to maintain the www.lansingcentralumc.net/ building at its size and age, said Cassandra Nelson, vice

vation Lansing.

events

"It requires never-ending maintenance and a lifetime commitment."

The huge downtown brick building, built in 1888 by Capitol building architect Elijah E. Myers, is a bastion of turn of the century architecture and '20s era installations. An original gym, bowling alley, ballroom, classrooms and pipe organ - equipped with 3,000 pipes span the facility outside the sanctuary.

The church is listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the U.S. Department of Interior and registered as a Michigan Historic site.

"No changes can be made to the exterior of the building without review from the historical district commission."

The building is currently undergoing a \$200,000 exterior renovation.

"We need to make sure the building doesn't fall apart before we make it look pretty," said chair of the board of trustees Larry Beckon. "A lot of that was given from people who left money in their wills to restore the building."

One of the church's latest renovations was cleaning a 16 by 20 foot stained glass window.

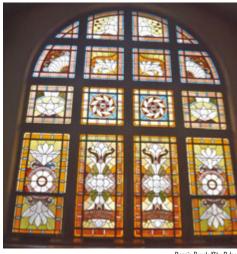
"It was going to fall down. We hired a company, who took the entire window out, took out every single piece of glass, washed it and put it together again to last for 500 more years."

Becok said restoring the building will continue the church's mission as a community center.

'They didn't build a bowling alley for everyone in the church to go bowling. They built it for the community."

Two youth basketball leagues frequent the church and its facilities are rented out often.

"As much as we can we open up the door for people to use the facility for low cost," pastor



The stained glass wall of Lansing's Central United Methodist Church sanctuary.

Mark Thomas said. "We aren't here to make a huge profit, but serve the community."

Even if the age of the building presents challenges, the congregation sees it as an asset.

The integrity of the building outside and inside is a draw," Thomas said. "It accentuates people wanting to not only look at the building but use it."



It's no small task

president of Preser-

# UU 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 Ella at (517) 999-6704.

#### Wednesday, September 12

#### **CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS**

BACH STRESS RELIEF O&A. From 6 to 7:30 p.m. DONATION. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave, Suite D Lansing. 517-402-6727.

EZ LOCK RE-KEYING. From 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. free. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave. Lansing. (517) 483-4233.

HOME SECURITY 101. From 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. free. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave. Lansing. (517) 483-4233.

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION. From 7 to 9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Lansing. Open

STUDIO LIFE DRAWING. From 7 to 9:30 p.m. Model fee: \$2 students (LCC, MSU, High School), \$5 all others. Room 208,. Kresge Art Center, 600 Auditorium East Lansing.

PRACTICE YOUR ENGLISH. From 7 to 8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

#### **EVENTS**

GAMES AT THE MERIDIAN SENIOR CENTER (SEE DESCRIPTIONS FOR DATES AND TIMES). From 12:30 to 4 p.m. Bingo and Bridge- \$1 - \$2 per person to play. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

**GOING SOLAR PRESENTATION.** From 7 to 8 p.m. free. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road East Lansing.

**MSU LIBRARIES' DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP** OPEN CONSULTATION. From 2 to 3 p.m. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

#### ARTS

A PANOPLY OF PUPPET. From 12 to 2 p.m. free. Lookout! Gallery, 362 Bogue St., MSU campus East Lansing.

TAPESTRY WEAVING WORKSHOP. From 6 to 8 p.m. \$30 members

35 non-members. Lansing Art Gallery &Education Center, 119 N. Washington Sq. Lansing. 5173746400.

THEN NOW, MSU UNION ART GALLERY, DEPARTMENT OF ART, ART HISTORY, AND DESIGN. From 12 to 5 p.m. FREE. MSU Union Art Gallery, 230 Abbott Road East Lansing. 5174323961.

#### Thursday, September 13

#### **CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS**

(TOPS) TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY . At 6 p.m. First meeting FREE.. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St. Haslett.

A COURSE IN MIRACLES. From 7 to 8:30 p.m. Love offering.. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Lansing. 517-371-3010.

SPANISH CONVERSATION GROUP. From 7 to 8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

STARTING A BUSINESS. From 9 to 11 a.m. Free - to register call (517) 483-1921. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Sq. Suite 110 Lansing.

#### LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

BOOK TALK AND SIGNING WITH DR. MONA HANNA-ATTISHA - WITH U.S. SENATOR DEBBIE STABENOW. At 6 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

#### **EVENTS**

**CREATE A ROBOT.** From 3 to 4 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

LUNCH AT THE SENIOR CENTER. From 12 to 1 p.m. suggested donations of \$3.00. If you are age 59 and under, there is a charge of \$5.75 (this is not a suggested donation). Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

SOUTH LANSING FARMERS MARKET. From 3 to 7 p.m. St. Casimir Church Parking Lot, 800 W. Barnes Avenue Lansing.

#### Friday, September 14

#### LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

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

#### MUSIC

HARP RECITAL. From 5:30 to 7 p.m. Free and open to the public.. Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, 640 South Shaw Lane East Lansing.

ROADSIDE ATTRACTION. From 8 to 11 p.m. Henry's Place Neighborhood Gastro Sports Bar, 4926 Marsh Road Okemos.

TGIF DANCE PARTY FRIDAY 9/14/18. From 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. \$15 includes complimentary dance lesson & buffet. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 S. Chandler Rd. Bath.

#### **EVENTS**

ST. STEPHEN'S COMMUNITY CHURCH 31ST ANNIVERSARY. At 6 p.m. St. Stephens Church, 1007 Kimberly Drive Lansing. (517) 484-2180.

TEEN ROBOT FACE RACE. From 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

See Out on the Town, Page 30



#### **Taste of Downtown**

Wordly wines of 100 different varieties and an assortment of food, drinks and

**Taste of** Downtown Saturday, Sept. 15 3:30 to 9 p.m. \$25 adult, \$5 child Downtown Lansing 100 block of S. Washington Sq. www.downtownlansing. org/events

live music will invigorate downtown in this ninth annual event hosted by Downtown Lansing, Inc. Postponed fromits original July date, this time the show will go on, rain or shine. Admittance includes a souvenir wineglass, five food Spirits and the Lansing Brewing Co. will be on hand with spirits and beer for those uninterested in wine. Food tickets are redeemable at Nuthouse Bar and Grill, Whipped Bakery, MP Social, Anqi Sushi Express, Lansing Brewing Company, Envie, Grand Traverse Pie Company and Bodie's Chophouse. Motown group Denise Davis and the Motor City Sensations, funk and soul band Tell Yo Mamma and Beatles tribute band Toppermost will provide entertainment for the night on an outdoor stage. Those under 21 can attend and will be admitted food tickets only.

and five wine tickets. American Fifth

#### FRIDAY, SEPT. 14 >> RICK MOBILE PULLS INTO LANSING BREWING COMPANY

Fan of hit sci-fi cartoon "Rick and Morty?" Witness the Rickmobile pull into the Lansing Brewing Co. to sell exclusive, custom designed "Rick and Morty" collectibles. The show grabbed an Emmy Sunday for Best Animated Program.

5 to 8 p.m., Lansing Brewing Company, 518 E. Shiawassee St. (517) 371-2600.

www.adultswim.com/promos/rickmobile



#### SATURDAY, SEPT. 15 >> URBANDALE FARM FESTIVAL GALA



Celebrate the harvesting season in dashing style. The third annual Urbandale Farm Festival commences with music, hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine and farm tours. Short's Brewing and Odd Side Ales will donate its brews for the night and cuisine will be provided by chef James from Dusty's Cellar of Okemos.

6 to 8 p.m., \$30 each/\$50 couple. Urbandale Farm, 700 block of S. Hayford Avenue (517) 999-3916, www.urbandalefarm.com

By Matt Jones

#### Jonesin' Crossword

													,	11 JU	
"TL;DR"some short versions.	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
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©2017 Jonesin' Crosswords • For answers to this puzzle, call: 1-900-226-2800, 99 cents per minute. Must be 18+. Or to bill to Answers Page 33 vour credit card. call: 1-800-655-6548.

**TO PLAY** 

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#### Advanced

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 33

#### Free Will Astrology By Rob Brezsny

Aries (March 21-April 19) "The flower doesn't dream of the bee. It blossoms and the bee comes." So says poet and philosopher Mark Nepo in The Book of Awakening. Now I'm transmitting his observation to you. I hope it will motivate you to expend less energy fantasizing about what you want and devote more energy to becoming the beautiful, useful, irresistible presence that will attract what you want. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to make plans to produce very specific blossoms.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Budi Waseso, the former head of the Indonesian government's anti-narcotics division, had a radical plan to prevent escapes by people convicted of drug-related crimes. He sought to build detention centers that would be surrounded by moats filled with crocodiles and piranhas. But his replacement, Heru Winarko, has a different approach. He wants addicts and dealers to receive counseling in comfortable rehabilitation centers. I hope that in the coming weeks, as you deal with weaknesses, flaws, and sins-both your own and others'-you'll opt for an approach more like Winarko's than Waseso's.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) In one sense, a "patron saint" is a Catholic saint who is a heavenly advocate for a person, group, activity, thing, or place. St. Jude is the patron saint of lost causes, for instance. St. Francis of Assisi is the guardian of animal welfare and St. Kentigern is the protector against verbal abusers. "Patron saint" may also be invoked poetically to refer to a person who serves as a special guide or influence. For example, in one of his short stories, Nathaniel Hawthorne refers to a veteran nurse as "the patron saint of young physicians." In accordance with current astrological omens, l invite you to fantasize about persons, groups, activities, things, or places for whom you might be the patron saint. To spur your imagination, here are some appropriate possibilities. You could be the patron saint of the breeze at dawn: of freshly picked figs: of singing humorous love songs in the sunlight: of unpredictable romantic adventures; of life-changing epiphanies while hiking in nature; of soul-stirring music.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) In August 1933, author Virginia Woolf wrote a critical note to her friend, the composer Ethel Smyth, lamenting her lack of emotional subtlety. "For you," Woolf told Smyth, "either things are black, or they're white; either they're sobs or shouts-whereas, I always glide from semi-tone to semi-tone." In the coming weeks, fellow Cancerian, you may encounter people who act like Smyth. But it will be your sacred duty, both to yourself and to life, to remain loyal and faithful to the rich complexity of your feelings.

Leo (July 23-August 22) "People think of education as something they can finish." said writer and scientist Isaac Asimov, who wrote or edited over 500 books. His point was that we're wise to be excited about learning new lessons as long as we're on this earth. To cultivate maximum vitality, we should always be engaged in the processes of absorbing new knowledge and mastering new skills and deepening our understanding. Does that sound appealing to you, Leo? I hope so, especially in the coming weeks, when you will have an enhanced ability to see the big picture of your future needs for education.

Virgo (August 23-September 22) Virgo businessman Warren Buffet is among the top five wealthiest people on the planet. In an average year, his company Berkshire Hathaway adds \$36 billion to its already swollen coffers. But in 2017, thanks to the revision of the U.S. tax code by President Trump and his buddies, Buffet earned \$65 billion-an increase of 83 percent over his usual haul. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you're entering a year-long phase when your financial chances could have a mild resemblance to Buffet's 2017. I'm not predicting your earnings will increase by 83 percent. But 15 percent isn't unreasonable. So start planning how you'll do it! Libra (September 23-October 22) As he stepped up to use an ATM in a supermarket, a Scottish man named September 12-18, 2018

Colin Banks found  $\pounds 30$  (about \$40 U.S.) that the person who used the machine before him had inadvertently neglected to take. But rather than pocketing it, Banks turned it in to a staff member, and eventually the cash was reunited with its proper owner. Shortly after performing his good deed, Bank won £50,000 (about \$64,500 U.S.) in a game of chance. It was instant karma in dramatic action-the positive kind! My analysis of the astrological omens reveals that you're more likely than usual to benefit from expeditious cosmic justice like that. That's why I suggest you intensify your commitment to doing good deeds.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21) As you dive down into your soul's depths in quest for renewal, remember this testimony from poet Scherezade Siobhan: "I want to dig out what is ancient in me, the mistaken-formonster . . . and let it teach me how to be unafraid again." Are you brave and brazen enough to do that vourself? It's an excellent time to douse your fear by drawing wild power from the primal sources of your life. To earn the right to soar through the heights in November and December, delve as deep as you can in the coming weeks.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21) According to author Elizabeth Gilbert, here's "the central question upon which all creative living hinges: do you have the courage to bring forth the treasures that are hidden within you?" When I read that thought, my first response was, why are the treasures hidden? Shouldn't they be completely obvious? My second response was, why do you need courage to bring forth the treasures? Shouldn't that be the easiest and most enjoyable task imaginable? Everything you just read is a perfect riddle for you to contemplate during the next 14 months, Sagittarius.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19) A blogger named Sage Grace offers her readers a list of "cool things to call me besides cute." They include dazzling, alluring, sublime, magnificent, and exquisite. Is it OK if I apply those same adjectives to you, Capricorn? I'd like to add a few more, as well: resplendent, delightful, intriguing, magnetic, and incandescent. I hope that in response you don't flinch with humility or protest that you're not worthy of such glorification. According to my astrological analysis, now is one of those times when you deserve extra appreciation for your idiosyncratic appeal and intelligence. Tell your allies and loved ones that I said so. Inform them, too, that giving you this treatment could help mobilize one of your half-asleep potentials.

Aquarius (January 20- February 18) Many educated Americans and Europeans think of reincarnation as a loony delusion, even though it's a cornerstone of spiritual belief for over 1.5 billion earthlings. I myself regard it as a hypothesis worthy of intelligent consideration, although I'd need hundreds of pages to explain my version of it. However you imagine it, Aquarius, you now have extra access to knowledge and skills and proclivities you possessed in what we might refer to as your "past lives"-especially in those past lives in which you were an explorer, maverick, outlaw, or pioneer. I bet you'll feel freer and more experimental than usual during the next four weeks.

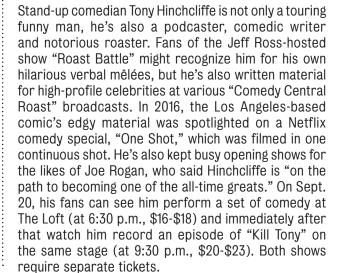
Pisces (February 19-March 20) "When the winds of change blow," says a Chinese proverb, "some people build walls while others build windmills." Since the light breezes of change may soon evolve into brisk gusts of change in your vicinity, I wanted to bring this thought to your attention. Will you be more inclined to respond by constructing walls or windmills? I don't think it would be foolish for you to favor the walls, but in the long run suspect that windmills would serve you better.

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



S. Washington Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$15, \$10 students, 6:30 p.m.

New York City-based trumpeter Benje Daneman headlines a night of jazz at the Robin Theatre in REO Town alongside his SearchParty band mates: Greg Ward (sax), Ashley Daneman (voice), Rob Clearfield (piano), Matt Ulery (bass) and drummer Jon Deitemyer. In 2007, Daneman became a sought after musician after he embarked on a national tour with Doc Severinsen's Big Band. Since then, he has performed with the renowned Jose Limon Dance Ensemble, recorded tracks on the HMI Big Band's Grammy-nominated album "Elevation," and has appeared at prestigious venues across the country, including The Kennedy Center. At the Robin show, he and his band will celebrate the release of their new album, "Light in the Darkness." The show features a six-movement jazz suite that "explores the age-old struggle of light within darkness, and takes inspiration from sacred texts."



Ave., Lansing. 16+, 6:30 p.m.

7 p.m. Since 2001, JEFF the Brotherhood has played its stripped down brand of sludgy, psychedelic-infused rock. Last week, the Nashville-based duo (brothers Jake and Jamin Orrall) dropped their 11th full-length album, "Magick Songs," via Die Alone Records. Catch the band live Sept. 19 at Mac's Bar along with local openers La La Delivery and sister/sibling. Over the years, the band — which sometimes comprises guest musicians — has dropped other albums on both the Infinity Cat imprint and Third Man Records. As for the new disc. Pitchfork praised the album for its expanded sound (it includes Raconteurs/

Dead Weather bassist Jack Lawrence, among others), stating: "Ironically, JEFF the Brotherhood have finally blossomed into a proper rock band on an album that thoroughly deconstructs the idea of what a proper rock band should sound like." For a taste of the LP, check out the melodically trippy debut single, "Parachute."



DESTINATION	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night	Love Lansing	80s Karaoke	Electric Avenue
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.		Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Road	DJ Trivia		Live Music	DJ
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.			
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Good Cookies Band	Jeff Shoup & Friends	Showdown	Showdown
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Johnny D Blues Night	Karaoke	Soul Play	Grady Hall & the Disciples of Funk
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.				
Macs Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Slim Gessna's Auto Club, 7pm	Light Beams, 7pm	FaithXTractor, 8pm
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy			The New Rule, 6pm	
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave.	Comedy Open Mic, 8pm		Frog, 9pm	Calling Dr. Howard
Watershed Tavern and Grill, 5965 Marsh Rd.			Capital City DJ's	Capital City DJ's

#### FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road Out on the Town East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. TRY CURLING. From 10:15 p.m. to 12:15 a.m. \$30 per from page 27 person buy tickets at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ try-curling-in-east-lansing-tickets-49134434416. JOIN THE Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd. East Lansing. **CHILDREN'S FREE** VITAMIN CLUB! TRAL at eithe location RMAC to learn MT. HOPE'S TEAM GIVES YOU: Fast, friendly service Free Delivery again this year. Assistance managing meds \$10-20. & Immunizations 8 p.m. Sat., Sept. 15, 1001 E. Mt. Hope Ave. Lansing • (517) 316-0711 Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium. 3340 E. Lake Lansing Rd. East Lansing (517) 580-4216 www.centralpharmacymi.com MSU Music MSU FEDERAL CREDIT UNION msu auditorium PERFORMANCES BY MSU ARTISTS WOODWINDS PERCUSSIO OPERA AND VOICE music.msu.edu/showcase A fast-paced montage showcasing a fabulous array of musical talent featuring MSU ensembles and artists who perform jazz, chamber music, new music, and opera in Fairchild Theatre.

College of Music

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Generously sponsored by Drs. Lou A. and Roy J. Simon. The entire Showcase Series is sponosred by the MSU Federal Credit Union Saturday, September 15

#### LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

#### CHILDREN'S SOCIAL JUSTICE READING GROUP.

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

#### SATURDAY, SEPT. 15 >> MSU FANFARE CONCERT

MSU's unusual and eclectic season kickoff, "Fanfare," offers a taste of prelapsarian music utopia, before the firmament divided the waters into warring musical camps and Sirius XM channels. For two busy hours, the cream of MSU's musical talent pour over the acoustically impeccable Fairchild Theatre stage like fruit from a cornucopia, rolling out vocal, instrumental, jazz, new music, strings and brass and sealing wax, along with exotic fruits like a trumpet sextet and a marimba duet. It's unlikely you'll hear the music of John Coltrane juxtaposed with Chopin, Puccini, Gershwin and Brahms (and a few delightful obscurities)

Buy tickets at music.msu.edu or call (517) 353-5340.

# FOLK ROCK OUTDOOR Worship

#### Sunday, September 16th 10:45 AM

Followed by a cookout, pie eating contest, and games for all ages!

Seating will be provided or you may bring your own lawn chair or blanket.

**University Lutheran** Church 1020 S. Harrison Rd. East Lansing, MI 517-332-2559

THEATER CHALK BY WALTH MCGOUGH. From 8 to 9:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 at the door or via eventbrite.com.. Robin Theater, 1105 S Washington Ave, Lansing, MI 48910 Lansing. 989-878-1810.

**ELDEN KELLY PERFORMING AT HENRY'S PLACE 2 YEAR** 

CELEBRATION. From 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Free. Henry's

Place Neighborhood Gastro Sports Bar, 4926 Marsh

#### **EVENTS**

MUSIC

Road Okemos.

EAST LANSING HIGH SCHOOL 50TH REUNION. From 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$27 for luncheon, late fee applies after August 31. The University Club at The Henry Center Complex, 3435 Forest Road Lansing.

NATIVE MICHIGAN PLANT SALE. From 12 to 4 p.m. Plant prices vary by species and size. Download a pre-order form on our website.. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave. Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

**TEDDY BEAR PICNIC.** From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. Michigan State University, 241 W. Brody Rd East Lansing. 517-432-1451.

URBANDALE FARM HARVEST GALA. From 6 to 8 p.m. Please RSVP and donate at the event link. Tickets are \$30 each or \$50 per couple, and include 2 drink tickets (for attendees over 21 only). . Urbandale Farm, 701 S Hayford St Lansing.

WOOFSTOCK 6. From 5 to 10 p.m. Regular Admission \$25 in advance online at eventbrite.com; or \$30 at the door. VIP Admission: \$50 in advance. Fortitude Outdoor Fitness Center, 4377 S M-52 Owosso.

#### Sunday, September 16

#### **CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS**

ALL FAITH ALLIANCE FOR REFUGEES FORUM. At 3 p.m. Free, Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 1315 Abbot Rd East Lansing.

#### **ISRAEL AT 70: COMPLEXITY, CHALLENGE, AND**

CREATIVITY. From 8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. The conference is free and open to the public.. Kellogg Conference Center, 55 S. Harrison Road East Lansing.

JUGGLING. From 2 to 4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St. East Lansing.

#### LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

SINGING IN THE DARK TIMES. From 2 to 5 p.m. Free. Scene Metrospace, 110 Charles St. East Lansing. (517) 319-6832.

SINGING IN THE DARK TIMES. From 2 to 5 p.m. Free. Scene Metrospace, 110 Charles St. East Lansing. (517) 319-6832.

#### MUSIC

WOLDUMAR FOLKGRASS JAM & PERFORMANCES. From 2 to 6 p.m. \$4 suggested donation children free Senior discounts. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road Lansing.

#### THEATER

CLOSING MATINEE CHALK BY WALT MCGOUGH. From 2 to 3:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 at the door or via eventbrite.com. Robin Theater, 1105 S Washington Ave, Lansing, MI 48910 Lansing. 989-878-1810.

# Out on the Town

#### from page 30

#### **EVENTS**

#### 2ND ANNUAL ART & ANTIQUE SALE CLASSIC

**CAR CRUISE-IN.** From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free for spectators and free for classic cars. Turner Dodge House and Heritage Center, 100 E. North St. Lansing. 517-483-4220.

**BACK THE BLUE 5K & COMMUNITY BUILDING EVENT.** From 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. This event is open to the public free of charge. There is a fee to run the 5K, prices are below.

 $55 \$  Race aDD Includes T-shirt, Medal, Custom Bib and 50% off select merchandise.

\$25 One-Mile Fun Run âĐĐ Includes T-shirt

 $20~{\rm Kids}~{\rm a}DD~{\rm Kids}~{\rm 12}$  and under are free and can run any race, but a shirt and medal is  $20~{\rm C}$ 

\$45 Virtual âĐĐ Includes T-shirt, Medal, Custom Medal, 50% off select merchandise, and packet

#### THURSDAY, SEPT. 13 >> CASK AND CO. GRAND OPENING

Burgers, sushi, handmade pizza and over 20 beers on tap will flow for Cask and Co.'s grand opening. Formerly XIAO Bistro, Cask and Co. absorbed XIAO's Asian fare and buffet into its menu, before completely renovating the restaurant with a new bar, upcycled furniture and a brick pizza oven. Asian buffet closes daily at 3 p.m.

2 p.m. to 2 a.m., Cask and Co., 3415 E. Saginaw St., Lansing (517) 580-3720, www.caskandcompany.com



shipping. . Adado Riverfront Park, 300 N Grand Ave Lansing.

**ROBOTICS FESTIVAL AT THE EAST LANSING FARMER'S MARKET.** From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. FREE. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Ct. East Lansing.

#### Monday, September 17

#### CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

**A COURSE OF LOVE.** From 1 to 2 p.m. Love offering. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Lansing. 517-371-3010.

**BEGINNING CAROLINA SHAG.** From 8:15 to 9:05 p.m. \$125.00 per person for the ten week class. Michigan Athletic Club, 900 Hannah Blvd. East Lansing. (517) 364-8870.

**BEGINNING SALSA.** From 7:15 to 8:05 p.m. \$125.00/ guests; \$95.00/MAC members. Michigan Athletic Club, 900 Hannah Blvd. East Lansing. (517) 364-8870.

MY CUB & I: NATURE FOR TODDLERS. From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. \$50/8-week session. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

#### See Out on the Town, Page 33

#### SEPTEMBER 22-23 A Staged Concert

Book & Lyrics by Liz Suggs | Music by Rona Siddiqui Directed by Kate Wetherhead | Musical Direction by Brad Gardner

A brand new, hilarious musical! In the tradition of '90s rom-com movies, Janey Hanks believes that all it takes is one good day to change your life forever. Find out what happens in this exciting staged concert event featuring Broadway stars, local high school students and MSU Musical Theatre and Dance students.

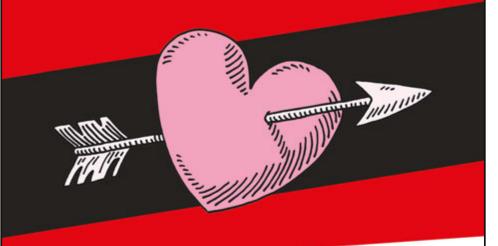
Sponsored in part by University Outreach and Engagement and the College of Arts & Letters.

#### Imágen: a collaboration between

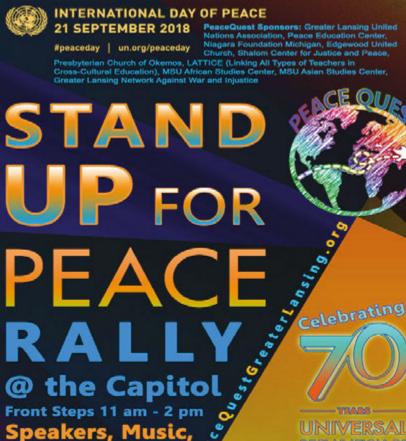
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE www.theatre.msu.edu W H A R T O N C E N T E R I N S T I T U T E F O R A R T S & C R E A T I V I T Y SUPPORTED BY MSU FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

#### WHARTONCENTER.COM • 1-800-WHARTON

#### Liz Suggs and Rona Siddiqui's ONE GOOD DAY New Musical Development



. . . . .



Speakers, Music, Information Tables

## Ted Cedar spirits® Distillery & Cocktail Bar



Melting Pot, Blended Whiskies Featured above: 2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing 4 - 11 p.m Thurs & Fri; 2 - 11 p.m. Sat; 4 - 10 p.m. Tues, Wed & Sun closed Mondays; 517-908-9950

NEW IN TOWN: FIDLER'S ON THE GRAND



Opened in August, Fidler's on the Grand provides hybrid diner fare on Grand River Avenue in Northwest Lansing.

#### **By DENNIS BURCK**

A new diner has set up shop on Grand River Avenue, serving feel good brunch burritos, smoked meats and broasted chicken.

Co-owners Mark Taylor and Devin Fidler opened Fidler's on the Grand in Mid-August, but

the cozy diner decor

makes it feel like an

established commu-

what we do and you

can taste it," Taylor

"We really love

nity mainstay.

#### **Fidler's on the** Grand

- Tuesday to Sunday, 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.
  4805 N. Grand River
- Ave., Lansing www.facebook.com/
- fidlersonthegrand • (517) 580-7202
- said. "We want to make it a feel good • spot, and provide quality food somewhat

unique and different from what you'd find in Lansing."

The restaurant is a family business.

"This isn't so much of a focus on making a living, but making a life. Our partners are intimately involved in working in the restaurant. My wife and kids come in, wait on tables and work with customers."

As Fidler's becomes more established, it wants to be able to know customers on a first name basis, Taylor added. "It is not just • an experience of a meal, but an ambiance • and atmosphere."

Running the food side of things and • being the namesake of the restaurant, • Fidler said opening up a restaurant was a • dream since childhood.

The methodology behind the fare of Fidler's on the Grand is simple.

"If it tastes good, it goes out. If it doesn't taste good, throw it out. If customers are going to spend money on something, we have to make it taste good," Fidler said.

There are three dishes Fidler said are his

signatures: the Jamestown loaded barbecue sandwich, breakfast tacos with housemade sauce and the chorizo burrito. "You can't go wrong with those."

Everything is made cooked to order and • the customer can tweak any menu items to • their preference, Taylor said.

"Many of our conversations are about • offering a quality product at a reasonable • price to this side of the community," he said. "Our portions are generous and our quality of food is better than the standard diner items because we make it fresh."

Fidler's does their smoked meats a little differently than other barbecue joints.

The time consuming process of slow cooking pork and brisket is the same, but Fidler's tries to ease off on a heavy smoker flavor, Taylor said. "We compliment the • flavor profile, rather than hijack it — providing a smokiness that doesn't overpower the meat."

A diner essential, quality coffee is not • ignored. There is a full coffee bar with fresh • ground Biggby Coffee with customers able • to choose different mugs.

Carry out orders are also marked down 10 percent as a means of encouraging grab and go customers, Taylor said. "They not only get a home cooked meal, but we are able to cultivate an untapped market on this side of town."

Some chefs may look to recipes, and others may look to ingredients set out before them to create dishes.

In Fidler's case, he uses his intuition. "I can taste what I'm envisioning in my head, then I set out

to match it in reality."



# Out on the Town

#### from page 31

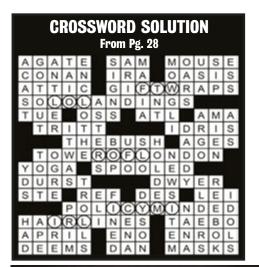
TIMBER TOTS: NATURE FOR PRESCHOOLERS. From 9 to 10 a.m. \$50/8-week session. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866

#### LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

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

#### **Tuesday, September 18**

#### **CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS**



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BASEMENT WATERPROOFING . From 5:30 to 7 p.m. free. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave. Lansing. (517) 483-4233.

BEGINNING WEST COAST SWING. From 7:15 to 8:05 p.m. \$125.00/guests (per person); \$95.00/MAC members (per person). Michigan Athletic Club, 900 Hannah Blvd. East Lansing. (517) 364-8870.

#### WRITING A BUSINESS PLAN: YOUR ROADMAP TO

SUCCESS. From 9 to 11:30 a.m. Free - to register call (517) 483-1921. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Sq. Suite 110 Lansing.

#### LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

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PAWS FOR READING. From 6 to 7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St. Grand Ledge.

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#### PRESCHOOL STORYTIME. From 11 a.m. to noon Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St. Grand Ledge.

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

#### MUSIC

JAZZ TUESDAYS AT MORIARTY'S. From 7 to 10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 485-5287.

**EVENTS** 

JAVA CAFE GLOBAL CONVERSATION. From 7 to 8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

KNITTING AND CROCHET GROUP. From 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

TIP JAR - SEPTEMBER. From 8 to 9:30 p.m. \$10. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Lansing.

TUESDAY GAMES. From 1 to 4 p.m. Euchre, Free Bridge, \$1 - \$2 per person. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 16 >> TURNER DODGE HOUSE SECOND ANNUAL ART AND ANTIQUE SALE, CLASSIC CAR CRUISE



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Turner Dodge House and Heritage Center, 100 E. North St., Lansing



Directed by Tony Caselli

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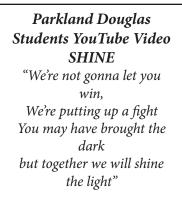


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### **MOBILIZE with MUSIC**

# Poké bowl

#### **By SKYLER ASHLEY**

As sushi becomes a culinary mainstay in the United States, new restaurants are able to further experiment with the potential for the raw succulent cuts of fish. Enter PokéLab, an East Lansing eatery opened late 2017, with food that serves as a cross between your favorite sushi house and assembly line fast food bars, such as Chipotle.

PokéLab 245 Ann St. East Lansing Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, noon to 10:30 p.m. (517) 220-2988 www.facebook.com/ lepokelab

Poké (pronounced poh-kay) is a Hawaiian variation of sushi. It takes common cuts of fish, such as salmon, shrimp or tuna, and mixes it with several other ingredients,

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404 <u>N. Verlinden</u> Lansing 517.484.9661



including rice and noodles - often embellishing the final product with small circular cuts of green onion and a layer of masago.

PokéLab offers just about anything you could find in a sushi roll - avocado, crab, cucumber, et cetera. Just imagine unrolling your favorite concoction and turning it into a bowl, or salad of sorts.

Though it might be a common worry the food could effectively end up as a mushy paste, the ingredients at PokéLab work well together. Yes, they are all thrown together, but each element of the bowl is defined and recognizable by the taste buds.

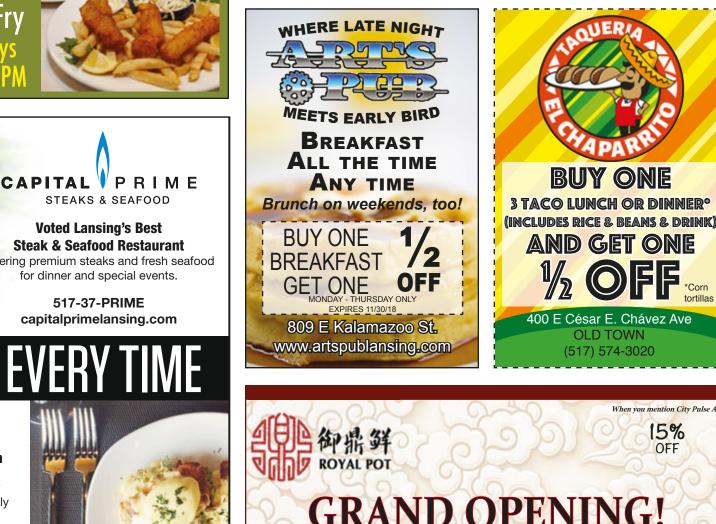
Poké is traditionally mixed together without much concern for aesthetics, but PokéLab managers say they now prepare the bowls with ingredients visually separated - leav-



A pokè bowl with tuna, salmon, rice and edamame.

ing the decision of "to mix, or not to mix," up to the customer. Some complain mixing the bowls too heavily negatively impacts the texture, but after ordering two bowls, this author didn't find that to be the case.

PokéLab, as far as sushi prices go, is affordable. A regular sized bowl runs just past the \$10 mark. Altogether, if you're a sushi fan, PokéLab is worth a shot for your next lunch destination.



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1. Maru ● (517) 337–1500 East Lansing ● (517) 349–7500 Okemos 1500 W. Lake Lansing Rd., East Lansing, MI 48823 5100 Marsh Rd. Suite A1, Okemos, MI 48864 | www.marusushi.com

**2. Ukai West • (517) 853-8888** 754 Delta Commerce Dr., Lansing, MI 48917 | www.iloveukai.com

**3. Sansu • (517) 333–1933** 4750 Hagadorn Rd. #100, East Lansing, MI 48823 | sansu-sushi.com

> **4. Sushi Moto • (517) 580-4321** 436 Elmwood Rd., Lansing, MI 48917 | sushimoto.us

**5. Al Fusion • (517) 853–3700** 2827 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing, MI 48823 | www.ai-fusion.com



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