

CityPULSE

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January 14-20, 2015

FIBER TO THE PEOPLE

HIGH-SPEED INTERNET HIGHWAY IS COMING TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD • PAGE 9

WHAT'S THE USE?

LANSING SHOULD GET OUT OF THE CITY MARKET BUSINESS - HIRTEN, PAGE 7

TAPESTRY OF VOICES

TAKE 6 JOINS MSU'S ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. TRIBUTE - PAGE 12

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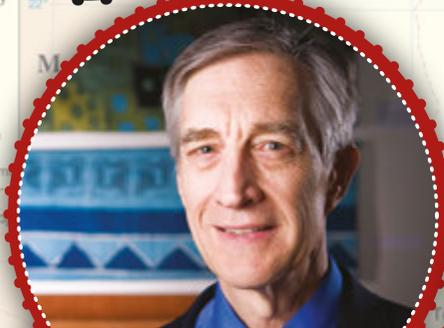
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CityPULSE NEWSMAKERS



HOSTED BY **BERL SCHWARTZ**

THIS WEEK:
MSU IN MALI



STEPHEN ESQUITH

DEAN OF THE MSU RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE IN THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES



MOUSSA TRAORE

MSU STUDENT FROM MALI



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Are you in jeopardy of losing your home?

Ingham County Treasurer Eric Schertzing wants you to know there may be help.

Go to

www.HoldOnToYourHome.org

to see a property tax foreclosure listing. If you or someone you know is on that list, the Ingham County Treasurer's office can direct you to resources that could help.



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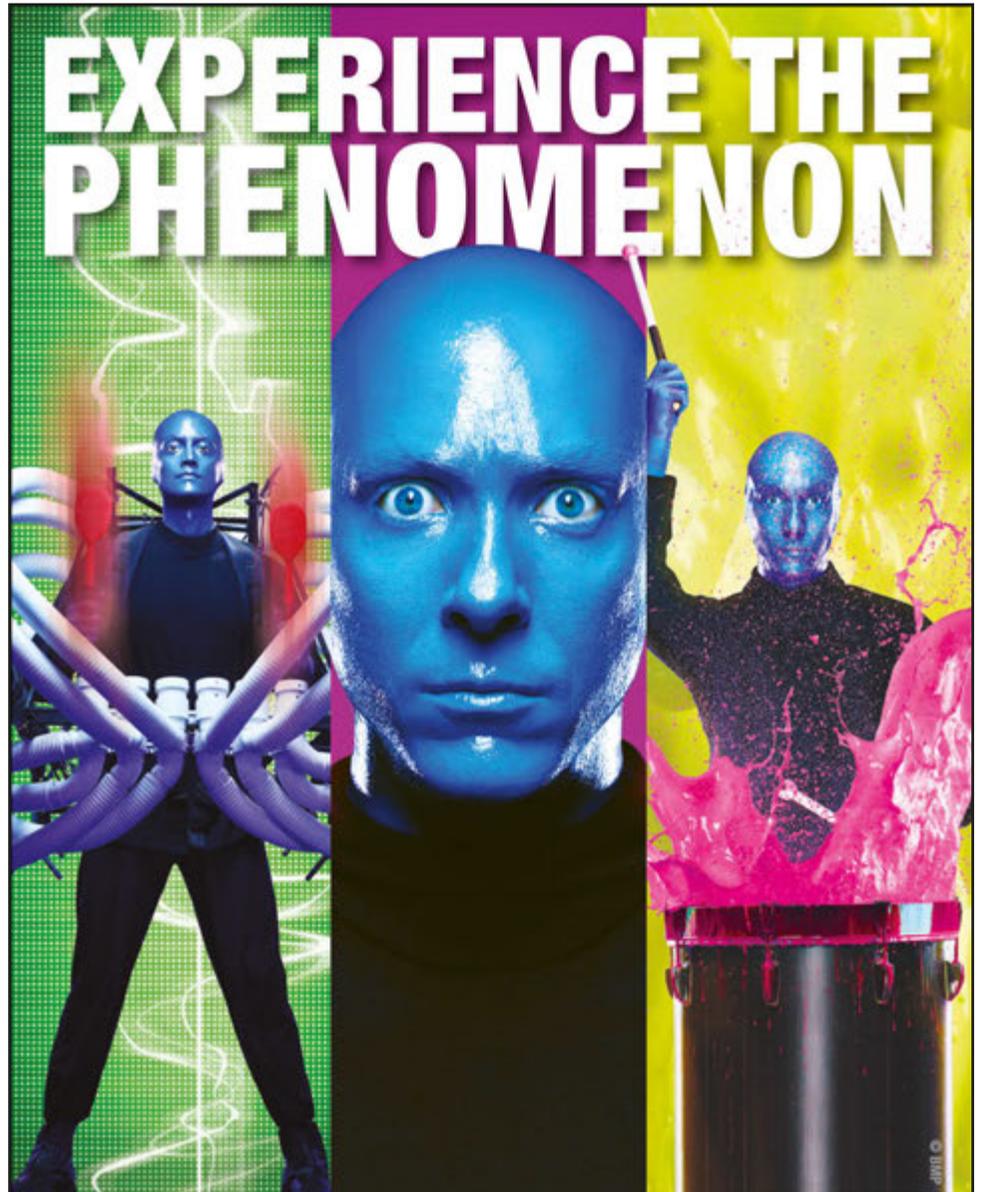
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Feedback

Sales tax to fix roads makes sense

The sales tax to fix roads is a good plan; we should pass it. It comes with a restoration of the full low-income earned income tax

credit and a restoration of some of the money cut from our schools. And it is less regressive than Mickey Hirten makes it out to be; certainly less regressive than using increased gas tax to "fix roads."

Look at what low-income people have to buy: food, rent, medical care, utilities, and gas. Only the latter two of these are sales taxed.

I have read of surveys showing that low-income people prefer sales tax to gas tax: "We don't have to buy stuff, but we have to buy gas."

Sure, it would be nice to use income tax, but get real!

— Charles Haynes, Lansing

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

Now you have two ways to sound off:

1.) Write a letter to the editor:

- E-mail: letters@lansingcitypulse.com
- Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
- Fax: (517) 371-5800

2.) Write a guest column:

Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or (517) 999-5061

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN OFFICE OF INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

In the Matter of:
West Delhi Drain

ORDER OF ABANDONMENT OF PETITION

Whereas, A petition, dated August 3, 2011, having been filed for cleaning out, relocating, widening, deepening, straightening, tiling, extending, improving, relocating along a highway, providing structures, mechanical devices and pumping equipment, adding lands, adding branches, and adding a relief drain; and,

Whereas, No contract for construction of said county drain is necessary, due to the petition received from Delhi Charter Township dated November 1, 2011, for the consolidation of drainage districts and drains, including the West Delhi Drain, and the subsequent improvement of the consolidated drain, which is now known as the Green #4 Consolidated Drain.

It is Therefore Ordered and Determined, that the petition shall be deemed abandoned and no further action shall be taken to construct the drain as petitioned.

Patrick E. Lindemann, Ingham County Drain Commissioner

Dated: January 6, 2015

And filed in the Office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#15_005

STATE OF MICHIGAN OFFICE OF INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

In the Matter of:
Branch #4 of Green Drain

ORDER OF ABANDONMENT OF PETITION

Whereas, A petition, dated August 3, 2011, having been filed for cleaning out, relocating, widening, deepening, straightening, tiling, extending, improving, relocating along a highway, providing structures, mechanical devices and pumping equipment, adding lands, adding branches, and adding a relief drain; and,

Whereas, No contract for construction of said county drain is necessary, due to the petition received from Delhi Charter Township dated November 1, 2011, for the consolidation of drainage districts and drains, including Branch #4 of Green Drain, and the subsequent improvement of the consolidated drain, which is now known as the Green #4 Consolidated Drain.

It is Therefore Ordered and Determined, that the petition shall be deemed abandoned and no further action shall be taken to construct the drain as petitioned.

Patrick E. Lindemann, Ingham County Drain Commissioner

Dated: January 6, 2015

And filed in the Office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#15_004

CityPULSE

VOL. 14
ISSUE 22

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



PAGE 5



PAGE 12



PAGE 22



COVER ART

"HIGH FIBER" by NEVIN SPEERBRECKER

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CITY PULSE THIS WEEK

7 p.m. Wednesdays



- Jason Schreiber, CEO of LightSpeed
- City Pulse critic Lawrence Cosentino
- Gay rights activists William Sawyer-Todd, Gina Calcagno and Anita Calcagno



THIS MODERN WORLD by TOM TOMORROW

FIVE CARTOONISTS AND SEVEN OTHERS* ARE KILLED BY GUNMEN AT THE OFFICES OF A SATIRICAL NEWSPAPER.



AND THEN--THE HOT TAKES BEGIN!
THIS PROVES THE NEED FOR MORE SURVEILLANCE AND TORTURE!



EVERY MUSLIM MUST TWEET A DENUNCIATION OF THE ATTACK OR ELSE IT MEANS THE ENTIRE RELIGION SUPPORTS IT!



*R.I.P. (PICTURED): STÉPHANE CHARBONNIER, JEAN CABUT, GEORGES WOLINSKI, BERNARD VERLAG, PHILIPPE HONORE, BERNARD MARIS, MICHEL RENAUD, AND FRENCH MUSLIM POLICE OFFICER AHMED MERABET... (NOT PICTURED); MUSTAPHA DURRAD, ELSA CAYAT, FREDERIC BOISSEAU AND FRANCK BRINSOLARO. SATIRE IS NOT A CAPITAL OFFENSE, EVEN WHEN IT'S OFFENSIVE.

IF EVERYONE IN PARIS WAS CARRYING A GUN THIS NEVER WOULD HAVE HAPPENED!



SURE, MASSACRES ARE BAD--
--BUT WEREN'T THEY KIND OF ASKING FOR IT?



BONUS FUN FACT: ALL THOSE CARTOONS YOU'VE SEEN WITH THE GIANT PENS AND PENCILS ARE NOT VISUAL METAPHORS FOR THE POWER OF SATIRE--BUT RATHER, LITERAL REPRESENTATIONS OF STANDARD CARTOONING TOOLS!



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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Developers rule; zoning suffers

People's needs often unmet but some new projects could change that

When it comes to land-use planning, Mark Grebner says there's not much any of us can do. Developers run the game and municipalities lack the power to truly challenge them.

"For almost everybody, the township or city you live in doesn't really capture the economic activity you care about," said Grebner, the longtime former Ingham County commissioner. "Instead it captures a weird little slice of you. You live in one, you work in another, you go to school in a third one, your spouse works in a fourth one, you go to a store in a fifth one. So decisions about siting economic generators — stores, schools, housing — those decisions are made by people who fundamentally don't care about you because you don't vote for them."

Grebner, the speaker at last week's Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council Land Use Lunch, addressed the need for more consolidation of services among municipalities and regionalization to help shape the look and feel and livability of our communities.

Grebner spent more than 30 years on the Ingham County Board of Commissioners and is president of Practical Political Consulting, a voter list and consulting firm.

Grebner's talk was described as being about the "utter absence of institutional framework for planning and land use control in Michigan, and the fact that nobody even notices we don't have any."

He says ultimately we need to change the system of government in order to better control development and guide it to the locations that work for communities. Otherwise we'll continue to have a mish mash, mix and match of types of businesses pock marked around our communities, making no sense for how we live, work, go to school, shop or play.

Until then he listed three key development issues to watch in the Greater Lansing area in the near future.

1) Michigan Avenue Corridor

Suburban sprawl is over in the Greater Lansing area, Grebner said.

"There's almost no new suburban sprawl," he said. "No new platts."

That's a signal "that we're moving away from that to an intensification of the Michigan Avenue corridor," he said.

That intensification runs from the Meridian Mall to down-

town Lansing on Michigan Avenue, he said.

The development along that corridor will leave a mark on the region for years to come.

It's more than the impact of the Red Cedar Renaissance development or even the Stadium District.

He said it includes East Lansing apartments and pressure for walkability and even the Capital Area Transit Authority's plans for a bus rapid transit line.

The BRT, or high-capacity buses operating in dedicated center-running bus lanes, would serve 28 stations on the eight-mile stretch between the Capitol and Meridian Mall.

"This is a trend to watch," he said.

East Lansing Mayor Nathan Triplett agreed the development of the corridor requires careful planning.

"The Michigan Avenue-Grand River Avenue corridor is the economic backbone of our region," he said. "It has been and will continue to be a focal point for economic development efforts. Increasing density along the corridor is essential to building vibrant

downtowns in East Lansing and Lansing and to diversifying housing, restaurant, retail, and entertainment opportunities available to our residents and visitors."

The corridor spans Meridian Township, East Lansing and the City of Lansing. Cooperation will be important, he said.

"It's important to be mindful about the composition of the region's housing stock as the various political jurisdictions review proposed projects, particularly those projects that are not in close proximity to the corridor or the core downtowns," he said. "At the same time, we need to acknowledge

that all rental property was not created equal. For example, in East Lansing, we have an inadequate supply of mixed-market rental housing in our downtown. Our objective should be to ensure that there are housing options available that serve the needs of a diverse population. I think it's fair to say that we are diligently working toward that goal, but we are not there yet.

2) Lansing Township

Lansing Township isn't a place, according to Grebner.

"It's a residual of a bunch of annexations," he said, referring to its five "separate pieces of land, scattered all around the city of Lansing."

He said the key thing to watch is "whether Lansing Township will implode. ... The thing to watch is maybe for annexations."

The main revenue source for the township is an example of development that doesn't make sense for the communities around it — Eastwood Towne Center.

"They built this thing on the basis of a Downtown Development Authority in an empty field," he said. "So Eastwood Towne Center is where there wasn't so much as a gas station. It's violating every planning principal I can think of. And they have the gall to call it a downtown."

Lansing Township Supervisor Kathy Rodgers said the township is healthier than it ever has been.



Belinda Thurston/City Pulse

Mark Grebner talked about limitations to planning and zoning at the Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council land use lunch last week.



Property: Unshoveled sidewalks, East Lansing

Walkability is one of the fundamental principles of good urbanism. Urban-minded planners will employ straightforward designs in shaping our built environment to encourage walkability. A well-defined center, with public places to gather is essential. Mixed-uses allow goods and services within neighborhoods, rather than isolating them along arterial roads. In support of these features, streets must accommodate all forms of transportation, from automobiles and mass transit to cyclists and pedestrians.

Beyond providing the obvious benefits of regular exercise, walkable neighborhoods can help reduce environmental emissions and may even provide financial benefits, with lower automobile upkeep and fuel consumption costs. Naturally, sidewalks need to be maintained in good order and kept free of debris. With the recent, repeated snows covering many area sidewalks, the simple, accessible benefits of walking are lost.

The sidewalk pictured above is along Burcham Drive in East Lansing. While individual homeowners are responsible for the removal of snow in their front yards, the residents along this street face an additional burden when the plows pass. Snow removed from the road surface is cast onto the adjacent sidewalks. Once crushed underfoot, the added snow is not only more difficult to remove, but difficult to navigate.

— 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.

PUBLIC NOTICES

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE GREATER LANSING TAXI AUTHORITY

The following Articles of Incorporation are for purposes of incorporating a public authority pursuant to the provisions of Act 196 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 1986 and Act 258 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 2011, being MCL 124.451, *et seq.*, and MCL 124.111, *et seq.*, respectively.

ARTICLE I

The name of this corporation shall be the Greater Lansing Taxi Authority, and any reference to "Authority" in these Articles shall mean the Greater Lansing Taxi Authority.

ARTICLE II

The purposes for which this Authority is created are to regulate and license private taxicab companies, drivers for hire, and all persons, firms, and business entities acting as taxicab companies or drivers by carrying persons for hire, to and from such places as they may designate, excluding automobiles used exclusively as hearses, funeral cars, ambulances, hotel buses, shuttles, sightseeing buses, motor coaches, or motor buses.

A license from the Authority is not required for organizations and their drivers that are ride-sharing networks that use digital platforms to connect passengers to ride-sharing drivers using their personal vehicles for the purpose of transportation as long as such organizations and drivers adhere to all of the following requirements:

1. The organization registers with the Authority on forms provided by the Authority, pays a registration fee in an amount determined by the Authority, and maintains records of compliance with the requirements of this Article for two years and provides them to the Authority upon request.
2. The organization maintains a website that provides a customer service telephone number or email address.
3. The organization maintains an agent for service of process in the Authority, the City of Lansing or the City of East Lansing, Michigan.
4. The organization maintains accurate and up to date records of all persons it uses to provide services requested through the digital platform and provides those to the Authority upon request.
5. Upon completion of a trip, the organization transmits or causes to be transmitted an electronic receipt to the passenger's email address or mobile application documenting the origination and destination of the trip and a description of the total amount paid, if any.
6. The organization and the drivers for the organization accept only rides booked through the digital platform, do not solicit or accept street-hails, or operate for hire in any other manner.
7. The organization offers service for compensation, no-charge, or suggested compensation. The organization discloses rates used to determine any compensation or suggested compensation in the organization's app and/or website.
8. The app used by the organization to connect the organization's drivers and passengers displays for the passenger a picture of the organization's driver and a picture or description (including license plate number) of the vehicle.
9. The organization requires all drivers to go through a driver-training program designed to ensure that each driver safely operates his or her vehicle prior to the driver being able to offer service.
10. The organization adheres to a zero tolerance policy on the use of drugs or alcohol applicable to any driver while transporting passengers. The organization provides notice of the zero tolerance policy on its website, as well as the procedures to report a complaint about a driver with whom the passenger was matched and for whom the passenger reasonably suspects was under the influence of drugs or alcohol during the course of the ride. The organization immediately deactivates a driver's access to the platform upon receipt of a passenger complaint alleging a violation of the zero tolerance policy and suspends all further connections with said driver until such time as the organization determines that no violation has occurred.
11. Prior to permitting a person to act as a driver, and annually thereafter, the organization obtains and reviews a criminal history research report for each driver. The criminal history research report shall include a national criminal background check including the national sex offender database. Any person who has been convicted, within the past seven years, of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or who has been convicted at any time for fraud, sexual offenses, use of a motor vehicle to commit a felony, a crime involving property damage, and/or theft, acts of violence, or acts of terror shall not be permitted to be a driver.
12. Prior to permitting a person to act as a driver, and annually thereafter, the organization shall obtain and review a driving history research report for such person. Any person with (i) more than three (3) moving violations in the three-year period prior to such check, or (ii) a major violation in the three-year period prior to such check (including, but not limited to, attempting to evade the police, reckless driving, or driving on a suspended or revoked license) shall not be permitted to be a driver.
13. Drivers shall adhere to the requirements of Michigan No-Fault Insurance. The organization shall comply with State of Michigan business automobile liability insurance requirements and maintain a business automobile excess liability insurance policy, which covers all vehicles operated by the drivers for the organization, with a minimum combined single limit of one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for each occurrence of bodily injury and property damage for accidents involving a vehicle and the organizations driver in transit or during a trip. All organizations must provide to the Authority a certificate of insurance for such policy, naming the organization as the insured and an endorsement naming the Authority as an additional insured. The policy shall be accompanied by a commitment from the insurer that such policy shall not be canceled or coverage reduced without at least thirty (30) days prior notice to the Authority.
14. The drivers for the organization must:
 - a. Possess a valid driver's license, proof of registration, maintain current automobile liability insurance, and be at least twenty-one (21) years of age; and
 - b. Provide proof of both the organizations personal insurance and excess liability insurance in the case of an accident; provided, that the organization shall have twenty- four (24) hours to provide proof of excess liability insurance.
15. The drivers' vehicles may be street-legal coupes, sedans, or light-duty vehicles, including without limitation, vans, minivans, sport utility vehicles (SUVs), hatchbacks, convertibles and pickup trucks.
16. All drivers' vehicles must have a safety inspection conducted annually by the organization or a third party before being used to provide services with documentation of the inspection provided to the Authority within 21 days of the inspection. The inspection shall, at a minimum, include inspection of the following components:
 - a. Foot brakes;
 - b. Parking brakes;
 - c. Steering mechanism;

- d. Windshield;
- e. Rear window and other glass;
- f. Windshield wipers;
- g. Headlights;
- h. Tail lights;
- i. Turn indicator lights;
- j. Stoplights;
- a. Front seat adjustment mechanism;
- b. Doors (open, close, lock);
- c. Horn;
- d. Speedometer;
- e. Bumpers;
- f. Muffler and exhaust system;
- g. Condition of tires, including tread depth;
- h. Interior and exterior rear view mirrors; and
- i. Safety belts for driver and passenger(s).

ARTICLE III

The powers, duties, and limitations of the Authority and its officers are as follows:

- (1) To establish rules and regulations for the licensing and operation of taxicab companies and drivers for hire, and all persons, firms, and business entities acting as taxicab companies or drivers by carrying persons for hire, to and from such places as they may designate not otherwise exempt pursuant to Article II, consistent with the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the municipal authorities, which may include limitations on the number of licensed taxicab drivers and taxicab business licenses.
- (2) To carry out the intent and purposes of the Parties' Agreement to create the authority pursuant to the Municipal Partnership Act.
 - (3) To adopt and enforce other rules and regulations necessary or appropriate to the administration and regulation of taxicab drivers and companies.
 - (4) To administer the licensing programs with regard to granting licenses and to suspension, revocation, and denial of licenses and the administrative appeals therefrom.
 - (5) To apply for, receive, and accept gifts, grants, subsidies or loans from any public or private entity.
 - (6) In general, to carry on any other lawful business in connection with the foregoing or which may directly or indirectly promote the interest of the Authority.
 - (7) The Authority shall have the right to retain counsel to represent it with regard to any legal matter, and it shall have the right to call upon the Lansing City Attorney or the East Lansing City Attorney for assistance with any legal problems at any time, and in such case, all the powers and duties given to the city attorney under the Charters of the City of Lansing or the City of East Lansing, respectively, shall apply to the Authority.
 - (8) To have the authority and power set forth in the Public Transportation Authority Act where they are not inconsistent with these Articles or the Municipal Partnership Act contract creating this Authority.
 - (9) The Authority shall not have any power to do any act contrary to any prohibitions or restrictions in the contract creating the Authority and must comply with any mandatory provisions contained therein or as contained in any amendments thereto.
 - (10) The foregoing clauses shall be construed both as objects and powers; and it is hereby expressly provided that, except as otherwise specifically provided, the foregoing enumeration of specific powers shall not be held to limit or restrict in any manner the powers of the Authority; and it is the intention that the purposes, objects and powers specified in each of the clauses above in Article III shall, except as expressly provided, in no way be limited or restricted by reference to or inference under the terms of any other clause of this Article or of any other Article of these Articles of Incorporation, but that each of the purposes, objects and powers specified in Article III and each of the Articles or clauses of these Articles of Incorporation shall be regarded as independent purposes, objects, and powers. Nothing herein shall be construed as granting the Authority any right, power, or privileges not permitted to public corporations formed under the acts referred to above.

ARTICLE IV

- (1) The Authority shall be governed by a board which shall consist of the following members: Three (3) members from each original party to the contract establishing this Authority. The members of the board shall consist of the following officers of each party: The Mayor, Chief of Police, and Traffic Engineer, or their designees. In addition each new party to the contract may appoint one member to the board. Members of the Board may be removed and replaced at will, with or without cause, by their designator, by a superseding named officer or by the appointing party. Any designee or appointee who is a member of the Board shall serve for three year terms unless removed and replaced or reappointed. Any vacancy in office shall be filled by the named official, their designee or the original appointing party for the remainder of the unexpired term. The Board shall adopt its own rules of procedure and shall keep a public record of its proceedings. A simple majority shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and the majority vote of the members present at any meeting shall be necessary and sufficient for the adoption of any resolutions. Members of the Board shall receive no compensation, but shall be entitled to reimbursement of expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties.

In addition, the Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Capital Region Airport Authority may each appoint one, non-voting, member to the board.

- (2) A new party with appointing authority requires an amendment of the Municipal Partnership Act contract creating the Authority adding them as a party and must be a political subdivision contiguous to an existing political subdivision that is a part of the Authority. Such political subdivision, or portion thereof, may be added pursuant to the procedures specified in the Public Transportation

continued on page 7

Bye, bye, City Market

The time has come to get Lansing government out of that business

Isn't it finally time for Lansing to close its struggling City Market? It hasn't worked and will not work. The city needs to cut its losses and move on.

There's an alternative. The city should develop a weekly farmers market in its underused Lansing Center. The long concourse, fronting Michigan Avenue, is an ideal location. More on this later.



MICKY HIRTEN

There was a time when city markets mattered. They were the supermarkets of their day, wide-eyed alternatives to a city's small neighborhood grocery stores. People gravitated to the center of the city, often using public transportation, to shop and for entertainment. A vibrant market provided both.

Alas, this isn't what the few shoppers who stumble through Lansing's City Market find. It's a depressing place, not for lack of good intentions by the merchants who set up shop, but because the location, size, limited hours, terrible parking and shoppers' forever-changed tastes.

As Lansing grapples with many fiscal challenges, what makes running a money-losing market a city priority? Politics.

The city's progressive crowd squawks about the need to provide sustenance in so-called food deserts. Ah, noblesse oblige. If there are food issues in Lansing, it isn't because there aren't ample grocery and convenience stores serving city neighborhoods where people actually live, not in the sparsely populated downtown.

Lansing's northside neighborhoods are well served by two independent grocers: the Vallarta Supermarket on West Willow Street and Gorman's Food Market on North Grand River Avenue. For eastside neighborhoods there is Westlund's Apple Market at 2301 E. Grand River Ave., and the Kroger in Frandor. On the west side, there is the Kroger, Meijer and Horrocks on Saginaw. On the south side, there is the Save-A-Lot at 3222 S. Martin Luther King Blvd., a Stop and Shop on Waverly, and the Meijer on Pennsylvania. There are smaller grocers like the 1910 Meat Market on West Holmes and the Sunset Market downtown on Kalamazoo. As for convenience stores, Quality Dairy has produce, canned goods and other products.

The Vallarta Supermarket offers a full line of grocery products — frozen food, beans and pasta, paper products, pet foods, beer and wine — the things you need when you go shopping. What it sells reflects the shopping

habits and tastes of its Asians, Africans and Latin Americans neighbors. The shelves and refrigerated cases are stocked with foods that appeal to native tastes: stock fish bits, swai belly nuggets, goat meat, cheeses, whole pig to pig heads, if you want them. The produce department has the standards — lettuce, tomatoes, potatoes, fruits and vegetables along side dasheen root, Jamacian yellow yams, white milanga and more.

This isn't some good-government cultural outreach. It's commerce.

A little further north is Gormans, which take special pride in its meats, but stocks a full array of grocery store produces at very competitive prices. The store was founded by Dan Gorman in 1952 and is now run by his sons Pat and Jim. Pat, who has worked there for 34 years, says business is good. He just shakes his head during a discussion of the City Market. He says his store is the city market for shoppers in nearby neighborhoods — a conversation overheard by a customer who reminds Gorman of how Dan would cut his steaks specially. That's loyalty.

To salvage the \$1.6 million facility, the city's Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority, which manages the market, is conducting a survey to determine what people want. After four years in the new location you'd think it would have a clue. Stand outside of the successful markets and ask customers what they want from the City Market. The answer is likely to be selection, price and convenience. It won't be a yearning for a bygone era for a "beloved" market.

Nostalgia is a sloppy way to develop public policy. And unreliable. In last week's City Pulse, former city market manager John Hooper, bemoaning the current state of the facility, recalled that when the new market opened in 2010 a crowd of 70,000 was on hand to celebrate. Press reports put the number at a generous 4,000. But the City Market myth lives on.

A trend working against the City Market is the rise of regional farmers' markets. There are dozens in the region. Every Wednesday afternoon during the winter the Allen Market Place Street Center is packed with vendors selling: produce, fruit cheeses, herbs, cider and donuts. In better weather, it all moves outdoors.

If the city needs to be in the market business — which it doesn't — this is the model. And the city-owned Lansing Center is a great location. Why not a Thursday market, with dozens of vendors filling the 350-foot-long Michigan Avenue Concourse. The setting is bright, modern and centrally located. In warmer weather, the market could move onto Michigan Avenue.

As for the City Market pole barn, it might be a good spot for more riverfront dining, especially as apartments being built in the area are occupied. The Waterfront Bar & Grill, now in the market, seems to be doing well. The lesson for Lansing is to let businesses run businesses. The city should focus on governing.

PUBLIC NOTICES

From page 6

Authority Act. If any political subdivision withdraws from the Authority or contract, the term of the Board member from that political subdivision shall expire at the time of withdrawal.

(3) The Board may exercise all of the powers of the Authority and do all of the acts and things as shall be lawful and not inconsistent with the Municipal Partnership Act contract creating the Authority. The powers of the Board shall include, but not by way of limitation, the power to authorize the making and execution on behalf of the Authority any lawful contracts, to employ agents and personnel, to prescribe their duties, and generally to control all of the affairs of the Authority.

(4) The Board shall hold an annual meeting each year at such place, date, and hour as shall be fixed by the Board at which members shall elect officers of the Authority, and transact other business. The Board shall fix the time and place for regular meetings which shall be open to the public.

(5) Special meetings of the Board may be called by the chairperson of the Board or by any two members of the Board by written or printed notice served personally on each member or mailed or electronically mailed to his or her address as shown on the books of the Authority, at least five (5) days prior to the time of holding of said meeting. Notice shall be deemed given at the time it is mailed or emailed. Attendance by a member at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of any notice deficiency unless such member expressly states at the meeting that he or she does not intend to waive notice. The purpose of such special meeting shall be specified in the notice.

(6) The Board shall furnish by May 31, each year, an annual report to the governing body of all parties to the contract forming this authority with respect to the number of licensed taxi drivers, numbers of licensed taxi companies, and whether there are any deficiencies with respect to the same, along with the operation, maintenance, and financial condition of the Authority. The Board shall furnish such other information as said parties may request.

ARTICLE V

(1) The Board shall, at its annual meeting, elect from its members a chairperson, vice-chairperson, treasurer, and such other officers as it may deem necessary. Said officers shall serve until their successors are appointed and assume office. Said officers shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority and shall have all of the powers assigned to them by the Board.

(2) Any Board Officer vacancies shall be filled by the Board.

(3) The East Lansing City Clerk or the Clerk's designee shall be the recording secretary for the Board and shall be responsible for taking all minutes of the Board meetings, publishing all official notices of the Board and maintaining all official records of the Board. The recording secretary is not a member of the board.

ARTICLE VI

All checks, drafts, and other orders for the payment of money, notes, bonds, or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the Authority, and endorsements for deposits shall be signed by such officer, officers, or such other person or persons as the Board may designate.

ARTICLE VII

As long as there is always full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, whenever any notice is required under the provisions of these Articles or otherwise, a waiver signed by the person entitled to said notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent and neither the business nor the purposes of any meeting need be specified in such waiver.

ARTICLE VIII

These Articles may be amended only by appropriate resolution of both of the original parties to the contract forming this Authority. This Authority shall automatically dissolve upon termination of the contract creating it.

ARTICLE IX

The Authority shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless any parties to this contract for any acts of the party's own employees and for any acts of employees that are assigned to perform functions or duties for the Authority when that employee is performing acts in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the Authority or in accordance with the Agreement establishing the Authority or the Articles of Incorporation of the Authority.

This Authority shall become operative immediately.

These Articles of Incorporation shall be published by the East Lansing City Clerk at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the jurisdictions of Lansing and East Lansing. One printed copy of the Articles of Incorporation shall be filed with the Secretary of State, the Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton County Clerk, the Director of the State Transportation Department by the East Lansing City Clerk.

The foregoing Articles of Incorporation were adopted by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members elect of the City Council of the City of Lansing, Ingham, Eaton and Clinton Counties, Michigan, at a meeting duly held on the 22nd day of September, 2014, and by a majority of the members elect of the City Council of the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, at a meeting duly held on the 2nd day of September, 2014.

CITY OF LANSING
CITY OF EAST LANSING

Zoning

from page 5

"Mr. Grebner likes to be sensational so I have no context for understanding why he would say such thing," she said.

"Lansing Township is doing just fine, our credit rating has just been upgraded to a AA-," she continued. "For point of reference in 2007, Lansing Township didn't even have a credit rating. Gross revenues are up and we currently have over \$45 million of private development at Eastwood. I hope this helps you understand that Mr. Grebner might have a personal agenda and opinion but it is of no concern to Lansing Township."

3) Students from China

Grebner said the Greater Lansing area should get poised for a decline in the number of students from China enrolled at Michigan State University.

According to Bloomberg Reports, Chinese students are the largest foreign student body in U.S. universities. Students from China make up 31 percent of the foreign students, it reported in November.

"There's now Chinese students at every university in the U.S.," Grebner said. "It may be that MSU will decrease. Apartment developers need to think about that."

Grebner said new developments like those on Grand River Avenue or on Trowbridge Road will fill, but if a sharp decline in students were felt, older apartments on Chandler Road and Dunkle Road could start to become more vacant. That would invite a change into that area if management needed to turn to lower-income residents and Section 8 payments.

MSU had 4,793 students from China

enrolled last fall. That's up from 3,017 in 2011. There is no forecast for that number to decline, according to Jason Cody, an MSU spokesman. He said on-campus enrollment is up as is on-campus housing.

"While Chinese applications are down slightly (though it is still early in the applications process), we do not forecast a decline in international or non-resident students for the Fall 2015 freshman cohort that would have any negative impact on MSU's budget or housing demand," Cody said.

4) South Lansing

Grebner seemed to focus on areas north and east of Lansing, so City Pulse asked, what about South Lansing?

"I'm an elitist," he said. "Any place that has payday loans, pawn shops, blood banks, instant tax refunds, rent to own, girlie clubs ... that's not my place. They're not my people. I like places that have good bookstores. I like having The New York Times delivered to my door."

He said he doesn't see any significant development coming to South Lansing or that it will ever be appealing to developers.

"South Lansing is confusing to me," he said. "There's no core to turn into a walkable corridor. There's no hipsters down there. There's no Millennials except Millennials with drug problems. South Lansing doesn't fit into any narrative I can think of."

Kathie Dunbar, an at-large Lansing City councilwoman and director of the South Lansing Community Development Association, could not be reached immediately for comment.

— By Belinda Thurston



PUBLIC NOTICES

B/15/061 SCUM TROUGH as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the **LANSING BOARD OF WATER AND LIGHT/ CITY OF LANSING, PURCHASING OFFICE, 1110 S PENNSYLVANIA, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912** until **3:00 PM local time in effect on JAN. 29, 2015** at which time the bids will be opened and read aloud. Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling **Stephanie Robinson, CPPB** at (517) 702-6197, or email: slr@lbwl.com, or for content and purpose of this bid contact **Bill Brunner** at (517) 483-4018, go to www.mitn.info. The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#15_006

STATE OF MICHIGAN OFFICE OF INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

In the Matter of:
Oaks Drain

ORDER OF ABANDONMENT OF PETITION

Whereas, A petition, dated March 24, 2009, having been filed for cleaning out, relocating, widening, deepening, straightening, tiling, extending, improving, providing structures, adding lands, and adding branches and a relief drain; and,

Whereas, No contract for construction of said county drain having been let within five years after the date of the filing of the petition.

It is Therefore Ordered and Determined, that the petition shall be deemed abandoned and no further action shall be taken to construct the drain as petitioned.

Patrick E. Lindemann, Ingham County Drain Commissioner

Dated: January 6, 2015

And filed in the Office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#15_003

Lights out for Lark

BWL general manager ousted in sudden special meeting

Embattled General Manager Peter Lark was terminated as general manager of the Lansing Board of Water & Light Tuesday night in a special meeting, six months after the Board of Commissioners reappointed him with a positive performance review.

The eight-member board voted 5-3 to terminate Lark "for cause," but it did not cite specifics. The meeting lasted only about 30 minutes.

The motion to terminate Lark was made by Commissioner Dennis Louney. Voting to terminate him were Louney, Chairman David Price, Anthony McCloud, Anthony Mullen and Cynthia Ward. Voting against termination were Sandra Zerkle, Margaret Bossenbery and Tracy Thomas.

The meeting at the BWL's depot building on Washington Avenue was standing-room-only with more than 70 in attendance.

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero, who nominated Lark in 2007, did not attend the meeting. Bernero staunchly defended Lark during the fallout from BWL's performance during the 2013 ice storm. But Monday Bernero released a statement that he had lost confidence in Lark. "It's time to turn the page," Bernero said.

Despite calls for Lark's dismissal after the ice storm, commissioners voted to reappoint Lark for another year under the terms of his existing five-year contract, which expires June 30, 2018. Between his \$258,502 salary and deferred compensation, his pay for 2014 totaled more than \$300,000.

Termination for cause in Lark's contract calls for six months' salary to be paid, along with payment for health care and other incidentals.

After the meeting, Lansing City Councilwoman Carol Wood, who had called for Lark to be fired last year, declared: "This is the board that has said he was doing a good job. Did the light bulb just suddenly go on?"

Commissioner Sandra Zerkle asked if the meeting could be in closed session since it was a personnel issue.

Lark said, "I would absolutely prefer this to take place in open session."

Louney's motion was to terminate Lark "for cause for failure to render and perform services to the employer according to his obligations under his designated employment agreement."

His motion also instructed the board's attorney to negotiate the details of the termination and to appoint Richard Peffley as interim director and general manager. Peffley is executive director of operations.

"I am surprised and disappointed at the board's sudden and unexpected unilateral decision to end my employment," Lark told the board after the vote. "I have had absolutely no formal indication or notification from the board of any cause for my dismissal. Nor can I think of anything that would have contributed to the board's actions today after all the progress which has been made during the last 12 months I look forward to full resolution of this matter as outlined in the contract."

Councilwoman Jody Washington attended the meeting and said the board of commissioners "owed" the city and customers reasons for the termination.

"This board lacks leadership, lacks transparency," Washington said. "I wonder what's going on. This makes our city look really bad."

In December 2014 an ice storm caused outages of more than 40,000 customers over the Christmas holiday season. Many called for Lark's ouster, criticizing him leaving for New York City on Dec. 22 at the height of the crisis; for deleting internal emails that documented his communications about the restoration process; and for the utility's overall lack of communication with the public and perceived lack of empathy.

— Belinda Thurston



Briefly

General Motors introduced its new **Lansing-built Cadillac CTS-V** at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit. With a 640 horsepower engine, the CTS-V has been called the most powerful Cadillac ever built. ... There is a **new manager for GM's Lansing operations**. Mike Trevorrow, formerly executive director of the automaker's Global Manufacturing Engineering Body Systems, replaces Tony Francavilla, who will be the company's executive director of global supplier quality. ... **Teachers and the East Lansing School District** have agreed to a two-year contract, ending

a six-month-plus impasse. ... The Michigan Supreme Court on Tuesday heard arguments on whether the state's Civil Service Commission or state law governs **state worker employment issues**. ... The Lansing State Journal reported on a trove of **Mastodon bones** — 42 in all — excavated on a construction project in Bellevue Township last November. They will be donated to the University of Michigan Museum of Paleontology. ... The **Lansing School District Board of Education** has reelected Peter Spadafore as president and elected Rachel Lewis as vice president, Myra Ford as secretary and Shirley Rodgers as treasurer.

~ Mickey Hirten



Photos courtesy of LightSpeed
 LightSpeed construction crew installing fiber in downtown Lansing.

THE SPEED OF LIGHT

LANSING AMONG THE FIRST MICHIGAN CITIES TO RECEIVE FIBER OPTIC INTERNET TO THE HOME

By **BELINDA THURSTON**

“Dear bringer of the Light(Speed) Gods, I am writing to you from the confines of the desert island (aka: The Westside Neighborhood south of 496) that is my home. I long for the days that I may bask in the Light(Speed) of your glory. Saith the, Oh Light(Speed) Gods... when shall my brethren and I that inhabit this barren wasteland of an island be in your presence, so that we may be released from the wretched curse (aka: Comcast) that has plagued our tiny island for far too long? Sincerely, Your humble servant.”

This was posted onto Facebook last month by David Lucas of Lansing. He’s watched from the sidelines in 2014 as thousands of residential homes around Lansing were among the first to get fiber optic Internet piped to their homes touting speeds of 1 gigabit per second. That’s downloading a Blu-ray movie in under three minutes. That’s online gaming without interruption. It’s live television that streams like a dream.

These speeds of Internet are common in government, technology sectors and even higher education. But it’s been slow to arrive on the residential level due to the cost of laying the lines house by house.

Internet startup LightSpeed is the first local company to offer fiber optic Internet to the home.

“What we’re doing is we’re proving it can be done,” said Jason Schreiber, CEO of LightSpeed.

ACD.net has plans to roll out service later this year, according to CEO Kevin Schoen. Experts agree, competition will continue to grow and nibble away at the customer base of giants AT&T and Comcast.

Lucas is among a long list of people clamoring for Internet at the speed of light. Comcast and AT&T are not offering fiber optic Internet in Michigan and don’t have plans to in the near future. The typical household might have 6 to 30 megabits per second with cable or DSL lines. (Go to Speedtest.com and test your actual download and upload speeds. WARNING: You may be a sad panda afterward.)

“They’re excited because they know what they can do with it,” said Schreiber. “The casual Internet user doesn’t need more band-

width if the applications they use don’t need more speed. But the early adopters, the techies, the technophiles, the Liquid Web employees, they know what they can do with it. They’re crazy for it.”

Lucas, 30, considers himself a “techie.” He works in IT providing Windows server support. He said he’s also repaired computers most of his life.

“We are no longer in the dialup days, where it would take several minutes/hours to download a file,” he said. “In today’s digital world speed is key. The faster you are able to transfer data, the less time is wasted waiting. If you aren’t able to keep up with the competition, you will slowly lose your customers to someone else that is able to provide the service to them. For me, all of these are major reasons to change services.”

LightSpeed has nearly 10,000 requests for service after beta testing in Schreiber’s East Lansing neighborhood, Glencairn, this summer and installing lines on Lansing’s east side. It is installing lines on the west side of Lansing and will start connecting homes this week.

“We’ve got a supply side problem, not a demand side problem,” Schreiber said. “Supplying the customers is what’s kept me up at night, not finding the customers.”

The response to the service is just proof that “people are starved for access,” said ACD.net’s Schoen.



Schreiber

FORWARD AND FAST

The LightSpeed Facebook page is brim-

ming with comments from people who are downright pleading for the service to come to their neighborhood or absolutely gushing and giddy when the switch gets turned on.

“Are you in Holt? ... Meridian Township?... Detroit?... Grand Rapids?”

“I assume you are the second coming of Jesus Christ.”

“All I want for Christmas is Lightspeed installed in my house.”

“My daughter just came back from Kansas City, where they had Google Fiber Internet (and TV). Thank you LightSpeed for holding out hope for a treatment for my ‘speed envy.’”

The Internet works in only one direction and speed — forward and fast.

“Access speeds have been increasing continuously,” said Johannes Bauer, chairman of the Michigan State University Department of Media and Information. “We all want faster access now.”

Many agree the entertainment industry — Internet video services like Netflix and Hulu, as well as online gaming — has pushed the market to demand faster speeds to improve the streaming quality and dependability of the viewing experience. Dish Network announced recently it is creating Sling TV, a web-based television service offering ESPN and other networks for as low as \$20 a month. Services like these increase the demand for higher speed Internet.

More access to high-speed Internet is of national importance, evidenced by President Barack Obama’s a speech about it in Iowa this week.

See Internet, Page 10

INTERNET

from page 9

The Internet is often piped through copper lines on coaxial cable lines from cable companies or copper lines through phone connections like DSL though telephone companies. Those mediums have gotten faster and they can achieve speeds up to 100 megabits per second (a gigabit is 1000 megabits).

“DSL, digital subscriber line access, is a telephone line on steroids,” said Bauer. “That technology, since it goes to an old copper network, has limitations in terms of speeds you can achieve. The higher the speed one wants to achieve on that old network, the shorter the distance there is to deliver it. You cannot get high speeds over miles and miles.”

Bauer said if the DSL network were up-

graded, you could achieve up to 50 megabits of extra speed.

“Fiber can offer gigabit access, but at a higher cost,” he said.

“The next is cable,” he said. “It has a big advantage over telephone because it was built for higher bandwidth. ...

DOCSIS technology can deliver 100 (megabits) per second. It runs on



Belinda Thurston/City Pulse

A LightSpeed lawn sign on Lansing's east side.

a traditional cable TV network. It does the same to the cable network that DSL does to a copper network. It puts it on steroids.”

Fiber technology offers information streamed over a glass thread that transmits data infinitely faster than copper. But it's new infrastructure that has to be laid, mile by mile across the U.S. to encircle cities and then extended home by home.

“Deploying fiber ... the most expensive part is getting the network rolled out to the customer,” said Bauer, who estimated that engineering is 65 percent to 85 percent of the cost. “Once that's in place, the cost of running the network is fairly cheap.”

Upgrading a nationwide network of copper to fiber optic may take decades. Bauer estimates up to 20 years.

But small Internet companies like LightSpeed can and are filling the void in pockets around the country. San Francisco company Monkeybrains just finished an Indiegogo campaign to bring gigabit Internet to San Francisco residents. And a company in Minneapolis, US Internet, is rolling out 10-gigabit per second Internet speeds, possibly the fastest service available today.

LightSpeed is offering its gigabit service for \$50 a month. Comcast charges \$89.99 for 105 megabits per second — a tenth of the

See Internet, Page 11

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE Rezoning #14070

Date introduced: January 6, 2015
Nature of the ordinance: An ordinance amending the Zoning District Map by changing the zoning designation for 2150 Clinton Street (MP 2313 Lots 5 and 6, Block 6 Okemos) from RB (Single Family, High Density) to C-2 (Commercial)
Full text available at: Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road
Meridian Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Ct.
Haslett Branch Library, 5670 School Street
Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road
Snell Towar Recreation Center, 6146 Porter Avenue
The Township Website www.meridian.mi.us

ELIZABETH LEGOFF
SUPERVISOR

BRETT DREYFUS
TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#15_011

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing City Council on **February 3, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.**, Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, to consider the following:

1. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1341, a request from Interstate Partners I, LLC, to rezone the property at 1595 West Lake Lansing Road from B-4, Restricted Office Business District, to B-5, Community Retail Sales Business District. The property is 3.27 acres in size.
2. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Interstate Partners I, LLC, for Site Plan and Special Use Permit approval for the property at 1595 West Lake Lansing Road to construct a three-story commercial building, containing approximately 20,000 square feet office space, approximately 5,000 square feet of general retail, and a 2,800 square foot restaurant with a drive through. The property is proposed to be rezoned to B-5, Community Retail Sales Business District under Ordinance 1341.
3. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1337, a request from Park District Investment Group, LLC, to rezone the property at 341-345 Evergreen Avenue from RM-32, City Center Multiple Family Residential, to B-3, City Center Commercial District. The property is 0.52 acres in size.
4. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Park District Investment Group, LLC, for Site Plan and Special Use Permit approval for the property at 341-345 Evergreen Avenue to demolish the existing structures and construct a four-story, mixed-use building (Building B) containing retail space on the first floor and 42 one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments on the upper floors. The property is proposed to be rezoned to B-3, City Center Commercial, under Ordinance 1337.

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_008

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN NOTICE OF POSTING OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

On January 8, 2015, the following minutes of the proceedings of the Meridian Township Board were sent for posting in the following locations:

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

December 23, 2014 Special Meeting

ELIZABETH LEGOFF
SUPERVISOR

BRETT DREYFUS
TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#15_010

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Z-9-2014, 810 W. Ottawa Street
Rezoning from "DM-1" & "DM-3" Residential Districts to
"D-1" Professional Office and "DM-2" Residential Districts
Z-1-2015, 930 W. Holmes Road
Rezoning from "F" Commercial District to "G-2" Wholesale District
SLU-1-2015, 4209 S. Pennsylvania Avenue
Special Land Use Permit – Experimental Laboratory

The Lansing Planning Board will hold public hearings on Tuesday, February 3, 2015, at 6:30 p.m., Neighborhood Empowerment Center Conference Room, 600 W. Maple Street (Corner of W. Maple and N. Pine Streets) to consider the following cases:

Z-9-2014. This is a request by the Michigan Association of Broadcasters to rezone the property at 810 W. Ottawa Street from "DM-1" & "DM-3" Residential Districts to "D-1" Professional Office & "DM-2" Residential Districts. The purpose of the rezoning is to permit the construction of residential townhouses, apartments, offices, and buildings that contain a mix of office and residential uses.

SLU-1-2015. This is a request by Steven T. Shur for a Special Land Use permit to utilize the building at 4209 S. Pennsylvania Avenue for an experimental laboratory. Experimental laboratories are permitted in the "D-1" Professional Office district, which is the zoning designation of the subject property, if a Special Land Use permit is approved by the Lansing City Council.

Z-1-2015. This is a request to rezone the property at 930 W. Holmes Road, containing 9.206 acres, from "F" Commercial District to "G-2" Wholesale District.

If you are interested in these matters, please attend the public hearings, or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at the City of Lansing Planning Office, Department of Planning and Neighborhood Development, Suite D-1, 316 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, MI 48933-1236. For more information concerning these requests, call Susan Stachowiak at 517-483-4085.

CP#15_009

INTERNET

from page 10

speed at twice the price.

“When you have a 1-gig connection at your office and at your home, technology is no longer remote, it’s all local,” said Schreiber.

FIBER OPTICS HOSTAGE IN NET NEUTRALITY WAR

Fiber optics and net neutrality collided this past summer when AT&T held high-speed Internet hostage. The telecommunications giant said it would hold back plans to install fiber optics to the home to 10 cities it had intended to deploy as a protest to the Federal Communications Commission for considering regulating the Internet like a utility in order to ensure open access.

“That was a strategic move on their part,” said Bauer, an expert on net neutrality issues. “There is this decade-long discussion, from a legal and regulatory perspective, on how to deal with broadband service. The companies who need to invest don’t necessarily like to be regulated. Since the 1970s and ‘80s, telephone companies and cable worked to be as lightly regulated as possible.

“What kind of threat do they have? If you regulate us heavily we won’t invest. That was AT&T’s reaction. If you are considering moving us back to common carriage, we won’t do fiber optic Internet. In the long run they cannot afford to not invest. There’s too much competition. There are 1,600 companies that provide fiber across the country. Most communities are dissatisfied with the speed with which higher speeds are coming to their neighborhoods.”

Net neutrality is the effort to keep the Internet openly accessible to everyone: users and developers and companies. Net neutrality regulations could stop an Internet company from preventing access to content like certain browsers or websites. It would end situations like when Comcast deliberately slowed the broadband speeds to force Netflix to pay for access to the Internet so its subscribers could have uninterrupted service.

Schreiber added, “The idea that the Internet is a liberator needs to be maintained. Who’s going to be the next kid creating a Yahoo!? These stories will be over without

net neutrality.”

PUTTING LANSING ON THE MAP

What does fiber optics to the home mean for the Lansing area? How does it distinguish us?

Lansing’s growing tech industry needs the expanded access and speeds.

The big companies are “not paying attention to Michigan,” Schreiber said “Lansing is such a technological hub. A lot of companies don’t get the attention they deserve. Liquid Web is an enormous company. A lot of people don’t know who they are other than their billboards. TechSmith is an enormously successful company. There are lots of niche entrepreneurial endeavors.”

LightSpeed itself is an example of that entrepreneurship. Schreiber, 41, founded the company in 2013. It’s one of a string of companies he’s started up over the last decade. In 1995 he founded Control Room Technologies, a web-based application company. He founded Arialink Telecom in 2003 and sold it in 2012. Besides LightSpeed, he is invested in several other tech companies and ventures including Lansing Area Biotech Incubator, Spectrum Broadband and Great State Angels investment fund.

Schreiber said the emergence of fiber optics to the home in the Lansing shows Michigan innovation.

“If you look at downtown Detroit, there’s a renaissance going on,” Schreiber said. “It’s happening from within. We’re doing it ourselves. Pulling ourselves up by the bootstraps.” Schoen agrees.

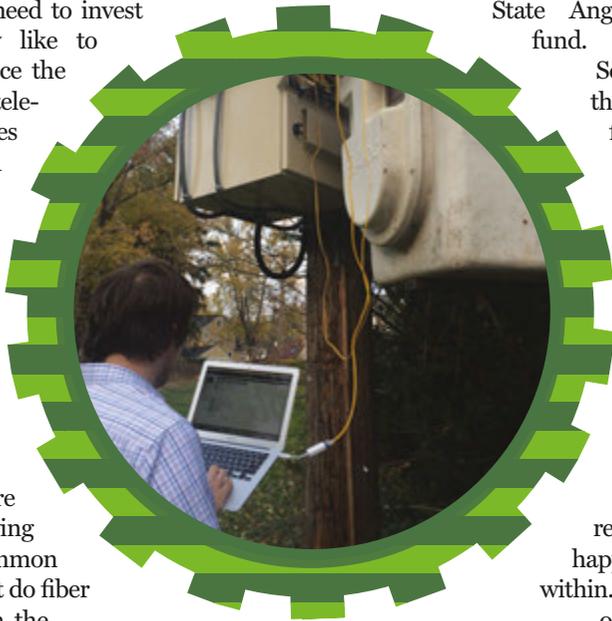
“Hard times kind of brought people together,” Schoen said. “It also breeds innovation.”

Patrick Dickson is a professor of educational technology at MSU. He got LightSpeed fiber optic Internet this summer as a beta test household.

Dickson sees the benefits to the Lansing area beyond entertainment, gaming or even the tech industry.

“MSU is building the FRIB, the biggest collider in the world,” he said. “They’re bringing 100 to 200 nuclear scientists to the area. They are moving huge datasets. If they can do it from home, that’s a huge intellectual advantage to them.”

“We’ve got major insurance companies in the Lansing area,” Dickson said. “Any time



Photos courtesy of LightSpeed

LightSpeed technicians commissioning a neighborhood network Fiber Distribution Hub.

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

Broadband: Commonly refers to high-speed Internet access that is always on and faster than the traditional dial-up access. Broadband includes several high-speed transmission technologies such as digital subscriber line (DSL), cable modem, fiber and wireless.

Dialup: Stone age Internet access using a telephone line.

DSL: Digital Subscriber Line. The generic name for digital telephone lines — rather than copper lines — that carry data at high speeds.

The cloud: In cloud computing, the word cloud (also phrased as “the cloud”) is used as a metaphor for “the Internet,” so the phrase cloud computing means “a type of Internet-based computing,” where different services — such as servers, storage and applications — are delivered to an organization’s computers and devices through the Internet.

Cable Broadband: Broadband using the same optic fibre technology as cable TV. It provides good service but is only available in areas that have cable service in the area.

Fiber Optic Broadband: Broadband Internet connection using fiber optic cables to transfer

data. It is typically faster than data transferred via a telephone modem or dialup connection.

Gigabyte: 1,000 megabytes

MB/Megabyte: A megabyte is a unit for measuring the amount of storage space digital information will take up. It is the equivalent of 1 million bytes and roughly equates to the same amount of information held in a medium-sized novel.

Mb/s/Mbps: This is a different unit of storage to megabytes, and instead means the number of megabits transferred per second and relates to the speed of your Internet connection.

Net neutrality: The concept that Internet service providers should provide nondiscriminatory access to Internet content, platforms, etc., and should not manipulate the transfer of data regardless of its source or destination. Streaming: Watching or listening to digital audio or video without storing it on your computer.

Source: Federal Communications Commission, Wikipedia

you have workers drumming their thumbs waiting for an upload or download, that’s wasted time.”

Dickson said fiber optic Internet at home helps him teach online courses.

“To be able to have crystal clear, lightning fast connections and extending that to our homes is huge.”

In fact he said some of his colleagues were envious.

“As soon as the word went out that I got this, they said how in the hell did you get that?” he said.

High speeds and open access create endless possibilities, Schreiber said.

“The creator of Google went to East Lansing High School, that’s the same school my kids are going to go through,” he said. “He lit a fire in early life. He was uninhibited in his early creativity and ambitions. This (fiber optics to the home) isn’t just playing with the Internet and technology, this is access to the world’s knowledge. ...

“I can’t wait to see what someone is going to do on our network. They’re going to build a multimillion company or technology.”

JOBS, JOBS, JOBS

Fiber optic Internet expansion also means jobs for the Greater Lansing area.

Schreiber said he has 35 employees and is continuing to grow.

“If you’re a fiber optics splicer and can install splice capsules and do technical work, you could walk in and start working today,” he said. “We need that skill. That’s our number one demand and skill right now.”

And he’ll need more soon because he’s expanding to the Southfield area.

Schoen said his company is growing as well. He hired 25 people last year and will need to hire up to 30 more this year.

“We need CAD work, permitting work with municipalities, surveying,” he said. “Also construction workers doing installation of cable, bucket trucks, fiber splicing.”

ACD.net recently won a federal stimulus award to help expand Internet to rural areas. It will be working this year to create a fiber optic Internet loop around Hillsdale and then extend high-speed Internet on the residential level.

“We’re building and maintaining that network,” Schoen said. “That gives us a good chunk of the background infrastructure to build out the urban area.”

THE FUTURE

Last week the annual Consumer Electronic Show in Las Vegas was held. It’s the location where the newest gadgets are revealed.

“There’s 20,000 new things being shown,” said Dickson. “But there’s an interesting shift.”

He said he read an article in The New York Times about this shift.

“It’s a fundamentally important idea,” he said. “Up until now the CES was about gadgets. But what has happened is the smartphone now has the camera, audio recorder, browser, word processor. This (writer) could sense a shift from individual gadgets to applications and other things that work with the smartphone that works in their pocket. Much of the future is around brilliant applications.”

And that’s going to require faster speeds.

Dickson said we need to have the same commitment to building efficient and fast Internet as we do highways and roads.

“We don’t have the will we had when we built the interstate highway,” he said. “I don’t see any way forward other than to encourage these pockets and then push for others to do the same.”

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC • THEATER

TAPESTRY OF VOICES

Take 6 joins MSU's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. tribute

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Each year, topical threads are added to timeless ones, but warmth is always woven into the MSU College of Music's annual Martin Luther King Jr. tribute, "Jazz: Spirituals, Prayer and Protest."

"Jazz: Spirituals, Prayer and Protest"

MSU Fairchild Theatre
5 p.m. & 8 p.m. Sunday,
Jan. 18
FREE but tickets are
required. Tickets available
through Friday at MSU
College of Music Main
Office, 333 W. Circle
Drive. No phone or
online reservations are
available.
(517) 353-5340, music.
msu.edu

The annual tapestry of music and spoken word will shine with a new filament Sunday. The luminous, six-piece a cappella gospel group Take 6 will shed extra light on the "prayer" part of the proceedings.

Some of Sunday's speakers and performers are likely to chart a year of troubled waters in American race relations, but Claude McKnight, a founding member of Take 6, takes a longer view.

"What is happening now is not so different than what has always been happening," McKnight said in a phone interview. "Every now and then, the Band-Aid is stripped



Courtesy photo

Gospel a cappella group Take 6 plays a free concert Sunday at MSU's Fairchild Theatre as part of the annual "Jazz: Spirituals, Prayer and Protest" series.

away from wounds that haven't completely healed."

Despite forays into jazz and pop, devotional songs like "Oh, Mary, Don't You Weep" have been at the heart of Take 6's repertoire for decades.

"Our message is no more pointed or fervent now than it's been in the past," McKnight said. "We've always said the same thing — underneath it all, people are hurting and they need to find some kind of hope."

Inclusion has been the MLK tribute's watchword for its 15-year history, most of them under Jazz Studies director Rodney Whitaker. The music juxtaposes knock-you-over, big-orchestra jazz with pure gospel and the heated protest music of

firebrands like Max Roach and Charles Mingus. In past years, the event has paid tribute to Marvin Gaye and Stevie Wonder, and hosted community choral groups young and old. There has been thoughtful commentary on themes of the day, from Hurricane Katrina to the inauguration of Barack Obama, and roof-rattling re-creations of historic civil rights oratory.

The concert welcomes all comers, but the ecumenical spirit is infused with the music and feeling of the black church, without which jazz, blues and the civil right movement itself would be unthinkable.

McKnight said the group feels right at home performing at a university event where the audience is a mix of Christians

and non-Christians.

"People generally don't come to the show to be proselytized or preached to," he said. "If they just enjoy the chords and what's going on, it can still do something for you and in you, emotionally."

The group started in 1980 as a barber-shop doo-wop frolic for McKnight and three fellow students at Oakwood University, a small Christian church in Huntsville, Ala. It was fun, but the school already had a rich heritage of a cappella groups. McKnight wondered whether expanding the group might make it stand out from the others.

Providence provided. One day, the quartet was rehearsing in a campus bathroom before a gig when fellow student Mark Kibble, a stranger to all of them, wandered in and started singing along. He ended up on stage with them that night and is still with the group.

After graduation, everyone left the group but McKnight and Kibble, but they replaced those members and eventually added a sixth. (The current roster consists of tenors McKnight and Kibble, second tenors David Thomas and Kibble's brother, Joey Kibble, baritone Khristian Dentley and bass Alvin Chea.)

The group's sound blossomed into a supple, prismatic earthshine that earned it a record contract the day after it performed at a talent showcase in 1988. Its first album, "Take 6," got two Grammys and topped the jazz and Christian charts. A hobbyhorse of a group turned out to be a thoroughbred.

"I was a music major, but I had no clue I would be doing this as my life's work," McKnight said. "It was destiny and luck and providence. We truly believe it is a

See Take 6, Page 13

Requiem for a (SCENE)?

East Lansing art gallery's fate is uncertain

By TY FORQUER

Since 2004, East Lansing's (SCENE) Metrospace, 110 Charles St., has provided a venue for risk-taking visual and performance art to be showcased. But faced with a tightening budget, the city — which has co-funded the gallery's six annual exhibitions with the support of private donations — has been quietly looking for ways to get out from under the financial burden without skimping on its dedication to art and placemaking.

Enter Michigan State University.

According to a statement on the city's website, East Lansing is negotiating with MSU's Art, Art History and Design Department to turn over operations of the gallery to the university. This would be a significant cost-cutting move by the city; last year, the gallery ran at a budget deficit of \$18,649 and is projected to run at a deficit of \$19,500 this year.

Department Chairman Chris Corneal stressed that this is not a done deal and that the university is still reviewing a possible changeover. He wouldn't give specifics on the timeline, but did express a desire for it to be swift.

"We'd like to move sooner than later," he said.

Corneal was unwilling to give details about how the university would use the



Ty Forquer/City Pulse

MSU may take over (SCENE) Metrospace from the City of East Lansing this year.

space while negotiations are ongoing, but a statement from the city describes proposed plans to offer eight exhibitions a year and to host student performances in the space. (SCENE) also doubles as a low-cost venue for music performances, poetry slams, community meetings and private parties.

Tim McCaffrey, director of parks and recreation for the city, sees this potential partnership as a win-win. Turning the space over to the university would allow the city to cut its financial obligations to the space while still having an art gallery presence.

"We had hoped (the gallery) would generate its own operational funding, (but) revenue has been flat or declining, and expenses have been increasing," Mc-

See (SCENE), Page 13

Take 6

from page 12

ministry that we were indeed called for.”
McKnight finds it interesting that singer-songwriter Tracy Chapman won a Grammy as best new artist in 1988, the same year Take 6 dropped.

“The music business seemed ready for a more stripped down sound,” McKnight said. “Maybe it was a breath of fresh air.”

A string of recordings and tours large and small, including White House gigs for four different presidents of the United States, have kept the group busy ever since. Gospel has always been the group’s touchstone, but it’s ventured into R&B, pop, classical and folk as well. In a 2008 jazz album, “The Standard,” the group tackled challenging material like trumpeter Miles Davis’ “Seven Steps to Heaven.” (A hypnotic vocal arrangement from the same album, “The Windmills of Your Mind,” is a likely choice for Sunday’s concert.)

Stevie Wonder has a special place among Take 6’s stellar roster of collaborators, which also includes Brian Wilson, Whitney Houston, Ray Charles and k.d. lang.

“We go back to the beginning of our professional career with him,” McKnight said. “He’s our older brother and a great friend.”

Wonder pulled a fast one on McKnight and his colleagues when they performed together on a VH1 special in the 1990s. After rehearsing, the musicians stood behind the curtain as Coretta Scott King introduced them to a nationwide audience. As the curtain went up, Wonder whispered over his shoulder: “We’re going to do it a



McKnight

cappella.”

The newly formed “Take 7” did just fine. The band got a rest.

No lesson in spontaneity is lost on McKnight and his colleagues. Six-part harmony is a discipline, but the group has a lightness and flexibility that’s light years away from barbershop, as audiences will find out Sunday.

“We’ll feel out the vibe,” McKnight said. “We might be in the middle of the show and let the audience dictate what we’re gonna do.”

McKnight varies the repertoire (and repartee between songs) according to the venue and vibe, but the message is a constant.

“We want to help people find hope in the right place,” he said. “And that’s love.”

(SCENE)

from page 12

Caffrey said.

Under the proposed agreement, the university would assume all operating costs for (SCENE). The city, meanwhile, would provide the space to the university rent-free. McCaffrey said there’s a tentative plan to begin discussion with the city council at the Jan. 27 work session.

So while it’s possible that the gallery is staying put, (SCENE) curator/director Tim Lane has already announced his departure. Lane said via Facebook message that he accepted a position working for the East Lansing Art Festival. Lane said he expects the “Beyond Material” exhibition that opens this weekend to be his last, but he isn’t checking out just yet.

“As long as the space is open, I plan to present art, have exhibitions and host events,” Lane said.

What this means for the future of (SCENE) is unclear. Both sides seem confi-

dent that this deal will go through, but the combined red tape of city and university politics means that no outcome should be taken for granted. For now, the gallery will continue to operate in a state of limbo. But in the long term, an influx of student youth and energy, backed by the university’s financial largess, could be a huge boost for the East Lansing arts scene.

For his part, Lane will remember his time at (SCENE) fondly.

“It was a dream of mine to be involved with a place like (SCENE) MetroSpace,” he said by email. “(The gallery’s) mission allowed us to focus on emerging artists and art that addressed current societal concerns and new modes of art-making. It allowed us to feature edgy performance. It allowed us to give up-and-coming creatives, from our community and elsewhere, a chance to be who they are and participate in the conversation of today’s art, music, dance, poetry and more.”

“It’s been great to be a part of a space dedicated to bringing contemporary and alternative forms of art to downtown East Lansing.”

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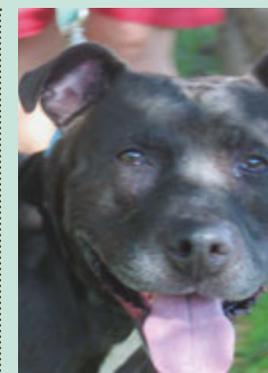
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CURTAIN CALL

Intensity and intention

Riverwalk's 'The Sea Gull' takes Chekhov out of Russia

By TOM HELMA

Two gunmetal gray, stark cold cemetery benches flank the stage of Riverwalk Theatre, awaiting audience members who shuffle in from the gunmetal gray, stark cold Lansing winter. Welcome to Jean-Claude van Itallie's adaptation of Anton Chekhov's "The Sea Gull."

Review

"The Sea Gull"

Riverwalk Theater
7 p.m. Thursday,
Jan. 15; 8 p.m.
Friday Jan.
16-Saturday, Jan. 17;
2 p.m. Jan. 18
\$10-\$15
228 Museum Drive,
Lansing
(517) 482-5700,
riverwalktheatre.com

Actor Joe Dickson brings intensity and intention to the role of Trepylev, a semi-autobiographical depiction of Chekhov, who exclaims early in the play: "What we need is a new kind of theater!" Dickson strides across the stage spouting mini-monologues of frustration about why

no one, not even his famous acting mother, Arkadina, seems to take his writing seriously.

Arkadina, portrayed by Deborah Keller, brings an imperious gravitas to the role. Her selection of clothing invites additional accolades — she wears the role well. Together, for a too-brief moment in Act II, this

duo of dynamic actors manages to turn on the electricity dormant throughout the play.

You can take the show out of Russia, but you can't take Russia out of the show, and that really hurts this production. Stripping this iconic play of time and place, as director A.S. Freeman has done here, reduces it to mush. Program notes suggest that this play takes place in the country, but what



Photo by LukeAnthony Photography

Joe Dickson as Trepylev, a semi-autobiographical depiction of playwright Anton Chekhov in Riverwalk's "The Sea Gull."

country? Incidental music piped in before the play starts suggest country western, but even that is not hinted at in any other way.

Combining that lost orientation to culture and characterization is the cast of supporting actors — Michael Hays, Sineh Wuri and Marie Papciak — who seem to have been given no direction. They wander mindlessly on stage, like victims in "The Invasion of the Body Snatchers." Amelia Rogocka plays an ingénue who brings a bubbly, earnest enthusiasm to her role. That eagerness suffers, however, from a lack of context noted everywhere else in the play. There is a sense of further disorientation with the mix-and-match selection of costuming.

"The Sea Gull" is intended to be a character-driven play, not focused on plot, the notion being that characters can be seen holding two conflicting emotions within their body at once. With the notable exceptions of Dickson and Keller, however, there is none of this in this production. It is wordy and lifeless. It's nothing like the new sense of theater that Trepylev clamors for at all.

Hey, elk, look up

Symphony, guest cellist bring great outdoors to Wharton concert

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

For all the fiddlers, fandooglers and foom-boomers crowding the stage at Saturday's Lansing Symphony concert, two distinct figures linger in my mind. I'll start with the obvious one: Soloist Bion Tsang. For better or worse, in motion or stasis, through reverie and hysteria, the evening's guest cellist made it impossible to take your eyes off of him.

Not that he was showing off. He seemed determined to take a seemingly cornball piece of music, Tchaikovsky's "Variations on a Rococo Theme," and wring maximum meaning and drama from every bit. He was all business, ear cocked for every cue from the orchestra and maestro Timothy Muffitt.

Every note Tsang played was strong, clear and pure, from subsonic, Russian Orthodox basso tones to supersonic signals that must have made elk look up from the snowy earth in the trackless woods of Northern Lansing.

Tsang ignored the triviality of the opening bars as he began to work out vigorous, virtuosic variations on a neat little promenade theme. This "Rococo" needed the rum — it's not Tchaikovsky's finest hour. Between the first few variations, an inane woodwind outburst seems to chirp, "wasn't that nice." However, at about the fifth or sixth variation, Tsang jumped off the Good Ship Lollipop and dove deep, stretching time with soundings that unexpectedly reached to the bottom of a silent ocean. Now and then, he would suspend a note like a silver sphere in mid-air. The mid-January tubercular ward of an audience stopped coughing, and maybe even breathing, for what seemed like a very long time. The notes seemed to have no beginning and no end, no audible attack or decay. They were just there.

Suddenly, the cellist came back up for air with a flashy finale that came off as exhilarating, not silly, like gulping oxygen after a frightening encounter with an undertow. Tchaikovsky fools you every time. His depths are shallower than you think, but his shallows are often deeper.

It's worth a minute to give thanks that such guest artists have become a hallmark of the Muffitt era. Tsang joins a long string of totally engaged, audience-grabbing, brilliant soloists the Lansing Symphony has racked up in recent years. Condescending, self-important stuffed shirts and poodle-haired, pledge-week darlings are a thing of the long past.

The lead-up to Tchaikovsky was one of Haydn's more exquisitely wrought symphonies (No. 43), but unfortunately, Sat-

urday's performance was not so exquisite. A delicate miniature demands a super-fine brush, especially when the orchestra is stripped down to strings, two horns, an oboe and a bassoon. But the violins seemed to grab last year's brush from the back of the garage, with bristles going off in unnecessary directions. A bouncy minuet, invigorated by the tight stockings of 18th-century dance, helped the music come alive, but only for a few minutes. The rest of the time, a vinegary wheeze in the violins put the ear on edge. An overall deficit in the intensity and lean-forwardness needed to put this quiet music over undermined Muffitt's noble effort to keep Haydn alive.

If cellist Bion Tsang was a man in motion Saturday, the night's other memorable figure was the opposite. For the first three movements of the night's closing work, Beethoven's "Pastoral Symphony (No. 6)," principal timpani player Andrew Spencer sat calmly behind his cauldrons of doom, observing the scene, playing nary a note.

All around him swirled a charmer of a performance, pure lightness and joy, at least before Spencer started to crease his tux. The first and third movements were irresistible sonic tableaux of mid-summer gaiety, especially welcome in early January. Twirling, avian solos by principal oboe Linda Binkley and her woodwind colleagues tripled the allure through all four movements.

As a youngster, I wished the lazy, languorous third movement would end and they'd get to the thunderstorm already, but that was when I was constantly buzzed on Count Chocula and circus peanuts. Now I know better. For one thing, I drink red wine with my circus peanuts. More to the point, I understand that this movement is about that perfect summer day you wish would never end. Muffitt and the orchestra let every breeze and buzzing bee drift by at its own unforced tempo. If any cares were left, the third movement's gentle peasant dance banished them.

But soft. At the end of the third movement, Spencer, after laying in wait for more than 35 minutes, sat up straight and picked up his sticks. The fine strands of hair in Wharton's Great Hall began to point to the ceiling (figuratively speaking). FA-BOOM! Thus began a marvel of extended musical onomatopoeia that still delights audiences down to their wet socks. All forces were inspired to drench the hall with a roiling panorama of sound. Double basses and cellos rumbled like the dogs of war, even after the storm lost its bite, but this was a benign battle.

Despite the deluge, the performance caught the lightness, exhilaration and pathos of Beethoven at his happiest. Saturday's picnic ought to hold us until the real thing comes along in May, this time with wasps.

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THE SCREENING ROOM by ALLAN I. ROSS

A history of nonviolence

MLK biopic gets a lot right at exactly the right time

“Selma” comes along at the right time and with precisely the right message to give hope for a nation that still needs to proclaim #blacklivesmatter. The Martin Luther King Jr. biopic has none of the sweeping grandeur that made Richard Attenborough’s “Gandhi” (about King’s idol) pure Oscar bait or any of the deft filmmaking touches that gave Spike Lee’s “Malcolm X” (about King’s political converse) a burning urgency. “Selma” is a quiet, contemplative film that grounds King’s nonviolent methods in the humdrum world of political red tape and systemic racism.



Courtesy image

“Selma” follows Martin Luther King Jr.’s nonviolent struggle to secure voting rights for Southern blacks.

But that narrow scope is exactly what it takes to make you feel the indignity being a second-class citizen in the most powerful country in the world. Never heard of Annie Lee Cooper or Jimmie Lee Jackson? After you see “Selma,” these real Americans will be burned into your brain.

Following the example set by “Lincoln,”

“Selma” focuses on a single moment in the life of its subject: In this case, King’s march from Selma to Montgomery in protest of lack of legislation securing voting rights for blacks. It’s mind-blowing, given modern voter apathy, to witness the reenactment of hundreds of King’s followers falling to their knees outside a county courthouse, hands clasped behind their heads, willfully accepting a brutal beating just for the right to enter the building and register to vote. Images like this have the ability to ignite public action — such is the power of film.

David Oyelowo (“Interstellar”) gives a career-making performance as King, invest-

ing his characterization with an eerie, almost otherworldly calm in the face of the ugliness and violence he endures. We don’t hear him give King’s “I Have a Dream” speech, but the entire performance is filled with an unspoken optimism for a brighter future.

The film has been dogged with criticism about its depiction of President Johnson (Tom Wilkinson), which shows him as largely unsympathetic to King’s cause, but I think the filmmakers went this route to give King a human being he could look in the eye. It’s an ingenious way to depict King’s struggle against public apathy. And it’s only by addressing this indifference head-on that we as a nation will be able to move beyond our racist history and into a future where we can, in King’s words, transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood.

The January Indie Film Series at Studio C! is under way. This month’s schedule includes documentaries, foreign language films and two movies about jazz mentors with polar opposite temperaments.

“Art and Craft” (NR, 89 min.) Documentary about an art forger and diagnosed schizophrenic who was busted after years of donating his paintings to museums across the country.

“Ernest and Celestine” (G, 80 min.) Academy Award nominee for Best Animated Film last year about the unlikely friendship between a troubadour bear and an artist mouse.

“Force Majeure” (R, 120 min.) A knee-jerk decision by a Swedish patriarch during an avalanche scare irreversibly changes his family’s dynamics in this insightful psychodrama.

“Keep on Keepin’ On” (R, 86 min.) Documentary about the relationship between Clark Terry — mentor to jazz greats Miles Davis and Quincy Jones — and his

newest protégé, a 23-year old blind piano prodigy.

“Last Days in Vietnam” (NR, 98 min.) Documentary about the Fall of Saigon, when American soldiers and diplomats had to decide between obeying White House orders and evacuate only U.S. citizens or risk being charged with treason and save the lives of South Vietnamese citizens.

“Love is Strange” (R, 94 min.) Outside forces put the recent marriage of Ben (John Lithgow) and George (Alfred Molina) to the ultimate test in this critically acclaimed drama.

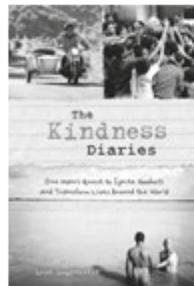
“Whiplash” (R, 107 minutes) J.K. Simmons won a Golden Globe Sunday for his role as an abusive bandleader who attempts to pummel greatness out of a freshman jazz drummer.

Indie Film Series, through Feb. 5. Studio C! Meridian Mall, 1999 Central Park Drive, Okemos. (517) 393-7469, celebrationcinema.com/studioc.

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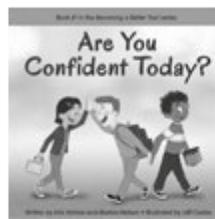
Wednesday, January 14. @7pm
Eastwood Towne Center



Logothetis is the host of *The Amazing Adventures of a Nobody*, and has appeared on Good Morning America, CNN, Fox and the BBC.

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Wednesday, January 21. @7 pm
Eastwood Towne Center



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(Butterfly Hill: What Tummy Flutters Mean), Sterling Heights police officer Paul LaBaere (Brick by Brick: Building Our Family’s Mission), Dr. Bashar Salame (Let’s Change That! If Animals Can, We Can, Too!) and Kris Yankee (Becoming a Better You series).

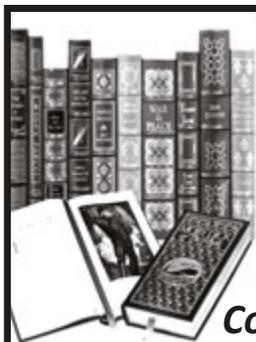
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OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at 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, January 14

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.

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.

Intro to Coiling in Basketry. Learn basic basketry techniques. 1-4 p.m. \$60. Grove Gallery & Studios, 325 Grove St. #A, East Lansing. (517) 333-7180, grovegalleryandstudios.com/workshops.

Painting Class: Asian Brush. 7 week class. 11-noon, \$15, supplies \$20-\$25. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Computer Club. The internet as a daily resource for older adults. 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Line Dance. Beginner or expert. 3:15-4:15 p.m. \$49/\$35 members. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Photography Clinic. Free seminars for aspiring photographers. 6-9 p.m. FREE. First Presbyterian Church, 510 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. mmphotoclub.com.

Suicide Laws and Euthanasia. Discussion. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434, PilgrimUCC.com.

Ask a Business Librarian. Market research and more. 9-11 a.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, Suite 110, 309 N. Washinton Square, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcnichigan.org.

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. First Congregational United Church of Christ, 210 W. Saginaw Highway, Grand Ledge. (517) 256-6954, fcgl.org.

EVENTS

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,

See Out on the Town, Page 18



Courtesy photo
Comedian Kate Brindle headlines She Laughs X, a comedy show featuring Lansing-area talent.

Queens of comedy

• • • Friday, Jan. 16 • • •

The Women's Center of Greater Lansing is serious about its mission to help Lansing women, but it will take a break to laugh this weekend as it presents the 10th annual "She Laughs" fundraiser.

The event will feature standup comedy from four Lansing-area women. Headlining the show is comedian Kate Brindle, who recently moved to East Lansing to pursue a doctorate in law at Michigan State University.

"I'm trying to balance studying and telling jokes," she said by phone. "Comedy is my sanity. It's a nice break from studying personal injury cases."

Brindle has toured the country performing at comedy clubs and festivals, and has opened for such notable comedians as Dave Attell, Kevin Nealon and Sarah Silverman.

This is the second time Brindle has been a "She Laughs" entertainer, and it's a natural fit. After earning a bachelor's degree in theater at New York University, she went on to earn a master's degree in women's and gender studies at Eastern Michigan University.

"Issues involving women are close to my heart," she said. "The Women's Center provides such a valuable service to the community."

Brindle's academic achievements are impressive, but her comedy is down-to-earth and relatable.

"It's a lot of observational humor," she said. "I talk about family and everyday life."

Lansing politicians will recognize two of the other performers on the bill. City Councilwoman Kathie Dunbar and Equality Michigan Executive Director Emily Dievendorf will take the stage, not as political operatives, but as comedians.

"It's really great for us to have these women involved," said Cindie Alwood, executive director of the Women's Center. "Comedy is very personal and high-risk. For them to take their work hats off and share their soul is wonderful."

Dievendorf, who made her standup comedy debut at the 2013 "She Laughs" event, finds the experience of being on stage empowering.

"Comedy is terrifying," she said. "I felt

that if I could do this, I could do anything."

Rounding out this year's group of funnywomen

is East Lansing resident

Brenda Nelson. Nelson served as emcee for several early versions of

"She Laughs," but this is her first time joining the lineup as a comedian.

Attendees will also get to see the transformation that has taken place inside the former Cadillac Club. The event will be in the Cadillac Room, which is part of the newly renovated Riverview Church-REO Town Venue. The room features sleek, modern design and restored wood floors that reveal the building's origins as a bowling alley.

"It's great that we have a space like this that the community can use," said Justin Detmers, venue director. "We want to be a venue to help the community achieve its potential."

For Alwood, "She Laughs" is a great way to kick off the year.

"It's a bright spot in a very dreary season," she said.

This annual event serves as one of the biggest fundraisers for the Women's Center, which provides counseling, career training and economic education for local women. Many women who come to the center seeking help are unable to pay for these services, and fundraisers like "She Laughs" allow the center to offer more services and not have to turn away women who are going through financial hardships.

Over the years, Alwood has seen many young comedians overcome their stage fright to perform at "She Laughs," and in a way that is a metaphor for the Women's Center's mission.

"We're here to help women achieve their potential, to give up their fears and move forward," she said.

"She Laughs X"

7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 16

\$25

The Cadillac Room, Riverview Church-REO Town Venue
1115 S. Washington Ave.,
Lansing
(517) 372-9163,
womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org

—TY FORQUER

TURN IT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA



FRI. JAN 16TH

CHEAP GIRLS, SPLIT SINGLE AT MAC'S BAR

Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages. \$12 adv. 8 p.m., Friday, Jan. 16

Still pumped from its latest power-pop release, the "Famous Graves" LP, Cheap Girls returns to its home turf of Mac's Bar for a headlining gig. Those who buy advance tickets online get a free poster. Warming up the stage are local rock units Decades and Fencemen. Also performing is Split Single, a solo project fronted by Jason Narducy of the Bob Mould Band and Superchunk. The band also features Superchunk drummer Jon Wurster. According to Narducy's bio, his childhood pal, Dave Grohl, was inspired by Narducy's early-punk-rock ethos. "Watching Jason was the first time I thought I could start my own band, and write my own kind of music," Grohl said. "Jason totally set my life in this new direction. It wasn't a Jimmy Page or KISS poster I had. It was fuckin' him!"

LINDSAY LOU & THE FLATBELLYS AT THE AVENUE CAFE

The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages. \$10. 8 p.m., Friday, Jan. 16

Since its 2012 debut album, "Release Your Shrouds," Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellies, an Earthwork Music-signed foursome, has been on a continuous tour across the U.S. Friday it headlines at the Avenue Café. Whistle Stop Revue opens the show. The Flatbellies plays what it describes as "a meshing of Appalachian tradition with a rootsy Michigan vigor." The band is fronted by singer/songwriter Lindsay Lou Rilko, who also plays guitar and clawhammer banjo. The rest of the band plays an assortment of instruments; the mandolin, upright bass, cajon, harmonica, guitar and dobro. Fans of Steppin' In It or Red Tail Ring might want to check them out. Next month the band releases its sophomore album, "Ionia." The Flatbellies also plan to embark on international tours in Germany and the U.K.



FRI. JAN 16TH

J.D. WILKES & THE DIRT DAUBERS AT THE AVENUE CAFE

The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+ \$10. 9 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 17

Kentucky-based J.D. Wilkes & The Dirt Daubers is a four-piece led by Wilkes, the songwriter and front man for the Legendary Shack Shakers, a veteran Gothic-rock outfit. The band headlines Saturday at the Avenue Café; openers are Adrian & Meredith and the Aimcriers. The Dirt Daubers, known for its blues-stained sound, released its third album, "Wild Moon," in 2013 via Plowboy Records. The rustic LP was recorded by punk icon Cheetah Chrome of the Dead Boys and features baritone sax licks by Ralph Carney, Tom Waits' sideman. The album unveiled the former acoustic-driven band's new distorted and electric sound. The band was formed in 2009 by Wilkes and his wife, Jessica Wilkes, who is working on her debut solo disc, which she describes as "a collision of 1950s rock 'n' roll and rhythm & blues."



SAT. JAN 17TH

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.		Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellies, 8 p.m.	JD Wilkes & the Dirt Daubers, 9 p.m.
Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Rd.			Karle Delo, 7 p.m.	Steve Cowles, 7 p.m.
Capital Prime, 2324 Showtime Dr.			Bob Schultiz, 8:30 p.m.	Grant Hendrickson, 8:30 p.m.
Claddagh Irish Pub, 2900 Towne Centre Blvd.				Mark Sala, 8:30 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.		
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Jeremy Kratky & Doug Fritch, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Good Cookies, 8 p.m.	Skoryoke live band karaoke, 8 p.m.	Blue Haired Bettys, 8 p.m.	The Rotations, 8 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.	Avon Bomb, 9 p.m.	Still Rain, 9 p.m.
Gus's Bar, 2321 W. Michigan Ave.			Karaoke	
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.		Tribute Night, 10 p.m.	Homegrown Throwdown, 7:30 p.m.	People's Temple, 8 p.m.
Log Jam, 110 W. Jefferson St.				Rachel & Alex, 9 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Gates, 7 p.m.	Nobodys Listening, 8 p.m.	Cheap Girls, 8 p.m.	Damn Van Cannibals, 9 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.		Dirty Helens, 9 p.m.	Lincoln County Process, 9:30 p.m.	The DeWaynes, 9:30 p.m.
R-Club, 6409 Centurion Dr.			Hot Mess, 8:30 p.m.	Hot Mess, 8:30 p.m.
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27			Well Enough Alone, 8 p.m.	The Tenants, 8 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Rd.		Mark Sala, 7 p.m.	Jake Stevens Band, 7 p.m.	Hot Mess, 8:30 p.m.
Reno's West, 501 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Rush Element, 8 p.m.	New Rule, 7 p.m.
Tin Can West, 644 Migaldi Ln.	Waterpong, 11 p.m.	Scott Martin, 8 p.m.		
Tin Can DeWitt, 13175 Schavey Rd.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.			
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog & the Beeftones, 8:30 p.m.	Good Cookies, 8:30 p.m.	Good Cookies, 8:30 p.m.
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Dr.			Joe Wright, 6 p.m.	
Watershed, 5965 Marsh Rd.	Trevor Compton, 7 p.m.	Jake Stevens, 8 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

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.
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.
Wednesday Senior Discovery. Coffee and conversation. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468, allenneighborhoodcenter.org.
Knitting and Crochet Group. All ages and levels welcome. Some supplies on hand. 5-7 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 MAC Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.
Teen Crafternoon. Create Dimensional Charms to keep or give as gifts. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-

2420, elpl.org.
Holistic Chamber Lansing Meeting. 6-8 p.m. Donations accepted. Inner Journey Books and Gifts, 4655 Dobie Rd., Suite #240, Okemos. (517) 775-7220, innerjourneybooksandgifts.com.
Zen Buddhist Meditation. Instructions upon request. 7 a.m. Donation. Garden of Mind, 122 N. Clemens Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-0469.

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.
Sistrum Member Orientation. Rehearsal to follow. 6 p.m. FREE. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, sistrum.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY
Tween Book Club. Ages 9-12. Call to register. 4-5 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3., dtdl.org.

Thursday, January 15

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Sound Classes. Green Union teaches live sound, recording and more. 6 p.m. FREE. 1200 Marquette St., Lansing. (517) 420-1873, thegreenunionmi.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.
Domestic Violence Advocacy. CARE training to be domestic violence advocate. FREE. South Washington Office Complex, 2500 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 272-7436.
Lansing Area Codependent Anonymous. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Community Mental Health Building, Room 214G., 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.
Project Healthy Living: 4 Weeks. Learn healthy habits. 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.
Genealogy Club. 2-3 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.
Yoga. Simple poses for your health. 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.
Mind Benders. Interactive trivia game. 11 a.m.-noon, FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.
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.
Marketing Your Business. Grow small businesses. 9:30 a.m.-noon. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, Suite 110, 309 N. Washinton Square, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

EVENTS
Evening Storytime. Stories, songs and crafts. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3, dtdl.org.
Karaoke. With Atomic D. 9 p.m. LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 482-0184.
English Country Dance Lessons. No experience needed. 7-9:30 p.m. \$6/\$4 students/MSU students FREE. Snyder/Phillips Hall, Room C20, MSU Campus, 362 Bogue St., East Lansing. (517) 355-1855, msu.edu.

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.
Teen Game Haven. Play a variety of games: board, card and video. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.
Zen Buddhist Meditation. Instructions upon request. 7 a.m. Donation. Garden of Mind, 122 N. Clemens Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-0469.
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.

MUSIC
Marshall Music Drum Circle. All ages and levels welcome. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700, marshallmusic.com.
MSU Faculty Recital. Richard Sherman, flute, and Ralph Votapek, piano. 7:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/FREE for students. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, music.msu.edu.

LITERATURE AND POETRY
Chipmunk Story Time. Preschoolers enjoy nature stories, games and crafts. 10-11 a.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866, meridian.mi.us.

THEATER
"The Sea Gull." Classic drama by Anton Chekhov. 7 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Friday, January 16

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Growing Your Internet Presence. Learn to use the internet to market your business. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo, Lansing. (517) 999-3923, allenmarketplace.org/happenings.
Mud And Mug. Pottery class for ages 21 and up. Bring your own refreshments. 7-10 p.m. \$25. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

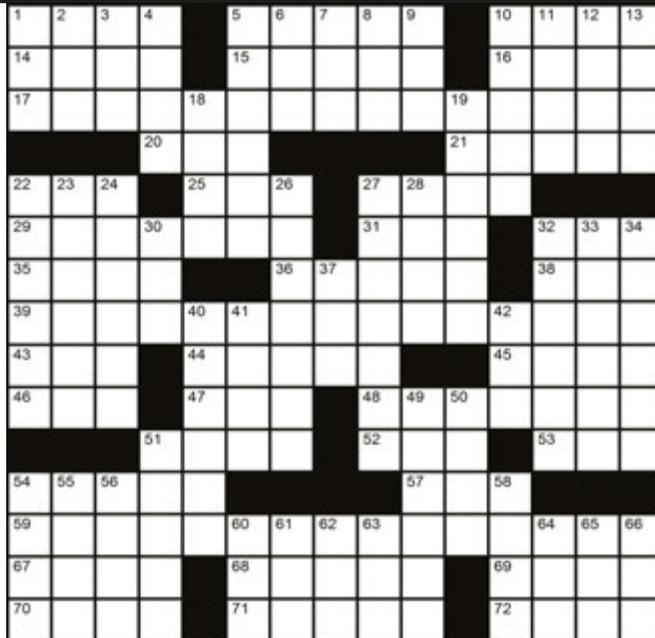
See Out on the Town, Page 19

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Getting Carried Away"--and feeling like you're at the top.
 Matt Jones

- Across**
 1 Affected mannerisms
 5 "The Munsters" son
 10 Dollar bill's weight, roughly
 14 Abbr. on a bottle of Courvoisier
 15 New, in Nogales
 16 2000s sitcom starring a country singer
 17 Response to King Kong after being carried away?
 20 Depression Era agcy.
 21 Checks out suggestively
 22 Big song
 25 Type
 27 Urban blight
 29 Haifa resident, e.g.
 31 Roofing material
 32 Castellaneta, the voice of Homer on "The Simpsons"
 35 Low poker hand
 36 One-eyed character on "Futurama"
 38 Bob Hope's entertainment gp.
 39 King Kong's act of bar-room generosity?
 43 Mighty tree
 44 Meteorologist's tracked prediction
 45 Parallel, e.g.
 46 Retreating
 47 "___ favor!"
 48 Breakfast fare where you might take your lumps?
 51 Catch forty winks
 52 Earth orbiter until 2001



- 53 Punctured tire sound
 54 Corrective eye surgery
 57 "Dawson's Creek" actor James Van ___ Beek
 59 King Kong's hoped-for response?
 67 Paste alternative
 68 Constellation with a belt
 69 Bring under control
 70 "The camera ___ 10 pounds"
 71 Becomes liquid
 72 Christian Louboutin item
- Down**
 1 Beginning for the birds?
 2 Patriot ending
 3 "Ruh-___!" (Scooby-Doo gulp)
 4 Disgorge
 5 Final purpose
 6 Penn & Teller, e.g.
 7 "Slumdog Millionaire"
 actor ___ Patel
 8 "So, ___ been thinking..."
 9 Musical taste
 10 Allman brother who married Cher
 11 Slot machine spinner
 12 Up to the task
 13 ___ movement
 18 "Four and twenty black-birds baked in ___"
 19 "Yay, team!"
 22 "Hungry Hungry ___"
 23 Washington dropped from "Grey's Anatomy"
 24 Deceptive
 26 East Texas city or college
 27 Parent not related by blood
 28 ___ liquor
 30 Boat full of animals
 32 Job description list
 33 Yoga postures
 34 Prestigious prizes
 37 Iberian Peninsula's cont.
- 40 "Looks like ___ too soon"
 41 File cabinet label for the latter half of the alphabet
 42 "A Nightmare on ___ Street"
 49 Actors Quinn and Mitchell
 50 Uno + dos
 51 Small change?
 54 Annika Sorenstam's gp.
 55 "___ Lang Syne"
 56 Poker option
 58 Charlie Brown utterance
 60 Burt Reynolds co-star DeLuise
 61 Hematite, e.g.
 62 "Star Trek: TNG" alum Wheaton
 63 Forget-me-___
 64 "Boo-___!"
 65 Music genre with a lot of guyliner
 66 "What'd I tell ya?"

SUDOKU

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

BEGINNER

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

Answers on page 21

Out on the town

from page 18

Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3, dtdl.org.

StoryTime. Ages 3-6 years enjoy stories, songs and crafts. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Teen Tech Time. Teens have access to a cluster of laptops. 3-5 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Library Friends Used Book Sale. Fiction, non-fiction and much more. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. (517) 627-7014, grandledge.lib.mi.us.

Exhibit Reception: Jessica Frelinghuysen.

"Conversation Domes." 7 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Zen Buddhist Meditation. Instructions upon request. 7 a.m. Donation. Garden of Mind, 122 N. Clemens Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-0469.

Buddhist/Christian Study Group. Discussion. 7 p.m. Donations. Garden of Mind, 122 N. Clemens Ave., Lansing. (417) 999-0469.

Exhibit reception: Macro/Micro by artists Jay and Patricia Constantine. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 374-6400, lansingartgallery.org.

THEATER

Blue Man Group. Comedy, music and technology. 8 p.m. Tickets from \$39. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982, whartoncenter.com/events/detail/blue-man-group.

"The Sea Gull." (For details, see Jan. 15.) 8 p.m. \$15/\$12 seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Saturday, January 17

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.

Snowshoe Class. Tips from an expert and practice on the park trails. 1-3 p.m. \$15/\$20 using our equipment. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866, meridian.mi.us.

Cross Country Ski Class. Expert tips and practice. 9:30-11:30 a.m. \$15/\$20 using our equipment. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866, meridian.mi.us.

EVENTS

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

MemeBearCares 3 on 3 Basketball Event. To raise awareness for developmental disabilities. 8 a.m. \$3. Salvation Army, 525 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 974-0190, esthercoalition.org/donate.

Upcycled Smash Book Workshop. Create a Smashbook. Supplies provided. 2-5 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 MAC Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Books and Bagels. "Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library" by Grabenstein. 5-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Moonlight Ski and Shoe. Trails open for skiing and

snowshoeing. 6-9 p.m. \$3/\$9 using our equipment. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866, meridian.mi.us.

Ice Skate for Animal Shelter. Help to raise funds for a new shelter. Noon. \$10/\$5 ages 12 and under, \$2 skate rentals. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (517) 242-7440, icasfund.org.

Dinner/Dance. 5:30-11:30 p.m. Dinner \$10, dance \$6. Lansing Liederkrantz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 882-6330, liederkrantzclub.org.

THURSDAY, JAN. 15 >> '1847: A YEAR OF BEGINNINGS'

The year 1847 was pivotal in Lansing history. It was the year Michigan lawmakers made the unexpected decision to move the state capital to Lansing, which at the time was a township with fewer than 100 residents and exactly eight registered voters. This is just one of the historic events which will be explored by former Michigan State University professor Ann Harrison in her presentation "1847: A Year of Beginnings." The event, hosted by the Historical Society of Greater Lansing, will delve into a year surprisingly rich in history. Notable 1847 events Harrison will discuss include the births of Thomas Edison, Jesse James and Alexander Graham Bell, the founding of the Communist Party and the publication of books "Wuthering Heights" and "Jane Eyre." 7 p.m. Capital Area District Library Downtown Branch, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 282-0671, lansinghistory.org.

FRIDAY, JAN 16 >> 'BEYOND MATERIAL' AT (SCENE) METROSPACE

We interact with fiber everyday, whether hand- or machine-made. Clothing, curtains and upholstery are part of our everyday life, but a new art exhibit invites viewers to move beyond the material and view them in a new context. (SCENE) Metrospace unveils its new exhibit, "Beyond Material," at a free public opening Friday. "Beyond Material" is a traveling exhibition of work conceptually responding to the history of fiber and textiles as craft and art. The exhibit is guest curated by Grand Rapids-based Kate Garman; the exhibition runs Jan. 17-Feb. 22. 6-9 p.m. Friday. FREE. (SCENE) Metrospace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832, scenemetrospace.com.

MONDAY, JAN. 19 >> BEER AND SLIDERS PAIRING AT FRONT 43

This burger-and-beer pairing event, hosted by I'm a Beer Hound, matches brews from Dark Horse Brewing Co. with specially made sliders, chosen by Front 43's chef, Chris Sandker. The event gives craft beer enthusiasts a chance to sample four of Dark Horse's stout beers with a little food to keep the buzz from hitting too quickly. The pairings offered will be: One Oatmeal Stout with a chicken mushroom swiss slider; Too Creamy Stout with a BAO slider; Tres Blueberry Stout with a blueberry barbeque beef slider; Fore Smoked Stout with a pork, coleslaw and mustard slider; and Scotty Karate with a beer slider with bacon. 7p.m. Monday. \$30. Front 43 Neighborhood Pub, 3415 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. imabeerhound.com.

Library Friends Used Book Sale. Fiction, non-fiction and much more. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. (517) 627-7014, grandledge.lib.mi.us.

MUSIC

JSO "Up Close" series. Works by Faure, Poulenc and Franck. 7 p.m. \$15. Jackson Symphony Orchestra Performing Arts Center, 215 W. Michigan Ave., Jackson. (517) 782-3221 ext. 118, jacksonsymphony.org.

THEATER

Blue Man Group. (For details, see Jan. 16.) 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. Tickets from \$39. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982. whartoncenter.com/events/detail/blue-man-group.

"The Sea Gull." (For details, see Jan. 15.) 8 p.m.

\$15/\$12 seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive,

Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Sunday, January 18

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Juggling. Learn how to juggle. 2-4 p.m. FREE.

Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. (517) 371-5119, ruetenik@gmail.com.

(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.

CMS Open House. Learn about lessons offered. 3-5 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661, cms.msu.edu.

Formal Zen Service. Offering, chanting, meditation, Dharma talk. 10 a.m. Donations. Garden of Mind, 122 N. Clemens Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-0469. gardenofmind.org.

PFLAG Greater Lansing Meeting. A safe space for allies of the LGBT community. 3 p.m. FREE. First Congregational UCC Church, 210 W. Saginaw Hwy., Grand Ledge. (517) 627-2336, greaterlansingpflag@gmail.com.

Film Viewing: "The Central Park Five." 5 teens wrongly convicted of rape. Directed by Ken Burns. 7-9:15 p.m. FREE. Unitarian Universalist Church, 855 Grove St. East Lansing. (517) 351-7251, uulansing.org.

MUSIC

MSU MLK Concert. Spirituals, Prayer and Protest Concert with Take 6. 5 p.m. & 8 p.m. FREE. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, music.msu.edu.

THEATER

Blue Man Group. (For details, see Jan. 16.) 1 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. Tickets from \$39. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982. whartoncenter.com/events/detail/blue-man-group.

"The Sea Gull." (For details, see Jan. 15.) 2 p.m. \$15/\$12 seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Monday, January 19

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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.

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.

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.

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.

Adult Rape Survivor Support Group. Registration preferred. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

EVENTS

MLK National Day of Service. A day of service in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing. (517) 322-0030, ow.ly/H431i.

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

Club Shakespeare. 6-8:45 p.m. Donations. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300, cadl.org.

Mac's Monday Comedy Night. Hosted by Mark

See Out on the Town, Page 20

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.

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.

EVENTS

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

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.

Out on the town

from page 19

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

Zen Buddhist Meditation. Instructions upon request. 7 a.m. Donation. Garden of Mind, 122 N. Clemens Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-0469.

MUSIC

Karaoke. Hosted by DJ Lipgloss. 9 p.m. FREE. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 492-7403, facebook.com/avenuecafe2021.

Spoonful. Live performance. 9 p.m. The Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 482-6376, greendoorlive.com.

Marshall Music Open Mic. Mike Daniels open mic

Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 896-3311.

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.

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.

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.

Working for Yourself. Explore business ownership. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. MSU Federal Credit Union, 4825 E. Mount Hope Road, East Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

FRIDAY, JAN. 16 – SUNDAY JAN. 18 >> BLUE MAN GROUP AT WHARTON CENTER

The Blue Man Group returns to East Lansing, bringing a show that combines new content with audience favorites. This revamped live show is an immersive experience featuring new sets, a live band, high-resolution video and a 30-foot tall LED curtain. 8 p.m. Friday; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. \$39-74. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982, whartoncenter.com.

SUNDAY, JAN. 18 >> MID-MICHIGAN BLUEGRASS & FOLK JAM

The serene sounds of nature will be replaced with the clamor of an old-fashioned hootenanny this Sunday as Woldumar Nature Center hosts the Mid-Michigan Bluegrass & Folk Jam. Musicians of all skill levels and experience are invited to tune up their axes and meet at the nature center's Interpretive Center building for an afternoon of community music making. Bluegrass and folk enthusiasts who may not want to play are invited to join and help out as volunteers. 2-6 p.m. \$4/\$2 seniors/children FREE. 5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing. (517) 482-2382, re-news.net/mmb.

night. All ages welcome. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700, marshallmusic.com.

Tuesday, January 20

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Tai Chi Fundamentals. 1:30-2:30 p.m. \$6/\$8 non-members. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Guided Meditation. Breathing techniques, etc. 4-4:15 p.m. \$2/\$1 members. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Hearing Screenings. No appointment needed. 11-11 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

Reflexology. Call for an appointment. 12:30-3:30 p.m. \$14/\$12 members. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Water 101. Patrick Lindemann discusses water in Ingham County. 12:10-12:50 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, MSU Campus, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

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.

Not So Happy Endings Support Group. For women ending relationships. 5:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Women's

EVENTS

DTDL Crafters. Work on your handcraft project. 2:30-4 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4, dtld.org.

LCS Parent Preschool Visit Day. Come learn about our preschool. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Lansing Christian School, 3405 Belle Chase Way, Lansing. (517) 882-5779 ext. 107, lansingchristianschool.org.

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.

Keep Warm with Rice Bags. Create a hand or neck warmer out of fabric and rice. 6-8 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 MAC Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

ToddlerTime. Ages 18-36 months listen to stories and music. 10:15-10:45 a.m. and 11-11:30 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Teen Game Haven. Play a variety of games: board, card and video. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

"Sporecle 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.

Zen Buddhist Meditation. Instructions upon request. 7 a.m. Donation. Garden of Mind, 122 N. Clemens Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-0469.

NEW THAI KITCHEN

Gaëlle Cassin-Ross/City Pulse
New Thai Kitchen
hold its ribbon
cutting today in
Okemos.



By ALLAN I. ROSS

Two years ago, when Ying Xiong sold his East Lansing restaurant, Thai Kitchen, 2843 E. Grand River Ave., he thought he was done with the food business.

"The (restaurant's) new owner came in one day and asked how much I wanted for it," Xiong says with a little smile. "It wasn't even for sale, but I said, 'Make me an offer.'"

The Laos native had spent nearly 40 years working in Asian restaurant kitchens since arriving in the U.S. in the mid-'70s. In 2012, after his youngest daughter had graduated from college and moved away, Xiong thought he could hang up his apron. Never mind that he had a loyal following of diners, including many workers at nearby Michigan State University — he was ready for a break. His former location became the Chinese restaurant, **Gourmet Kitchen**, and Xiong unofficially retired.

But never underestimate the sway of a bored spouse.

"My wife's a little younger than me, and she wasn't

ready to retire yet," Xiong said. "She really missed cooking, so what could I do? I started looking for another restaurant."

And so after a brief search and three months of renovation, Xiong, 60, opened **New Thai Kitchen** last month in Meridian Township with his wife, Chou. It's the former location for Sip 'N Snack, which occupied that space in the heart of the little retail district for 56 years.

"I used to drive by here all the time on the way to the hardware store, and I always thought it would be a great place to have a restaurant," Xiong said. "When this (space) became available, I jumped at it. But it needed a lot of work."

They moved into the space in June and spent three months renovating it. Work included a complete overhaul, including new floors, walls and kitchen equipment. Xiong estimates they spent about \$80,000, and has left room to expand into an adjacent space, which serves as the restaurant's dry storage room for now.

The menu features a

blend of old favorites and updates to traditional Thai fare, including three types of Pad Thai — traditional, Americanized and curry. Other traditional dishes include Pad Kee Mao (aka, drunken noodles) and Panang. His spices, sauces and noodles are all flown in from Thailand.

"I try to make it authentic as possible, for customers who like authentic," he said. "But I've also modified some dishes for American tastes. You have to."

Xiong hopes to eventually add a beer and wine license, but for now, he just wants to lure his old clientele back.

"About 70 percent of my (former) customers have found me again, and business has been good," Xiong said. "Now I'm hoping everyone else finds me, too."

New Thai Kitchen will have a ribbon cutting ceremony at 3 p.m. today, featuring free refreshments until 5 p.m.

New Thai Kitchen
4690 Okemos Road, Okemos
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday; closed Sunday
(517) 574-5322

MUSIC

MSU Faculty Recital. Walter Verdehr, violin. 7:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 Seniors/FREE for students. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, music.msu.edu.

Wednesday, January 21

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.

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.

Basket Coiling Class. Start/continue basket coiling. Add color and texture. 1-4 p.m. \$60. Grove Gallery & Studios, 325 Grove St. #A, East Lansing. (517) 333-7180, grovegalleryandstudios.com/.

MiCafe. Information on financial assistance for seniors. 9:30 a.m.-noon. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Neuroscience of Meditation. Does it work? 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434, PilgrimUCC.com.

Writing a Business Plan. First steps. 9-11:30 a.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, Suite 110, 309 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

Story Art Time. Kids make art inspired by books. Ages 2-5. 10-11 a.m. \$5/Adults FREE. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org/events/storytime/.

Out on the town

from page 20

EVENTS

Strategy Game Night. Learn and share favorite games. 5-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. dtld.org.

DTDL Book Club. Discuss Elizabeth Berg's "Tapestry of Fortune", 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. dtld.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.

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.

Kindergarten Visit Day at LCS. Come Visit our Kindergarten classrooms!, 9-10 a.m. FREE. Lansing Christian School, 3405 Belle Chase Way, Lansing. (517) 882-5779 ext. 107, lansingchristianschool.org.

Wednesday Senior Discovery. With guest speaker Kelly King. 10 a.m.-noon, FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468, allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

Teen Crafternoon. Create origami to keep or give as gifts. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Zen Buddhist Meditation. Instructions upon request. 7 a.m. Donation. Garden of Mind, 122 N. Clemens Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-0469.

MUSIC

MSU Faculty Recital. Gwendolyn Burgett, percussion. 7:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 Seniors/FREE for Students. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, music.msu.edu.

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.

THE WOMEN'S CENTER OF GREATER LANSING
Presents the 10th Annual

SHE LAUGHS!

with emcee
Julie Hirchert

featuring
Kate Brindle
Brenda Nelson
Emily Dievendorf
and *Kathie Dunbar*




WOMEN'S CENTER OF GREATER LANSING

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(Former Cadillac Club)
1115 S. Washington

Tickets: \$25 - Donation
FOR MORE INFORMATION
visit our website or call
(517) 372-9163

www.womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org

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Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsky

Jan. 14-20

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You will never make anything that lasts forever. Nor will I or anyone else. I suppose it's possible that human beings will still be listening to Beethoven's music or watching *The Simpsons* TV show 10,000 years from today, but even that stuff will probably be gone in five billion years, when the sun expands into a red giant star. Having acknowledged that hard truth, I'm happy to announce that in the next five weeks you could begin work in earnest on a creation that will endure for a very long time. What will it be? Choose wisely!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): What does your soul need on a regular basis? The love and attention of some special person? The intoxication provided by a certain drink or drug? Stimulating social interaction with people you like? Music that drives you out of your mind in all the best ways? The English poet Gerard Manley Hopkins said that the rapture his soul needed more than anything else was inspiration -- the "sweet fire," he called it, "the strong spur, live and lancing like the blowpipe flame." So the experience his soul craved didn't come from an outside stimulus. It was a feeling that rose up inside him. What about you, Taurus? According to my analysis of the astrological omens, your soul needs much more than usual of its special nourishment.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In 1987, California condors were almost extinct. Less than 30 of the birds remained. Then the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service launched an effort to capture them all and take emergency measures to save the species. Almost 28 years later, there are more than 400 condors, half of them living in the wild. If you act now, Gemini, you could launch a comparable recovery program for a different resource that is becoming scarce in your world. Act with urgency, but also be prepared to practice patience.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Daniel Webster (1782-1852) was an American statesman who served in both houses of Congress. He dearly wanted to be President of the United States, but his political party never nominated him to run for that office. Here's the twist in his fate: Two different candidates who were ultimately elected President asked him to be their Vice-President, but he declined, dismissing the job as unimportant. Both those Presidents, Harrison and Taylor, died after a short time on the job. Had Webster agreed to be their Vice-President, he would have taken their place and fulfilled his dream. In the coming weeks, Cancerian, I advise you not to make a mistake comparable to Webster's.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In one of his poems, Rumi writes about being alone with a wise elder. "Please," he says to the sage, "do not hold back from telling me any secrets about this universe." In the coming weeks, Leo, I suggest you make a similar request of many people, and not just those you regard as wise. You're in a phase when pretty much everyone is a potential teacher who has a valuable clue to offer you. Treat the whole world as your classroom.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Have you been tapping into your proper share of smart love, interesting beauty, and creative mojo? Are you enjoying the succulent rewards you deserve for all the good deeds and hard work you've done in the past eight months? If not, I am very upset. In fact, I would be livid and mournful if I found out that you have not been soaking up a steady flow of useful bliss, sweet revelations, and fun surprises. Therefore, to ensure my happiness and well-being, I COMMAND you to experience these goodies in abundance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Libran engineer Robert Goddard was the original rocket scientist. His revolutionary theories and pioneering technologies laid the foundations for space flight. Decades before the Soviet Union launched Sputnik, he and his American team began shooting rockets aloft. Members of the press were not impressed with his unusual ideas, however.

They thought he was a misinformed crank. In 1920, *The New York Times* sneered that he was deficient in "the knowledge ladled out daily in our high schools." Forty-nine years later, after his work had led to spectacular results, the *Times* issued an apology. I foresee a more satisfying progression toward vindication for you, Libra. Sometime soon, your unsung work or unheralded efforts will be recognized.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): In the plot of the TV science-fiction show *Ascension*, the U.S. government has conducted an elaborate covert experiment for 50 years. An outside investigator named Samantha Krueger discovers the diabolical contours of the project and decides to reveal the truth to the public. "We're going full Snowden," she tells a seemingly sympathetic conspiracy theorist. She's invoking the name of Edward Snowden, the renegade computer administrator who in the real world leaked classified information that the U.S. government wanted to keep hidden. It might be time for you to go at least mini-Snowden yourself, Scorpio -- not by spilling state secrets, but rather by unmasking any surreptitious or deceptive behavior that's happening in your sphere. Bring everything out into the open -- gently if possible. But do whatever it takes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): In 1939, author Ernest Vincent Wright finished *Gadsby*, a 50,000-word novel. It was unlike any book ever published because the letter "e" didn't appear once in the text. Can you imagine the constraint he had to muster to accomplish such an odd feat? In accordance with the astrological omens, I invite you to summon an equally impressive expression of discipline and self-control, Sagittarius. But devote your efforts to accomplishing a more useful and interesting task, please. For example, you could excise one of your bad habits or avoid activities that waste your time or forbid yourself to indulge in fearful thoughts.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Most plants move upwards as they grow. Their seeds fall to the ground, are blown off by the wind, or are carried away by pollinators. But the peanut plant has a different approach to reproduction. It burrows its seeds down into the soil. They ripen underground, where they are protected and more likely to get the moisture they need to germinate. The peanut plant's approach to fertility might be a good metaphor for you Capricorns to adopt for your own use. It makes sense for you to safeguard the new possibilities you're incubating. Keep them private, maybe even secret. Don't expose them to scrutiny or criticism.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In his poem "The Garden," Jack Gilbert says, "We are like Marco Polo who came back / with jewels hidden in the seams of his ragged clothes." Isn't that true about you right now, Aquarius? If I were going to tell your recent history as a fairy tale, I'd highlight the contrast between your outer disorder and your inner riches. I'd also borrow another fragment from Gilbert's poem and use it to describe your current emotional state: "a sweet sadness, a tough happiness." So what comes next for you? I suggest you treat yourself to a time out. Take a break to integrate the intensity you've weathered. And retrieve the jewels you hid in the seams of your ragged clothes.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "All the colors I am inside have not been invented yet," wrote Shel Silverstein, in his children's book *Where the Sidewalk Ends*. It's especially important for you to focus on that truth in the coming weeks. I say this for two reasons. First, it's imperative that you identify and celebrate a certain unique aspect of yourself that no one else has ever fully acknowledged. If you don't start making it more conscious, it may start to wither away. Second, you need to learn how to express that unique aspect with such clarity and steadiness that no one can miss it or ignore it.

SUDOKU SOLUTION
From Pg. 18

2	5	9	4	6	3	1	8	7
3	7	8	1	5	2	4	6	9
1	4	6	7	9	8	5	2	3
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CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 18

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HE ATE

SHE ATE



East Lansing's State Room transcends traditional hotel bistro

Tripping over superlatives

By **MARK NIXON**

The sign out front — Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center — does not exactly scream “Great food inside!”

It may be one reason the State Room, on the western edge of the Michigan State University campus, can be an overlooked star in Greater Lansing’s culinary constellation.

Other reasons? The State Room is part of the Kellogg Center, which was built in the early 1950s and looks the part. Those years of public architecture produced boxy, stiff, buildings without feeling or flair. So it’s not entirely surprising that the State Room largely turns its back to the Red Cedar River meandering past its doorstep, yet has large windows facing west toward more institutional boxiness — the Brody Complex (said this Brody Complex alumnus).

Adding to these negatives is, perhaps, an undercurrent of snobbism suggesting that any restaurant run by a public university, which relies on tax dollars and parental savings accounts, can’t be that good. So, how to counter these negatives?

First, by noting the obvious: They’re wrong.

Second, by dining in the State Room, which puts a premium on creative, seasonal menus.

Let’s start with the Michigan Harvest Salad (\$7), an arugula-based salad with shaved fennel and dried cherries, tossed in a light balsamic dressing. The nutty-tasting arugula was as good as what I grow in my garden. Where the heck do they find arugula this good in the wintertime? Not where I shop, that’s for sure.

The appetizers and soups we tried ranged from very good to amazing. While the panko-breaded lobster cakes (\$10) were fine, it was the fennel-infused sauce that came with the cakes that elicited a chorus of “wow”s. The braised pork belly with apricot sauce (\$10) had the right balance of salt and sweetness. The apple parsnip bisque (\$4.50) was creamy, buttery and tangy. I’d order it again in a heartbeat.

The cheese plate for two (\$13) had a fine selection of goat, cheddar and bleu cheeses, one of them made at the MSU Dairy Store. Our friend noted that cheese is best served at room temperature. Ours was not. At the end of meal I tasted the

See He Ate, Page 23

Winter flavors wow

By **GABRIELLE JOHNSON**

The State Room wasn’t one of those restaurants that I thought was cool when I was growing up in Lansing. When my friends and I spent our high school allowances on fancy dinners before prom, we headed to Beggar’s Banquet, Mountain Jack’s or the Golden Rose. The State Room was thought of as being old, stale and something that wasn’t even for our parents, but our grandparents.

That perception has changed. I can’t remember what it was that brought me into the State Room a few years ago, but it has been at the top of my list of area favorites ever since. I am constantly telling people to go there for lunch or dinner, of course, but also for the incredible Sunday brunch. I celebrate birthdays and other special occasions there, and I love their ongoing Visiting Chefs series. I’m drinking the State Room Kool-Aid (house-made, I’m sure).

When I was assigned to review the State Room, I was in a bit of a panic. I needed it to live up to how I feel about it. If I went in for brunch for the sake of research and they blew it, it would pain me if I had to trash them. But eaters, don’t fret — the State Room came

through.

My father joined me for a recent Sunday brunch. We were seated and served coffee and juice, then made our way across the hall to the brunch buffet, which changes every week. The buffet (\$14.95 for adults) is extensive, innovative and beautifully presented. Platters of fruit, huge bowls heaped with fresh green salad and trays of kid-friendly foods (chicken tenders, macaroni and cheese, pizza and bite-sized peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwiches) bookend the main dishes.

One end of the table features breakfast foods. When we went, it was scrambled eggs with cheddar cheese, bacon and sausage and waffles with whipped cream and warmed syrup. The other end of the table holds more traditional lunch and dinner items — chicken with mushroom sauce, salmon in berry sauce, roasted pork loin, mashed potatoes with cheddar cheese and chives, rice pilaf and steamed vegetables. The tables are punctuated with cold pasta salads, crudités (sliced vegetables) and platters of assorted cheeses.

We each made more than one trip to the buffet. After we were completely stuffed, we sat and gabbed over piping hot coffee and orange juice until we freed up enough stomach room for dessert. Pies. Carrot cake. Tortes. Cookies, mini pastries, éclairs ... I

See She Ate, Page 23

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He Ate

from page 22

Maytag bleu cheese, and by that time its flavor was fulsome.

On our first visit, I ordered the herb-crusted trout with parmesan roast potatoes and grilled asparagus (\$22). All the flavors meshed brilliantly, especially with a dab of lobster cognac sauce that accompanied the fish.

Also on the menu that night: Braised lamb shank (\$25), a 12-ounce bone-in cut of meat that was incredibly tender and juicy. It came with roasted Brussels sprouts, but unfortunately they were too al dente to suit us.

If you like well-prepared salmon, do yourself a favor and try the stuffed salmon (\$23). This fish filet acts as a vessel for a mound of ricotta cheese, spinach and roasted red pepper-olive pesto. Simply amazing.

I noted that the State Room creates seasonal menus. So, not surprisingly, several root vegetables appeared on this winter menu. Beets made their way into several dishes, including an excellent beet pâté.

All right, I am tripping over my superlatives. Time for a reality check. Let's start with the date pit. Our friends ordered the toffee bread pudding (\$6), which comes with chopped dates and a scoop of vanilla ice cream, compliments of the MSU Dairy Store. This dessert was yummy. Alas, the kitchen overlooked one tiny detail. A date pit was baked into the pudding. No harm, no foul, as they say, but this potentially could have given new meaning to the term al dente.

During our first visit, I considered ordering a Caesar salad. I asked our server if it were made from scratch. He admitted it was not, so I chose another type of salad. But I really had a hankering for Caesar salad, so I ordered one on our next visit. My chicken Caesar salad (\$11) is far and away the least inspired item we tasted during our two visits. The State Room has a surplus of creative juices coursing through its kitchen, so I ask its chefs to make a New Year's resolution and reimagine their Caesar salad.

The State Room is not for those on a tight budget, but I can fairly say its entrées cost less than many high-end restaurants in this town. Other than a stray date pit and a dull Caesar salad, I'd say the State Room aced the test.

Maybe there should be a new sign outside, with the State Room in big, bold letters. And below in small print it could say: Hotel attached.



Gabrielle Johnson/
City Pulse

The State Room features a stellar weekend brunch buffet, including chicken with mushroom sauce, salmon in berry sauce and roasted pork loin.

She Ate

from page 22

sampled as much as I could, then I wrapped two éclairs in a napkin to take home. I'm sorry, State Room, but I'd do it again.

The boyfriend lives and dies for the Angus burger, at which I scoffed before trying a bite. The ingredients are simple: ground sirloin, lettuce, tomato, pickles and red onion on a Kaiser roll. But it's masterfully prepared, and for my money (\$9 at lunch-time), it's the best burger in town.

In mid-December, we went back for the Dickens' Christmas dinner, featuring a menu inspired by the "A Christmas Carol." We started with a charcuterie (cured meats) platter, which also held wonderfully salty Marcona almonds, a wedge of brie and tart and sweet apple raspberry jam.

The meal continued with the most heavenly split pea soup I've ever had. Granted, I haven't eaten a lot of split pea soup, because I'm not an orphan in the time of Charles Dickens and it doesn't generally sound so good to me. This smoky soup, however, was miraculous. I'd like to eat it every day, especially if I could pair it with the salad that followed, which had chunks of roasted butternut squash, pomegranate arils, walnuts, arugula and an orange-and-pomegranate vinaigrette. My heart grew three sizes with that soup and salad. The flavors that I associate with winter were captured perfectly, and we hadn't even come yet to the main course.

The goose confit cassoulet convinced me that we were some of the most sophisticated eaters in Lansing that night, and when a high school chorus came in to sing to us, I actually put down my fork. We finished the meal with a warm gingerbread cake

with crème anglaise, and you won't believe what happened next. After the charcuterie course, I mentioned to our server that I loved the apple-raspberry jam. At the end of our perfect meal, he brought me a to-go container full of the jam. I used some on my own Christmas Eve charcuterie platter, and I'm carefully rationing out the rest.

That kind of service is common at the State Room. What I love almost as much as the service and the food is that the chef, Sarah Kops, is a young woman about my own age. I am blown away by her talent and desperately want to be friends with her. I'll keep eating her food until I can make that happen.

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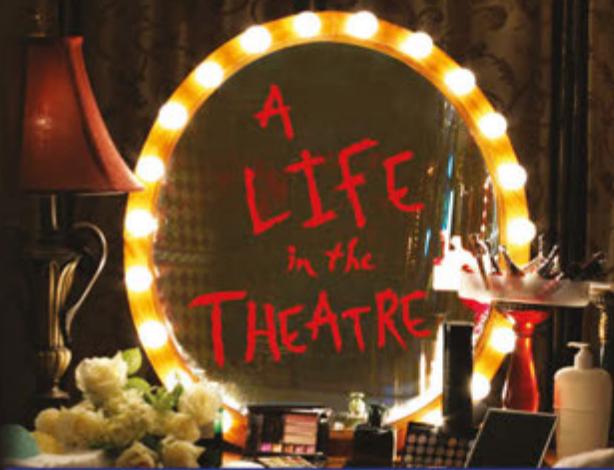
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