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November 22-28, 2017



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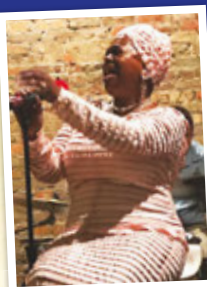
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# Feedback

## Bad cover choice for Halloween issue

The “rest of us” must be a pretty small group, and its collective pulse, nearly undetectable, if you believe your recent cover (Halloween Issue, Oct. 11) wasn’t deeply offensive. Everywhere else treasured, (apparently) the holy depictions of Mary and her son have withstood the changing times. “Madonna and Child” is the singular reference needed to evoke gratitude and reverence for millions of the world’s faithful. How disturbing, then, the cover of your recent publication. It shouldn’t be necessary to explain why the featured artist’s profane distortion of the internationally recognized holy icon, “Our Lady of Perpetual Help” deserves rejection, and the firmest of denunciations, I hope you’ll apologize to the community of Lansing, home of many houses of worship. Your willingness to promote an

irreverent depiction of the beloved image also belies your stated dedication to an educated and compassionate readership base. Many of your audience are at least affiliated or are the beneficiaries of agencies that credit their unselfish service and acceptance of others to Christian values and faith teachings. Showing respect for the sacred art of the world is only one stance resonant with your stated desire to represent the “rest of us”, but it’s an essential one.

— **Rebecca Wissner**  
Lansing

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Decedent's Trust TO ALL CREDITORS The last remaining Settlor, Carolyn Irene Green aka Carolyn Green, DOB: 03/07/1921, of 4475 Village Dr. Number 44, Grand Ledge, MI 48837, died September 29, 2017. There is no personal representative of the Settlor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Michael J Green and Carolyn Green Trust, dated March 8, 2016, will be forever barred unless presented to Marsha Green Trustee, within 4 months after the date of publication. Bradley A. Vauter (P35762) of Bradley Vauter & Associates, P.C., 912 Charlevoix Dr., Ste. 120, Grand Ledge MI 48837, and Marsha Green, Trustee, 2514 Fairfax Rd., Lansing MI 48910, (517) 484-9643.

# CityPULSE

**VOL. 17**  
**ISSUE 15**

(517) 371-5600 • Fax: (517) 999-6061 • 1905 E. Michigan Ave. • Lansing, MI 48912 • www.lansingcitypulse.com



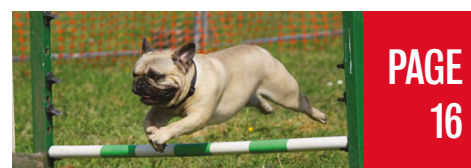
**PAGE**  
**7**

Meridian Mall faces uncertain future



**PAGE**  
**9**

Vienna Choir Boys return to Wharton



**PAGE**  
**16**

Nine gifts for animal companions



**Cover**  
**Art**

Cover Art by Sykler Ashley

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### CITY OF LANSING SUMMARY OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE #1219

Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend Chapter 286, to add Section 286.16 that requires the City provide an employee with a summary of benefits when the employee separates from City service.

Effective date: Upon publication

Notice: The full text of this Ordinance is available for review at the City Clerk's Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan. A copy of the full text of this Ordinance may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan at a fee determined by City Council.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk  
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CP#17\_305

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing City Council on **Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

A Site Plan and Special Use Permit application from Core Campus Lansing, LLC, for the properties at 918 and 1010 East Grand River Avenue to demolish existing structures and construct a 10-story (132 feet in height) mixed-use building with the following uses:

- 12,220 square feet of retail space
- 347 market rate apartments
- Parking structure with 158 parking spaces

The properties are located in the East Village Zoning District.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable accommodations, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at this meeting, upon notice to the City of East Lansing, prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations or services should write or call the City Manager's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 319-6920, TDD 1-800-649-377.

Marie E. Wicks  
City Clerk

Dated: November 16, 2017  
East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#17\_308

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# PULSE

# NEWS & OPINION

## Cost-saving move

### Ingham County Commission quietly ends meeting videos

Ingham County's Board of Commissioners quietly stopped video recording its meetings, ostensibly to save money.

The decision was prompted by a February email from Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum as a possible cost-saving measure as commissioners faced a budget crisis. In April, commissioners approved a resolution that ended a contract with Granicus, a digital service provider.

"The Video/Audio Recording System used to record the Board of Commissioners meetings has been showing signs of failure over the past few years," she wrote. "It is to the point where I believe a decision should be made by the Board of Commissioners on whether or not the system should be replaced or no longer used. As you are being faced with tough budget decisions, this could be a cost-saving opportunity."

Bids to replace the system came it at about \$81,000, Byrum wrote in the email. The new system would have used voice-activated technology to focus a camera on a speaker as well as broadcast the video online.

"This is not an effort to limit transparency," said Republican Commissioner Randy Maiville in an email. "The full board meetings the past few years have been brief, civil and non-contentious. If the meetings are audio recorded how much effort, technology and expense should the county invest to have video for about five or six hours a year?"

"While the Board's meetings are no longer videotaped, all meeting minutes can be accessed online at no charge to the public or the press," wrote Sarah Anthony, chairwoman of the commission, in an email. "This practice is in compliance with the Open Meetings Act."

Byrum told commissioners at an April 19 Finance Committee meeting that audio from meetings would be "openly posted" on the county website. The audio was to be posted by Becky Bennett, the director of the Board of Commissioners' Office. However, in a search of the county website on Monday night, nearly five months after the contract with the service provider was canceled, no audio files for recent meetings were located.

Bennett said on Tuesday morning that when the county ended the contract with Granicus, it left the website without the tools to upload audio.

"That's part of the reason we need to upgrade the website," Bennett said.



Photo illustration by Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Events inside the Ingham County Courthouse will get blurrier with decision by the Ingham County Board of Commissioners to end videotaping its meetings for the public.

Commissioners last week approved a contract for Revize LLC to do that work, including security upgrades, for \$99,000. That's on top of another \$20,000 paid to Gravity Works for the similar work.

East Lansing Commissioner Mark Grebner said the video was an unnecessary thing. He was on the commission when then County Commissioner Virg Bernero pushed for the recordings.

"I said at the time it was a bad idea whose time had come," Grebner said of video recording.

For the longtime commissioner, video introduced an element which allowed people to grandstand for the cameras and distract from the work of the commission.

Bernero on Monday confirmed Grebner's opposition.

"I just don't understand this," Bernero said. "This is about democracy and government transparency. Grebner has apparently been able to convince his fellow commissioners to take a step back."

As for the plan to make audio of the meetings available online, Bernero was aghast. "Can you imagine anything more boring than watching the meetings? That would be listening to them."

Early in his tenure at City Hall, Bernero said he directed staff at the city's public access station to work with the county to obtain

and broadcast the video of the commission's meetings. Until last month, the city, he said, had no clue the county was ending the video recording.

"I wanted people to know what the commissioners were doing," he said. He said he watched them himself.

"It's a way for people to know what is happening and what people are doing," he said.

Cable access is funded in part by money raised from franchise fees from cable providers. But state law prohibits counties from applying for and using that money, said Ingham County Controller Tim Dolehanty. But cities, like Lansing, can and do access those funds. That would have been a likely place for a regional partnership, Bernero said. However, he said no one from the county reached out to the city and its public access station to seek a partnership.

"We didn't even know anything about it until we got a letter about it," he said. With only six weeks left in office, Bernero said he would encourage incoming Mayor Andy Schor, who also served on the county commission, to explore a partnership with the county to make the video recording available again in the future.

This is the second time since August that the commission has come under fire for

## SOE OF THE WEEK



2414 Hopkins Ave.  
Lansing Township

A resident contacted City Pulse to complain about this Lansing Township quaint ranchhouse that is partially hidden behind seven vehicles in varying states of repair. Some are legally parked on the property's driveway, while others are parked on the grass on parts of the property's front and side yards. That may be a violation of the township's ordinance prohibiting frontyard parking. Under one of the cars near the house are mufflers and exhaust systems, indicating some sort of work may be happening on the vehicles as well.

Property records from the Ingham County Treasurer's Office show the 1955, three-bedroom home is 1,092 square feet and set on 0.147 acres. Those records show the property is owned by Zacks Julio and Renate L. DeZacks Revocable Living Trust. Julio and DeZacks are listed as the responsible taxpayer. No one answered the door on Sunday afternoon when City Pulse knocked.

— Todd Heywood

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

See County, Page 6

# Mission to the desert

## MSU experts wrestle with food access at Cristo Rey

High-level officials and ground-level experts, from MSU President Lou Anna Simon on down, assembled at the Cristo Rey Community Center gym Thursday for a Thanksgiving reality check.

In a gym used to feed hungry people, the experts looked for ways to apply the university's expertise to the persistent problem of "food deserts," low-income neighborhoods without access to healthy food.

Simon herself gave the opening remarks, to demonstrate that the huge, agriculturally minded university a few miles away was taking its land grant mission to heart.

"We believe we have to start doing things differently," Simon said. "We weren't hearing and understanding what we needed to know to make a difference in all the matters that relate to food security and insecurity."

Simon defined food access the way most experts have begun to talk about the problem, as obesity and related health issues hit low-income communities along with hunger.

"It's not just having food, but having the right food, prepared in the right way, that bends the needles on all the health issues that we know make a difference in learning," Simon said.

Joseph Garcia, Cristo Rey's executive director, was impressed to see Simon at the forum.

"I was pleased to see deans here as well," Garcia said after the forum. "There's a lot of expertise at MSU. We ought to be able to connect those dots."

Garcia took the opportunity to school the assembled academics and experts on the reality of feeding hungry people.

"People think they know us," he said. "They think they know the issues. The reality is, they are layers away from what's going on."

In a few days, Cristo Rey volunteers and staffers would be busy supplying about 400 Thanksgiving dinners, in sit-down and delivery form.

"I'd like people to remember that there's 364 other days in the year," Garcia said. "I've got more than enough volunteers for this event."

Garcia told the group about Cristo Rey's 50-year evolution, from a community center bursting with activities and events to a borderline rescue mission struggling to maintain food, medical and financial programs, mostly for the working poor.

"This gym space was used to play bas-

ketball, to host fun events, quinceañeras (15th birthday parties for girls), social activities," Garcia said. "Today we use this gym as a space to feed people. Last year we fed over 26,000 meals here. We're changing as the neighborhood changes."

Against a backdrop of festive stacks of hay and Thanksgiving decorations, Garcia implored food donors and volunteers to remember Cristo Rey in summer, when school lets out and the need is even more acute.

Rich Pirog, director of the Center for Regional Food Systems at MSU, said about 1.8 million Michigan residents, including 300,000 children, live in lower income communities that have "restricted access to healthy foods." Lorraine Weatherspoon, a professor of human nutrition at MSU, decried the "misconception that [low-income] individuals don't care about healthy food or they don't want it." She said her research has repeatedly shown otherwise. "They just can't get to it," she said.

Pirog introduced the idea of the "food swamp," a density of junk food in a neighborhood that research has shown can be a better predictor of obesity than the lack of a full-line grocery store.

Weatherspoon said low-income neighborhoods are offered "a plethora of high-calorie, high-sugar foods" linked to diabetes, cardiovascular disease, hypertension and a host of other ailments.

Pirog called for a "systems approach" to the problem, including not just food, but also housing, transportation and social connectivity.

"If you have to take one or two buses to get to the full-line grocery store, you don't really have food access," Pirog said.

Joan Nelson, executive director of the east side's Allen Neighborhood Center, cited a growing network of integrated programs there, including a neighborhood garden and hoop house, gardening education, exercise programs in the park and a weekly farmers' market that doubles the value of SNAP benefits.

"We see life as an integrated whole, not just having a breadbasket program," she said.

When the subject of food co-ops came up, Nelson winced.

"We lost the East Lansing Food Co-op recently, so it's a painful topic for a lot of people," Nelson said.

Pirog said half a dozen applicants around the state have asked the Michigan Good Food Fund for financing and technical help to start co-ops.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Lorraine Weatherspoon (second from left), a professor of human nutrition at MSU, makes a point at a food access forum at Cristo Rey Community Center Thursday. Listening, from left to right, are moderator Sheril Kirshenbaum, Rich Pirog, director of the Center for Regional Food Systems at MSU, Joan Nelson, director of the Allen Neighborhood Center, Cristo Rey director Joseph Garcia (not visible here) and Dilli Chapagal, immigrant and refugee liaison at the Greater Lansing Food Bank.

The fund is a public-private partnership modeled after programs in Pennsylvania, California and Illinois to provide "flexible, patient capital" to "good food" enterprises that benefit food deserts. MSU is among the fund's supporters.

Pirog declared that the federal Healthy Food Financing program, which provided \$3 million in seed money to the Michigan Good Food Fund in 2013, "is definitely investing in co-ops, but you have to be loan ready, with the right person managing the co-op."

After the forum wrapped up, Garcia said it was a good start to what he hoped would be a long-term relationship.

Among the MSU officials Garcia met

before the forum was Prabu David, dean of MSU's College of Communication Arts & Sciences. The two men talked about how to tell Cristo Rey's story "in a real way."

"My goal here was to connect with a few experts, take them on a little tour, put a face to a concept," Garcia said. Behind him, wranglers carted away a wooden table hand-crafted for the forum by Charlotte, Michigan-based woodworker Nathan Shaver. MSU will haul the table to other places around the state for more food access forums.

"I appreciate data," Garcia said. "I appreciate matrixes. But we are not cogs, we're people."

— LAWRENCE COSENTINO

## County

from page 5

what appears to be a rollback of transparency efforts. Back then, City Pulse reported commissioners attempted to circumvent the Open Meetings Act to discuss troubling audit findings related to the county treasurer. That post is held by Democrat Eric Schertzing.

At the time, Grebner defended the actions.

"The voters can't have both: us, like, actually dealing with reality," Grebner said. "And doing it in a public session. And therefore, we do this privately."

Mason-area Commissioner Robin Case Naeyerart said she was disappointed by the decision to end the video broadcasts. "When

I was elected to the Mason City Council, I was astonished to learn how many people were watching our meetings online and on television," the Republican lawmaker said. "I think this is a step back from transparency."

Case Naeyerart, who works for the GOP in the state Legislature, said she found irony between the actions of local Democrats and the vocal demands for transparency by state leaders of the party.

"On a state level, we are hearing over and over about transparency from Democrats," she said. "But here we are locally and we see them moving away from transparency. That's not lost on me."

As a Republican, she's in the super-minority on the Commission. She's one of only three GOP commissioners on the 14-member body. And that super-majority raises another transparency issue for the body.

— TODD HEYWOOD



# Mall

from page 7

ed an empty space to Ford. Now 1,800 Ford employees will conduct their daily office

work out of the mall for the next 10 years, while the automotive company renovates an office building of its own.

In-house access to amenities such as food courts, shopping and gyms at no extra cost made the deal especially appealing, David Dubensky, Ford Motor Co.'s marketing and

sales controller, told the Detroit Free Press. It's a strategy that economic officials like Buck have become privy to, as they plan for the future investments of their own malls.

"You could see housing centers. You've got all the parking in the world, you've got a Planet Fitness, you've got a food court, you've got restaurants," said Buck. "If you get creative you can put a wide variety of uses into an existing footprint instead of building

something new."

Should Meridian Mall one day have to resort to adopting one of these techniques, Huhn wouldn't consider that a sign of failure, but of success.

"That's an evolution that's going on out there right now, the mall industry continues to evolve," said Huhn. "Our main goal is to try and stay ahead of that."

— SKYLER ASHLEY



### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on **Wednesday, December 13, 2017** in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

1. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from MJW Investments, Inc. for Modified Site Plan and Special Use Permit approval for the property at 550 Michigan Avenue to convert 634 square feet of the existing ground floor retail space to recreational use (fitness center). The properties are located in the B-2, Retail Sales Business.
2. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1418, an ordinance to amend the Zoning Use District Map to rezone the Hawthorn Neighborhood into the R-O-1 Residential Rental Restriction Overlay District. The proposed District the boundary of the platted Hawthorn Subdivision as recorded with the Ingham County Register of Deeds on December 14, 1976 in Liber 34 and pages 2, 3, 4, and 5. The rezoning includes the following properties:

Parcel Number	Street Address
33-20-01-12-322-041	1150 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
33-20-01-12-322-042	1151 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
33-20-01-12-322-055	1207 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
33-20-01-12-322-026	1208 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
33-20-01-12-322-025	1214 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
33-20-01-12-322-024	1220 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
33-20-01-12-322-023	1226 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
33-20-01-12-322-022	1302 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
33-20-01-12-322-067	1307 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
33-20-01-12-322-021	1308 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
33-20-01-12-322-068	1313 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
33-20-01-12-322-020	1314 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
33-20-01-12-322-069	1317 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
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33-20-01-12-322-070	1325 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
33-20-01-12-322-018	1326 CHARTWELL CARRIAGEWAY S
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Call (517) 319-6930, the Department of Planning, Building and Development, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, for additional information. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard. These matters will be on the agenda for the next Planning Commission meeting after the public hearing is held, at which time the Commission may vote on them. The Planning Commission's recommendations are then placed on the agenda of the next City Council meeting. The City Council will make the final decision on these applications.

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

Marie E. Wicks  
City Clerk

Dated: November 16, 2017  
East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#17\_306

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on **Thursday, December 14, 2017** at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

1. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Irving Benson, for the property at 140 Center Street, to remove damaged siding and install new siding to the home using a new material.
2. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Dave Gutow, for the property at 135 Beech Street, to remove existing siding and install new siding to the home using a new material.

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

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

Marie E. Wicks  
City Clerk

Dated: November 16, 2017  
East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#17\_307



# ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC • THEATER

## 'It's got to be fun'

From the Austrian Empire to laser tag, Vienna Boys Choir rolls keeps the tour bus rolling.

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

Christmas in Vienna sounds like a staid affair, but when I caught up with the Vienna Boys Choir last week, they were tearing a boisterous swath across the United States with their ebullient, dancing choirmaster from Italy, Manolo Cagnin.



**Manolo Cagnin**

"Today we're going to play laser tag and go bowling," Cagnin said. "We have an electric piano on the bus and we'll use it to

try out ideas."

The choir's angelic aura will precede it to MSU's Wharton Center Tuesday, but Cagnin is eager to bring the venerable organization down to Earth.

"We sing with a lot of passion and a lot of heart and a lot of body language, like in Italy," he said. "It's 25 normal, good boys, not so extremely wonderful, but we work every day, we rehearse."

### Vienna Boys Choir: Christmas in Vienna

7:30 p.m. Tues, Nov. 28  
Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall  
\$15.50-55.50  
1-800-Wharton

creates a rapport most maestros would envy.

"I understand in one second when something's wrong," Cagnin said. "They know what I'm going to say, from my face, my hair, my body. You can have that only when you know each other deeply."

Watching Cagnin's constantly flying, almost prehensile head of hair, you believe that it signals his moods to the kids.

"My job isn't just to play the piano and to conduct," he said. "We deal with life."

Laser tag and electric pianos were not around when the choir was founded in 1498, when Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I moved his court and its musicians to Vienna and started the choir.

Franz Joseph Haydn sang with them. Mozart and Bruckner worked with them.

The list of alumni is mind-boggling,

but the weight of tradition sits lightly on their shoulders.

"I don't need the boys to scream like it's a Wagner opera," Cagnin said. "I like it light and mild and bright, and it's got to be fun."

One of the choir's current crowd-pleasers is a rousing polka about a man who takes a mountainside vacation.

"Everything goes wrong. It starts raining, the heat is unbearable, things are breaking," Cagnin said. He tells the kids to think of Mr. Bean, the hapless BBC-TV bumbler played by Rowan Atkinson.

"I'm not a music teacher," he said. "A ten-year-old kid doesn't care about B major or what the dominant chord is. We talk about what the composer means and how to communicate it."

Another tune, "Mambo Italiano," calls for a half-shouted, half-sung "hey." "Everybody plays soccer," he tells the boys. "You make a goal, yell 'Aaaay.'" To rehearse a song driven by an Italian dance rhythm called a tarantella, Cagnin danced in front of them, to imitate the gyrations caused by the bite of a tarantula (according to legend).

"They need to move their body, not just sing with the brain," he said.

Cagnin takes the choir on tours all over the world, from Singapore to Vietnam to New Zealand, carving out an empire of sound that would have astonished Maximilian. They still sing for Sunday Mass in Vienna's Imperial Chapel, as they have for 500 years.

The appeal of "normal boys" making extraordinary music has only grown over the war-torn centuries.

When the Habsburg Empire fell after 1918, the choir thrived as a private institution, under the name of Vienna Sängerknaben. The boys switched their



Courtesy Photo

The Vienna Boys choir is a well-oiled troupe of 100 boys, aged ten to fourteen, divided into four touring groups that appear around the world.

imperial outfits to sailor suits, the big thing for kids back then. Since 1926, they've gone on 1,000 tours in 100 countries, adding a lot of secular tunes and world music to their growing repertoire.

It's now a well-oiled troupe of 100 boys aged ten to fourteen, from dozens of countries, divided into four touring groups.

"Every day we are on the bus for hours," Cagnin said. "It's not, 'OK, silence, nobody speaks now. Sleep, eat and sing.' That's not human. They are developing their personality. We have to support them."

Part of his job is to deal with the boys' personal problems.

"All kinds of things come up every day," he said. "My glasses are broken, I'm falling in love with this girl and what should I do?"

He ran through his answer suspiciously fast: "It's OK, when I was 14, I did ba-ba-ba-ba."

It's not the life Cagnin planned for. After studying violin and viola in his hometown of Venice, he moved to Milan, where he started conducting and composing.

In Leipzig, Germany, he worked with a boys' choir that goes back so far it makes

the Vienna Boys Choir look like upstarts: the St. Thomas Choir in Leipzig, founded in 1212. Johann Sebastian Bach himself directed the choir in the mid-1700s.

A good friend, also named Manolo, was a choirmaster at the Vienna Boys Choir and suggested Cagnin look into it.

But Cagnin's dream was to conduct operas and symphonies, not boys' choirs.

"I was not so sure about it at the beginning — working every day with children, spending most of the time on the road," Cagnin said. "Then I thought, 'Why not? I'll try it for a couple of years. Ten years later, I'm still here.'"

He discovered that he could do things in Vienna he couldn't have done in a conventional career.

"I can't understand, with the modern conductor — one day in New York, one day somewhere else, 'Give me a crescendo, give me a diminuendo,'" he said. "Music is life. I can't work for two hours and make music that comes from the soul."

The freshening element at the choir comes from the group's rapid turnover.

"Every year, it's something new — new children, a new feeling, a new atmosphere. It's like a wonderful drug. You can't say 'stop.' Every day is a new wonderful day and probably I will die in Vienna."

# Sugar plums and rat traps

Capital Ballet Theatre mounts 37th 'Nutcracker'

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

Everybody acts like they are tired of "The Nutcracker," but let the smallest snippet of Tchaikovsky's magical ballet waft into an elevator and the hardest cases crack a sugar-plum-eating grin.

Besides, it's not that hard to freshen up the long-lived holiday classic. Lansing's method is to kill the Rat King a different way each year.

## The Nutcracker

Capitol Ballet Theater  
7:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat.,  
Nov. 24-25  
2 p.m. Sun., Nov. 26  
\$18-28  
1-800-Wharton

The annual production by the Capital Ballet Theatre is now in its 37th year of non-repeating rat extermination.

"Nothing too terribly violent," spokeswoman Chanin Heise reassured me. "One year, they stabbed him with a sword. Another year, he ended in his boxer shorts, with hair flying everywhere."

And that killed him? "Well, he exploded."

The fun of the Capital Ballet's "Nutcracker," besides the 36 ways it has already found to kill the Rat King, is its ever-evolving panoply of sights, sounds and movements.

The show features young dancers of all ages and skill levels, from bouncing 8-year-olds (called "little guest dancers") wearing ballet flats to graceful 18-year-old ballerinas

who dance en pointe for two solid hours in the classic mold.

"The older girls log quite a few hours on their toes and go through a pair of shoes a show," Heise said.

Sunday was the troupe's last day of rehearsal at its Old Town studio. The crew moved the show into the Wharton Center for rehearsals Monday, complete with an impressive flotilla of scenery and costumes, all crafted by volunteers. After a dress rehearsal the day before Thanksgiving, the company will take Thanksgiving off to fuel up for the weekend's performances. Monday has been set aside for a reduced-rate community outreach show for schools, senior centers, home schooled kids and others "who may not have access to see it otherwise," Heise said.

The music of Tchaikovsky is the ballet's perennial draw, but the production sneaks in cues from a dozen other composers, from Beethoven and Dvorak to a couple of heavenly melodies by "Giselle" composer Adolphe Adam.

Besides the classic choreography, the production is crammed with color and bustle, from villagers running around in the town square to a Christmas party at heroine Clara's house with lots of little girls in big long dresses.



Courtesy photo

The Rat King (Ellie Rentz) and the Nutcracker (Emme Rush) in the Capital Ballet Theatre's version of "The Nutcracker," on stage this weekend at the Wharton Center.

At the party, Clara nods off and drifts to the land of sleep, where a series of fantastic scenes appears before her eyes.

That's where the action and artistry really kick in. From then on, it's one delightful dance after another, choreographed by artistic director Gregory George and guided by ballet mistress Ela Alabuszew-Kutek.

Grand Ledge senior Tara Fedewa plays the principal role of Sugar Plum Fairy, with Haley Rosendale of Holt as Clara and Eliana Jahjah of Lansing as Fritz.

How will the Rat King meet his demise this year?

"You have to come to the show," Heise said slyly.

# Flappers and fresh water

1920s holiday bash at Broad Museum raises funds for river cleanup

By **MEGAN WESTERS**

Imagine strolling along the banks of the Red Cedar River and coming across a live performer playing music, a beautiful outdoor art installation, or a kiosk where poets' work is on display. Imagine, further, that these songs, words and art displays

## Art in the Wild Holiday Celebration

6-9 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30  
Broad Art Museum  
541 E. Circle Dr., East Lansing  
\$60/person or \$100/couple  
artinthewild.org  
(989) 550-1181

helped to educate the public about the river and the woods around them.

That's the picture that Art in the Wild plans to paint in real life, with the help of their second annual Holiday Celebration fundraiser.

"This event is 1920s themed, so people are definitely encouraged to dress up," said Melody Angel, committee chairwoman of Art in the Wild, a subcommittee of the Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council.

The party will feature live music from The Springtails, a folk band that specializes in 1920s-style music, along with artist talks and locally sourced food and drinks from Morton's Fine Catering and Spartan Catering. 1920s era dress is encouraged and first floor galleries in the Broad will be open to guests from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

"Last year we did almost the same exact event, same motif," Angel said. "It was so effective that we kept the same motif this year." Last year, 125 guests showed up. This year, about 200 are anticipated. And while it was and will certainly be a fun party, the goal is serious: environmental reclamation of the concrete-caked Red Cedar floodplain near the Frandor Shopping Center, turning the vast parking lots circling the area into natural storm water purifiers and educating the public on why it all matters.

"Right now, 50 to 75,000 pounds of pollution are dumped into the Red Cedar

River," said Angel.

"Our first project will be rebuilding the storm water infrastructure around the Frandor area, putting in waterfalls and low impact designs that will clean the water."

Other projects that Art in the Wild has in the works are two amphitheatres where live performances can take place, bump-outs on the sidewalks with access to electricity for musical performers or poets, as well as a family fishing area by the river.

Angel said about half a million dollars in grant funds have been secured "to rebuild that area so it can be healthy."

The goal of Art in the Wild, now in the process of becoming a non-profit, is to raise 10 million dollars to help make this happen.

The organization is tackling these problems a step at a time, with two fundraisers a year and an ongoing search for donors big and small.

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Courtesy photo

The Art in the wild fundraiser attracted nearly 200 guests last year at the Broad Museum of Contemporary Art, among them: (Left) Theresa Lark, executive director of Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council, and state Rep. Andy Schor, the next mayor of Lansing, who were joined by Dr. Melody Angel, one of the leaders of the organization.

"We have some great sponsors and donors who really care about these issues," said Angel.

"We just want everyone who comes out to the Holiday Celebration to have a good time - it's a fun event."

# Holiday Gift and Events Guide 2017



Skyler Ashley/City Pulse

Fireworks explode behind the capitol moments after the tree was lit at this year's Silver Bells in the City celebration.

## Ten holiday gift ideas that go beyond materialism

By **JONATHAN W. THURSTON**

Sometimes, the best gifts under the tree aren't the biggest ones. Sometimes, they come in an envelope and appeal more to the experiential side of the holidays rather than the capitalistic side. These gifts can be in the form of tickets, gift cards or even club memberships. Get your family, friends and loved ones the gift of experiences, something they'll remember long after their toys break or their kitchen tools rust.

**Mother & Earth Baby Boutique Gift Card** — A perfect gift for parents or parents-to-be, a gift card from Mother & Earth Boutique allows you to help parents out without having to ask what exactly they need or risking giving the same gift as someone else. Located at 1212 Turner St, the boutique has gifts available as low as 75 cents and as high as \$350. The boutique also offers classes on yoga and breastfeeding, ranging from \$12 to \$65.

**Tickets for The Robin Theatre** — Does your partner love music? How about art or drama? The Robin Theatre has something for everyone with its frequent performances

and dedication to the local arts. The Robin posts events about a month in advance, so pick up a ticket for a January event when you check their calendar. They are located at 1105 S. Washington Ave. Tickets average at \$15.

**Powerhouse Gym Membership** — For those wanting a new place to work out or get some exercise, a membership from Powerhouse Gym might be the perfect gift. Located at 4790 S. Hagadorn Road in East Lansing, The membership gives you 24-hour access and the opportunity to take classes from some of the gym leaders. The cost is \$19.99 a month, and that includes one free hour with one of the personal trainers.

**Soup Spoon Cafe Gift Card** — No matter the person's sex, interests, hobbies or age, it is hard to go wrong with a restaurant gift card. The Soup Spoon Cafe on 1419 E. Michigan Ave. offers gift cards of any dollar amount, and its menu covers breakfast, brunch, lunch and dinner. Its food items can vary from \$3 to \$29, and its entire menu is available at [soupspooncafe.com](http://soupspooncafe.com).

**Riverwalk Theatre Tickets** — Another

affordable option for a full theater experience is a ticket to the Riverwalk Theatre. This theater hosts performances that usually come four days a week for two weeks, and each ticket costs about \$10. It has a full schedule for the coming months with shows like "Buried Child" and "Bridge to Terabithia."

**Lessons from Okemos Music Academy** — Most people at some point have at least touched a musical instrument. Paying for a month's worth of lessons can go a long way in starting up a new habit or rejuvenating an old one. The Okemos Music Academy, 3444 Hagadorn Road, offers 30-minute private lessons at \$30 plus requires a \$25 registration fee.

**Gift Card for Bake n' Cakes** — Nothing says holiday love like brownies, cookies, cakes and, of course, pies. Bake n' Cakes offers gift cards for any dollar amount, so give your family and friends the craving their sweet-tooths so desire. Located at 3003 E. Kalamazoo St., this bakery has both sweet and savory bakes, something for everyone to enjoy.

**Tickets for the Wharton Center** — With such shows as "Waitress," "On Your Feet!" and "The Lion King," the Wharton Center appeals not just to the theater buffs but to anyone who loves a good show. Most tickets are between \$15 and \$45, but for larger shows, the cost can be more. The Wharton also offers gift certificates if you're not sure which tickets to get.

**Impression 5 membership** — Here we have a gift for the whole family. A membership with Impression 5 gets you free admission to the Impression 5 Science Center, exclusive member night events, a discount at the Impression 5 store, special program offers and free / discounted admission at a variety of science centers and museums nationally. Stop by at 200 Museum Drive to pick up your membership.

**Strange Matter Coffee Co. Gift Card** — For some people, having that cup o' joe in the morning is a gift in itself. Help give the gift of espresso with a gift card. Strange Matter offers gift cards online for any amount, and the gift card covers both drinks and various souvenirs. Located at 337 S. Washington Square and 2001 E. Michigan Ave., Strange Matter offers the gift of caffeinated awareness.

# Holiday Gift and Events Guide 2017

## THROUGH DEC. 17 >> MICHIGAN STEAM TRAIN NORTH POLE EXPRESS

In this holiday themed ride, you'll take a four-hour excursion into the village of Ashley- a two hour ride to and from the village, and two hours there. In Ashley, you'll be able to enjoy a classic-style Christmas village with a post office that mails to Santa's workshop, elves and a holiday raffle.

## THROUGH DEC. 22 >> HOLIDAY ART MARKET

Sponsored by Health Management Associates, this market supports local artists by making both contemporary fine art and modern crafts available for pur-

chase. The event features more than 100 Michigan-based artists and recurs daily. FREE. 5-8pm. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Lansing.

## THROUGH DEC. 31 >> WONDERLAND OF LIGHTS AT POTTER PARK ZOO

Potter Park Zoo decorates for the holiday season with thousands of lights. The zoo's 23rd annual Wonderland of Lights has beautiful animal exhibits, holiday displays, cookies and crafts for all ages. Bring a wrapped present on Dec. 2 for free admission to Wonderland. 5-8pm. Thursday-Sunday. \$7/\$5 children 3-12/children under 3 FREE. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4222, potterparkzoo.org.

## FRIDAY, NOV. 24 >> MASON HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Mason's 17th annual Holiday Celebration presents the Santa Band along with visits from Santa himself at the Mason Historical Museum. The lighting ceremony begins at 6:15pm with the parade stepping off right after. 6-7:30pm. FREE. Downtown Mason. (517) 676-1046, masonchamber.org.

## NOV. 24-26 >> 'THE NUTCRACKER' AT CAPITAL BALLET THEATRE

Capital Ballet Theatre presents its 37th rendition of a family favorite, The Nutcracker. Tchaikovsky's classic tale is choreographed by Gregory M George with sword fights, sugar plums and mid-Michigan's best young dancers. 7:30 pm Friday and Saturday; 2pm Sunday. \$31.50/\$18.00 youth and students.



Designed in collaboration with Elderly Instruments, Farida's Old Town series guitars are true modern classics. With models ranging from \$379 to \$899, these instruments make fantastic gifts for the musicians in your life. Available in our Lansing showroom or at elderly.com.

Elderly Instruments  
1100 N. Washington Ave., Lansing.  
(517) 372-7890, elderly.com.

Wharton Center for Performing Arts, 750 E Shaw Ln., East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

## FRIDAY, NOV. 28 >> VIENNA BOYS CHOIR: CHRISTMAS IN VIENNA

The choir performs holiday favorites from around the world with their "angelic" tones, harmonies and repertoire. An enchanting event full of music and holiday joy for the entire family. 7:30pm. \$20.50 public/\$15.50 youth ages 5-18. Wharton Center for Performing Arts, 750 E Shaw Ln., East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

## FRIDAY, DEC. 1 >> 46TH ANNUAL GRAND LEDGE NIGHT LIGHTS CHRISTMAS PARADE

Before the parade begins, join the mayor in the Christmas tree lighting ceremony in Bridge Street Plaza. The light-

ed parade begins at the Grand Ledge Fire Barn and makes it's way down to Bridge Street where you can find Santa and Mrs. Claus. 7 pm. Downtown Grand Ledge. (517) 627-2383, grandledgechamber.com

## SATURDAY DEC. 2 >> HOLIDAY HULLABALOO

Old Town participating businesses offers shopping specials, treats and crafts for the kids. FREE. 10am-7pm. Old Town, Lansing. Iloveoldtown.org.

## SATURDAY DEC. 2 >> SCROOGE SCRAMBLE 5K

Old Town Commercial Association is hosting its 11th annual Scrooge Scramble. Either walk or run along the Lansing River Trails; awards are given to the top three in each age category. All proceeds

See Events, Page 13



Do your owners drive you crazy during the holiday's? You deserve a Bowser Beer! Fill your furry favorite's stockings with the numerous gifts Soldan's has to offer!

Soldan's Feed & Pet Supplies  
8 Mid-Michigan Locations!  
Opens at 9am  
soldanspet.com

## We extend our warm and heart felt Thanksgiving greetings to you In gratitude for your patronage and friendship

In anticipation of your holidays we have stocked

- The most enormous assortment of Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, and Christmas cards ever
- A collection of menorahs and candles • A charming selection of gifts for your holiday hosts and teachers
- The expected array of excellent, affordable gifts for everyone in the family

*We look forward to your visit and await you with holiday treats*

Please access our website for links to navigate the new detours and parking in the downtown. Or give us a call.



### Extended Holiday Hours:

Open Mondays in December  
Monday-Friday 10-7  
Saturday 10-5 • Sunday Noon-4  
Sunday, Dec. 24 and Dec. 31 10-2  
Closed Dec. 25, 26, 27 and Jan. 1, 2, 3

517-351-2211  
www.mackerelsky.com

# Holiday Gift and Events Guide 2017

From Page 12

go to the Old Town Association. 10am. \$25. Old Town, Lansing. [Iloveoldtown.org](http://Iloveoldtown.org).

**SATURDAY DEC. 2 >> WINTER GLOW**

East Lansing's annual holiday festival has a little of everything for everyone. The event features activities for the entire family. Enjoy roasted marshmallows, pictures with santa, ice carving demonstrations and so much more. 2-5pm. FREE. Ann Street Plaza, intersection of Albert and M.A.C. avenues, East Lansing. (517) 319-6888, [cityofeastlansing.com/winter-glow](http://cityofeastlansing.com/winter-glow).

**SATURDAY DEC. 2 >> WILLIAMSTON CHRISTMAS LIGHT PARADE**

Light up the town and watch illuminated floats, vehicles and bands march through the streets of Williamston. Visit with Santa, pet some animals and watch the Christmas tree light up to kick off the holiday season. 6pm. FREE. Downtown Williamston, [williamston.org](http://williamston.org).

**SATURDAY DEC. 2 >> PHIL DENNY AND FRIENDS CHRISTMAS COLLECTIVE**

The evening brings together saxophonist Phil Denny along with Kayla Waters, JJ Sansaverino, L'Renee and Sam Trump in an exciting night of lively holiday arrangements and original music. Jazzy holiday hits are to be expected. 7:30pm. \$28-42.50. Pattengill Auditorium, 626 Marshall St., Lansing. [facebook.com/annualpdec](http://facebook.com/annualpdec).

**DEC. 2-3 >> MSU ARTS & CRAFTS HOLIDAY SHOW**

MSU's 54th annual Arts & Crafts Show is one of the largest in the state with more than 300 crafters/artisans. There is something for everyone from candles, jewelry, furniture, children's toys and so much more. 9am-5pm Saturday; 10am-4pm Sunday. FREE. MSU Union, 49 Abbot Road, East Lansing, [uabevents.com](http://uabevents.com).

**DEC. 2-3 >> HOLIDAY TRADITIONS TOUR**

This annual tour around Grand Ledge features historical houses around the Opera House, decorated trees, holi-

day tables and miniatures. 11am-5pm Saturday/1-5pm Sunday. \$12/\$10 adv./\$3 children. Downtown Grand Ledge. (517) 627-2383, [grandledgechamber.com](http://grandledgechamber.com).

**DEC. 2-3 >> CHRISTMASPALOOZA**

LanSINGout gay men's chorus presents its annual holiday concert. The concert will feature holiday favorites. Flaming Bear will have candles for sale at the event. 7:30pm Saturday; 3:00pm Sunday. Tickets are available at door. First Presbyterian Church of Lansing, 510 Ottawa St., Lansing. [lansingout.org](http://lansingout.org).

**SUNDAY, DEC. 3 >> SANTA CARES AT LANSING MALL**

This event is open to all children of special needs. Everyone deserves a chance to take a picture with Santa, and with this event anyone can. Guests will be able to visit Santa in a calming environment, before the general public. FREE (not including photo packages). 8-10am. Lansing Mall, 5330 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing.



Give a sense of well-being, balance and harmony to those we love this holiday season.

541 E Grand River Ave, East Lansing  
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[massageandwellnessonline.com](http://massageandwellnessonline.com)

See Events, Page 17

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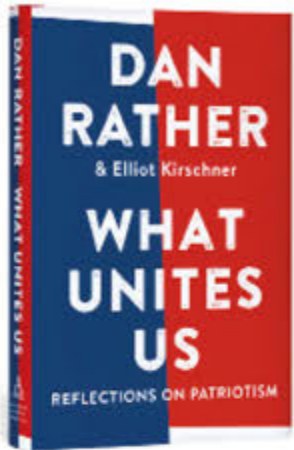


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## WHAT UNITES US

by Dan Rather & Elliot Kirschner

At a moment of crisis over our national identity, venerated journalist Dan Rather has emerged as a voice of reason and integrity, reflecting on—and writing passionately about—what it means to be an American. Now, with this collection of original essays, he reminds us of the principles upon which the United States was founded.

## OBAMA: An Intimate Portrait

by Pete Souza

Relive the extraordinary Presidency of Barack Obama through White House photographer Pete Souza's behind-the-scenes images and stories in this #1 New York Times best-seller—with a foreword from the President himself.



## CAROLINE: Little House, Revisited

by Sarah Miller

In this novel authorized by Little House Heritage Trust, Sarah Miller vividly recreates the beauty, hardship, and joys of the frontier in a dazzling work of historical fiction, a captivating story that illuminates one courageous, resilient, and loving pioneer woman as never before—Caroline Ingalls, “Ma” in Laura Ingalls Wilder’s beloved Little House books.

## REALLY IMPORTANT STUFF MY CAT HAS TAUGHT ME

by Cynthia L. Copeland

Cynthia L. Copeland, author of the bestselling Really Important Stuff My Dog Has Taught Me and Really Important Stuff My Kids Have Taught Me, now turns her attention to our mysterious feline friends. Every page of this full-color gift book is a joyful reminder of what’s important in life.



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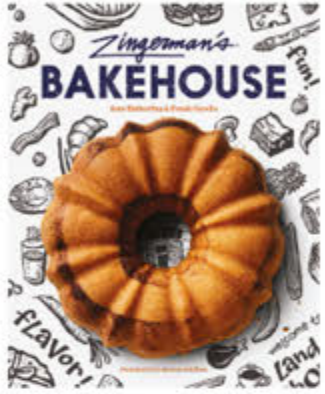
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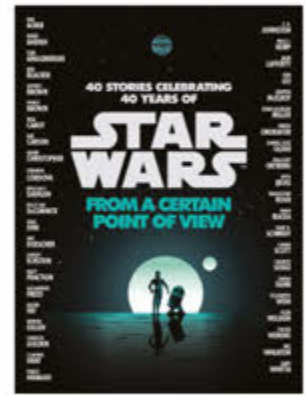


## **ZINGERMAN'S BAKEHOUSE** by Amy Emberling & Frank Carollo

More than fifty years ago, Willie Nelson's beloved Christmas song "Pretty Paper" first hit the airwaves. And for all these years, Willie has wondered about the real-life Texas street vendor, selling wrappings and ribbons, who inspired his song. Who was this poor soul? What did his painful trials say about our loves, our hopes, our dreams in this holiday season—and in the rest of our lives?

## **STAR WARS: FROM A CERTAIN POINT OF VIEW**

In honor of the fortieth anniversary, more than forty contributors lend their vision to this retelling of Star Wars. Each of the forty short stories reimagines a moment from the original film, but through the eyes of a supporting character. From a Certain Point of View features contributions by bestselling authors, trendsetting artists, and treasured voices from the literary history of Star Wars.



## **THE PURLOINING OF PRINCE OLEOMARGARINE** by Mark Twain & Philip C. Stead / Illust. by Erin Stead

A never-before-published, previously unfinished Mark Twain children's story is brought to life by Philip and Erin Stead, creators of the Caldecott Medal-winning *A Sick Day for Amos McGee*.



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\*See website for details and restrictions.



# Holiday Gift and Events Guide 2017

## Happy Howlidays! Nine gift ideas for animal companions

BY JONATHAN W. THURSTON

If the time-honored saying that dog is man's best friend is to be believed, then including the pet as a member of the family is just a natural progression of the thought. A quick glance at the store shelves reveals that you can find even stockings for your companion animal. Below is a list of nine gifts you can find for your companion.

**Soldan's Pet Supplies, 12286 Old U.S. 27, Dewitt; 1802 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos; 6201 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing; and 5200 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.**

Precisions Brand Pet Beds for dogs and cats, \$20-40, What pet home is complete without a pet bed? They're soft and allow for your dog or cat to curl up and burrow or rest their head on the lining cushion.

FURminator Grooming Tools, \$43-\$63. If you want to keep your pet's fur nice and smooth, these grooming tools are perfect for the job and come in a variety of sizes to fit your animal's natural fur.

Nutrisource Grain-Free Treats, \$4 These organic treats are a great reward for your dog's good behavior. Great for training, the treats come in salmon, chicken and rabbit flavors.

**Preuss Pets, 1127 N. Cedar St., Lansing.**

Fluval Flex Aquarium Kit, \$150. This curved front aquarium is a popular starting kit for anyone interested in getting his or her first fish. The 15-gallon kit is a fun gift for all ages.

Go Cats Catnip, \$4-13. This catnip is



grown in Charlotte. There are also cat toys for the catnip to be inserted into.

Marty Made Sliding Front Terrarium, \$90 to \$1,200. These terrariums were built in Michigan and can vary in size from 20 long up to 280 gallons.

**AnnaBelle's Pet Station, 600 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing**

Dog Training Sessions, \$120. These six-week-long training classes are geared toward making you a better dog owner and making your dog a more obedient companion.

No-Slip Keystone Martingale Collars, \$10. Coming in a variety of colors and sizes, these collars are great for your pooch to feel safe and pampered.

Click-a-Trick Cards, \$10. This dog train-



ing clicker comes with 10 tricks to teach your dog the basics in 10 easy steps. You and your companion will be impressing your friends and family by the next get-together!



### Shop Savvy This Holiday Season

From gifts and decorations to meals and travel, spreading holiday cheer adds up. Simplify your shopping this season with your MSUFCU Platinum Plus Visa.

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### November 16 - December 23, 2017



By James Sherman

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

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

Thanksgiving Weekend

Fri. Nov. 24 @ 3PM  
Fri. Nov. 24 @ 8PM  
Sat. Nov. 25 @ 3PM  
Sat. Nov. 25 @ 8PM  
Sun. Nov. 26 @ 2PM

Directed by Tony Caselli

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

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517-655-7469

[www.williamstontheatre.org](http://www.williamstontheatre.org)





# Holiday Gift and Events Guide 2017

From Page 13

**SUNDAY, DEC. 3 >> LANSING CONCERT BAND'S HOLIDAY FESTIVAL CONCERT**

The Lansing Concert Band continues their concert season for the 72nd year. The band is accompanied by the Steiner Chorale for seasonal classics. 3pm. \$12/\$5 students/children FREE. East Lansing High School, 509 Burcham Dr., East Lansing. (517) 321-3274, charlotte-performingartscenter.com

**TUESDAY, DEC. 5 >> FESTIVAL OF THE TREES AT TURNER DODGE HOUSE**

The sixth annual Festival of the Trees at Turner Dodge House is decorated on all three floors with holiday trees. This annual event is hosted by the Friends of Turner Dodge House and Lansing Parks and Recreation. There are roughly 50 trees decorated by local artists, businesses and community organizations. 1-7pm Tuesday- Thursday; 5-8pm Friday; 12-8pm Saturday; 12-6pm Sunday; closed Monday. \$5/children under 12 FREE. Turner Dodge House, (517) 483-4220, lansingmi.gov/939/turner-dodge-house.

**TUESDAY, DEC. 5 >> HOLIDAY GLITTER AND APPLAUSE**

Join the Arts Council of Greater Lansing with a red carpet for the Applause Awards Show. Featuring entertainment with John Dale Smith and the MSU Musical Theatre Touring Group. A silent auction will be held of the original City Pulse Summer of Art covers. There will be a cocktail hour as well as hors d'oeuvres and live music. 6-9pm. University Club of Michigan State University, 3435 Forest Rd., Lansing. (517) 372-4636, lansingarts.org.

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 6 >> WINTER WINE & STEIN AT POTTER PARK ZOO**

Celebrate the holidays with zoo animals. Patrons of the age 21 and older can sample beer, wine and spirits as they walk around the zoo's Wonderland of Lights. 5-8pm. \$30-35. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4222, potterparkzoo.org.

**THURSDAY, DEC. 7 >> HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE AT MSU HORTICULTURAL GARDENS**

Enjoy holiday trees, a holiday plant sale and plenty of refreshments. 12-7:30pm. FREE. Parking not included. MSU Horticulture Gardens, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. (517) 355-5191, hort.msu.edu.

**SATURDAY, DEC. 9 >> REO TOWN HOLIDAY POP-UP MARKET**

Take a trip over to Reo Town and hop from vendor to vendor in an epic display of local crafts, food, and holiday gift ideas. Check out the event to see the participating storefronts. 10am. FREE. Reo Town, Lansing.

**SATURDAY, DEC. 9 >> CHRISTMAS PAW-TY AT SOLDAN'S OKEMOS**

An event for pet owners to kick off the holiday season with a photo booth, free food and a chance to get an ornament for the tree. FREE. 9am-4pm. Soldan's Pet Supplies, 1802 Grand River Ave., Okemos. (517) 349-8435, soldanspet.com.

**SATURDAY, DEC. 9 >> BREAKFAST WITH SANTA AT THE LANSING MALL**

Spend the morning with St. Nick himself at the Lansing Mall. Enjoy food, stories and craft time with the jolly old man. FREE. 9am. Lansing Mall, 5330 W. Saginaw Hwy, Lansing.

**SATURDAY, DEC. 9 >> OPEN HOUSE AT THE CAPITAL AREA HUMANE SOCIETY**

Bring your pet to take a picture with Santa. The event will feature a bake sale with treats for pets as well as their owners. Adoption specials will be running all day. 10am. FREE. Capital Area Humane Society, 7095 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. Cahs-lansing.org.

**SATURDAY, DEC. 9 >> A NOT SO SILENT NIGHT AT REACH STUDIO ART CENTER**

Over 100 pieces of art, local business gift cards and other gift-able items

See Events, Page 19



Smith Floral's Greenhouse is not only the home of beautiful floral arrangements, but holiday trinkets, poinsettias and more! Make Smith Floral your one stop holiday shop!

- 1124 E. Mt. Hope Ave., Lansing
- 8:30am-5:30pm
- (517) 484-5327, smithfloral.com



An example of the many containers Mackerel Sky is offering for airplants and succulents--in an assortment of shapes, colors, sizes, and styles to coordinate with any taste or décor. Priced from \$18.00 to \$55.00. The pictured pots are by Arakawa Pottery from California.

Mackerel Sky Gallery  
211 MAC Ave.  
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# Holiday Gift and Events Guide 2017

From Page 17

are up for silent auction. The event includes a wine and beer cash bar and refreshments. There will be a preview party before the event offering additional sales and socializing. 7-9:30pm main event. \$25-40. REACH Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

## SATURDAY, DEC. 9 >> HANDEL'S 'MESSIAH' AT WHARTON CENTER

MSU's Choral Union, University Chorale and State Singers share the stage to present this amazing 276 year old tradition. 8pm. \$20/\$18 seniors/\$10 students. Wharton Center for Performing Arts, 750 E Shaw Ln., East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

## SUNDAY, DEC. 10 >> LANSING SYMPHONY HOLIDAY POPS

Enjoy an afternoon of Christmas carols and holiday classics with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra. Demi Fragale and the MSU Youth Chorale will join the Orchestra for a tradition that will get everyone in the holiday spirit. 3pm. \$20-\$55. Wharton Center for Performing Arts, 750 E Shaw Ln., East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

## SUNDAY, DEC. 10 >> CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE

Join Santa in the old-fashioned Christmas in the Village. Meridian Historical Village will be transformed with buildings being decorated and open for visitors. Volunteers will be in their traditional dress sharing their favorite past time stories. 2-4pm. FREE. Meridian Historical Village, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 347-7300, meridianhistoricalvillage.org.

## FRIDAY, DEC. 15 >> HOLIDAY SING! AT TEN POUND FIDDLE

Ten Pound Fiddle's Sally Potter leads a community sing-along with special guests. Lyric books will be provided to sing your favorite holiday songs all evening long. 7:30pm. \$15/\$12 members/\$5 students. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 337-7744, tenpound-



Start your holidays early with the incredible story behind Peter Pan, Finding Neverland at Wharton Center Dec. 12-17. Tickets from \$43 at whartoncenter.com or 1-800-WHARTON.

fiddle.org.

## SATURDAY, DEC. 16 >> TEASE A GOGO CHRISTMAS CIRCUS

Get ready to get your bells jingled. Tease A Gogo is is back for another year of holiday entertainment. This event offers a naughty evening of burlesque, drag, sideshows and more. There will also be delicious food, fabulous holiday drinks and a photo booth. 10pm. 18+. \$15/\$12 adv. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. Teaseagogo.com.

## Last-minute holiday shopping tips

- Stay within your budget. Even last-minute shoppers have holiday shopping budgets. But it can be harder for last-minute shoppers to stick to their budgets because they have less time to comparison shop and hunt for deals. As the holiday shopping season winds down, resist the temptation to go over budget. If a gift you had in mind is available but more than you can spend, look for something else.
- Shop local. National chains and big box retailers are renowned for rolling out great deals during the holiday season, but such stores may have very limited or unimpressive

## Gobble-Wobble gives out 350 baskets



Kelly Sheridan/City Pulse

Pastor Victor H. Trevino at Bread House South's 2017 Thanksgiving Basket Handout event in Lansing on Tuesday. This is the second year of the Gobble-Wobble Thanksgiving event. Trevino said they gave out 350 baskets, almost quadruple last year.

Donations have been given by members of the church, community members and businesses. Along with the basket giveaway, Trevino also does a 50-mile walk to gain sponsors and raise money for the church. Every day for five days in October, the pastor walked 10 miles. He said this event is important to the members because a lot of people, including himself, know what it's like to have struggles.

"That's where my heart is and most of all of our members have been through suffering, and that's why they're all in. They see the ministry giving back to the community, people are more apt the give when they see. That's why this thing has grown," Trevino said. "Next year, I already told our church and I've told our community, we're doing a thousand baskets."

— KELLY SHERIDAN

- inventory left by the time last-minute shoppers begin shopping. Local retailers are often incapable of slashing prices as significantly as their larger competitors, and that may mean they have more extensive inventories available throughout the holiday shopping season. In addition, shoppers who stick with local retailers won't have to pay shipping costs to ensure items arrive on time.
- Shop during off-peak hours. Shopping during off-peak hours can help last-minute shoppers make efficient use of the limited time they have to buy gifts for their loved

ones. Visit stores early in the morning or late at night, or schedule a midweek afternoon shopping trip so you aren't spending what little time you have left waiting on lines or hunting for parking.

- Give something less traditional. Holiday gifts need not come from stores. Rather than spending their time shopping for gifts for loved ones who seemingly have it all, last-minute shoppers can give the gift of a donation in their loved one's name. Last-minute shoppers who want to give something more tangible can create a homemade gift that's both unique and heartfelt. If your DIY skills are lacking, give a loved one the gift of a night out on the town at your expense.

# Shadow man

## 'Crooked Hat' mystery has Detroit as a backdrop

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Ann Arbor writer Harry Dolan takes readers on an old-fashioned hunt for a murderer with many possible outcomes not unlike "Murder on the Orient Express" in his new mystery, "Man with a Crooked Hat."

Like "Orient Express," not everything is as it seems for newly minted private detective Jack Pellum, and there are many false leads, crooked roads and dead ends as he searches for the killer of his wife.

The only lead the former Detroit homicide detective has is he saw a suspicious man lurking in the area about the time of his wife's murder and the man was wearing a crooked hat.

The reader is given the killer's name, Michael Underhill, in the first sentence of the book, and, as the plot unveils itself, we learn more about the killer's personal life than we know about his hunter who many believe, including his parents, has descended into madness.

Pellum spends his days putting up fliers with a vague image of a man wearing a crooked hat and the invocation "Have You Seen Him?" along with an email address.

Dolan describes Pellum as he goes about putting fliers at the Detroit Institute of Arts, Third Man Records and Shinola: "You might have wondered about him. He wore good clothes, but sometimes he wore them carelessly. One sleeve rolled up and one left down. Shirttail's untucked. His hygiene left no room for complaint, but his shaving was haphazard ... If you got close enough to see his eyes, you might have suspected he wasn't getting enough sleep."

Not a pretty picture of Pellum who lost his job as a homicide detective because of his compulsion to solve his wife's murder.

Amazingly, he finds someone who saw the man with the crooked hat and, as he investigates, another murder ensues. He discovers other murders stretching back decades that may be related to his wife's murder. That's pretty much all you can say about the inner workings of the book without giving away some amazing switchbacks and dead ends.

It's been eight years since Dolan arrived on the mystery scene introducing readers to his successful David Loogan series, set in Ann Arbor.

"I'm a perfectionist and not a writer who can spill out words," Dolan said. "Writing is an isolated activity. It's a long-term thing writing a book, and sometimes you feel you are not making progress."

His latest book is set in Detroit and the suburbs. "I didn't want to put it in Ann Arbor, so I spent many days in Detroit researching the book."

The setting is mostly in what is now called Midtown Detroit, and Dolan said he selected actual places to put in the book such as Pellum's apartment.

Dolan said it was an interesting chal-

lenge writing a standalone book, especially "with a character who has personality defects."

"With my previous books, I had a whole cast of characters to draw on," he said.

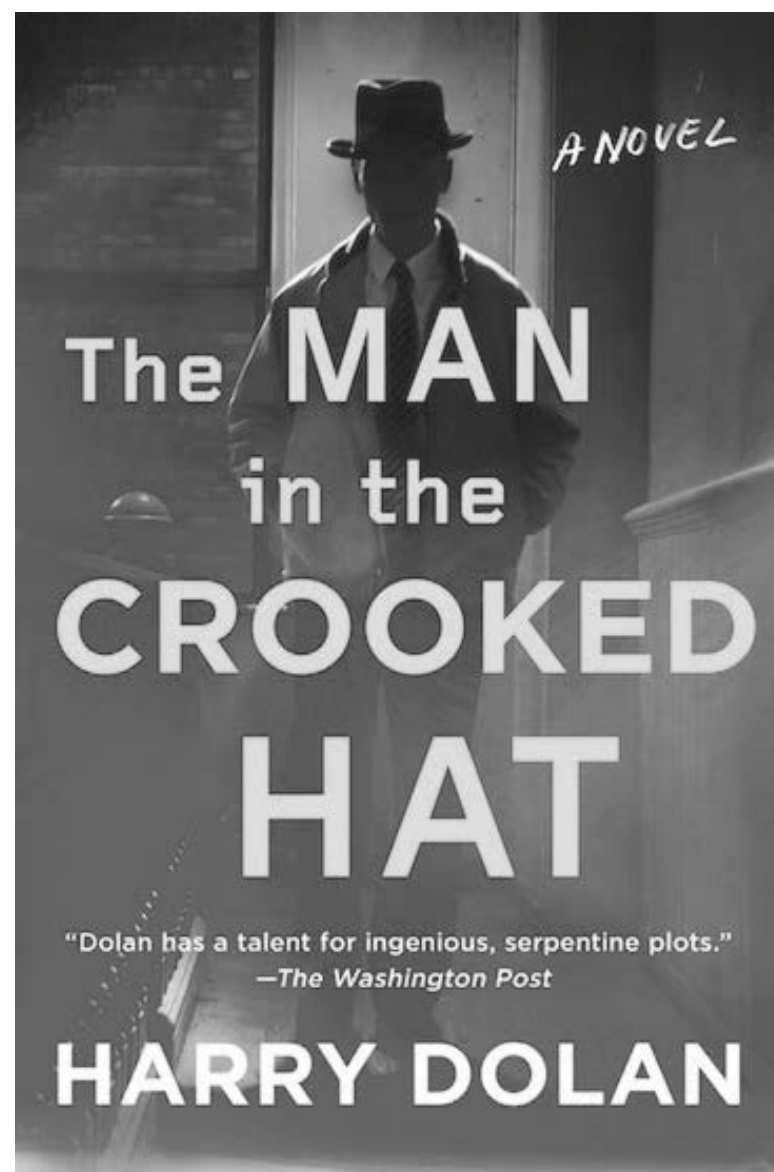
In "Man with a Crooked Hat," Dolan focuses only on two characters, the pursued and the pursuer.

As the book draws to a dramatic conclusion, we increasingly learn more about the killer's personal life.

"In some ways, the book is told from his (the killer's) perspective and his relationship with a new woman," Dolan said.

Pellum's past is more vague, but we do learn that he has a troubled history with his parents who expect more from him. His dad is a judge and uses his influence to help get his son back on the right track even setting him up as a private investigator and buying him a billboard near Detroit Metro Airport.

One client he attracts becomes an



important part in Pellum's healing from the loss of his wife.

Dolan said he chose the title of the book derived from the urban legend of a "shadow man" or someone on the wrong side of the law, because "I liked how it sounded."

He is working on another standalone book involving an Iraq war veteran that is staged in both Michigan and Houston.

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**City Pulse Book Club**

The next City Pulse Book Club selection is National Book Award winner "Blood in the Water," by University of Michigan Professor Heather Ann Thompson, about the Attica prison riot.

Thompson found in her 10 years of research that the popular version of the riot blaming brutal prisoners was far from the truth and that a government cover-up reaching as far as Gov. Nelson Rockefeller began almost immediately and continues to this day.

The Book Club will meet at 7 p.m. Dec 12 at Schuler Books & Music in Eastwood.

# OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com). Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Ella at (517) 999-6704.

2019 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 346-9900.

## EVENTS

**12-Step Meeting.** AA/NA/CA all welcome. From 12 to 1 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St. Lansing.  
**Current Events.** Get in "the now" with world events From 11 a.m. to noon FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.  
**Ladies Silver Blades Figure Skating Club.** All skill levels welcome. Lessons, practice, exercise and fun. From 9:30 to 11:20 a.m. \$5 and yearly dues fee. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd. East Lansing.  
**Lunch at the Meridian Senior Center.** TCOA provides tasty, and nutritionally balanced meals. 12-1 p.m. \$5.75/\$3 suggested for ages 60+. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.  
**Party Bridge.** Weekly activity at Meridian Senior Center. From 1 to 4 p.m. \$1 Members/\$2 Public. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

## Saturday, November 25

### MUSIC

**Live Music w/ Act Casual.** Express your creativity with wearable art. At 8 p.m. FREE. Lansing Brewing Company, 518 E. SHIAWASSEE STREET Lansing. 517.371.2600.

### EVENTS

**Button-making Party (Age 6 & up).** Express your creativity with wearable art. From 11 a.m. to noon FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Dansville Branch, 1379 E. Mason St. Dansville. (517) 623-6511.  
**Minecraft Free Play (All ages).** Challenge yourself or teach your family how to play. From 2 to 4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road Okemos. 517.347.2021.  
**Saturday Holiday Matinee (All ages).** Watch The Polar Express. From 11 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Downtown Lansing, 401 South Capitol Ave. Lansing. 517-367-6363.

### ARTS

**Holiday Open House at Eggleston Gallery.** Join us for tasty treats, holiday music and free drawings. From 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. FREE. Eggleston Gallery and Studios, 14035 Webster Rd Bath. (517) 999-3343.  
**Small Business Saturday.** Shop from a curated selection of contemporary fine art and modern craft. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 113 S Washington Square Lansing. (517) 374-6400.

## Sunday, November 26

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

### EVENTS

**Family Day @ The Grid.** Experience some arcade and pinball fun. From 12 to 4 p.m. FREE. The Grid Arcade & Bar, 226 E Grand River Ave Lansing. 517-885-3010.  
**Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance.** At 6 p.m. \$8 dance, \$10 dance & lesson. The Lansing Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave. Lansing. (517) 321-0933.

## Monday, November 27

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**A Course in Love.** Weekly group dedicated to the study of the spiritual psychology. From 1 to 2 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Lansing. 517-371-3010.  
**Opioid Therapy Group.** Group therapy for those struggling with opiate addiction. From 11 a.m. to noon

## Steiner Chorale brings it home for the holidays



Courtesy Photo  
Steiner Chorale

## Dec. 3

The Steiner Chorale will kick off its 50th season Dec. 3 in a big way, collaborating with the Lansing Concert Band on John Rutter's joyful "Gloria" and "Magnificat" as well as several Christmas classics.

Artistic director and conductor Corb Felgenhour said the event is extra special because it is taking place at East Lansing High School, where founding director Bill Steiner taught.

"It's kind of a coming home," Felgenhour said. "[Steiner] started the choral program there, and then he started the Steiner Chorale, and so, really, that was his home base."

Rutter's music combines ceremonial heft with luminous melodies, gorgeous harmonies and, in the Magnificat, a distinct Latin-American tinge. The "Magnificat" has been set to music many times, but before Rutter tackled the job in 1990, only J.S. Bach gave it an extended treatment.

Rutter wasn't sure how to approach the task until he thought about the text's connection with the Virgin Mary. According to St. Luke, Mary uttered the Magnificat's poetic burst of praise when she learned she was to be the mother of Christ.

"In countries such as Spain, Mexico and Puerto Rico, feast days of the Virgin are joyous opportunities for people to take to the streets and celebrate with singing, dancing and processions," Rutter explained. "These images of outdoor celebration were, I think, somewhere in my mind as I wrote."

The chorale has been rehearsing for this event since early November, and Felgenhour said it was important to

keep focused on making sure every part of the arrangement was receiving attention.

"The "Magnificat" is seven movements long and the "Gloria" is three movements long, so it's easy to get buried in the magnitude of it," the Director said. "You just have to stay focused and make sure you're giving all the right attention to the aspects of the two pieces."

Felgenhour said there were many things to consider when choosing which material to perform. "This year, we were wanting to select things that would have good audience appeal and a little bit of familiarity with it, but it will also encourage other singers who would want to join our efforts," he said.

The chorale will be joined by the Lansing Concert Band and director Jerry Sullivan, who are already in the midst of their concert season.

In addition to their big joint performances, the band will perform a few songs on their own. The culmination of the concert is a Lansing Concert Band tradition: a sing-a-long of Christmas and holiday carols.

If any audience members are worried about their shaky vocal skills, never fear: the Steiner Chorale will have your back. "We'll be joining the band on that," Felgenhour said, as if there were any doubt.

Felgenhour hopes people will take time to enjoy some classic holiday music to kick off the Christmas season.

"It's a busy time for a lot of people, but the kind of music that we'll both be performing at this concert it's just a great way to start off the holiday season," he said. The Steiner Chorale and Lansing Concert Band will reprise the Rutter program 3 p.m. Dec. 17 at First United Methodist Church in Eaton Rapids.

— Kelly Sheridan

## Wednesday, November 22

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

**Line Dance Lessons.** Start with beginner/basic dances. From 7 to 9 p.m. FREE. Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy. Lansing.

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

### HOLIDAYS

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

### MUSIC

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

### EVENTS

**Family Storytime (Ages up to 6).** Stories, songs and activities to build early literacy skills. 11:15 a.m.-noon FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Webberville, 115 S Main St. Webberville. 517.521.3643.

**PJ Storytime (Age 3 & up).** Kids bring a cuddly toy and/or wear their PJs for storytime. 7-7:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi, 2078 Aurelius Road Holt. 517.694.9351.

## Thursday, November 23

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**(TOPS) Take Off Pounds Sensibly.** Weigh-in 5:15 p.m. In room 207. At 6 p.m. First meeting FREE. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St. Haslett.

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

**Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice.** All experience levels welcome. From 6 to 8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillside Lansing.

**Free Yoga for Kids and Youth.** All ages invited. From 5:30 to 7:15 p.m. FREE for Youth ages 6-13. Parents pay usual rates. Bikram Yoga Capital Area, 1355 E. Grand River Ave East Lansing. 517-862-8926.

**Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous.** At 5:45 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff,

# TURN IT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE  
BY RICH TUPICA

Fri., Dec. 1

JAHSHUA SMITH



Jahshua Smith at Mac's Bar

Wed., Dec. 6

ABK



ABK at The Loft

Wed., Nov. 22

KARI HOLMES



Kari Holmes at Tequila Cowboy

Friday, Dec. 1 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$15, \$12 adv., 8 p.m.

Lansing hip-hop artist Jahshua Smith headlines Friday, Dec. 1 at Mac's. Openers are Yellokake & Jenna Camille, Apollo and Krissy Booth. Smith, a Detroit native, debuted in 2006 with "The Megaman Mixtape" – then using the name "JYoung the General." At the time, Smith was a Michigan State University student and co-hosted "The Cultural Vibe," Impact 89-FM's hip-hop show. In 2013, Smith's following expanded beyond Michigan after "The Final Season" LP, his 2013 debut full-length, climbed the CMJ hip-hop charts. From there, he opened for the likes of Wiz Khalifa and performed spots at SXSW and Van's Warped Tour. In 2016, Smith issued his latest record, "The Fourth Wall." Smith said the record follows the television theme used on "The Final Season," and explores "breaking through the fourth wall" and connecting with his listeners.

Wednesday, Dec. 6 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$13, \$10 adv., 7 p.m.

Anybody Killa (ABK) brings "The Dirty Warrior Tour" to Mac's Bar, local openers include A.I., Underground Hoodlumz and Eastside Thoroughbred Ent. ABK (real name James Lowery) has cultivated a devoted cult following of "juggalos" since the Insane Clown Posse signed the fellow painted-face rapper to its Psychopathic Records label in 2003. That same year, Lowery's "Hatchet Warrior" LP reached No. 4 on the Billboard's Top Independent Albums chart and No. 98 on the Top 200. Lowery, 44, is a Detroit native and draws lyrical inspiration from his Native American heritage, calling his style "spiritual rap" and branding himself as a "Native American warrior." Fans can pick up a copy of his latest record, the eight-song "Killa Features" EP. The disc, released this year via his Native World imprint.

Wednesday, Nov. 22 @ Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Highway, 21+. FREE, 8 p.m.

The day before Thanksgiving – aka "Blackout Wednesday" – is the biggest bar night of the year, and Tequila Cowboy in the Lansing Mall is celebrating it with a free performance from Kari Holmes, a local modern-country singer. After spending time recording in Nashville with her musical partner and husband, William Shadrack, she dropped her debut record, the six-song "Something New" EP. The moody-pop single "More from Me" supported the disc and made the Top 200 on Music Row. Prior to that, she issued a single track, "Nothing I Can Do," in 2012. Her catalog is available via iTunes. Holmes is a lead vocalist who not only pens her own tunes, but also plays rhythm guitar, banjo and mandolin. Her contemporary sound has been likened to Shania Twain, Taylor Swift and Carrie Underwood.

## UPCOMING SHOW?

CONTACT

JONATHAN@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

## LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Y2K Dance Party	CLOSED	Karaoke	Nacho Punk Night
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Karle Delo	CLOSED	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Road	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.	Pool Tourny, 7:30 a.m.	Alskn "walleye" AYCE	DJ, 9 p.m.
Darb's Tavern, 117 S. Cedar St.				Scott Seth
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.			
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 8 p.m.	Mike Skory & Friends, 8:30 p.m.	Be Kind Rewind, 9:30 p.m.	
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Glamhammer 9 p.m.	CLOSED	Miranda and the M80s	Icy Dicey
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.	Midnight Gold, 8pm			
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Bluffing the Ghosts, 8pm		The Sho, 8:30pm	
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road				
The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave.				
Sir Pizza/Grand Cafe, 201 E. Grand River Ave.				
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.	Kari Holmes, 8pm		Homespun, 8pm	Kari Holmes, 8pm
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.			Capitol City DJ's	
Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr				

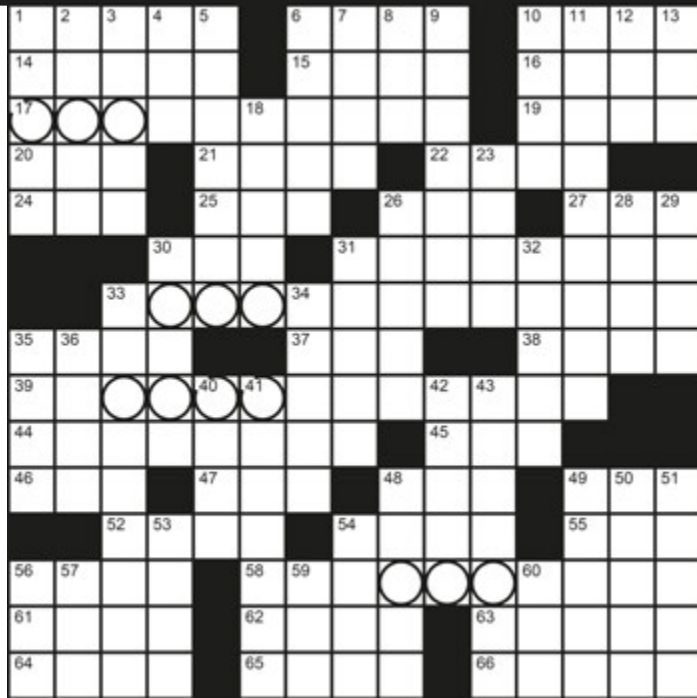
### Jonesin' Crossword A

By Matt Jones

"Back-Billed"--all the smaller examples.  
Matt Jones

**Across**

- 1 Sedate
- 6 Any of the Bee Gees brothers
- 10 Chicago-based clown
- 14 Hashtag inspired by the Harvey Weinstein allegations
- 15 "The Joy of Cooking" author Rombauer
- 16 Mess up completely
- 17 "No further detail is needed"
- 19 Statesman von Bismarck
- 20 "Man of a Thousand Faces" Chaney
- 21 Play backgrounds
- 22 Forms morning moisture
- 24 Green Day drummer



- 25 That dude's
- 26 Krypton, e.g.
- 27 Three, on some clocks
- 30 "Help!" at sea
- 31 Sold out, in a way
- 33 Statement after reporting something pleasant, maybe
- 35 Genesis brother
- 37 Ab \_\_\_ (from the beginning)
- 38 Italian carmaker that partnered with Chrysler
- 39 Water-based tourist attraction in Rome
- 44 Emulated
- 45 Do a marathon
- 46 Go off \_\_\_ tangent
- 47 Banner team?
- 48 Stashed away
- 49 Loudly lament
- 52 Overdue
- 54 Tom Hiddleston's role in "Thor"
- 55 Suit accessory
- 56 Cereal with a rabbit mascot
- 58 Implements first used in the Paleolithic age
- 61 Abundant
- 62 Word before bay, day, or pay
- 63 Little night flyer
- 64 Quits hedging
- 65 "Benevolent" fraternal order
- 66 Oboist's supply
- Down**
- 1 Put through a refinery
- 2 "Danny Boy" voice, usually
- 3 Make reparations
- 4 Letters before a monetary amount
- 5 Where to see corgis compete
- 6 Core concepts
- 7 Bank offerings, for short
- 8 Songwriter's publishing gp.
- 9 Statistician's numbers problem, sometimes
- 10 Furrowed body part
- 11 Reversed, like some shirts or jackets
- 12 Acne spot
- 13 "Be My Yoko \_\_\_" (Barenaked Ladies single)
- 18 Bank robbery
- 23 Abbr. before a cornerstone date
- 26 Cameroon's neighbor
- 28 Birth state of Elijah Wood
- 29 Part of MIT, for short
- 30 Do what you're doing right now
- 31 Broadway musical without a storyline
- 32 In conclusion, in Paris
- 33 Question for the stranded
- 34 Coatroom hangers, maybe
- 35 Prefix for sphere
- 36 Fiber source in cereals
- 40 "Can \_\_\_ you in on a little secret?"
- 41 Savoir-faire
- 42 Kid's wheels
- 43 IRS employee
- 48 Drivers' warnings
- 49 Took illegally
- 50 De-squeaked
- 51 Conquers
- 53 Forest hackers
- 54 Place for tumblers
- 56 "The \_\_\_ La La Song" (theme from "The Banana Splits")
- 57 Ocasek once of the Cars
- 59 \_\_\_ Tuesday (Aimee Mann's old band)
- 60 Be behind

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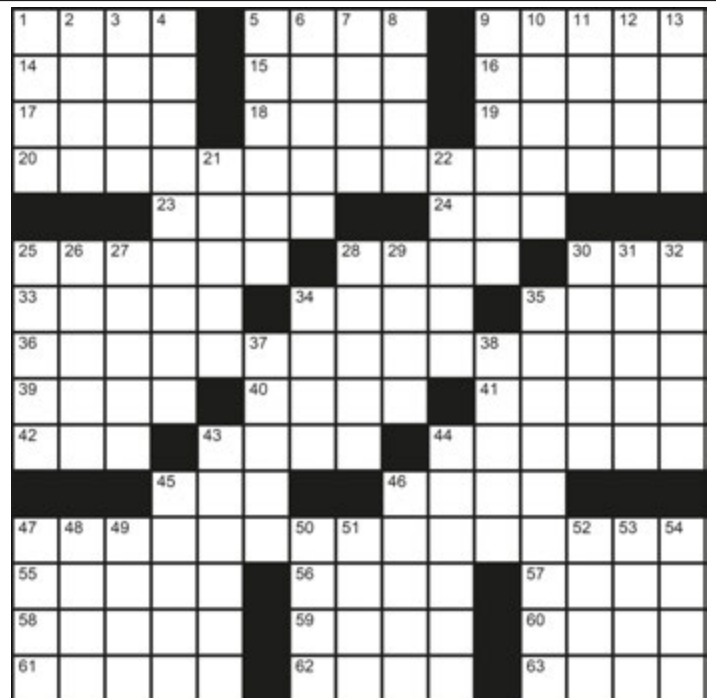
### Jonesin' Crossword B

By Matt Jones

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

**Across**

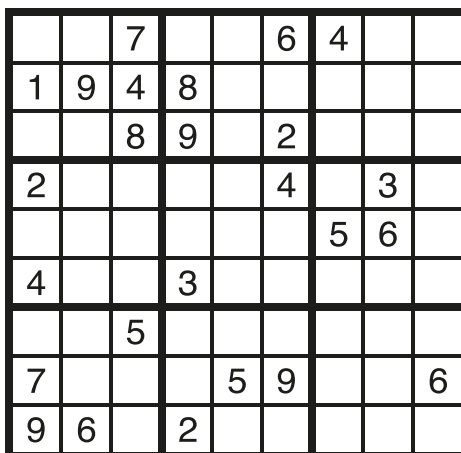
- 1 One who saves the day
- 5 \_\_\_ vu
- 9 Pricey violin, for short
- 14 It has pressing work to do
- 15 Bus. boss
- 16 Type of twisted wit
- 17 Rock, in rock-paper-scissors
- 18 Ceremony
- 19 Flaxen fabric
- 20 Warring with words
- 23 Camera or eye part
- 24 Binary digit
- 25 Bat symbol in the night sky, e.g.
- 28 Maggie's big brother
- 30 P.I., slangily
- 33 Start of a rhyming fitness motto
- 34 Timbuktu's country
- 35 Orange pool ball number
- 36 Like some raisins and pretzels
- 39 Took the bus
- 40 Crowning point
- 41 Creator of Winnie-the-Pooh
- 42 Mom on the farm
- 43 Gripe
- 44 Soft stroke
- 45 "Yes" indication
- 46 Stereotypical reactions to fireworks
- 47 "Ignore the critics," in modern parlance
- 55 Pearl Jam's debut single
- 56 Eager
- 57 Graph line
- 58 Fixes, as a piano
- 59 Suspense novelist Hoag
- 60 1996 GOP running mate Jack
- 61 Stylish
- 62 It may go downhill near the end of the year
- 63 Garden in Genesis
- single
- options
- 7 Ballet leap
- 8 Breezed through a test
- 9 Like some initial P's
- 10 Large family group
- 11 "Class Reunion" author Jaffe
- 12 Work without \_\_\_ (be daring)
- 13 Small unit of force
- 21 Muse of love poetry
- 22 Order of Greek architecture
- 25 Bolivia's constitutional capital
- 26 "This \_\_\_ We Do It" (1995 R&B hit)
- 27 Crystal-centered rock
- 28 "Disjointed" star Kathy
- 29 The "A" in A-Rod
- 30 Book cover info
- 31 2, 4, 6, 8, e.g.
- 32 Gives up
- 34 GPS displays, often
- 35 Reasonable treatment
- 37 Glorifies
- 38 Warren Buffett's city
- 43 Wooded area
- 44 Frank
- 45 When to look a gift horse in the mouth
- 46 "Astro Boy" genre
- 47 Roles, proverbially
- 48 Reunion attendee
- 49 "Proud Mary" singer Turner
- 50 Gangsters' heaters
- 51 Horse track shape
- 52 Canned
- 53 End-of-exam announcement
- 54 Channel that debuted in 1979



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### SUDOKU

### BEGINNER



**TO PLAY**

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

Answers on page 25



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## BOWDIE'S CHOPHOUSE / TROPPO ITALIAN KITCHEN / SAHARA'S DELIGHT

Allen Ross/City Pulse

Bowdie's Chophouse opened to the public last week in downtown Lansing. It's the second location for the family-run business, which was started in Saugatuck three years ago by the father of general manager Tyler Bowdish.

### By ALLAN I. ROSS

For last week's annual Silver Bells in the City event, two new restaurants near the parade route officially opened to the public, while a third — an overhaul of a Lansing mainstay — offered a sneak peek at what's to come. Could the downtown dining landscape be mounting a comeback after a rash of closings in 2016?

"We're counting on it," said Tyler Bowdish, general manager of Bowdie's Chophouse, a new steakhouse that took over the former home of the Knight Cap. "The Lansing restaurant scene seems to be going through some changes right now, and I think we're coming in at a good time."

Since the Knight Cap and Troppo both closed earlier this year (more on the latter in a minute), a newcomer, the French-themed brasserie EnVie, has held the mantle of premier downtown eatery. Meanwhile, nearby Soup Spoon Café continues to be a major draw for epicureans on the east side. Bowdie's is the second location for the family-owned/operated

restaurant, which was opened in 2014 in Saugatuck by first-time restaurateur Scott Bowdish. His son, Tyler Bowdish, serves as general manager at both locations.

"Their restaurant in Saugatuck is very successful, and I think Lansing is lucky they chose to open a second location here," said Doug Johns Jr., who owns the Bowdie's building. "Downtown will now have a top notch steakhouse again that will complement all the other entertainment options within walking distance."

The Bowdishes were able to take advantage of the massive interior renovation performed by the last tenants, Leo and Gregory Farhat, another father/son partnership. The Farhats purchased the Knight Cap in 2015 from original owner Charlie Sinadinos and kept the name, but closed their version of the 48-year-old bistro after only two years. They had time to give the interior an elegant, contemporary look — complete with a new, muted blue-gray color scheme — which is still in place at Bowdie's. Tyler Bowdish said the look plays into the restaurant's refined-yet-accessible sensibility.

"This isn't your normal stuffy steakhouse," Bowdish said. "This is very casual

fine dining."

Chicago native Scott Bowdish opened the original location after semi-retiring in Saugatuck and finding himself disappointed with the lack of local places to get a good steak. Tyler Bowdish, meanwhile, had spent his career working his way up through progressively higher-end restaurants in front-of-the-house positions, until he finally landed at legendary Chicago chophouse, Ditka's.

"Mike Ditka would come in once a week to eat and sign autographs. He was a really nice guy," Tyler Bowdish said. "I learned a lot about treating customers with respect and how a professional restaurant should be run."

So when his father opened Bowdie's, Bowdish was a natural pick for GM. Although the 48-seat dining room was routinely packed, it was set up in a historic Victorian home, so an expansion was out of the question. The idea for a second location remained on the table until Johns approached them about his building in Lansing.

"We paid a visit, and it seemed like a perfect fit for us," Bowdish said. "This place had been an institution for so long, and it was small, which is what we were already used to. Plus we knew that there was a market for a steakhouse in the area, so we said, let's give it a shot."

The Lansing Bowdie's has 36 seats, including eight seats at the bar that can also be reserved in lieu of a table. Come summer, the patio will nearly double the capacity with 32 seats. The menu will be tight: just a shortlisted set of steak-and-seafood items and a few classic appetizers. The Bowdishes lured Jason Campbell, a Cordon Bleu-trained fine dining chef who worked in several Southeast and Prairie State restaurants, to hone their menu.

All steaks will be 100 percent USDA Prime, 28-day, dry-aged meat that will only receive a salt-rub before hitting the grill. After their designated cook time, the cuts will get a rest for six to eight

minutes before being dolloped with chive butter, finished in a broiler, and served on a 300-degree plate.

"This is the way the classic chophouses do it, and we'll be following that religiously," Bowdish said. "It doesn't get any better than that."

The menu also features a lobster mac-and-cheese dish (which boasts an entire lobster tail) and wild-caught Faroe Island salmon, as well his father's specialty ceviche appetizer.

Bowdish hopes Bowdie's will generate enough buzz to get diners flocking back to Michigan Avenue and Washington Square.

"Downtown Lansing doesn't seem to be a destination dining location right now, and our goal is to get people to drive to here for dinner," Bowdish said. "That's what we're going to feed our success off of."

### Downtown's other two newcomers

Although Troppo closed with zero fanfare last fall, it recently completed a major interior renovation, downshifting from its fine dining décor into a sleeker, more contemporary look, which includes an open kitchen. It is expected to reopen soon under the slightly tweaked moniker, Troppo Italian Kitchen. It was briefly open last weekend for Silver Bells and its annual Brunch with Santa event, but has closed again with no word on the official relaunch; no one from the restaurant, including owner Kris Elliott, returned a call for comment.

Meanwhile, Sahara's Delight became downtown Lansing's third Middle Eastern restaurant when it opened on Friday in the space vacated three weeks ago by Lou & Harry's, 119 S. Washington Ave. Check back next week for full details.

### Bowdie's Chophouse

320 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing  
4-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 4-11 p.m.  
Friday-Saturday  
(517) 580-4792, bowdieschophouse.com

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### CROSSWORD SOLUTION A

From Pg. 23

S	T	A	I	D	G	I	B	B	B	O	Z	O			
M	E	T	O	O	I	R	M	A	R	U	I	N			
E	N	O	U	G	H	S	A	I	D	O	T	T	O		
L	O	N	S	E	T	S	D	E	W	S					
T	R	E	H	I	S	G	A	S	I	I	I	I			
		S	O	S	R	A	T	T	E	D	O	N			
		N	O	W	T	H	E	B	A	D	N	E	W	S	
A	B	E	L		O	V	O		F	I	A	T			
T	R	E	V	I	F	O	U	N	T	A	I	N			
M	A	D	E	L	I	K	E		R	U	N				
O	N	A		E	N	S		H	I	D		S	O	B	
		L	A	T	E		L	O	K	I		T	I	E	
T	R	I	X		S	T	O	N	E		T	O	O	L	S
R	I	F	E		S	I	C	K		O	W	L	E	T	
A	C	T	S		E	L	K	S		R	E	E	D	S	

### SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

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

### CROSSWORD SOLUTION B

From Pg. 23

H	E	R	O	D	E	J	A	S	T	R	A	D		
I	R	O	N	E	X	E	C	I	R	O	N	Y		
F	I	S	T	R	I	T	E	L	I	N	E	N		
I	N	A	H	E	A	T	E	D	D	E	B	A	T	E
		I	R	I	S			O	N	E				
S	I	G	N	A	L		B	A	R	T		T	E	C
U	S	E	I	T		M	A	L	I		F	I	V	E
C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E	C	O	A	T	E	D
R	O	D	E		A	P	E	X		M	I	L	N	E
E	W	E		F	U	S	S		C	A	R	E	S	S
		N	O	D		A	A	H	S					
H	A	T	E	R	S	G	O	N	N	A	H	A	T	E
A	L	I	V	E		A	V	I	D		A	X	I	S
T	U	N	E	S		T	A	M	I		K	E	M	P
S	M	A	R	T		S	L	E	D		E	D	E	N



## Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsny

Nov. 22-28

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): In alignment with the current astrological omens, I have prepared your horoscope using five hand-plucked aphorisms by Aries poet Charles Bernstein. 1. "You never know what invention will look like or else it wouldn't be invention." 2. "So much depends on what you are expecting." 3. "What's missing from the bird's eye view is plain to see on the ground." 4. "The questioning of the beautiful is always at least as important as the establishment of the beautiful." 5. "Show me a man with two feet planted firmly on the ground and I'll show you a man who can't get his pants on."

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): It may seem absurd for a dreamy oracle like me to give economic advice to Tauruses, who are renowned as being among the zodiac's top cash attractors. Is there anything I can reveal to you that you don't already know? Well, maybe you're not aware that the next four weeks will be prime time to revise and refine your long-term financial plans. It's possible you haven't guessed the time is right to plant seeds that will produce lucrative yields by 2019. And maybe you don't realize that you can now lay the foundation for bringing more wealth into your life by raising your generosity levels.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): I used to have a girlfriend whose mother hated Christmas. The poor woman had been raised in a fanatical fundamentalist Christian sect, and she drew profound solace and pleasure from rebelling against that religion's main holiday. One of her annual traditions was to buy a small Christmas tree and hang it upside-down from the ceiling. She decorated it with ornamental dildos she had made out of clay. While I understood her drive for revenge and appreciated the entertaining way she did it, I felt pity for the enduring ferocity of her rage. Rather than mocking the old ways, wouldn't her energy have been much better spent inventing new ways? If there is any comparable situation in your own life, Gemini, now would be a perfect time to heed my tip. Give up your attachment to the negative emotions that arose in response to past frustrations and failures. Focus on the future.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): So begins the "I Love To Worry" season for you Cancerians. Even now, bewildering self-doubts are working their way up toward your conscious awareness from your unconscious depths. You may already be overreacting in anticipation of the anxiety-provoking fantasies that are coalescing. But wait! It doesn't have to be that way. I'm here to tell you that the bewildering self-doubts and anxiety-provoking fantasies are at most ten percent accurate. They're not even close to being half-true! Here's my advice: Do NOT go with the flow, because the flow will drag you down into ignominious habit. Resist all tendencies towards superstition, moodiness, and melodramatic descents into hell. One thing you can do to help accomplish this brave uprising is to sing beloved songs with maximum feeling.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Your lucky numbers are 55 and 88. By tapping into the uncanny powers of 55 and 88, you can escape the temptation of a hexed fiction and break the spell of a mediocre addiction. These catalytic codes could wake you up to a useful secret you've been blind to. They might help you catch the attention of familiar strangers or shrink one of your dangerous angers. When you call on 55 or 88 for inspiration, you may be motivated to seek a more dynamic accomplishment beyond your comfortable success. You could reactivate an important desire that has been dormant.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): What exactly is the epic, overarching goal that you live for? What is the higher purpose that lies beneath every one of your daily activities? What is the heroic identity you were born to create but have not yet fully embodied? You may not be close to knowing the answers to those questions right now, Virgo. In fact, I'm guessing your fear of meaninglessness

might be at a peak. Luckily, a big bolt of meaningfulness is right around the corner. Be alert for it. In a metaphorical sense, it will arrive from the depths. It will strengthen your center of gravity as it reveals lucid answers to the questions I posed in the beginning of this horoscope.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): We all need teachers. We all need guides and instructors and sources of inspiration from the day we're born until the day we die. In a perfect world, each of us would always have a personal mentor who'd help us fill the gaps in our learning and keep us focused on the potentials that are crying out to be nurtured in us. But since most of us don't have that personal mentor, we have to fend for ourselves. We've got to be proactive as we push on to the next educational frontier. The next four weeks will be an excellent time for you to do just that, Libra.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): This is your last warning! If you don't stop fending off the happiness and freedom that are trying to worm their way into your life, I'm going to lose my cool. Damn it! Why can't you just accept good luck and sweet strokes of fate at face value?! Why do you have to be so suspicious and mistrustful?! Listen to me: The abundance that's lurking in your vicinity is not the set-up for a cruel cosmic joke. It's not some wicked game designed to raise your expectations and then dash them to pieces. Please, Scorpio, give in and let the good times wash over you.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Journalist James A. Fussell defined "thrashing" as "the act of tapping helter-skelter over a computer keyboard in an attempt to find 'hidden' keys that trigger previously undiscovered actions in a computer program." I suggest we use this as a metaphor for your life in the next two weeks. Without becoming rude or irresponsible, thrash around to see what interesting surprises you can drum up. Play with various possibilities in a lighthearted effort to stimulate options you have not been able to discover through logic and reason.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Let's observe a moment of silence for the illusion that is in the process of disintegrating. It has been a pretty illusion, hasn't it? Filled with hope and gusto, it has fueled you with motivation. But then again -- on second thought -- its prettiness was more the result of clever packaging than inner beauty. The hope was somewhat misleading, the gusto contained more than a little bluster, and the fuel was an inefficient source of motivation. Still, let's observe a moment of silence anyway. Even dysfunctional mirages deserve to be mourned. Besides, its demise will fertilize a truer and healthier and prettier dream that will contain a far smaller portion of illusion.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Judging from the astrological omens, I conclude that the upcoming weeks will be a favorable time for you to engage in experiments befitting a mad scientist. You can achieve interesting results as you commune with powerful forces that are usually beyond your ability to command. You could have fun and maybe also attract good luck as you dream and scheme to override the rules. What pleasures have you considered to be beyond your capacity to enjoy? It wouldn't be crazy for you to flirt with them. You have license to be saucy, sassy, and extra sly.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): A snail can slowly crawl over the edge of a razor blade without hurting itself. A few highly trained experts, specialists in the art of mind over matter, are able to walk barefoot over beds of hot coals without getting burned. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, Pisces, you now have the metaphorical equivalent of powers like these. To ensure they'll operate at peak efficiency, you must believe in yourself more than you ever have before. Luckily, life is now conspiring to help you do just that.

## Out on the town

### from page 21

FREE. GPS Guide to Personal Solutions, 913 W Holmes Road Suite 141 Lansing. 5176670061.

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

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**BabyTime.** First experience for babies and their caregivers with rhymes and finger plays. From 10:30 to 11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

**Out of This World Book Club.** A Closed and Common Orbit by Becky Chambers. At 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

### MUSIC

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

### EVENTS

**Ask the Lawyer at the Meridian Senior Center.** An introductory class on how to use your mobile device. 9:30 a.m.-noon FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

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

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

**Teen Self-Care Club.** Relaxing environment for teens with crafts, activities and hot tea. From 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

### ARTS

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

## Tuesday, November 28

### CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

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

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

**Yawn Patrol Toastmasters.** Hone your speaking and leadership skills with us. From 7 to 8:30 a.m. FREE for visitors. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St. Lansing.

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**The Poetry Room: PoetsResist PartII.** Come with your stories, your emotion, and your friends. From 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. FREE. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Lansing.

**ToddlerTime.** ToddlerTime is an active storytime designed to build prereading skills in toddlers. 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.** World class jazz every Tuesday! From 7 to 10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 485-5287.

**New Horizons Community Band.** Learn to play an instrument or dust off an old one. From 9 to 11 a.m. MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road

East Lansing. (517) 355-7661.

**The Scratch Pilots Present: Turntable Tuesdays 90's Night.** DJ McCoy, DJ Leeky, DJ Space and an Open Deck Scratch Battle. From 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. FREE. The Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 482-6376.

### EVENTS

**Acudetox Ear Acupuncture.** Experience ear acupuncture in a relaxing setting. From 6 to 7:30 p.m. Ticket required - \$6.27 for materials. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave, Suite D Lansing. 517-402-6727.

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

**Biology on Tap - Science & Society.** Stop by, ask questions, and hang out with the presenters and other fun, beer-loving scientists! From 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. FREE. The Loft, (At Harem Urban Lounge) 414 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing .

**ELPL Guest Barista Day at Lake Lansing Biggby.** Support ELPL during #GivingTuesday. From 3 to 5 p.m. FREE. Biggby (Lake Lansing), 3499 E. Lake Lansing Rd. East Lansing. (517) 853-0255.

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

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

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

## Wednesday, November 29

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Essential Oils for Cats and Dogs.** Learn how pet-safe, therapeutic-grade essential oils can help. From 6 to 7:30 p.m. Donations are appreciated. Capital Area Humane Society, 7095 W Grand River Ave. Lansing.

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

**Open Studio Life Drawing.** Weekly drop-in life drawing session with nude models. From 7 to 9:30 p.m. Model fee \$2 students (LCC, MSU, High School), \$5 all others. Kresge Art Center, 600 Auditorium East Lansing.

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

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

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

### EVENTS

**Book Reading and Conversation- Senior Discovery Group.** Author of Mist B Haven will be doing a book read. From 10 a.m. to noon FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing.

**Lansing Coat Bank.** Families in need of winter gear, may come in and select from our donated inventory. From 9 a.m. to noon FREE. St. Luke Lutheran Church, 122 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Lansing.

**Raising Little Ones Together.** Discuss parenting topics with other parents/guardians. From 6 to 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

# When beer becomes booze

Why alcohol levels keep creeping up in craft beers

By MEGAN WESTERS

Ten years ago, Samuel Adams released a limited-edition beer, Utopias, that has gathered a cult following among craft beer lovers due to its “extreme barrel-aging” technique. What probably makes it so sought after is that it’s 28 percent alcohol by volume (ABV).

That’s insanely high, considering most beers made by large-scale American breweries average an ABV of 3.5 percent. The beer costs \$199 and is cannot legally be sold in 15 states, according to a Nov. 7 story in Esquire. (Michigan is not among the states where it’s illegal.)

Utopias is made with a special malt combination as well as three varieties of hops and special yeast strains to create a deep, rich, extremely flavorful beer that is closer to a Port or a Cognac rather than something like a Budweiser – an extreme example of the style, texture and high alcohol content that craft

beer lovers have grown accustomed to.

It’s obvious this style of beer is growing in popularity, but how much does the alcohol content contribute to that? Are we all a bunch of alcoholics, or is there a reason craft beers’ ABV is skyrocketing, compared to mass market beers?

Travis Fritts, head brewer at Old Nation Brewing Company in Williamston, said money is one of the reasons.

“The struggle that craft brewers face is that it’s difficult to differentiate between your beer and the beers that are produced on a larger scale,” Fritts said. “Craft beer producers must charge more per bottle and brewers wonder how they can justify that price. Higher alcohol by volume is a way to do that.”

When beers rose to popularity in the United States around the mid-19th century, there weren’t many other drink options. Independence from Great Britain had dramatically reduced imports of rum. Hard cider was being made, but not enough to supply demand. Whiskey was popular then, as it is now. Otherwise, beer was it — and Americans drank a lot of it.

As immigrants came to the U.S., people from big beer-making countries like Germany changed the U.S. landscape of beer making and drinking. Because they thought American drinkers wouldn’t enjoy the European malt-heavy beers they were accustomed to, they substituted corn and rice for some of the bar-

See Beer, Page 27



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# TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

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

Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2017 Top of the Town contest, we've assembled a guide to your favorite Lansing-area eateries.

We'll run single categories in the paper periodically, but the complete dining guide is always available on our website or on our official mobile app, *The Pulse*. The app is available on iPhone and Android platforms; head over to [facebook.com/lansingapp](https://facebook.com/lansingapp) or text "pulse" to 77948 for links to download.

Bon appétit!

## TOP 5 FINE DINING

- 1.) **Soup Spoon Café**  
Wide variety of soups, homemade eats and beers.  
1419 E Michigan Ave, Lansing, MI 48912  
(517) 316-2377  
[soupspooncafe.com](http://soupspooncafe.com)  
Mon.-Thurs. 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri. 7 a.m.-12 a.m.; Sat. 8 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun. Closed
- 2.) **Creole**  
Local restaurant for New Orleans and French cuisine  
1218 Turner St, Lansing, MI 48906  
(517) 371-1361  
[thecreolelansing.com](http://thecreolelansing.com)  
Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. & 5-10 p.m.; Sat.-Sun. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. & 5-10 p.m.
- 3.) **Beggar's Banquet**  
Restaurant with saloon-style and fine wines and beers  
218 Abbot Rd, East Lansing, MI 48823  
(517) 351-4540  
[beggarsbanquet.com](http://beggarsbanquet.com)  
Mon.-Sun. 9 a.m.-12 a.m.
- 4.) **Tavern & Tap**  
Pub with homecooked burgers and craft beers  
101 S. Washington Square, Lansing, MI 48933  
(517) 374-5555  
[tavernandtap.com](http://tavernandtap.com)  
Mon.-Tues. 11 a.m.-12 a.m.; Wed.-Fri. 11 a.m.-2 a.m.; Sat. 9 a.m.-2 a.m.; Sun. 9 a.m.-10 p.m.
- 5.) **Good Truckin' Diner**  
Diner with breakfast eats and burgers  
1107 S. Washington Ave, Lansing, MI 48910  
(517) 253-7961  
[goodtruckin.com](http://goodtruckin.com)  
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# Beer

From Page 26

ley, lightening the beer's flavor.

Today's mass marketed beers like Budweiser, Miller and Coors still do this to create all their similarly light beers. Rice appears in Budweiser's ingredient list and corn is in almost all of MillerCoors' beers.

Fritts has been a professional brewer for 16 years, studying brewing in Europe, managing a Royal Oak brewery and working for Detroit Brewing Company before coming to Old Nation Brewing Company in Williamston. In his experience, people who drink beers from big breweries like Anheuser-Busch or MillerCoors choose those beers by brand, not

necessarily flavor.

"They all basically taste the same," Fritts said. "It's really about choosing which brand identifies closer with your personality. Similarly, craft beer producers understand that our drinkers want stronger and more aggressive beers."

It makes sense that brewers use more flavor-producing products to get stronger, more aggressive beers, but that doesn't necessarily guarantee higher quality.

"A big misconception is that craft brewers use better grains or hops, or that they use superior products to create their beers than the larger-scale producers," Fritts said. The craft brewers themselves have encouraged that misconception, but Fritts said it's not so.

"Busch, for example, isn't using worse grain or products, they're probably using bet-

ter or at least as good," he said. "They're just making a product that they know their audience wants."

He explained that the bulk of the grain the bigger producers use is malted barley, which produces barley malt – the source of sugar in beer. All brewers use this, but craft brewers use more because they want more flavor and more alcohol content, both of which comes from using sugar.

"High alcohol beers can be delicious and they will affect you more quickly, but that's not to say there aren't low alcohol beers that don't have flavor as well," he said. "It's important for us to make it clear that we don't want people to drink irresponsibly. There are a lot of beers out there with great flavor, which is what I'm hoping beer drinkers are focusing on, not necessarily alcohol content."

## Free Thanksgiving dinners

For those in need of a free Thanksgiving meal, here are some options:

— Blondie's Barn, 5640 Marsh Road, Haslett, from noon-2 p.m. (517) 339-4600.

— The City Rescue Mission, 607 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, noon and 7 p.m. You must register first, 11 to 11:55 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 6:55 p.m. (517) 485-0145.

Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing, noon to 2 p.m. (517) 643-2645.

Society of St. Vincent De Paul – Saint Gerard, 4437 W. Willow St., 12:30 p.m. For a ride, call in advance (517) 323-2379.

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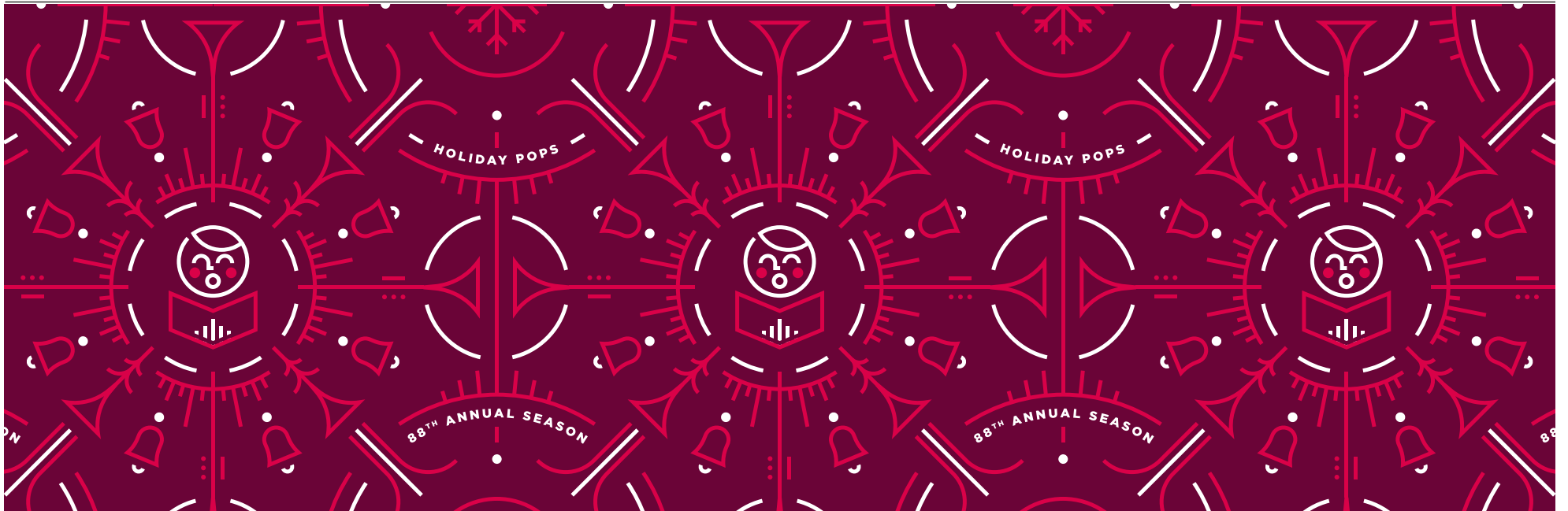
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