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March 4-10, 2015



## Inside angle

Behind the scenes at the Broad Museum. . . . **P.9**


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**March 26 - April 26, 2015**



*Sirens*  
by Deborah Zoe Laufer

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# Feedback

## May 2015 bring equality and end racial disparity

The Constitution of the United States provides for justice for all. History demonstrates, however, for it to become a reality was a lengthy process; that it had not become a reality and our country was rife with injustices significantly based on race. In large measure, this led to the enactment of the Civil Rights Act, passed by Congress and signed by President Johnson in 1964. Last year celebrated its 50th anniversary.

To put this in perspective, not many years ago, in a community as diverse as East Lansing, the City Council initially rejected an ordinance prohibiting discrimination in the sale and leasing of real estate.

In 1900, Detroit experienced race relations as might have been expected in the South with an attack on a home purchased in what was deemed to be a white neighborhood by an African-American couple, one of whom was a highly regarded physician. Only marginal efforts were provided to prevent the confrontation and protect the occupants.

If we look at ourselves as a country, the reality is we have different families, cultures and backgrounds and perhaps more

easily summarized, nationalized.

It is my hope in 2015, as a society, we accept each other as individuals and no one is left with the belief they are not treated equally, and in reality we are oblivious to race and no disparity exists based on race. My further hope is we all believe in what our Constitution provides and we accept our responsibilities to see that it is fulfilled.

— **Michael Harrison**  
Former chief judge of Ingham Circuit Court

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

Now you have two ways to sound off:

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• Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912  
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- 2.) Write a guest column:  
Contact Berl Schwartz for more information:  
[publisher@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:publisher@lansingcitypulse.com)  
or (517) 999-5061

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

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Should GATA have its own seat on the regional planning commission?



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Peter Yarrow on activism and music



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Flint Eastwood brings the heat



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"FRED" by JONATHAN GRIFFITH

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**PUBLISHER • Berl Schwartz**  
[publisher@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:publisher@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-5061

**ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER • Mickey Hirten**  
[mickey@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:mickey@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-5064

**EDITOR • Belinda Thurston**  
[belinda@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:belinda@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-5065

**ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR • Ty Forquer**  
[ty@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:ty@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-5068

**PRODUCTION MANAGER • Angus McNair**  
[adcop@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:adcop@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-5066

**CALENDAR EDITOR • Jonathan Griffith**  
[jonathan@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:jonathan@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-5069

**STAFF WRITER • Lawrence Cosentino**  
[lawrence@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:lawrence@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-5063

**ADVERTISING • Shelly Olson & Suzi Smith**  
[shelly@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:shelly@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-6705  
[suzi@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:suzi@lansingcitypulse.com) • (517) 999-6704

**Contributors:** Andy Balaskovitz, Justin Bilicki, Daniel E. Bollman, Capital News Service, Bill Castanier, Mary C. Cusack, Michael Gerstein, Tom Helma, Todd Heywood, Gabrielle Johnson, Terry Link, Andy McGlashen, Kyle Melinn, Mark Nixon, Shawn Parker, Stefanie Pohl, Dennis Preston, Allan I. Ross, Rich Tupica, Ute Von Der Heyden, Paul Wozniak

**Delivery drivers:** Elijah Burton, Dave Fisher, Tyler Ray, Thomas Scott, Robert Wiche

**Interns:** Crystal Gause, Ariel Rogers

## CITY PULSE THIS WEEK

7 p.m. Wednesdays



- Lansing Symphony Conductor Timothy Muffitt and composer Marjan Helms
- Peter Yarrow



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IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

**SO YOU THINK THE SUPREME LEADER MAY SECRETLY DESPISE OUR LAND MASS--AND THAT HE MAY NOT BELIEVE IN THE SAME INVISIBLE, OMNISCIENT BEINGS WE ALL WORSHIP?**  
HEY, I'M ONLY ASKING THE QUESTIONS!  
IT WOULD BE IRRESPONSIBLE NOT TO!

**COMING UP NEXT: WHY WON'T THE SUPREME LEADER DENOUNCE OUR ENEMIES AS EVILDOERS WHO WORSHIP FALSE DEITIES?**  
IS IT BECAUSE HE SECRETLY AGREES WITH THEM?  
WE'RE JUST ASKING! BUT FIRST THESE MESSAGES FROM THE MERCHANT CASTE.

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## PULSE

## NEWS &amp; OPINION

# Seat at the table

## Lansing, CATA and Tri-County Regional Planning Commission at odds over representation

The region's largest planning body has been drawn into a conflict between the Capital Area Transportation Authority and the City of Lansing. At the heart of the debate: how CATA should be represented on the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission?

Lansing officials say they have the authority to select and appoint a CATA representative, while CATA says it has that authority. In search of a solution for the standoff, both bodies asked the planning commission to expand its board membership by one more seat — a seat for CATA.

The commission's executive committee rejected the expansion proposal Feb. 18.

"The Commission discussed CATA's request and does not support or recommend expanding membership at this time," read minutes from the meeting. "The Commission may consider reassessing the structure based on population in the future. There should be a substantial reason to change the structure and membership of the Commission. At that time bylaws and policies will be reviewed based on current laws"

The request from CATA dates back to November 2013 but was only taken up by the planning body last month after Susan Pigg, the executive director, brought concerns about the appointment battle to the executive committee, according to minutes.

The commission is a multi-agency planning body which facilitates addressing regional planning issues and concerns, particularly transportation. The board represents communities in Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties and a small portion of Shiawassee County. It is governed by a 19-member board.

Since the inception of the planning commission in 1956, the city of Lansing has been assigned five seats. Those seats were apportioned based on population size. In 1992, the city of Lansing and CATA signed an agreement whereby one of the city's five seats would be allocated to CATA. In return, CATA would pay the \$20,000 annual dues for the seat.

That arrangement has continued since. Ralph Monsma, a longtime planning commission CATA representative, is an East Lansing resident. His appointment was selected by the CATA governing board, without approval of the city of Lansing.

"The authority to appoint CATA's representative to TCRPC may be subject to differing opinions, but the organization's bylaws are clear: The City of Lansing is the "governmental member unit" that has the authority to appoint this represen-

tative," said Bernero spokesman Randy Hannan. "That's not how it has worked in practice."

Hannan said that Monsma's appointment "diminished" the voice of Lansing on the planning body. To address that, Bernero supported CATA's request to create a new seat on the planning body specifically for the transportation organization.

Ken Fletcher, supervisor of Delta Township and commission vice-chairman, said the commission may have to revisit the situation. Ultimately he said the commission must make sure CATA "has a seat at the table."

He said the conflict between the city and CATA is a mistaken one, noting that the seat allocated to CATA is not a Lansing specific seat, under the 1992 agreement; rather it is a CATA representation seat.

Laurie Robison, director of marketing at CATA, said the city



Ariel Rogers/City Pulse

CATA and City of Lansing officials want to get the transportation authority a seat of its own on the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission board.

and the transportation agency have differing interpretations on the 1992 agreement and appointment authority. She also noted that federal law now requires transportation authorities be represented on such regional planning authorities.

"CATA is seeking the allocated seat from this legislation," said Robison.

Lansing City Councilwoman Carol Wood, who was a commission board member for eight years, said she is not certain expanding the body's size is the right answer.

"Tri-County bylaws talk about representation based on population and over the years we are well aware of the decrease in City of Lansing population, so based on that I don't believe Lansing should necessarily have a seat given back to them," she said. "Based on new federal requirements to include mass transit with a seat on the Commission the seat should allow representation for CATA, Etran and Clinton Transit System."

Regardless of the disagreements, Bernero is prepared to forge his own path.

"In the absence of some movement toward implementing this solution, the City of Lansing intends to proceed with selecting the CATA appointee to TCRPC from among Lansing's representatives on the CATA board," said Hannan.

Hannan said Bernero will forward his nominee for the position to City Council Monday night. Council,



### Icicles

Although beautiful themselves, icicles indicate a critical, possibly detrimental condition. The constant series of winter freezes and thaws encourage the formation of large icicles. As evidenced by the storm that struck the Lansing area last winter, ice is heavy and if not removed, can damage trees, utility wires and buildings. A standard gutter filled with ice weighs an additional five pounds per each lineal foot. Extended along the length of a building, the additional weight can detach the eavestrough or distort the eave.

Freeze-thaw cycles are also the cause of ice dams, which form when warm attic air melts snow collected on the roof. Water drains toward the eave and, when it reaches the cold overhang, it refreezes. This process repeats over several cycles and eventually a thick ridge is formed. Like their namesake, ice dams could lead to a buildup of water that can leak into the house, damaging plaster, interior finishes and even the building structure.

Ice dams form frequently where roofs planes meet in a valley, channeling water from two adjacent surfaces. This condition is potentially compounded by the overly complicated roofs commonly found in most contemporary developments.

— Daniel E. Bollman, AIA

"Eyesore of the Week" is our look at some of the seedier properties in Lansing. It rotates each week with Eye Candy of the Week. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call Belinda Thurston at 999-5065.

# Offense and defense

## Sharpton challenges Wharton Center crowd to make more black history

As about 600 people assembled to hear a speech by the Rev. Al Sharpton at Michigan State University's Wharton Center Feb. 26, several attendees noted, with a touch of regret, that they were missing the MSU-Minnesota basketball game.

Sharpton gave them reason to be happy with their choice, and not just because the Spartans lost that night. No Big 10 squad

mixes defense with offense as deftly as Sharpton does all by himself.

Sharpton was the third in a triumvirate of civil rights speakers to visit MSU this month. U.S. Rep. John Lewis spoke Feb. 6 and actor-singer-activist Harry Belafonte spoke Feb. 12.

In a 45-minute talk, the veteran civil rights activist tossed into the air several familiar objections that have dogged him for years, flipping them into pointed rhetorical thrusts.

He wearily ticked off familiar charges that he and other activists rile up racial tensions and "hate America."

"The challenge of the 21st century is that we are still fighting racial disparities," he said, citing sharp inequalities in employment rates, education, health care and the criminal justice system.

"Those that raise it are not the ones that hate the country; they're the ones that love the country," he said. "Those that want to leave the country the way it is — I question whether they love the country."

The only way to honor the civil rights landmarks of previous generations, he said, is to "complete the journey."

"The fight today is on criminal justice, preserving voting and democratizing health care," he said. "The challenge is not just to recount and celebrate black history but to continue to make it."

The dense weave of offense and defense reached maximum tightness when Sharpton tried to explain why dead civil rights leaders like King are lionized, while living ones — including, by implication, himself — are

not.

"It is easy to glorify leaders who are not going to call you to action," he said. "Those that are still on the scene — we will find any reason to besmirch or smear a movement because we really want to find a reason not to do what others did so well before us."

Sharpton spent several minutes detailing the timeline of his involvement in protests over the fatal shooting by police of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo. Brown's grandfather, Lesley McSpadden, asked for Sharpton's personal involvement to help raise the issue to national prominence.

Sharpton said he agreed to become involved only if McSpadden would publicly request it on Sharpton's MSNBC television program, "PoliticsNation."

"I know the right-wing play," Sharpton said. "There he goes again, starting up trouble. I never get involved in cases unless someone directly involved in the family asks us to get involved."

Sharpton said organizations like his National Action Network and the NAACP exist to provide "institutional support" to people who would not get help otherwise.

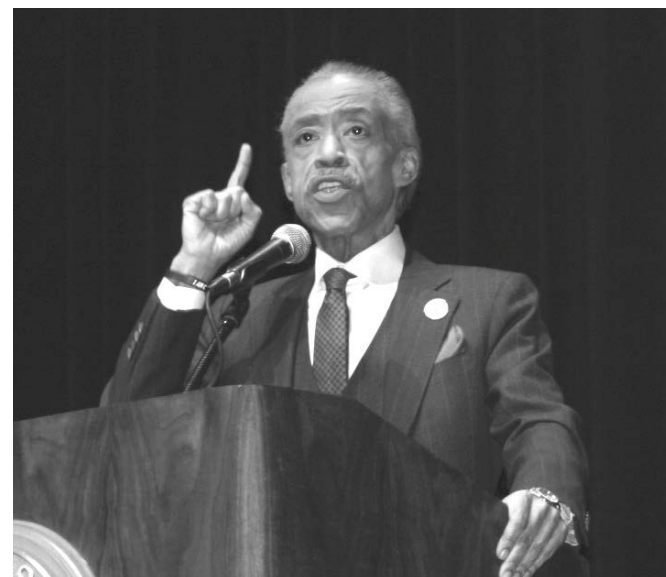
"When a policeman is accused of a crime, the union provides lawyers, resources, backup, whatever they need," Sharpton said. "Family got nobody. Ain't no union for victims of police brutality."

Sharpton reserved the most personal moments of his talk to answer the oft-heard reproach that African-Americans should "get over slavery and segregation."

"My mother couldn't vote in her hometown in Alabama until she was 39 years old," he said. "[She] had to sit on the back of the bus. I'm not talking about something prehistoric."

Seven years ago, Sharpton made a pilgrimage to Edgefield, S.C., where his great-grandfather was a slave. He learned that his great-grandfather was owned by Alexander Sharpton, who was married to the aunt of Strom Thurmond, the segregationist senator from South Carolina.

As he told the story, Sharpton waved a



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

The Rev. Al Sharpton was the third civil rights speaker to visit Michigan State University last month.

piece of paper (emblazoned with the name of the speaker series, "Freedom to Slavery") to dramatize the moment when he saw a bill of sale marked with his great-grandfather's name, height and weight.

After a lifetime in the civil rights movement, the trip made the struggle personal for Sharpton. He visited the unmarked graves of slaves at the old plantation in Edgefield and saw a cramped log cabin where 75 slaves, including his great-grandfather, slept.

"I don't think people understand we are not just talking about figures in history," he said. "These are people in our lives, just a couple of generations ago."

He recalled that his classmates at school could trace their family trees with "justifiable pride."

"But when we recount our family tree, we are race baiting and agitating," he said. "No, we're just talking about our family tree."

Sharpton conducted the one-man debate with his foes with a slight air of weariness, but he had some fun with the charge that he is a publicity seeker.

"They always accuse us of wanting publicity," he said. "They did it to Dr. King, and they do it to the lesser of us. Well, that is exactly what I want. The job of an activist is to get publicity on an issue. Don't nobody call me to keep their thing a secret."

— By Lawrence Cosentino



## CATA

from page 5

breaking with tradition, approved Bernero's recommendations for city officials appointed to the commission Feb. 23. Previously, the City Council president made such appointments. City Council members Judi Brown Clark and Jessica Yorko, as well as City Clerk Chris Swope

were approved by Council to serve on the commission. Their terms expire Dec. 31.

The city's other seat is held by Shirley Rogers. Hannan said the mayor is determining whether she will be reappointed to the position.

Bernero has not yet recommended an appointment for the CATA seat.

— By Todd Heywood



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### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### 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 **March 25, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

1. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Next Generation Investment Properties, LLC for Site Plan and Special Use Permit approval for the properties at 1301 and 1307 East Grand Avenue and 116-132 Spartan Avenue to construct a 4-story mixed-use building which includes parking and commercial use on the first floor and three floors of residential use above. The properties are located in the B1, General Office Business District and B2, Retail Sales Business District.
2. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1346, an application from Next Generation Investment Properties, LLC to rezone the properties at 116-132 Spartan Avenue from B-1, General Office Business District to B-2, Retail Sales Business District.
3. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Grenadier City Center, LLC for a Special Use Permit approval for the property at 240 MAC Avenue, currently recognized as CVS. The applicant is proposing the extension of store hours at CVS to operate its front store on a 24-hour basis. Property is located in the B-3, City Center District.

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

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

Marie E. Wicks  
City Clerk

CP#15\_047

# Mixed match

## Michigan Prop 1 road funding ballot language bundles and confuses

After reading — and very likely rereading — the constitutional ballot proposal that seeks a sales tax increase to repair Michigan's crumbling and even dangerous roads, voters should be angry that a cowardly Legislature refused to act in their interest.

The proposal, set for a May 5 vote is dense and inherently incomplete, throwing together a tax increase, new education funding, money for job training programs, changes in the earned income tax credit and more, all bundled in 76 words of legal jargon. State Elections Director Chris Thomas, who wrote it, called the proposal the most complex he's seen in his 34-year tenure. State law requires that such measures are constructed in 100 words or less. But it could be 1,000 words long and it wouldn't help.



**MICKEY HIRTEN**

Former state Rep. Tom McMillan, representing the Concerned Taxpayers for Michigan, and who offered wording for the proposal that was rejected by Thomas, noted that 10 new laws are tied to the passage of the measure.

Said McMillan: "Each of these laws was carefully worded to have specific legal meaning that affects all citizens of Michigan. It is the position of Concerned Taxpayers of Michigan that state law requires voters be informed of each and every subject addressed by each of the laws that take effect and only if the proposal passes, as well as the direct effect of the constitutional amendment itself. State officials have a legal and moral obligation to present a true and complete statement of the proposal's effect to voters."

Given what they had to work with, they seem to have done their best. But full disclosure isn't really possible with a ballot proposal, certainly not as specifically as McMillan wants. Then again, most constitutional ballot proposals are cleaner, dealing with a single issue like casinos, renewable energy requirements or same-sex unions.

Here's what we'll vote on in May, in the minute or less most of us spend filling out an off-cycle ballot.

*"A proposal to amend the State Constitution to increase the sales/use tax from 6% to 7% to replace and supplement reduced revenue to the School Aid Fund and local units of government caused by the elimination of the sales/use tax on gasoline and diesel fuel for vehicles operating on public roads, and to give effect to laws that provide additional money for roads and other transportation purposes by increasing the gas tax and vehicle registration fees." {76 words}*

*The proposed constitutional amendment*

would:

- Eliminate sales / use taxes on gasoline / diesel fuel for vehicles on public roads.

- Increase portion of use tax dedicated to School Aid Fund (SAF).

- Expand use of SAF to community colleges and career / technical education, and prohibit use for 4-year colleges / universities.

- Give effect to laws, including those that:

- Increase sales / use tax to 7%, as authorized by constitutional amendment.

- Increase gasoline / diesel fuel tax and adjust annually for inflation, increase vehicle registration fees, and dedicate revenue for roads and other transportation purposes.

- Expand competitive bidding and warranties for road projects.

- Increase earned income tax credit.

Should this proposal be adopted? Yes or no?

Or, huh? Read it again.

It's a lot easier to vote no on this tortured proposal than to vote yes. That this confusing measure with all that it entails is reduced to a simple yes or no response isn't fair to the small number of Michiganders who will actually vote, or to most of those in the state, who won't.

We have a body to deal with complex issues: a well-paid State Legislature. And if voters reject the proposal to raise the sales tax to fund \$1.2 billion in road repairs, the issues will be back where they belong, in the Michigan House and Senate.

With new leadership in both houses, there may be more willingness to make some hard fiscal decisions, especially after the damage to roads brought on by another brutal winter. Ultimately, it's a Republican issue. The party controls the House, the Senate, the Governor's Office, the Supreme Court and other state-wide elected offices. But it's from the party's ranks that springs the most aggressive anti-tax fervor. Certainly, this shaped the last legislative session.

But there is at least one encouraging sign that this session could be different. Before the last session ended, the Senate voted itself a new and expensive office building. The Michigan Strategic Fund was authorized to sell up to \$70 million in bonds to purchase most of the Capital View Building on Townsend Street, adjacent to the Capitol, and for other costs associated with the move.

The whole process was shrouded in secrecy, buried deep inside the office of term-limited Senate President Randy Richardville. Because the Legislature has exempted itself from Freedom of Information Act disclosures, the superiority of the bid submitted by The Boji Group, a substantial donor to Republican candidates and causes, was merely an assertion, a self-serving one at that.

But the new Senate president, Alan Meekhof, shifted course.

"In the interest of transparency, I'm going to release the bids so people will be able to see it was a fair and open process," he said in a report by MLive's capital reporter Jonathan Oosting. And the release

showed that the Boji Group bid was the most favorable for the state.

Meekhof's decision may reflect a more pragmatic approach to governing and a willingness to make decisions and live with

the consequences. It may well be needed on May 6, if the Legislature has to sort through the wreckage of a failed ballot proposal, and must find a politically challenging, but necessary way to fix the damn roads.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO RELEASE EASEMENT

The Ingham County Drain Commissioner determines that a drain easement held by the Green #4 Consolidated Drain Drainage District is no longer necessary for drainage purposes and proposes to release and convey the easement to the fee owner pursuant to Act No. 40 of the Public Acts of 1956, as amended. The drain easement is located over and across the following lands situated in Delhi Charter Township, County of Ingham, State of Michigan, described as follows:

**Lot 22, Kessler Subdivision No. 2, as recorded in Liber 16, Page 49, Ingham County Records, Section 15, T3N, R2W, Delhi Township, Ingham County, Michigan. Parcel No.: 33-25-05-15-482-004.**

The easement is recorded at Doc# 2014-004571, at the Ingham County Register of Deeds on February 6, 2014. The excess easement to be released is described as:

**The East 15.00 feet of the following description: Lot 22, Kessler Subdivision No. 2, as recorded in Liber 16, Page 49, Ingham County Records, Section 15, T3N, R2W, Delhi Township, Ingham County, Michigan.**

In accordance with Section 6 of Act 40 of the Public Acts of 1956, as amended, at the office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, 707 Buhl Avenue, Mason, Michigan 48854, on April 8, 2015, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., the Drain Commissioner shall meet upon this proposed release of a drain easement and any taxpayer may appear to protest said release.

After said date, the Drain Commissioner may release and convey the above described drain easement to the fee owner on behalf of the Green #4 Consolidated Drain Drainage District.

Dated: February 26, 2015

Patrick E. Lindemann  
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#15\_045

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO RELEASE EASEMENT

The Ingham County Drain Commissioner determines that drain easements held by the Green #4 Consolidated Drain Drainage District are no longer necessary for drainage purposes and proposes to release and convey the easements to the fee owner pursuant to Act No. 40 of the Public Acts of 1956, as amended. The drain easements are located over and across the following land situated in Delhi Charter Township, County of Ingham, State of Michigan, described as follows:

**Commencing at the SW corner of Section 14, T3N, R2W, Delhi Township, Ingham County, Michigan, E to S 1/8 post of the SW 1/4, N 665.25 ft, N 37° 38' W 428 ft, S to a point 40 rods N of S line of Section, W to W line of Section, S to beginning, excluding commencing in N line of Delhi Avenue at a point 33 feet N of S 1/8 post of the SW 1/4, N 16 rods, W 8 rods, S 16 rods, E 8 rods to beginning. Also exclude commencing in N line of Delhi Avenue at point 33 feet N and 12 rods W of S 1/8 post of SW 1/4, N 16 rods, W 16 rods, S 16 rods, E 16 rods to beginning. Also exclude commencing in N line of Delhi Avenue at point 33 feet N and 528 feet W of S 1/8 post of SW 1/4, N 0° 26' E 132 feet, W 132 feet, S 0° 26' W 33 feet, W 198 feet, S 132 feet to S section line, E 198 feet, N 33 feet, E to beginning on SW 1/4 of Section 14.**

The easements are recorded at Liber 62, Page 511, at the Ingham County Register of Deeds on October 11, 1955. The excess easements to be released are described as:

**Commencing at station 16+97 on said line 13 feet S of the NW corner of said lot 30, thence S on said line, 24 feet to station 17+21.**

**Commencing at station 17+21 in the E line of said lands, 495 feet N of the S 1/8 post of the SW 1/4 of said Section 14, T3N, R2W, thence W parallel with the S line of said Section 14, 165 feet, thence S parallel with the E line of said lands 165 feet, thence W parallel with the S line of said Section 14, 1209 feet to station 32+60 in the W line of said lands 330 feet N of the SW corner thereof.**

**Commencing at the point above described, thence S 165 feet to station 1+65 at a point 660 feet W and 165 feet N of the S 1/8 post of the SW 1/4 of said Section 14.**

**Commencing at a station 1+65 at the NW corner of the last above described lands, thence S 33 feet to station 1+98 at a point 660 feet W and 132 feet N of the S 1/8 post of the SW 1/4 of said Section 14.**

In accordance with Section 6 of Act 40 of the Public Acts of 1956, as amended, at the office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, 707 Buhl Avenue, Mason, Michigan 48854, on April 8, 2015, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., the Drain Commissioner shall meet upon this proposed release of drain easements and any taxpayer may appear to protest said release.

After said date, the Drain Commissioner may release and convey the above described drain easements to the fee owner on behalf of the Green #4 Consolidated Drain Drainage District.

Dated: February 26, 2015

Patrick E. Lindemann  
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#15\_046

## BRIEF

### 8th Congressional district office moves from Lansing to Brighton

U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop may be closing the 8th Congressional District office in Lansing but he's adding a full-time Ingham County community liaison.

Bishop closed the office on St. Joseph Boulevard and Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and relocated it to Brighton earlier this week.

"My team and I want to ensure that our office is centrally located for residents of all three counties in the Eighth District, and our new Brighton office makes that possible," said Bishop.

Bishop said he hired Mary Shinkle as Ingham County community liaison.

"Mary Shinkle will help provide us with a seamless transition as she joins us full-time in Ingham County — where constituent services will not miss a beat," he said. "The voices and concerns of our constituents matter, and I look forward to better serving families in all corners of the district moving forward."

Shinkle, of Williamston, will be mobile "throughout the district," said Kelli Ford, a spokeswoman for Bishop.

"We believe more in people than just

bricks and mortar," she said.

Shinkle can be reached by calling the Brighton office. That office address is 711 E. Grand River Ave, Suite A, Brighton, MI 48116. The phone number is 810-227-8600.

### ...And Briefer

**Nicole Armbruster**, 36, who resigned from the Lansing school board in January to "spend more time with her family" has been charged with one count of embezzlement and six forgery related charges. Police have been investigating funds associated with the Lewton Elementary School PTA. Armbruster had been the organization's vice president . . . Michigan State University is planning a 40-acre, **\$150 million housing and office building complex** on land opposite the Breslin Center. It would replace the existing Spartan Village . . . **Deven Guilford of Mulliken, 17, was shot and killed** by an Eaton County Sheriff Sergeant during a traffic stop on Saturday. Michigan State Police are investigating the incident. . . . **Owens-Brockway Glass Container**, which unexpectedly closed its Charlotte plant in 2010, will pay more than \$4 million to state and local governments in compensation for violating clawback provisions in a tax abatement agreement with the city.

## Mercury spill

### East Lansing halted investigation at wastewater treatment plant

When city of East Lansing officials learned of a mercury spill at its wastewater treatment plant, it launched an internal investigation to find out what happened.

But four months into it the city pulled the plug on its own investigation altogether, after receiving a MIOSHA report about unsafe practices for employees. The spill resulted in thousands of dollars in fines from state safety regulators.

Some experts say the move leaves the city open to making the same mistakes again and doesn't complete the picture of what happened or how to create best practices.

"Please note that the City's investigation was in process at the same time as the (Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration) investigation," East Lansing City Clerk Marie Wicks wrote in a letter denying a request for an internal investigation report into the incident. "It was the City's decision to use the MIOSHA report as our summary of findings."

MIOSHA is a government agency tasked with workplace safety compliance for businesses and governments. The agency cited the city for five violations tied to a mercury spill in November 2013 that wasn't reported until March 2014. The city was cited for failing to have hazard communications and emergency response plans; and to inform employees of asbestos, to provide required asbestos awareness trainings; and to keep asbestos from surfaces in the facility. The city was originally assessed a fine of \$11,000, but paid \$4,400 in August as part of a settlement agreement with the state agency.

"The MIOSHA report was received by the City on July 16, 2014," City Manager George Lahanas told City Pulse in an emailed statement. "The report was detailed and contained information regarding the mercury spill, the cleanup that was required and the recommendations with regard to the Plant's safety policies and procedures. Both staff and legal counsel carefully reviewed the MIOSHA investigation."

Lahanas said continuing the city's internal investigation while MIOSHA investigated could have resulted in employees' accusing the city of "coercion or retaliation."

Tanya Baker, a spokeswoman for the department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs for the state of Michigan, said MIOSHA only investigates "compliance with occupational safety and health regulations."

"On comprehensive (wall-to-wall) inspections, MIOSHA does an assessment of the employer's safety and health management system as part of the service provided by the agency," Baker wrote to City Pulse. "In this assessment, MIOSHA evaluates the employer in the following categories: management commitment and planning;

employee involvement; safety and health training; workplace analysis; and hazard prevention and control. This assessment is one look at the safety culture of the workplace. However, on a more limited scope investigation such as an employee complaint or injury investigation, an assessment is not completed as MIOSHA does not review the entire workplace."

The MIOSHA investigation was the result of an employee complaint.

Internal documents show city employees did create and adopt new communications and response plans, as well as provide additional training for employees. Those actions were in response to the MIOSHA findings.

"Relying solely on MIOSHA is traditionally not sufficient, primarily because government regulations represent the absolute minimum organizations need to do to protect public safety," said T.J. Bulholz who runs Vanguard Communications. He served on the state's planning body that created the first statewide crisis response plan. "It's like state curriculum — the standards represent the minimum, not the maximum."

"Surely an internal investigation helps you understand what happened so you can learn from them — they never hurt, that's for sure," said Bulholz.

Ingham County Drain Commissioner Pat Lindemann concurs with Bulholz.

"They should have at least made an internal report," he said adding, such investigations and reports provide guidance for employees and management to better understand where weaknesses and strengths of the organization are. Identifying those, Lindemann said, helps in providing training.

"Accidents happen," he said. "But if you're well trained, and respond properly, it's just an accident. If you are not well trained, that's where things go wrong."

Eight employees have filed a lawsuit in Ingham County Circuit Court alleging the facility is unsafe.

Also in followup, Karen Twyman, an East Lansing resident, asked City Pulse whether the mercury posed any threat to the watershed.

Mercury did get flushed into the water treatment plant when it was improperly poured down the drain, Paul Stokes the superintendent of the facility, said. But the treatment process removed it.

"No elemental mercury was released to the Red Cedar River," he said. "There was not a storm drain in the vicinity of the spill. The mercury that made it down the drain would have been removed in the solids handling processes of the treatment plant. The other spilled mercury was recovered and disposed of by a hazardous waste hauler."

Results of treated wastewater provided in the FOIA from the city show mercury levels in the discharged — or effluent — water did not exceed regulatory maximums. That limit is set at 1.3 nanograms per milliliter.

— By Todd Heywood



## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Date: March 4, 2015  
Permit No. MI0059327  
East Lansing MS4-Ingham

The Department of Environmental Quality proposes to reissue a discharge permit to: the City of East Lansing for the East Lansing Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System. The applicant operates a municipal separate storm sewer system. The applicant discharges storm water to waters of the state of Michigan.

**The draft permit includes the following modifications to the previously-issued permit:** This individual permit supersedes Certificate of Coverage No. MIG610090.

Comments or objections to the draft received by April 3, 2015, will be considered in the final decision to issue the permit. Persons desiring information regarding the draft permit, procedures for commenting, or requesting a hearing should contact Jessica Stiles, Permits Section, Water Resources Division, Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 30458, Lansing, Michigan 48909, telephone: 517-284-5590, e-mail: stilesj1@michigan.gov.

Copies of the permit application, Public Notice, and draft permit may be obtained via the Internet (<http://www.deq.state.mi.us/owis> - click on 'Permits on Public Notice') or at the Water Resources Division Lansing District Office located at Constitution Hall, 1st Floor-South, 525 West Allegan, P.O. Box 30242, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7742, telephone: 517-284-6651.

CP#15\_044

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Community Development Advisory Committee on Monday, March 16, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom #2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

The hearing will be for the purpose of reviewing the PY 15/16 Community Development Block Grant and PY 15/16 General Fund Human/Public Service Budget recommendations prepared by the Community Development Advisory Committee.

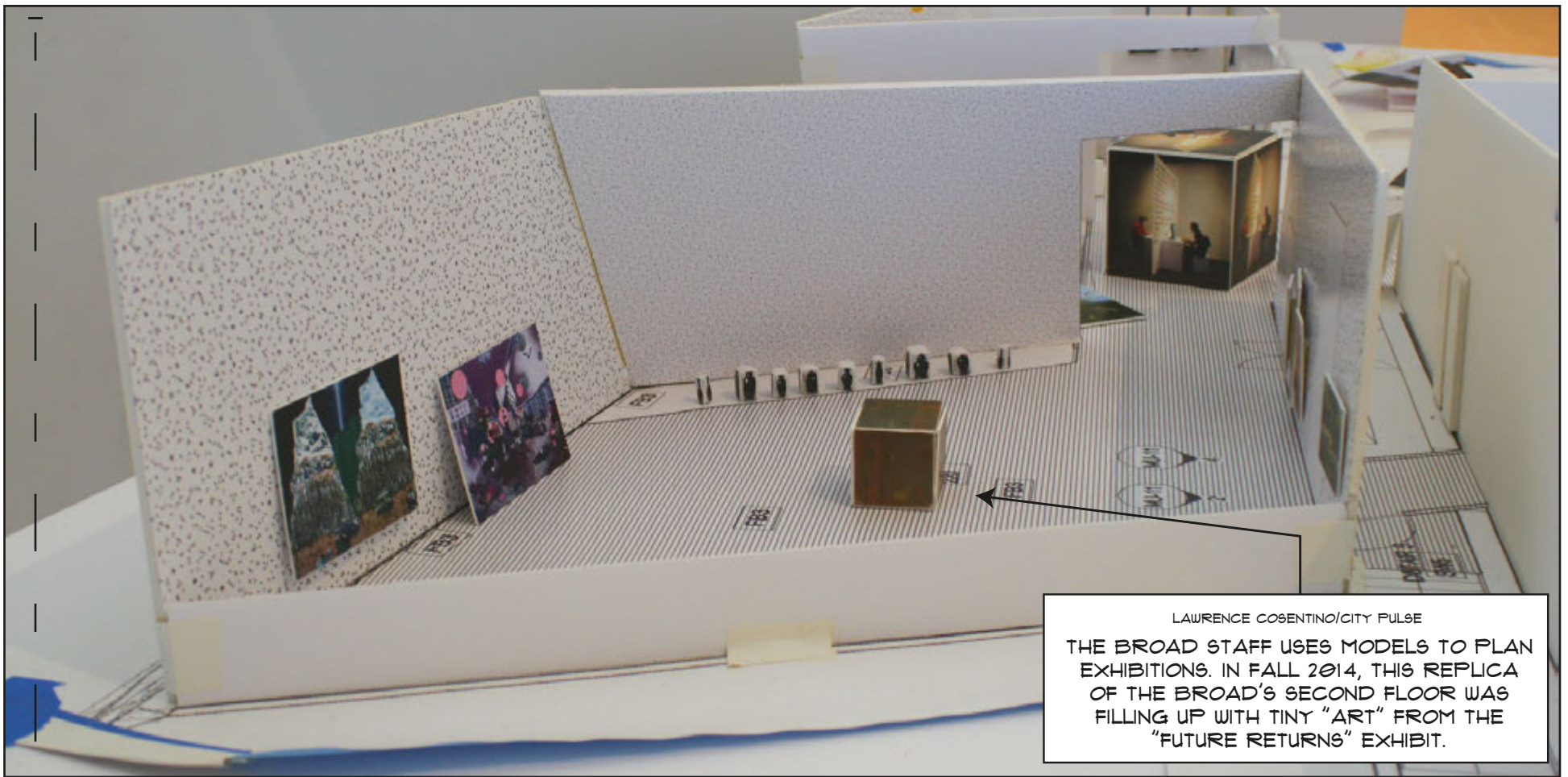
Additional information on this hearing is available from the Department of Planning, Building and Development at East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing or by calling (517) 319-6930. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

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 1-800-649-3777.

Marie E. Wicks  
City Clerk

CP#15\_043





LAWRENCE COSENTINO/CITY PULSE  
 THE BROAD STAFF USES MODELS TO PLAN EXHIBITIONS. IN FALL 2014, THIS REPLICA OF THE BROAD'S SECOND FLOOR WAS FILLING UP WITH TINY "ART" FROM THE "FUTURE RETURNS" EXHIBIT.

# PROPS AND PREP

## BROAD MUSEUM TEAM CREATES MAGIC BEHIND THE MASTERPIECES

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Artists get big ideas when they see the stark angles and converging lines of MSU's Broad Art Museum. Like a stiff shot of architectural absinthe, the building makes strange sugarplums dance in artists' heads: a mountain of 20,000 pieces of crumpled paper, a jaw-like extrusion of pink ooze and false teeth 83 feet long, a one-ton steel cube, a roomful of perpetually bouncing racquetballs, a three-ton boat made of salt.

Never mind how anyone thinks of this stuff. How do they keep it from falling on your head?

A mostly invisible web of skilled tradespeople, most of them locally based, weld these ideas together, string them up and bolt them down.

Dennis Lehman is one of them. He's a veteran MSU maintenance mechanic who spends most of his time fixing giant air handlers. Lehman feels at home on dizzying catwalks or inside huge ducts, but the world of contemporary art sucked him into a whole new atmosphere when the Broad Museum opened in fall 2012.

For "Red Factor," the spectacular opening exhibit in the museum's main gallery, Chicago artist Ñigo Manglano-Ovalle wanted to suspend a 24-foot-wide geodesic dome about 40 feet in the air, as if it were floating away, anchored by a cable into the floor. A life-sized red canary, the emotional heart of the exhibit, would perch on the cable at about eye level.

The artist specified a 40-degree, canary-correct perching angle that drove the mathematics and engineering of the whole installation.

Lehman, a salt-of-the-earth hardhat charged with making the exhibit feasible and safe, knew he'd be working closely with the artist, but wasn't sure how to strike up a rapport.

As it happened, Manglano-Ovalle's son loves one of Lehman's favorite movies, Jeff Daniels' Upper Peninsula hunting saga, "Escanaba in Da Moonlight." That broke the ice. To be specific, they shared a laugh about a lengthy scene involving an unsavory bodily function.

"It put him on my level," Lehman said. "I Googled him later and found out what a big artist he was."

Lehman and his team wired cables to the ceiling and hoisted the 24-foot dome to the top of the gallery. The only hitch came at the end, when the team was about to anchor the high-flying hemisphere to the floor. The anchor bolt wasn't long enough to screw into the concrete subfloor.

The artist, the crew and the big dome hovered quietly while Lehman called Ruben Garza, his materials and logistics man. Garza called around and found a bolt 13 inches long with the right specs. MSU utility driver Bill Burns made his contribution to the international art world with an emergency run to the old Mill Supplies Corp. in downtown Lansing.

When Manglano-Ovalle's masterpiece was in place, Lehman bent over and took a photo of the bolt in the floor — never mind the dome and the bird — and emailed it to Garza as a token of gratitude. Garza used it as a screen saver for weeks.

## EXTREMELY PROVOKED

The daunting job of turning artists' visions into practical reality at the Broad Museum falls largely to Brian Kirschensteiner, the chief preparator of exhibitions.

Kirschensteiner has two full-time staffers, preparators Amy Brown and Brian MacLean, and six students. On occasion, Kirschensteiner brings in a group of two to four professional art handlers "who are ready for anything." He has about 100 local artisans and tradespeople on call, from carpenters to printers to neon makers.

The antiquated title of "preparator" goes back to the days of salons, when someone like Kirschensteiner would position a sculpture or putting a painting on the wall.

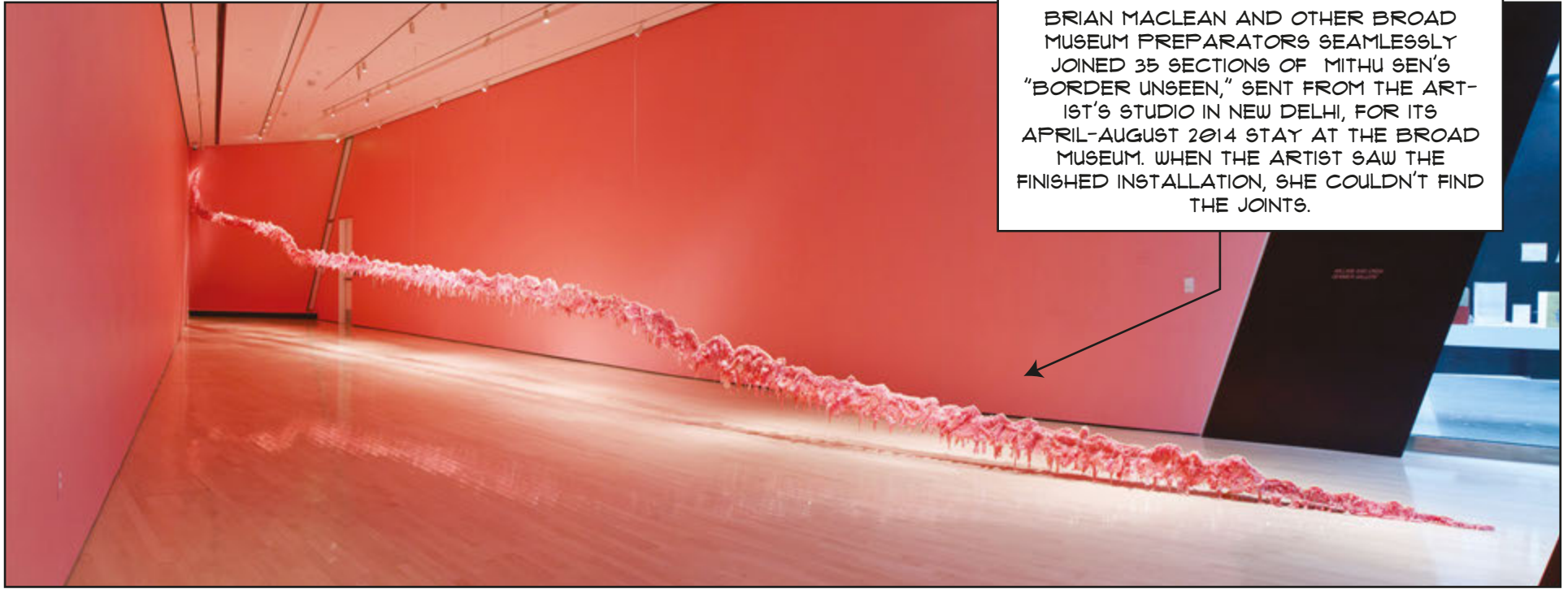
The Broad team does some of that, but the contemporary art world calls for a much broader skill set. Kirschensteiner's team combines a fine design sense with a nuts-and-bolts knowledge of how physical things hang, bend, tumble or fall.

Quiet and intense, Kirschensteiner seems torn between pride in his staff's work and a deep reluctance to steal thunder from the artists.

Artists who have exhibited at the Broad are less shy about giving props to his team.

One of the strangest creations to creep into the Broad Museum in its two-year-plus history is New

## — BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE BROAD ART MUSEUM —



COURTESY PHOTO  
BRIAN MACLEAN AND OTHER BROAD MUSEUM PREPARATORS SEAMLESSLY JOINED 35 SECTIONS OF MITHU SEN'S "BORDER UNSEEN," SENT FROM THE ARTIST'S STUDIO IN NEW DELHI, FOR ITS APRIL-AUGUST 2014 STAY AT THE BROAD MUSEUM. WHEN THE ARTIST SAW THE FINISHED INSTALLATION, SHE COULDN'T FIND THE JOINTS.

## Broad

from page 9

Delhi artist Mithu Sen's "Border Unseen," a pink, mouth-like 83-foot-long reef of dental polymer and false teeth that nobody who has seen it will soon forget. The sculpture stood in the museum most of 2013 and 2014.

Sen worked on the sculpture for three years at her studio in India, beginning before the Broad was open. It gradually grew into a monster made of 35 separate sections.

Sen said that working with the Broad team was "a lifetime experience" for her.

She, too, got big ideas from seeing the building. (She worked from drawings of the museum at first.) "I was extremely provoked by the strange architecture of Zaha Hadid," Sen said. "I wanted to poke this loud undeniable sculpture in the flat landscape of East Lansing."

A set of custom designed flexible metal hinges, designed mainly by MacLean, made the sculpture slither, shudder and arch its way to the ceiling in one long, creepy mass. When Sen saw the finished work, she couldn't find the joints.

"Brian [MacLean] helped me to create something closest to the dream I had for this installation," she said. "I think it was a total emotional and creative challenge for him."

Holland-based artist Lisa Walcott gave the Broad crew a different challenge with "Swarm," a hovering, 16-foot-by-7-foot constellation of fishing sinkers encased in black wax.

"With all those weights and lines, it wanted to tangle like crazy," Walcott said. "They built this whole cantilever contraption of poles and hooks just to get it moved

into place."

Once the sculpture was in place, a disco ball motor and ceiling-mounted U-bolt turned it slowly, enabling it to catch the changing light of the museum's east atrium. Another Walcott creation, "Vice Versa," filled the museum's education wing with a dozen racquetballs that quietly bounced up and down all day, driven by a battery of windshield wiper motors.

Walcott said the Broad Museum brought her to work to a whole new scale, moving parts and all.

"Everything kind of expanded for me there," she said. "I wanted ["Swarm"] to extend fully into the architecture, which is tall and crooked. They were patient and they actually liked problem solving with me."

### 'THE LANDFILL EXHIBIT'

Pakistani artist Imran Qureshi called his 2013-2014 Broad Museum exhibit "The God of Small Things." Lehman lovingly calls it "the landfill exhibit."

The biggest piece in Qureshi's exhibit, his first in an American museum, proved to be the capstone of a creative phase that vaulted him to international renown in

the art world: a mountain of more than 20,000 crumpled prints of his own work.

Now, that sounds uncomplicated. Just crumple 'em up and pile 'em on, right?

Ho, ho, no. When Qureshi saw the gravity-defying slope of the gallery's west end, he got one of those sugarplum visions only the Broad can provoke. He asked if his mountain of paper could be sliced at the same precise 130 degree angle of the gallery wall, as if by a giant blade.

If the slice was right, visitors would slip into a neat diagonal incision in space where they could lose themselves in a play of contrasts: a massive mountain made of thin paper, a garbage-y mess with a clean edge, and, as the museum catalog put it, "duality between grand and intimate scale."

But crushing the wall of paper flat was a problem. The Broad team went so far as to drive a semi truck over a huge wad of paper, among other trials, but no pile was flat enough.

Then Lehman remembered a 200-ton press he set years ago for Laurent Matuana, an MSU professor researching polymer packaging. Matuana gave the Broad staffers lab space and free rein on his megapress for a few days.

That's another thing that makes Lehman indispensable to Kirschensteiner and his staff.

"Dennis represents a hub, an institutional knowledge, because he's been here so

See Broad, Page 11

LAWRENCE COSENTINO/CITY PULSE

WEIGHING IN AT ONE TON, SUI JIANGUO'S "ONE CUBIC METER OF DARKNESS" WAS TRUNDLED CAREFULLY FROM THE MSU METAL SHOP TO THE BROAD JUST IN TIME FOR THE "FUTURE RETURNS" OPENI OCT. 30. IT CONTINUES THROUGH MARCH 15.

COURTESY PHOTO  
SUI JIANGUO'S "ONE CUBIC METER OF DARKNESS," PART OF THE CURRENT "FUTURE RETURNS" EXHIBIT OF CONTEMPORARY CHINESE ART AT THE BROAD, WAS FABRICATED AT A METAL SHOP ON SOUTH CAMPUS OF MSU TO THE ARTIST'S SPECIFICATIONS.



# Broad

from page 10

long and worked with so many researchers and trades," Kirschensteiner said.

To hold the flattened mass in the air, Lehman and his team built an aluminum frame and stretched stainless steel aircraft cables back into the room, anchoring the 30-foot wall as it leaned into the museum's towering windows like a dog trying to jump out of a car.

The paper wall seemed pressed into place off by a force field, with no visible means of support.

Chinese artist Sui Jianguo's "One Cubic Meter of Darkness," part of the current "Future Returns" exhibit at the Broad, was fabricated entirely at the MSU Physical Plant's metal shop on south campus, to the artist's precise specifications.

A team of four welders wrangled four 600-pound pieces as they were set into place by cranes and carefully welded together. Half-finished ladders, custom built for working on the MSU steam tunnels, lined the walls of the shop.

Workers stopped to heckle Lehman's welders as they fussed over a seemingly useless cube.

"There were a lot of jokes made out of it, but a lot of pride, too," Lehman said.

from the Great Salt Lake, the Dead Sea, South America and other places. Only Vietnamese or Korean salt held its shape. The supplier, an Asian food market wholesaler, seemed eager to help, but pulled out of the deal at the last minute.

There was only a month to get the salt before the museum's opening day.

Kirschensteiner contacted a Vietnamese student group at MSU.

"I need people in Vietnam who can get me salt — fast," he told them.

He found himself huddled at a Ph.D. student's apartment in Spartan Village, in the middle of the night (daytime in Vietnam), calling potential salt connections. They found a warehouse in Washington, D.C., with several pallets of

John LeFevre was sitting at his desk at Infrastructure Planning and Facilities (the fancy name for the old Physical Plant), looking at schematic drawings of steam tunnels, when a call came from Kirschensteiner. LeFevre knew by then that there was no such thing as an ordinary call from "Brian K."

"We got the sloth coming in," Kirschensteiner told LeFevre. "We need to find a home for it."

The Broad's unique demands stretch outside the museum to the surrounding grounds, making LeFevre's life even more interesting.

"The Sloth," immortalized in a photo near LeFevre's office, is a heavy, tempered-glass X-ray of a mother sloth and her baby, dubbed "Sloth Pietà" by its creator, Long Island artist Steve Miller. The sculpture now stands in the sculpture garden to the east of the Broad Museum.

Miller's stark image refers to the many "Pietas" of art history, with the dead Christ in the arms of the Virgin Mary, while calling attention to the worldwide loss of wildlife habitat and species extinction.

But the sloth is not native to these parts. It needed a foundation and base that would withstand the stresses of Michigan's 42-inch frost depth.

LeFevre suggested a conventional base to "give the weed whacker some concrete to hit instead of the sculpture." He should have known better. The artist wanted the sloth to rise straight up out of the earth. And there were other demands.

"We don't want it to rust and the thing's supposed to be there forever," LeFevre said.

A system of underground poles, plates and bolts, most of them stainless steel, welded at low temperatures to protect the bronze portion of the sculpture, should keep the sloth standing well after the Zombie Apocalypse.

"All you see is this mysteriously thin piece come up out of the ground that's supported somehow," LeFevre said, flipping his pen on the desk. "And that's the sloth guy."

Landscape architect Deb Kinney, who is charged with fitting each new sculpture in the small sculpture garden, stopped by to chat with LeFevre. On the way to work that day, Kinney had noticed snow piled around the "twig girl," as she calls another sculpture, Klara Kristalova's "Deer." She recounted her subsequent talk with the MSU grounds staff.

"I told them, 'We went over this. You agreed that this site was OK. Get rid of the frickin' snow.'" She laughed.

"We take it all pretty seriously. There's a lot of pride. Most of us went to school here."

Kinney grinned after a few seconds' pause. Sloth Guy and Twig Girl are about to have some company. "There's another one coming," Kinney said. "You'll see."



"It was quite an effect as you walked underneath there," Lehman said. "How is that all holding up?"

That job made Lehman feel like a magician.

"Of all the exhibits, I got — I don't want to say emotional — about the landfill exhibit," he said. Let's pretend he didn't.

## THE CUBE AND THE BOAT

It's not surprising to hear Kirschensteiner say that every project is new and different at the Broad Museum. Contemporary art is not big on repeating itself. What's surprising is the wide variation of input from each artist, and how much is often left to the support staff.

"Sometimes it's not much more than a couple of sketches [from the artist]," Kirschensteiner said. "In other instances, it's a thorough idea of what the artist envisioned in the space."

"They had fun with it. It was different from welding pipes and things like that."

"The cube" was slowly moved from the shop and parked on the Broad's second level mezzanine gallery last October. Kirschensteiner was confident the one-ton mass wouldn't sink through the floor because he'd already commissioned a structural analysis of the gallery for "the salt boat."

And that's another story.

"Boat," by rising young artist Nguyen Phuong Linh, was one of the Broad's opening exhibits in fall 2012, a boat-shaped sculpture made of three tons of Vietnamese salt bound with water, like a sand castle. Despite its weight, the sculpture sat safely on the second floor until February 2013, but the run-up was not all smooth sailing.

Nothing like the "Boat" project had been tried outside the artist's home country of Vietnam. Kirschensteiner started by collecting samples of salt

Korean salt.

Lansing woodworker Rich Rollins, Kirschensteiner's go-to man for unusual jobs involving wood, made laminated ribs to the exact shape needed. To fight the corrosive effects of salt and water, the mold was treated and sealed and a "sacrificial floor" was added under the sculpture to protect the underlying "real" floor.

The salt came just in time, a little more than a week before the opening.

"We had teams of people in there pounding this salt into the forms, adding just the right amount of water," Kirschensteiner said.

Two days before the opening, the Broad team cracked open the mold and set up fans to dry it out.

The sculpture held for months.

## SLOTH GUY AND TWIG GIRL

Last summer, MSU civil engineer

# ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC • THEATER

## MYSTERIOUS MOUNTAIN

LANSING SYMPHONY HIKES INTO UNCHARTED TERRAIN WITH NEW MUSIC BY LOCAL COMPOSER

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

A vision of a man walking up a mountain, and a collaboration that got gloriously out of hand, promise to push Saturday's Lansing Symphony concert into exciting new territory.

Well-known music by Elgar and Mozart is on the docket, but the night's most striking feature is a large-scaled, luminous new work with deep local roots: "Seven Ascents for Flute and Orchestra," by MSU-based composer Marjan Helms with LSO principal flutist Richard Sherman as soloist.

"Seven Ascents" is no perfunctory nod to local talent. It's a meditative braid of lyrical melodies clocking in at some 45 minutes.

Both Helms and Sherman said that working together on the music has changed their lives.

By the end last year's premiere of "Seven Ascents" with the Jackson Symphony Orchestra, Sherman was trembling.

"I was so choked up in the third movement that I could barely play," Sherman said.

They seem awed and surprised by the major work that came out of their close collaboration.

"I feel like I'm the herald of something," Sherman said. "Melodies that have never been heard before — I get to share them with people."

Muffitt was so impressed by the piece that he went out on a limb and programmed it, even though it's the longest work the symphony will play all year.

"This is a very beautiful and expansive work with a great

sense of spirituality," Muffitt said. "You sense there is a deep program behind it."

The maestro isn't kidding. The genesis of the music involved more than a few real-life ascents.

Helms is a founding faculty member of MSU's Community Music School, where she is composer-in-residence and head



of the piano program.

At an MSU Symphony concert 10 years ago, she was amazed by Sherman's passionate performance of Christopher Rouse's flute concerto. She emailed Sherman that night.

"I thanked him for reminding me why I went into music in the first place," she said.

Large-scaled works for flute and orchestra are few.

"A few years ago I would have thought it was crazy to write something like this," Helms said.

But Helms was deeply impressed by Sherman's intensity and musicianship. More important, they shared an

unabashed love of spirituality in music.

"There's a real spiritual dimension in ('Seven Ascents') that's unusual for flute," Sherman said. "A lot of the stuff that's for flute is too virtuosic, too many notes."

The Jackson Symphony agreed to commission the piece from Helms, with Sherman as soloist. Helms spent about a year thinking about the "spiritual world" she wanted to explore. At first, she envisioned music inspired by verses from several different mystical traditions.

But Helms was finding her first idea too forced.

"I was coming up with mush," Helms said. "It was not coherent."

Suddenly, a series of crystal clear images came to her, unbidden, during meditation.

The first time it happened, she had a vision of a man walking up the side of a mountain.



Courtesy photos

Far left: Marjan Helms describes her collaboration with Sherman as "life-changing."

Left: Saturday's concert features soloist Richard Sherman on "Seven Ascents for Flute and Orchestra."

"He was moving so intrepidly, not slowing down, not running, but not meandering," Helms said. "The energy — I really have to admit that it's a lot like Rick"

She went outside and walked the pace she had seen in her mind, clocked it, set a metronome to it and boom — that was the tempo for the first movement.

"I jettisoned everything I had planned to that point," she said. "I met with (Jackson Symphony Music Director) Steve Osmond and Rick and told them, 'Here it is.'"

See Symphony, Page 13



## In memoriam

Melvin "Mel" Leiserowitz, 89, of East Lansing, died at home Feb. 5. Leiserowitz was a professor at Michigan State University from 1964 until 1991. He was also a prolific sculptor, creating pieces that can be seen across the Lansing area, including "Orpheus," the large sculpture adjacent to the Wharton Center for Performing Arts (far left), "Kresge Piece," which sits near the entrance to MSU's Kresge Art Center (center) and the "Creation Wall" in Lansing's First Presbyterian Church. Donations in his name may be made to Hospice of Lansing, 4052 Legacy Parkway, Lansing MI, 48911.

Photos by Ariel Rogers

# Symphony

from page 12

The man on the mountain, and subsequent visions, inspired music that is deeply personal to Helms, but she hopes listeners will interpret the music in their own way. She was hesitant to even talk about the visions, for fear of limiting the listener's own imagination.

But Helms has a reason for lifting the veil on her creative process. Unlike many of her fellow composers, she considers visual imagery in music "not only legitimate, but to be desired," for creator and listener alike.

"People learn to be ashamed of wandering and exploration," she said. "They think they're supposed to be listening for the secondary theme coming around for the 14th time."

If she does her job right, she said, listeners will lose themselves in the music and not look for "street signs."

As work on the concerto went on, Sherman and Helms began emailing and texting at all hours of the night. Sherman couldn't believe the gift Helms was giving him.

"The flute writing is so lyrical," Sherman said. "Just when I thought there was one tune that was gorgeous, there's another one and another one."

They talked about poetry, literature, how to draw the line between emotion and sentimentality and even which flute Sherman should play.

"We've become very close," Sherman said.

Even after the Jackson premiere last fall, Helms and Sherman got together for intense tweaking sessions.

"We'd do detail work for hours," she said. "We'd look at the slurs, exactly where the breaths are, where you speed up or slow down. These are tiny cells or building blocks, but whatever is behind all that is holy."

There is a steamroller inevitability about Saturday's Lansing performance. Each year, Muffitt gives a solo turn to one of the first-chair musicians, and 2015 was going to be Sherman's year anyway.

"Rick is such a dynamic and engaging performer, I wanted to find something that would harness that energy," Muffitt said. The elephant in the room, "Seven Ascents," was impossible to ignore.

Besides, accounts from several knowledgeable sources, all of whom prefer to remain nameless, hint that the Jackson Symphony left something to be desired at last fall's premiere.

Helms and Sherman are ecstatic to share their momentous musical discovery with their home town.

Helms compared their collaboration to gazing at a sunset that "takes your breath away."

"There's something doubly wonderful about having somebody else there," Helms said. "That's how I felt with Rick. Our eyes are on something beyond us, a mystery we both truly honor."

## Still hammering

Peter Yarrow on activism, motivation and the state of folk music

By TY FORQUER

As one third of Peter, Paul and Mary, Peter Yarrow has left an incredible mark on American folk music. The trio took folk music to the top of the charts, and at least partially contributed to the breakout success of Bob Dylan and the revival of the music of Pete Seeger.

At the age of 76, Yarrow shows no signs of slowing. In recent years, the singer has performed at union protests in Madison, Wis.,

### Peter Yarrow at the Ten Pound Fiddle

8 p.m. Friday, March 6  
\$30 floor/\$20 balcony  
Hannah Community Center  
819 Abbot Road, East Lansing  
tenpoundfiddle.org

and at Occupy Wall Street in New York City. He is traveling to Israel next month to perform at events surrounding its upcoming elections. City Pulse was able to catch the activist-artist by phone in advance of his performance at the

Ten Pound Fiddle.

**What still drives you after all of these years of performing music?**

The same thing that drove me, really, from the beginning. For me, the whole deal, the whole pursuit of this, revolves around music as a way to build community, bring people together, inspire them, and unite their hearts in a way that gives them the opportunity to not only care about each other, accept each other, but also unite their efforts to create a more caring, more humane world.

That's what music does. That's my motivation, it always was. It's not just about entertaining, it's not just about inspiring people, it is about actually creating a connective tissue in their spirit. Just like at the March on Washington (for Jobs and Freedom) — where Martin Luther King delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech — when the people there sang "Blowing in the Wind" and "If I Had a Hammer." And when we sang those songs, we were not performing something, however passionately, we were living something with people that was more than a performance. It was an act of solidarity and commitment. It was so inspiring that it changed our lives. The people at the concert in East Lansing, when I perform, will feel that history.

When you get to my age, there are a lot of people who just feel, "Well I want to retire, and I want to play golf and I want to hang out." Truly, their lives become very bland and it can be very difficult and painful for them. But mine is as exciting as it ever was. Why? Because I am being useful. I'm the luckiest guy in the world to be able to have this in my life.

**When you look at the folk music scene today, is it missing something that it had in the '60s and '70s?**

Of course! It's missing a vast audience because the music business has become so hyper-focused on money. If something in



Courtesy photos

Left: Peter Yarrow brings over 50 years of experience in music and activism to his show Saturday at the Ten Pound Fiddle.

Below left: Peter, Paul and Mary performing at the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in 1963.



know how to market it. If you've got a hit, fine, otherwise it's over. That's what happens in today's world. It's all about money. And in that atmosphere, music of conscience, music of caring, music of the kind of heart that we shared in the 1960s, just is not supported. It's marginalized. That doesn't mean it's not there. It is, but it's not like what it was.

**What can people expect if they come to see you at the Fiddle?**

When I get out there on stage, sure it's going to be entertaining — we'll sing "Puff the Magic Dragon" and I'll bring the kids on stage; I'll sing "Leaving on a Jet Plane" and we'll all remember Mary Travers and the audience will sing her part on the choruses — but it will be like a cross between a concert and a party, and a peace march. Because it's in my blood. I'll not only sing the songs, I'll let people know a little bit about the history of what I experienced and talk to them about the continuing relevance of these efforts.

For the first half I will do songs that I choose to do, and then for the second half I'll take requests from the audience and sing what they want me to sing. I'll be singing the Peter, Paul and Mary repertoire, which is my repertoire, and I will be delighted to sing their requests, because the whole idea of their participation is really important to me.

To hear more of our interview with Peter Yarrow, tune in to "City Pulse on the Air" on the Impact 89FM tonight at 7 p.m. or listen to the podcast at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com).



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## Pistols up

Flint Eastwood ignites the crowd at the Loft

By SARAH SPOHN

One word: Flint. It's both a Michigan city and a hard quartz that sparks fire when struck.

Two words: Flint Eastwood. Self-described as "a Spaghetti-Western cooked in the ovens of Detroit," this outlaw-country-tinged indie-dance band is igniting a spark across the country with its powerful tunes.

The band made a stop in Lansing Friday night at the Loft. Opening acts were Tidal, Marvels, and East Lansing indie-rock band Lights and Caves.

An energetic crowd filled the Loft for the concert, which doubled as a 25th birthday celebration for MSU's Impact 89FM. The bands played their part, providing an upbeat soundtrack for the party.

Lights and Caves brought the local fan base to the birthday celebration and delivered an all-original set list. But it was headliner Flint Eastwood that was the icing on the Impact's birthday cake. The Detroit band made a wish, blew out the candles and served a hearty slice of rock 'n' roll to everyone in attendance.

Regardless of Flint Eastwood's oddball "spaghetti-western" bio, this band has a clear mission statement at its live concerts: have fun and dance (your ass off) as if no one is watching. Chances are, they'll call you out if

## CURTAIN CALL

### Laughter with a bite

'The Little Dog Laughed' will make you laugh a lot

By PAUL WOZNIAK

To be clear, "The Little Dog Laughed," running in Riverwalk Theatre's black box space, is not a Midwestern story. There are no heartland values in this stinging satire of Hollywood's sexual mores. But for those

### 'The Little Dog Laughed'

Riverwalk Theater  
8 p.m. Friday, March 6  
and Saturday, March 7;  
2 p.m. Sunday, March 8  
\$12/\$10 students,  
seniors and military  
228 Museum Drive,  
Lansing  
(517) 482-5700,  
riverwalktheatre.com

willing to take the leap, Douglas Carter Beane's script is witty, hilarious and brutally honest. The show follows Diane (Deb Keller), a shrewd, verbally lethal agent, and her client Mitchell Green (Blake Bowen), a leading Hollywood actor with a potential publicity problem. The problem? Mitchell is a gay man who desires to be open about his sexual orientation, and conventional wisdom says one cannot be a bank-



Photos by Brian Wells

Above: Jax Anderson of Flint Eastwood fires up the crowd at the Loft.

Left: Drummer Sam Ridgell and bassist Andrew Stevens of Flint Eastwood lay down the grooves.



you're not showing signs of having fun.

The band took the stage wearing all black, but what followed was anything but somber. The floorboards were bouncing, the clapping resonated to the rafters and the crowd came alive as Flint Eastwood delivered a scorching set of energetic dance music.

Flint Eastwood's female lead vocalist, Jax Anderson, can be described as frantic, energetic and perhaps a bit spastic. Enticing extra crowd participation, this front-woman definitely knew how to work the concert-goers into a frenzy. The feel-good dance

able leading actor in movies and be openly gay. If Mitchell desires to be happy with a man and still star in Hollywood blockbusters, arrangements must be made.

If for nothing else, Bowen and Keller's performances alone make this a must-see show. Keller's muscular, toned physique and defiant stance, topped with a platinum blonde wig, make for an imposing figure. She's beautiful, but hardly dainty or petite. Diane may be aggressive, but she's not evil — just realistic. When necessary, she drops the truth like napalm on a shrub, reducing egos to ashes. It's a performance few others in Lansing could convincingly play and Keller nails it.

As her partner in crime/emotional balance, Bowen brings enormous warmth and empathy to his spineless character. Like a beefed-up Tom Hanks, Bowen's appeal is his "everyman" persona mixed with quiet charisma. Mitchell may be a whiny, insecure actor, but Bowen makes him so interesting to watch. Maybe that's because it never feels like Bowen is acting.

Keller and Bowen combine their powers in an especially electric scene near the end of act one. Both are meeting a third (invisible) client for lunch to pitch turning the invisible writer's play into a film starring Mitchell. Mitchell and Diane seamlessly shift from recalling bits of the conversation and their inner thoughts, and the entire scene feels

vibes were contagious. Unlike the flu, this was a good germ to catch.

Anderson urged the crowd to take a moment to forget about jobs, significant others, stupid bosses and any other worries, and just exist in the moment.

It was just moments after that the dance party fully commenced. Persuaded by the banter and beats, the crowd crouched low to the baseboards, then bounced up and down with finger guns in the air in Flint Eastwood's signa-

ture "pistols up" gesture.

After a 40-minute set by the fiery foursome, the band returned to the stage for a rambunctious encore, a gritty song reminiscent of the Beatles' classic "Helter Skelter."

Despite the low lighting of the Loft and cold temperatures outside, Flint Eastwood managed to ignite Lansing's flame.

Flint Eastwood returns to The Loft this summer with Andrew McMahon in the Wilderness and X Ambassadors on June 23. Tickets are on sale now at fusionshows.com.

like a song that hits every beat.

Michael Boxleitner and Cassie Little star in supporting roles — Boxleitner as a hustler named Alex and Little as Alex's girlfriend Ellen — but their roles often feel like filler. Both Boxleitner and Little are still growing as actors. They get their respective moments to shine in the show, but not as consistently as Keller and Bowen.

Ambitious lighting design aids the performance courtesy of designer Jeff Miller and board operator David Cooper. Individual beams jump from person to person to clearly distinguish whose inner monologue the audience is experiencing. It's a surprising number of light cues for a low-budget production, but the effort is definitely appreciated.

"The Little Dog Laughed" is far from perfect. The title is terribly confusing, the script gets excessively "meta" in the second act — with an almost incestuous level of self-reference — and the production values are a little rough around the edges. In addition, if you're not already familiar with Hollywood distinctions of "leading actor" versus "character actor," along with other Hollywood lingo, this show might be a little over your head. But its clear director Michael Hays set a high bar for this production and his effort and passion, combined with a capable cast and crew, are apparent in every element of this play.

# Break on through

## MSU neuroscience researcher tells her story of trauma, science and recovery

By BILL CASTANIER

As a neuroscience researcher, Apryl Pooley has dedicated her life to the rigors of scientific exploration. But it wasn't until she turned that knowledge inward that she was able to overcome her personal demons.

Pooley's dramatic story of turning personal trauma into a fulfilling life is told in her debut memoir, "Shadow Brain: A Neuroscientist's Journey Through PTSD and Womanhood."

**TEDxMSU**  
6 p.m. Wednesday,  
March 4  
\$20/\$10 students  
Wharton Center  
750 E. Shaw Lane, East  
Lansing  
(517) 432-2000,  
whartoncenter.com

**Author talk and book signing**  
7-9 p.m. Friday,  
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Pooley, 28, has certainly experienced the darker side of life, starting with an acquaintance rape in high school followed by another rape while she was a student at Eastern Illinois University.

Following the first incident, Pooley was blamed for being

complicit in the assault and was abandoned by her high school friends. She sought solace in alcohol and drugs, a pattern she would return to over and over again for the next eight years — including a portion of her time at Michigan State University, where she is pursuing a Ph.D. in neuroscience.

This is where some good fortune came in. Pooley discovered that her MSU health care policy included an annual physical, and she trudged off to Olin Health Center for an appointment with a physician.

The doctor quickly recognized that Pooley was an addict in the throes of withdrawal. It was then, for the first time, that Pooley told the stories of her rapes and fully realized the scope of her post-traumatic stress.

"Doctor Ryan didn't question me and



Courtesy photo

Apryl Pooley poses next to her 2013 ArtPrize entry, "A Shot in the Dark, a Hole in the Heart," which reflects on her recovery from addiction.

walked me right upstairs to meet with a counselor," she said. "He told me I had fortitude."

This led Pooley into researching post-traumatic stress disorder and its particular effect on women. PTSD created darkness within her personal life and, as a scientist, Pooley thought neuroscience could help her find her way to the other side.

Pooley found in her research that wom-

en and men are affected differently by post-traumatic stress, but along the way she also discovered a much more human element which would be key in overcoming the shame and guilt she felt from her trauma.

As part of her therapy, Pooley began writing down her story. She soon realized that what she had was a book, and she set about the arduous process of getting it published. Several high-profile campus rape stories, along with MSU's choice of the controversial George Will as a graduation speaker, spurred Pooley to publish her story of resilience earlier than she expected.

"I thought if I could keep one person from taking their own life, then everything I had been through would've been worth it," she said. "I know for a fact that my story has already done that."

Writing the book in almost real time, Pooley saved the last chapter for her self-discovery about sexuality.

"Although I had tried to have relationships with men it hadn't worked out," she said. "I discovered I had been shopping in the wrong aisle. I finally accepted my sexuality and orientation. I finally had hope."

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When Pooley read the news on March 22 about several counties in Michigan, including Ingham County, opening the window for same-sex marriage, she went into the bedroom and awoke her partner saying, "Let's get married." And they did.

It's easy to compare Cooley's book to some of the great addiction-themed memoirs like "Smashed," "The Basketball Diaries" or "Drinking: A Love Story," but "Shadow Brain" stands alone for its forthrightness and the author's scientific bent.

When Pooley walks out on the big stage at Wharton Center today at the TEDxMSU presentation, she will use the full 18 minutes to tell her story of trauma, survival, science and humanity. Her story deserves everyone's full attention, and it definitely deserved a book.

Pooley also will discuss and sign copies of her book from 7 to 9 p.m. March 26 at EVERYbody Reads in Lansing. All proceeds will go to the MSU Sexual Assault Program.

## SCHULER BOOKS & MUSIC

### Costumed Character Visit from your favorite FROGGY!

Sunday, March 15. 3 p.m.  
Meridian Mall location



Join us for a special story-time and costumed character visit in celebration of the release of *Froggy's Birthday Wish*, by bestselling author Jonathan London and critically acclaimed illustrator Frank Remkiewicz.

\*Parents, bring your cameras for an adorable photo opportunity!

### Talk & Signing with Detroit Tigers Announcer MARIO IMPEMBA

Monday, March 16. 6 p.m.  
Eastwood Towne Center



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for more information visit  
www.SchulerBooks.com

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# OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com). Deadline is 5 p.m. Thursdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Jonathan at (517) 999-5069.

## Wednesday, March 4

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Drop-in Figure Drawing.** Easels and drawing boards provided. 7-9:30 p.m. \$5/\$3 students. Kresge Art Center, 600 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 337-1170, [artmuseum.msu.edu](http://artmuseum.msu.edu).

**Family Storytime.** Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes and activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 367-6363.

**Meditation.** For beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Vietnamese Buddhist Temple, 3015 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 351-5866. 6.

**Line Dance.** Beginner or expert. 3:15-4:15 p.m. \$49/\$35 members, \$8/\$6 members drop-in. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, [ow.ly/JJi6D](http://ow.ly/JJi6D).

**Walk-In Wednesdays.** Drop-In Art Class. All ages. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE (\$5 suggested donation). Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, [reachstudioart.org](http://reachstudioart.org).

**Reflexology.** Stress treatment. Call for an appointment. 12:30-3:30 p.m. \$12/\$14 non-members. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, [ow.ly/JJi6D](http://ow.ly/JJi6D).

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

### EVENTS

**Open Workshop.** Bike repair, bike safety and biking as healthy exercise. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Kids Repair Program, 5815 Wise Road, Lansing. (517) 755-4174.

**Practice Your English.** Practice listening to and speaking English. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, [elpi.org](http://elpi.org).

**Farmers Market at Allen Market Place.** Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

**Kindergarten Visit Day at LCS.** Visit kindergarten classrooms. 9-10 a.m. Lansing Christian School, 3405 Belle Chase Way, Lansing. (517) 882-5779 ext. 107, [lansingchristianschool.org](http://lansingchristianschool.org).

See Out on the Town, Page 18



Courtesy photo  
Conductor Corb Felgenhour will lead the Steiner Chorale in a rare performance of "Symphony of Psalms" Saturday.

## Classically Russian

• • • • • Saturday, March 7 • • • • •

Igor Stravinsky, now regarded as one of the 20th century's greatest composers, spent most of his life chasing the ghosts of past success. The Russian composer's three greatest works — the ballets "The Firebird," "Petrushka" and "The Rite of Spring" — were penned between 1909 and 1913, before Stravinsky had reached his 32nd birthday. Political unrest in Russia (and eventually the USSR), however, made it difficult for Stravinsky to collect royalties on his music, and medical difficulties followed his family like a proverbial curse.

The composer continued to write music well into his 70s, but nothing reached the level of financial or critical success of his early ballets. Enduring financial difficulties forced Stravinsky into conducting on international tours long after his failing health should have ruled it out. He died in New York in 1971 at 88.

That is not to say his later output is without gems. Stravinsky's 1930 composition, "Symphony of Psalms," is considered one of the greatest choral works of the 20th century. Written during the composer's neo-classical period, the piece reveals his interest in forms and styles of classical music from the 1700s. This symphony is unconventional, however, in that it combines an orchestra with a chorus. This rarely performed work will be heard Saturday as the Steiner Chorale presents "Symphony of Psalms."

Corb Felgenhour, 42, has taken up this ambitious piece in his first year as conductor of the chorale. The South Lansing resident has dreamed of presenting this piece for decades.

"Symphony of Psalms" is a piece I've always been attracted to," Felgenhour said. "When I was in my 20s, I would fall asleep listening to it."

The text of the symphony, sung entirely in Latin, is pulled from three passages of the biblical Book of Psalms: 38:13-14, 40:2-4, and 150.

"The text really drew me in," said Felgenhour, who also serves as pastor of worship ministries at Lansing's South Church.

A classically trained singer, conductor and composer, Felgenhour also appreciates the musical depth of the piece.

"Compositionally, I love the way Stravinsky wrote it," he said. "The drama

between the chorus and the orchestra is incredible."

Indeed, the third movement of the symphony juxtaposes a song of praise — "Alleluia. Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in the firmament of His power" — against stark string chords and stabbing trumpets.

"At first it's jarring," Felgenhour said. "It seems almost ironic."

At the time he was writing "Symphony of Psalms," Stravinsky was living in France, effectively exiled from his homeland, and was depending on friends and benefactors for financial sustenance. He was also leading a double life, maintaining an unhappy marriage to his wife, Katya, while carrying on an extended affair with the dancer Vera de Bosset. Given the circumstances, it's not surprising that even Stravinsky's songs of praise are seasoned with bitterness.

This contrast of text and sound has been a challenge for the chorale in preparation of the piece.

"To our modern ears, it's difficult to understand the message in the musical language of Stravinsky," Felgenhour said.

The Steiner Chorale is a volunteer ensemble, with singers ranging in age from 20 to 70. Adult singers audition for the group and pay an annual membership fee, which goes toward administrative and promotional expenses. The chorale was founded in 1968 by William Steiner, a former choral director at East Lansing High School.

Part of the chorale's mission is to invest in the next generation of musicians: Last year the chorale established an annual scholarship competition, which awards \$1,750 to young singers. This mission also spills over into this concert, with local students joining the ranks of the orchestra.

"We have some very high-quality high school students in the orchestra," Felgenhour said. "It's a great way to see the talent that the Lansing area has to offer."

### "Symphony of Psalms"

The Steiner Chorale  
8 p.m. Saturday, March 7  
\$14  
St. Thomas Aquinas  
Parish  
955 Alton St., East  
Lansing  
[steinerchorale.org](http://steinerchorale.org)

—TY FORQUER



# Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE  
BY RICH TUPICA

### THE HANGDOG HEARTS AT THE AVENUE CAFE


**The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+, \$10, 9 p.m., Friday, March 6**



The Avenue Café is becoming known for its Americana-punk shows thanks to Steve King. The café's event manager has a knack for bringing in banjo-wielding troubadours from across the country. King's next frenetic-folk show is Friday. Headlining is the Hangdog Hearts, the rootsy one-man-band project of Indianapolis-based singer/songwriter Austin Stirling. The Hangdog Hearts started as a full band in 2012, but Stirling quickly stripped it down to a solo project and honed his soulful "angry-Gypsy-folk" sound. Its latest release is 2013's "Under the Floorboards." Openers at the Avenue are Brother Doug and songwriter James Hunnicutt, a Farmageddon Records artist. Over the years, Hunnicutt, a Washington state native, has recorded or played with a number of rustic-roots bands including Joe Buck Yourself, the Goddamn Gallows and Shooter Jennings, to name only a few.

**FRI. MAR 6TH**

### KUNIVA OF D12 AT MAC'S BAR




**Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$15, \$12 adv., 8 p.m., Saturday, March 7**

Detroit rapper Von Carlisle, better known as Kuniva, got his start in the hip-hop scene in 1996 when he teamed up with several Detroit rappers, including Eminem, to form the notoriously vulgar hip-hop unit D12. While Eminem hooked up with Dr. Dre in the early 2000s and rocketed into super stardom, Kuniva never left D12 and released two well-received discs with the group. "Devil's Night," released in 2001, featured the hit single "Purple Pills" and 2004's "D12 World" scored a Billboard hit with the single "My Band." Saturday Kuniva performs a solo show at Mac's Bar. Openers are Convotronics, Ribcage, Money Haye\$, Mark D Beats, AJ Southpaw and Big Sherm. Kuniva dropped his first solo effort, "Retribution... The Mixtape," in 2010. He's now promoting his 2014 album, "A History of Violence." The nine-song disc includes his ode to loyal D12 fans, "Derty Headz."

**SAT. MAR 7TH**

### J. RODDY WALSTON & THE BUSINESS AT THE LOFT



**The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$17, \$15 adv., 7 p.m., Saturday, March 7**

J. Roddy Walston & the Business formed in Cleveland, Tenn., in 2002 and developed a high-energy brand of rock 'n' roll. Its 2013 album "Essential Tremors," which topped the Billboard alternative rock charts, featured a blend of influences, including old Leon Russell LPs, vintage gospel, classic country and dashes of T-Rex-style glam rock. Walston, the lead vocalist, plays a real piano, not a keyboard. Each tour he lugs along his weighty 1970s Yamaha CP-60 upright. The band has recorded six releases, some on the Vagrant Records label. In March 2013, the band signed to ATO Records. The group headlines an all-ages show Saturday at the Loft. The event is co-hosted by Fusion Shows and 94.1 WVIC. Warming up the stage is Sleepwalkers, a Virginia-based euphonious indie-rock band that echoes Paul McCartney, the Kinks and Peter Gabriel.

**SAT. MAR 7TH**

**UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT RICH TUPICA AT RICH@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM >>> TO BE LISTED IN LIVE & LOCAL E-MAIL LIVEANDLOCAL@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM**

## LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	Hordes, 8 p.m.	Hangdog Hearts, 9 p.m.	One Ceri-Fly..., 9 p.m.
Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Rd.			Chris Lasko, 7 p.m.	Steve Cowles, 7 p.m.
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.			Showdown, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Blvd.		Open Mic w/Pat Zelenka, 9 p.m.	Hot Mess, 9 p.m.	Hot Mess, 9 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Fussion Shows Presents, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Dublin Square, 327 Abbot Rd.				Reviving the Era, 10 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Good Cookies, 9:30 p.m.	Skoryoke live band karaoke, 9:30 p.m.	The Rotations, 9:30 p.m.	Summer of Sol, 9:30 p.m.
Grand Café/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.			Karaoke w/Joanie Daniels, 7 p.m.	
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Johnny D Jam, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.	Soulstice, 9 p.m.	Mix Pack, 9 p.m.
Gus's Bar, 2321 W. Michigan Ave.			Karaoke	
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.				J. Roddy Walston & the Business, 7 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		OCD: Moosh & Twist, 7 p.m.	The Tagalongs, 7 p.m.	Kuniva, 8 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Comedy Night, 9 p.m.	Lincoln County Process, 9 p.m.	Good Cookies, 9 p.m.	Hooties, 9 p.m.
R-Club, 6409 Centurion Dr.			Retro Joe, 8:30 p.m.	Retro Joe, 8:30 p.m.
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27	Kathy Ford Band Karaoke, 7 p.m.	Mark Sala, 8 p.m.	Rush Clement, 8 p.m.	The New Rule, 8 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Rd.		Sarah Brunner, 7 p.m.	The New Rule, 7 p.m.	Rush Clement, 7 p.m.
Reno's West, 501 W. Saginaw Hwy.		Chris Lasko, 7 p.m.	Life Support, 8 p.m.	Bobby Standal, 8 p.m.
Tin Can West, 644 Migaldi Ln.	Waterpong, 11 p.m.			DJ Chalky, 9 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog & the Beeftones, 8:30 p.m.		
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Dr.			Joe Wright, 6 p.m.	
Watershed, 5965 Marsh Rd.		Jake Stevens, 7 p.m.	Capital City DJs, 10 p.m.	Capital City DJs, 10 p.m.
Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert St.			DJ, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.

**LIVE & LOCAL LISTS UPCOMING GIGS!** To get listed just email us at liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com or call (517) 999-5069. Only submit information for the following week's paper.

## Out on the town

from page 16

**Martha Aladjem Bloomfield at ANC.** Author of "Hmong Americans in Michigan." 10 a.m.-noon, FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo, Lansing. (517) 999-3912, allenneighborhoodcenter.org/people.

### MUSIC

**Marshall Music Open Jam.** Join other local musicians and get heard. 6 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700, marshallmusic.com.

**Fusion Shows presents.** Live music. 21-up. 10 p.m. FREE. Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2506, crunchyseastlansing.com.

**Lansing Matinee Musicale.** Live performance. 1 p.m. FREE. Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-9495.

**Vintage Sextet/Nelson Singers.** Vintage Sextet and Earl Nelson Singers. 1 p.m. FREE. Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-9495.

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Marge Piercy.** Converse with author Marge Piercy. 7 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, MSU Campus, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700, lib.msu.edu.

## Thursday, March 5

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous.** 7-8 p.m. FREE. Community Mental Health Building, Room 214G, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

**Yoga.** Basic poses. 11 a.m.-noon. \$6/\$8 non-members. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

**Take Off Pounds Sensibly.** 5:15 p.m. \$5. New Hope Church, 1340 Haslett Road, Haslett. (517) 349-9183, newhopehaslett.com.

**Take Off Pounds Sensibly.** Weigh-in 6 p.m., meeting 6:30 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 882-9080, stdavidslansing.org.

**Meditation.** For beginners and experienced. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. Quan Am Temple, 1840 N. College Ave., Mason. (517) 853-1675, quanamtemple.org.

**Family Storytime.** Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes and activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363, cadl.org.

**Tarot Study Group.** With Dawne Botke. 7 p.m. FREE. Triple Goddess New Age Bookstore, 2019 E. Michigan

Ave., Lansing. (517) 883-3619, triplegoddessbookstore.net.

**Preschool Science Exploration.** Hands On Science. This month's theme is rain. 1-2:30 p.m. \$4. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866, meridian.mi.us.

**Alzheimers Association Education.** Legal and financial planning for the future. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, ow.ly/Jji6D.

**Celebrate Recovery.** For all types of habits. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Trinity Church, 3355 Dunckel Road, Lansing. (517) 492-1866.

**H.E.R.O.: Cabinet Repurposing.** Call to register or email bruce@glhc.org. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St. Lansing. (517) 372-5980, glhc.org.

### EVENTS

**Community Conversation.** "Community Food" with Randy Bell. 7 p.m. FREE. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 349-0250, facebook.com/FriendsOfTheOkemosLibrary.

**Karaoke.** With Atomic D. 9 p.m. LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 482-0184.

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

**Euchre.** No partner needed. 6-9 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

**Ladies Silver Blades Figure Skating Club.** Lessons, exercise and practice for adults. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (517) 574-4380.

**8-Ball Tournament.** Bring your pool game to the Avenue. Call to confirm because it is cancelled occasionally. 7 p.m. \$10. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 492-7403.

### MUSIC

**OCD: Moosh & Twist.** With guests Ground Up, James Gardin and more. 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$12. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795, fusionshows.com.

**MSU Faculty Recital.** Suren Bagratuni, cello, and Ralph Votapek, piano. 7:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/students FREE. Cook Recital Hall, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, music.msu.edu.

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Writing the Body: Poetry.** Workshop on poetry inspired by visual art. 7 p.m. FREE. Lookout! Gallery, 362 Bogue St., MSU campus, East Lansing. (517) 884-1932, poetry.rcah.msu.edu/calendar.html.

## FRIDAY MARCH 6 >> APPAREL AND TEXTILE DESIGN FASHION SHOW

Watch models strut their stuff as they showcase student-designed garments at the annual Apparel and Textile Design Student Fashion Show. MSU's Department of Art, Art History and Design will host the juried event that explores designs ranging from classic to avant-garde. An understanding of global issues, including sustainability and cultural dress, will be reflected in the students' original work. 7 p.m. \$15. Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

## MONDAY MARCH 9 >> ALCOA AT MAC'S BAR

Hailing from Portsmouth, N.H., Alcoa is touring to promote its sophomore album, "Parlour Tricks." Alcoa started as a solo project created by Derek Archambault, vocalist for the hardcore band Defeater, but eventually evolved into a six-piece "alt-country" band with Archambault on lead guitar and vocals. Opening acts are Choir Vandals from St. Louis, Mo., the Tiny Ugly Germs from Port Huron and the Fever Haze from Holland. 5:30 p.m. \$10 advance/\$12 at the door. All ages. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. fusionshows.com.

## TUESDAY MARCH 10 >> AN EVENING OF IRISH POETRY, STORYTELLING AND SONG

Celebrate the rich culture and heritage of Ireland with local actors, poets and musicians at Dublin Square Irish Restaurant & Pub. Sing along to traditional Irish tunes with Sally Potter, founder of East Lansing's Mid-Winter Singing Festival, and hear poets recite the poems of Ireland's greatest authors. Many other local artists are scheduled to perform and Dublin Square will be serving up fresh pints and their Irish-influenced pub fare. 7:30 p.m. FREE. Dublin Square Irish Restaurant & Pub, 327 Abbot Road, East Lansing. ruestokes@gmail.com.

## THURSDAY MARCH 12 >> MUSIC AT THE MANSION

The Music at the Mansion concert series presents its inaugural event Thursday, featuring music by Liudmila Bondar and Ed Fedewa. Bondar earned a master's in fine arts in her native Russia and a master's in piano performance and pedagogy from MSU. Fedewa holds a master's degree from MSU as well, and is principal bass in the Lansing Symphony Orchestra. Their performance will feature pieces from baroque, classical, romantic and contemporary composers. Future performances will be on the second Thursday of each month, featuring various genres including jazz, chamber music and more. Proceeds from the event will go toward the continuing restoration of the Turner-Dodge House. 7 p.m. \$10. Turner-Dodge House, 100 E. North St., Lansing. beebe.michael@yahoo.com.

**Thursday Morning Storytime.** Stories and crafts. 10 a.m. FREE. Barnes and Noble, 5132 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing. (517) 327-0437, bn.com.

Opening reception. 6-9 p.m. FREE. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600, micagallery.org.

**Howl at the Moon Guided Walk.** Enjoy a guided walk through the nighttime woods. 7-8 p.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866, meridian.mi.us.

**Animal Vaccination Clinic.** Free rabies, \$5 distemper, \$15 microchip. Cats/dogs. Noon-4 p.m. Ingham County Animal Control Outreach Center, 826 W. Saginaw, Lansing. (517) 676-8372, ac.ingham.org.

**ATD Fashion Show.** Apparel and Textile Design avant garde fashion show. 7 p.m. \$17. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982, whartoncenter.com.

### MUSIC

**An Evening of Jazz.** Featuring the LCC Jazz Band. 7:30 p.m. FREE. Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave. Lansing. (517) 483-1546, lcc.edu/showinfo.

## Friday, March 6

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Friday Flicks: "Gone Girl."** Murder mystery. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

**Weekday Science.** Science education. This month: Water Everywhere. 1-2:30 p.m. \$4. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866, meridian.mi.us.

**Diversify Your Farm Revenue.** Area farmers share business diversification ideas. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo, Lansing. (517) 999-3923, allenmarketplace.org/happenings.

### EVENTS

"What We All Come To Need" Art Exhibit.



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PUBLIC CLASSES 7 DAYS A WEEK!

# Out on the town

from page 18

**Singles TGIF Party.** Weekly singles party with fun, food and dancing. 7:30 p.m.-midnight, \$13. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 S. Chandler Road, Bath. (517) 281-6272, singlestgif.com.

**MSU Jazz Orchestras.** With Peter Bernstein, guitar. 8 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/students FREE with ID. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, music.msu.edu.

## THEATER

**"Mr. Toad's Mad Adventures."** Adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's classic book. 7 p.m. \$7/\$5 seniors, kids 12 and under. Eaton Rapids Public School, 912 Greyhound Drive, Eaton Rapids. (517) 339-2145, mmft.org.

## Saturday, March 7

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Tai Chi in the Park.** Free class for beginning and experienced tai chi players. Now at winter location. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

**Domestic Violence Support Group.** Noon-1:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163, womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org.

**Masterworks Choral & Orchestra.** Steiner Chorale and Masterworks Orchestra. 8 p.m. \$14. St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 955 Alton Road, East Lansing. (517) 333-3638, steinerchorale.org.

## EVENTS

**Karaoke.** With Atomic D. 9 p.m. LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 482-0184.

**Benefit for Maddie Jo Norton.** Auction, raffles, bake sale, food fun and more. 3 p.m. FREE. Williamston Fraternal Order of Eagles #4091, 835 High St., Williamston. (517) 655-6510.

**"What We All Come To Need" Art Exhibit.** By Daniel Finks and Matthew M. Maher. Noon-3 p.m. FREE. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600, micagallery.org.

## MUSIC

**J Roddy Walston & The Business.** Live performance. 7 p.m. \$15. The Loft, (At Harem Urban Lounge) 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. fusionshows.com.

**Lansing Symphony MasterWorks 5.** Works by Mozart, Elgar and Helms. 8 p.m. \$15-50. Wharton

Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 487-5001, lansingsymphony.org.

## THEATER

**"Mr. Toad's Mad Adventures."** (See Friday March 6 for details.) 7 p.m. \$7/\$5 seniors, kids 12 and under. Eaton Rapids Public School, 912 Greyhound Drive, Eaton Rapids. (517) 339-2145, mmft.org.

## LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Once Upon a Cloud Storytime.** Stories and crafts. 11 a.m. FREE. Barnes and Noble, 5132 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing. (517) 327-0437, bn.com.

## Sunday, March 8

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Juggling.** Learn how to juggle. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumpouse, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. (517) 371-5119, ruetenik@gmail.com.

**Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous.** Third floor meeting room. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

**Spiritual Talk, Pure Meditation and Silent Prayer.** 7 p.m. FREE. Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre, 7187 Drumheller Road, Bath. (517) 641-6201, selfrealizationcentremichigan.org.

**Parents of LGBTQ kids.** Weekly support group. All faiths are welcome. 3-4:30 p.m. FREE. Diversity Psychological Services, 1310 Turner St., Lansing. (720) 401-4214.

## EVENTS

**"What We All Come To Need" Art Exhibit.** By Daniel Finks and Matthew M. Maher. Noon-3 p.m. FREE. MICA

Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600, micagallery.org.

**Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance.** Lessons 6-6:30 p.m., dance 7-10 p.m. \$8 dance/\$10 dance & lesson/FREE for students. The Lansing Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 490-7838.

**"Muse" Opening Reception.** Multimedia exhibit. Live music by the Honey Badgers. 1-3 p.m. FREE. TIC Gallery, 325 E. Grand River Ave. Suite #275, East Lansing.

**Sunday's Avenue Cure All.** Make your own Bloody Marys. Breakfast all day. 3-9 p.m. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 492-7403, facebook.com/avenuecafe2021.

**Comedy Night.** No cover. \$1 off everything. 7 p.m. The Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 482-6376, greendoorlive.com.

**Pokemon/Magic the Gathering Card Games.**

Tutorials for kids. Starter decks provided. Everybody Reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900, facebook.com/everybodyreads.

## MUSIC

**Organ Recital.** Performing Bach, Dubois and

others. 3 p.m. FREE. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 218 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. (517) 482-9454, glc-ago.org.

## Monday, March 9

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Saints, Sinners & Cynics.** Lively conversation, variety of topics, no judgment. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Coral Gables, 2838 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 882-9733, saintmichaellansing.org.

**"Inherit the Wild."** Movie and discussion, 1:30-3 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

**Learn to Meditate.** Taught by Bob Teachout. Enter at rear of building. 8:15-9 p.m. Donations. C. Weaver Physical Therapy Exercise Studio, 1720 Abbey Road, East Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

**Adult Rape Survivor Support Group.** Registration preferred. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Women's

See Out on the Town, Page 20

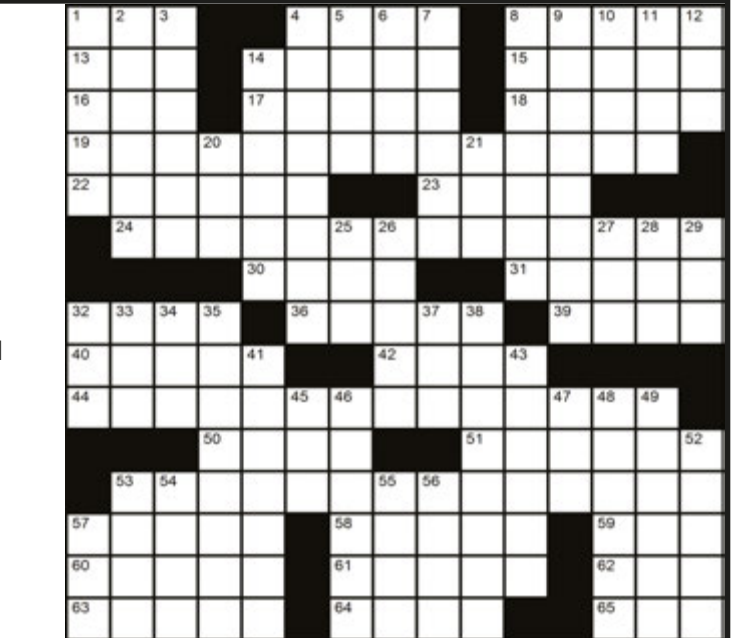
## Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Know Now!"-and now you know.  
Matt Jones

### Across

- 1 Go out
- 4 Faddish 1990s collectibles
- 8 Hawke of "Boyhood"
- 13 Bovine opinion
- 14 "Head Like \_\_\_" (NIN song)
- 15 A nephew of Donald
- 16 AM drinks
- 17 Looked longingly
- 18 Checkout line count
- 19 Comedian Garofalo gives negative feedback?
- 22 Least tropical
- 23 Execute perfectly
- 24 Topeka residents provide instructions?
- 30 "This \_\_\_" (1979 hit)
- 31 One of The Judds
- 32 Schnitzel stuff
- 36 "South Park" surname
- 39 Period of silence
- 40 Appearance at home?
- 42 2010 Apple release
- 44 Brew inspired by a fictional search engine on "The Good Wife"?
- 50 Not quite the leader
- 51 Yuletide refrain
- 53 Grammy category for five-year-olds?
- 57 "Beer Barrel" dance
- 58 Actor \_\_\_ William Scott
- 59 "Get it, man?"
- 60 Herb in pesto sauce



- 61 "All My Children" femme fatale
- 62 Prefix before brow
- 63 Needed a bath badly
- 64 40-yard race
- 65 Longfellow contemporary

- 9 All-out battle
- 10 A nephew of Donald
- 11 Uses a scope
- 12 "Dr. Mario" platform
- 14 "Open" author Andre
- 20 Ending for Hallow
- 21 "Boo-\_\_\_!"
- 25 "Boiler Room" co-star Long
- 26 Reduce to essentials
- 27 Work the soil
- 28 Chanted syllables
- 29 Comedian's forte
- 32 "Wet/dry" buy
- 33 Shakespearean suffix
- 34 "Aladdin" monkey
- 35 Glove material
- 37 Detox place
- 38 Size for some margins

- 41 Daytime fare with Sharon Osbourne
- 43 Troi on "Star Trek: TNG"
- 45 Sport-\_\_\_ (4WD vehicle)
- 46 Gathered in a crowd
- 47 "Solve for x" subj.
- 48 Bedridden
- 49 Bad weather culprit, sometimes
- 52 Texas A&M player
- 53 Junk or dinghy
- 54 "Let It Go" singer
- 55 Giga- times a thousand
- 56 Je ne \_\_\_ quoi
- 57 "Downton Abbey" ainer

## SUDOKU

## ADVANCED

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

## TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 21

## Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsky

Mar. 4-10

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): To depict what lay beyond the limits of the known world, medieval mapmakers sometimes drew pictures of dragons and sea serpents. Their images conveyed the sense that these territories were uncharted and perhaps risky to explore. There were no actual beasts out there, of course. I think it's possible you're facing a comparable situation. The frontier realm you are wandering through may seem to harbor real dragons, but I'm guessing they are all of the imaginary variety. That's not to say you should entirely let down your guard. Mix some craftiness in with your courage. Beware of your mind playing tricks.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Whenever I close my eyes and seek psychic visions of your near future, I see heroic Biblical scenes. Moses is parting the Red Sea. Joseph is interpreting Pharaoh's dream. Jesus is feeding 5,000 people with five loaves of bread and two fish. What's the meaning of my reveries? Well, this psychic stuff is tricky, and I hesitate to draw definitive conclusions. But if I had to guess, I'd speculate that you are ripe to provide a major blessing or perform an unprecedented service for people you care about.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): In a *New Yorker* cartoon, Tom Gauld outlines "The Four Undramatic Plot Structures": 1. "The hero is confronted by an antagonistic force and ignores it until it goes away." 2. "The protagonist is accused of wrongdoing, but it's not a big thing and soon gets sorted out." 3. "The heroine is faced with a problem but it's really difficult so she gives up." 4. "A man wants something. Later, he's not so sure. By supertime he's forgotten all about it." In my astrological opinion, Gemini, you should dynamically avoid all four of those fates. Now is a time for you to take brave, forceful action as you create dramatic plot twists that serve your big dreams.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): "To be happy is to be able to become aware of oneself without fright," said heavyweight German philosopher Walter Benjamin, a fellow Cancerian. I am happy to report that there's a good chance you will soon be blessed with an extraordinary measure of this worry-free self-awareness. And when you do -- when you are basking in an expanded self-knowledge infused with self-love and self-appreciation -- some of your chronic fear will drop away, and you will have at your disposal a very useful variety of happiness.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): "As you get older, the heart sheds its leaves like a tree," said French novelist Gustave Flaubert. "You cannot hold out against certain winds. Each day tears away a few more leaves; and then there are the storms that break off several branches at one go. And while nature's greenery grows back again in the spring, that of the heart never grows back." Do you agree with Flaubert, Leo? I don't. I say that you can live with such resilient innocence that your heart's leaves grow back after a big wind, and become ever-more lush and hardy as you age. You can send down such deep, strong roots and stretch your branches toward the sun with such vigor that your heart always has access to the replenishment it needs to flourish. The coming weeks will provide evidence that what I say is true.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "I will not wait to love as best as I can," says writer Dave Eggers. "We thought we were young and that there would be time to love well sometime in the future. This is a terrible way to think. It is no way to live, to wait to love." That's your keynote for the coming weeks, Virgo. That's your wake-up call and the rose-scented note under your pillow and the message scrawled in lipstick on your bathroom mirror. If there is any part of you that believes love will be better or fuller or more perfect in the future, tell that part of you to shut up and embrace this tender command: Now is the time to love with all of your heart and all of your soul and all of your mind.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I love the song "Shine On You Crazy Diamond," by Pink Floyd. Other favorites are

Tool's "Third Eye" and Yo La Tengo's "Pass the Hatchet, I Think I'm Goodkind." But all of these tunes have a similar problem. They're more than ten minutes long. Even before my attention span got shrunk by the Internet, listening to them tested my patience. Now I have to forcefully induce a state of preternatural relaxation if I want to hear them all the way through. In the coming days, Libra, don't be like a too-much-of-a-good-thing song. Be willing to edit yourself. Observe concise boundaries. Get to the point quickly. (You'll be rewarded for it.)

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Sneaking around isn't necessary, Scorpio. There's no useful power to be gained by hiding information or pursuing secret agendas. This is not a time when it's essential for you to be a master of manipulation who's ten steps ahead of everyone else. For now, you are likely to achieve maximum success and enjoy your life the most if you are curious, excitable, and transparent. I invite you to embody the mindset of a creative, precocious child who has a loving mommy and daddy.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): In 1953, Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay became the first humans to reach the summit of Mount Everest. It took them seven weeks to climb the 29,029-foot peak. In 1960, Jacques Piccard and Don Walsh got into a bathyscaphe and sailed to the lowest point on the planet, the Mariana Trench at the bottom of the Pacific Ocean. It took them four hours and 47 minutes to go down 36,070 feet. Based on my analysis of your astrological omens, I think the operative metaphor for you in the coming weeks should be the deep descent, not the steep ascent. It's time to explore and hang out in the depths rather than the heights.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The African country of Ivory Coast has two different capital cities. Yamoussoukro is the official capital, while Abidjan is the actual capital, where the main governmental action takes place. I suspect there's a comparable split in your personal realm, Capricorn: a case of mixed dominance. Maybe that's a good thing; maybe it allows for a balance of power between competing interests. Or perhaps it's a bit confusing, causing a split in your attention that hampers you from expressing a unified purpose. Now would be a favorable time to think about how well the division is working for you, and to tinker with it if necessary.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I've gone on three book tours and done my spoken-word show in scores of bookstores. But one of my favorite author events took place at the Avenue C Laundromat in New York City's East Village. There I performed with two other writers as part of the "Dirty Laundry: Loads of Prose" reading series. It was a boisterous event. All of us authors were extra loose and goofy, and the audience offered a lot of funny, good-nature heckling. The unusual location freed everyone up to have maximum amusement. I see the coming weeks as a time when you, too, might thrive by doing what you do best in seemingly out-of-context situations. If you're not outright invited to do so, I suggest you invite yourself.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): When Arnold Schwarzenegger became Governor of California in 2003, the state had the eighth largest economy in the world, right behind Italy and just ahead of Brazil. Schwarzenegger had never before held political office. When Cambodian doctor Haing Nor performed in the film *The Killing Fields*, for which he ultimately won an Oscar, he had no training as an actor. He was a novice. Will you try to follow in their footsteps, Pisces? Is it possible you could take on a role for which you have no preparation or seasoning? According to my divinations, the answer is yes. But is it a good idea? That's a more complex issue. Trust your gut.

## AMERICAN FIFTH SPIRITS

Allan I. Ross/City Pulse  
Rick Wyble (left)  
and Mike Bird belly  
up to what will  
soon be the bar in  
the tasting room  
of American Fifth  
Spirits.



### By ALLAN I. ROSS

Last week I promised you an update on **American Fifth Spirits**, the small-batch liquor distillery across from the Cooley Law School Stadium in downtown

Lansing. I mentioned that although it had started production and distribution, construction on the tasting room, which was supposed to open last summer, had stalled. And now we know why.

"The (2013) government shutdown really hurt us," said Mike Bird, spokesman for American Fifth. The distillery is owned and operated by Rick Wyble, who also serves as head distiller.

"We had no idea how long its effects would last when we established our initial schedule," said Bird. "It cost us at least 90 days."

Then the priority was production. American Fifth's first release, **Hue Vodka**, started arriving in mid-Michigan bars and liquor stores last November. And last week it released its second: **Capital Gin**. Like all gins, it's made from vodka ("Gin was the world's

first flavored vodka," Wyble said), in this case Hue. The main ingredient in both is a Michigan crop: red winter wheat.

"There are over 7,000 kinds of wheat, but the seed for red winter wheat is grown right here in Michigan, and it's the best," Bird said. "We're very proud of Michigan agriculture. We're going to be exclusively using Michigan crops (in our spirits). We don't want to just take on Grand Rapids and Detroit as a production facility — we want to take on the world."

Bird said Hue was designed to usurp a certain high-end French vodka, one named after a drab waterfowl, that graces the top shelves of most bars.

"I will put Hue up against Grey Goose any day of the week," Bird said. "Our motto is, 'We want to take the Grey out of your day.'"

Bird said the tasting room, situated inside the 4,600-square-foot building at 112 N. Larch, should open by the end of the month. He estimates that when construction is complete, it will have cost about \$300,000 to transform the building, originally a car dealership and most recently home

to a pawn shop, into a key component of Lansing's "cocktail culture."

"We're riding on the waves of the beer brewers," Bird said. "Until recently, people didn't know what an IPA was, but then craft beer took off and now it's become common knowledge."

Even though the tasting room isn't open yet, American Fifth has a group of followers who call themselves "Partillectuals." (Think Deadheads or Parrotheads, but for artisan spirits.) And the goal isn't just to draw a crowd to the tasting room, but to mid-Michigan in general.

"We openly promote every location that sells our stuff," Bird said. That includes **Emil's Restaurant, Zoobie's Old Town Tavern, Big Ten Liquor Stores and Quality Dairy**. "This is the next step in the evolution of the drinker. It's not going to be about a particular place, but a particular region. And with the diversity of Michigan's agriculture, I can't see how anyone can compete."

*American Fifth Spirits is hiring. For more information, go to its Facebook page: facebook.com/americanfifth*

## Out on the town

from page 19

Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

**Job Seekers Support Group.** Finding the right career. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163, womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org.

**Support Group.** For the divorced, separated and widowed. Room 9. 7:30 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272, stdavidslansing.org.

### EVENTS

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

**Mac's Monday Comedy Night.** Hosted by Mark Roebuck and Dan Currie. 9:30 p.m. FREE. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795, macsbar.com.

### MUSIC

**Alcoa.** With guest Choir Vandals. 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$10. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795. fusionshows.com/event/03-09-15/alcoa-macs-bar-lansing-mi.

## Tuesday, March 10

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**LCS Student Shadow Day.** Half-day opportunity. 8 a.m. FREE. Lansing Christian School, 3405 Belle

# Out on the town

from page 20

Chase Way, Lansing. (517) 882-5779 ext. 107, lansingchristianschool.org.

**Lansing Christian Campus Tours.** For prospective families. 9 or 10 a.m. Lansing Christian School, 3405 Belle Chase Way, Lansing. (517) 882-5779 ext. 107, lansingchristianschool.org.

**Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous.** 5:45-6:45 p.m. FREE. EVERYbody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

**Speakeasies Toastmasters.** Improve listening, analysis, leadership and presentation skills. 12:05-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (616) 841-5176.

**Hopeful Hearts Grief Group.** Learn, grow and heal together. 10-11 a.m. FREE. The Marquette Activity Room, 5968 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. (517) 381-4866.

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

**Not So Happy Endings Support Group.** For women ending relationships. 5:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 896-3311.

**Take Off Pounds Sensibly.** Have a support system, lose weight. 7 p.m. FREE to visit. Eaton Rapids Medical Center, 1500 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. (517) 543-0786.

**Blood Pressure Checks.** No appointment needed, 11:30 a.m.-noon, FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

**Ask a Business Librarian.** Market research. 2-4

p.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, Suite 110, 309 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcnichigan.org.

**Chair Massage.** Call for an appointment. 9:30 a.m.-noon. \$14/\$12 members. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

**Overeaters Anonymous.** To support you in your weight loss efforts. 7 p.m. FREE. Okemos Presbyterian Church, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 290-5163.

**Courage in Action: Michigan Women.** Michigan Women's Hall of Fame presentation. 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

## EVENTS

**Bible and Beer.** Discussion of scripture in everyday settings. 6 p.m. FREE. Midtown Brewing Co., 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 482-0600, bibleandbeer@ccclansing.org.

**"Sporcle Live!" Trivia.** Win Crunchy's gift certificates. 7 p.m. FREE. Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2506, crunchyseastlansing.com.

**LCC Encore! Plus 50 Expo.** Job search expo for older adults. Noon-5 p.m. FREE. Lansing Community College East Campus, 2827 Eyde Parkway, East Lansing. (517) 492-5580, ow.ly/JJyLA.

**"What We All Come To Need" Art Exhibit.** By Daniel Finks and Matthew M. Maher. Noon-5 p.m. FREE. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600, micagallery.org.

## Wednesday, March 11

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Family Storytime.** Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes and activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 367-6363.

**Meditation.** For beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Vietnamese Buddhist Temple, 3015 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 351-5866.

**Painting Class: Asian Brush.** 7 week class. 10-11 a.m. \$15/supplies. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

**Computer Club: Computer Basics.** Computer Basics, 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

**Walk-In Wednesdays.** Drop-In Art Class. All ages. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE (\$5 suggested donation). Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

**Marketing Your Business.** Designed to grow. 2-4:30 p.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, Suite 110, 309 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcnichigan.org.

**Writing a Business Plan.** Creating a draft. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, Suite 110, 309 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcnichigan.org.

**Business Legal Issues.** Tax, contract, licenses, etc. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, Suite 110, 309 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcnichigan.org.

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

## EVENTS

**Open Workshop.** Bike repair, bike safety and biking as

healthy exercise. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Kids Repair Program, 5815 Wise Road, Lansing. (517) 755-4174.

**Tuesday Toolmen at ANC.** Learn how to install and repair doorknobs. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo, Lansing. (517) 999-3912, allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

**Practice Your English.** Practice listening to and speaking English. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

**Farmers Market at Allen Market Place.** Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

**"What We All Come To Need" Art Exhibit.** By Daniel Finks and Matthew M. Maher. Noon-5 p.m. FREE. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600, micagallery.org.

## MUSIC

**Fusion Shows presents.** Live music. 21-up. 10 p.m. FREE. Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2506, crunchyseastlansing.com.

**Piano/Music Lessons: Ongoing.** Beginners Group, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$15. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.



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From Pg. 19

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CHUMHUMP	PALEALE	
BETA	FALALA	
BESTESTS	SINGING	
POLKA	SEANN	DIG
BASIL	ERICA	UNI
STANK	DASH	POE

### SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 19

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



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# Food Finder

from page 22

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11 p.m. Saturday; closed  
Sunday. (517) 321-7440.  
rclublansing.com. OM,  
TO, P, FB, \$-\$\$\$

**RELLI'S** — Italian cuisine. 202 E. Main St., DeWitt. 11 a.m.-midnight Sunday-Saturday. (517) 669-9243. rellispizzeria.com, FB, TO, OM, RES, P, WiFi \$-\$\$

**RENO'S EAST** — Sports bar and grill. 1310 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 11 a.m.-2 a.m. daily. (517) 351-7366. renosportsbar.com. FB, WB, TO, \$-\$\$\$

**RENO'S NORTH** — Sports bar and grill. 16460 S. U.S. 27, Lansing. 11 a.m.-2 a.m. daily. (517) 487-8686. renosportsbar.com, FB, WB, TO, \$-\$\$\$

**RENO'S WEST** — Sports bar and grill. 5001 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. 11 a.m.-2 a.m. (517) 321-7366. renosportsbar.com. FB, WB, TO, \$-\$\$\$

**THE RIV** — Burgers, beer and bar food. 231 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. 4:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Monday-Wednesday; noon-2 a.m. Thursday; 4 p.m.-2 a.m. Friday-Saturday; 6 p.m.-2 a.m. Sunday. (517) 351-5855. TO, \$

**SIR PIZZA** — Calzones, salads, pasta and subs. Two locations: 1818 S. Cedar St., Lansing and 201 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. Noon-midnight Sunday; 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Friday-Saturday. (517) 484-4825 or (517) 487-3733. sirpizza-mi.com. OM, TO, D, FB, P, \$

**SMOKEY BONES** — American barbecue. 2401 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing Twp., 11 a.m.-2 a.m. daily. (517) 316-9973. smokey-bones.com, OM, TO, \$\$\$Saturday. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

**SOUP SPOON CAFE** — Specialty lunch/dinner creations, daily rotating soup selection. 1419 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday; 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 7 a.m.-midnight Friday; 8 a.m.-midnight Saturday; closed Sunday. (517) 316-2377. soupspooncafe.com. FB, OM, TO, WiFi, RES, \$-\$\$

**SPAGNUOLO'S RESTAURANT** — Offers weekly and family specials on Italian food. 662 W. Grand River, Okemos. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday & Saturday; Closed Sunday. (517) 349-9605. spagsinfo.com, OM, RES, FB, TO, \$\$

**SPAG'S BAR & GRILL** — Offers variety from burgers to steak. 1286 E. Grand River Road, Williamston. 4 p.m.-midnight Tuesday-Thursday; noon-1 a.m. Friday & Saturday; noon-10 p.m. Sunday; Closed Monday. (517) 655-4888. spagsinfo.com, RES, TO, OM, FB, \$\$

**SPARTAN HALL OF FAME CAFE** — MSU themed sports bar. 1601 W. Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing. 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday. (517) 337-4680. spartanhalloffamecafe.com, FB, TO, OM, RES, P, WiFi, \$\$-\$\$\$.

**SPARTY'S CONEY ISLAND** — Offers \$1.25 coney dogs every Tuesday. 300 N. Clippert St. #5, Lansing. 7 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday. (517) 332-0111, TO, \$

**SPENCER'S KITCHEN AND BAR** — Deli food. 313 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing; 11 a.m.-midnight Monday-Saturday; noon-9:30 p.m. Sunday; (517) 853-3033. FB, TO, D, OM, WiFi, P, RES, \$\$

**STEAK AND SHAKE** — Famous for "Steakburgers." Two locations: 540 E. Edgewood Blvd, Lansing. Sunday-Saturday 24 hours. (517) 272-3038. Also at 542 N. Marketplace Blvd., Lansing. 10 a.m.-1 a.m. Sunday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-3 a.m. Friday-Saturday. (517) 622-8687. steakshake.com, TO, OM, RES, \$

**TACOS E MAS** — Mexican fare at two locations. 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday; 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday. (517) 272-7979. Also: 1850 Cedar, Holt. 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday; 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday. (517) 699-8226. tacosemas.com. D, OM, TO, \$

# Escapism by the bottle

## Exploring wines from the Southern Hemisphere

By JUSTIN KING

A bottle of wine can be a fantastic storytelling device. One can pop a cork on pretty much any bottle and reminisce about a once-in-a-lifetime vacation or dream of one on the horizon. The romanticism and hope — and a little inebriation — are breeding grounds for a great shared night and a little wanderlust.

Old Man Winter is laughing at Michigan right now. The mitten's wine drinkers can handle this wintry season with grace and a thirst for escapism — if only for a bottle or two — to the other side of this lumpy sphere called Earth.

There are some places in the world harvesting tasty grapes rights now, and they will do so through early May. While we are at (hopefully) the tail end of a Michigan winter, Southern Hemisphere grapes are seeing a combination of heat and sun. Believe it.

A great place to start is Argentina. It's already the world's fifth-largest wine producer, a spot they've earned with consistent, quality wine. Malbec is the important grape here. Its origin lies in Southwest France, where it's known as cot. Achaval-Ferrer winery is a great example of quality production at many price points. Some bottles will run you north of \$100, but its everyday malbec is a failsafe perennial pick. It's not too thick, dense, over-the-top jammy or tannic. Jet black in the glass, the 2013 vintage is blackberry/blueberry without being overripe. It is complex, having a topsoil earthiness without stinking like compost. The good news is this should only cost about \$22 at most stores.

South Africa is another recent force in quality wines. Names like Eben Sadie, Hamilton Russell and Mullineux will be on the scene for years, it seems, with modern winemaking and fruit/earth balance as touchstones. Perhaps the superstar of South Africa is Johan Reyneke. Reyneke has been making estate-grown wines for a while now, surfing and cooking up braai (a South African barbecue) in his free time. But his care of wine grapes can't go unnoticed.

The 2012 syrah is a serious contender for value of the year for a full-bodied red wine. This vintage features lush, compete-like flavors of cassis, strawberry and raspberry grounded in totally rock-solid, graphite-like minerality. It's hearty



Courtesy photo

The 2013 malbec from Argentina's Achaval-Ferrer winery is a great way to fight the winter blues.

without feeling too heavy, juicy and still pretty. Reyneke Wines is in Stellenbosch, a 45-minute drive east of Cape Town, a region that has been making wine for four centuries. It is just now becoming known worldwide for syrah, chardonnay and merlot/cabernet sauvignon blends. Expect to spend about \$25 or so for this syrah, but if you're feeling curious, look at other labels from Stellenbosch. There is value across the board on wines from this region.

This brings us to what is probably the least sexy wine country of the moment: Australia. Thank underperforming critter wines — the ones with wacky animals on the label like Yellow Tail and Little Penguin — for that. Australia's climate is hot and the wine industry is dominated by corporations, which leads to simplistic, way-too-jammy wines. Fear not, though. One can find age-worthy, acid-driven white wine from down under. Case in point: 2013 Brokenwood semillon. This is from Hunter Valley, a hot and humid area that paradoxically produces beautifully restrained wine that tastes refreshing alongside sea bass or tuna. This particular semillon is mouthwatering at about \$20, and has

flavors that move between lemon peel and tangerine.

A few thousand kilometers eastward is the land that gave us both the lush landscapes of "Lord of the Rings" and the stark soundscapes of Lorde. New Zealand has become a sauvignon blanc-production leader worldwide, which is impressive considering how young the wine industry is for the Kiwis. The 2014 version of "The Loop," a sauvignon blanc from Barker's Marquee, is a nice wine to consider here.

Sauvignon blanc tends to be known for its obvious citrus flavors and aromas. "The Loop" is an everyday-priced wine that shows more depth than the \$15 tag suggests, with pretty grapefruit and lemon curd notes and a crisp, dry finish. While some New Zealand sauvignon blancs veer heavily into vegetal notes, this one lands safely in the "fun and fruity" category.

All of these wines are readily available through distributors to your favorite independent bottle shop, even if they can't transport all of that wonderful Southern Hemisphere summer sunshine with the vino.

*Justin King is the sommelier at the Stand Gastro Bistro in Birmingham, a Williamston resident and a certified sommelier. He would love talk and hear about your favorite wines. Email him at justinking@gmail.com*

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