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CityPULSE

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August 26-September 2, 2015

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FRENEMIES

ENEMIES

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Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum

DAVE AGEMA

MOUNT HOPE CHURCH

Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr.

MICHIGAN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

ANNUAL PRIDE ISSUE

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CityPULSE At the **Farmers Market** on the **Capitol lawn!**

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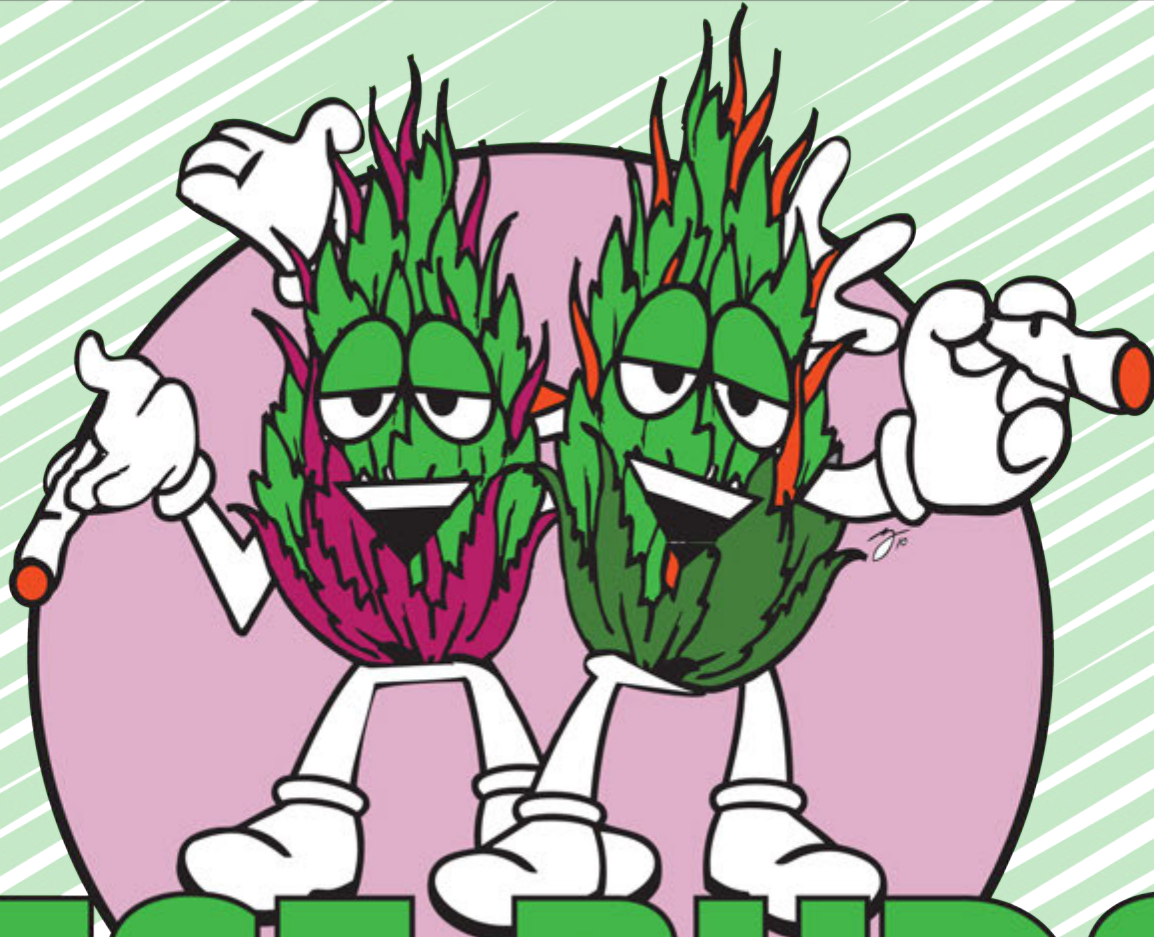
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Have something to say about a local issue or an item that appeared in our pages?

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.)

CityPULSE

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Hirten: Mid-Michigan near bottom on natural amenities.

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"Live at the Ark" captures virtuoso performances

PAGE 22



Author Bryan Stevenson takes on equal justice

PAGE 25



"UNTITLED #8" by JONATHAN GRIFFITH

COVER ART

PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is soliciting proposals for **Residential Stake Surveys of Various Properties**. The RFP is available on August 26, 2015, at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner Street, Lansing, Michigan 48906, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday or at www.inghamlandbank.org. Bids will be due at the Land Bank offices before 1:00 pm on September 8, 2015. Bid Review will begin September 8, 2015, at 1:00 pm. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. #ICLB 15-0826-SURV

CP#15-205

B/16/029 PARKING LOT RESURFACING as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the **CITY OF LANSING C/O LBWL, PURCHASING OFFICE, 1232 HACO DR., LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912 until 3:00 PM local time in effect on SEPT. 10, 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 go to www.mitn.info. The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.**

CP#15-209

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, August 31, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend and repeal portions of Chapter 872 of the Lansing Codified Ordinances to provide for the licensure and regulation of taxicabs, taxicab companies, and taxicab drivers by the Greater Lansing Taxi Authority

For more information, please call the Lansing City Council at 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing 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., Monday, August 31, 2015 at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk

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CP#15-208

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Z-5-2015, 222 W. Genesee Street
Rezoning from "DM-3" Residential to "D-1" Professional Office District

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday September 14 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan to consider Z-5-2015. This is a request by Hagerstrom Properties, LLC to rezone the property at 222 W. Genesee Street, legally described as:

The East 83 Feet of the West 149 Feet of Lot 7, also the West 17 Feet of the East 43 Feet of Lot 8, Block 70, Original Plat, City of Lansing, Ingham County, MI

from "DM-3" Residential District to "D-1" Professional Office District. The purpose of the rezoning is to bring the use of the property for professional offices into compliance with the Zoning Ordinance.

For more information, please call Lansing City Council at 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing 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., Monday, September 14, 2015 at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk
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CP#15_207



THIS WEEK

10:30 a.m. Saturdays

on

IMPACT

89 FM

- Barb Byrum, Ingham County Clerk
- Jay Kaplan, ACLU of Michigan LGBT Project
- Amy Hunter, transgender activist
- Scott Keith, City Market



THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

THE PROVEN THING

THE PROVEN THING IS JUST A THEORY.

IF THE PROVEN THING IS REAL, WHY ARE THERE OTHER THINGS?

MOCKING PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE IN THE PROVEN THING IS THE NEXT BEST THING TO PROVING THEM WRONG.

OKAY, THE PROVEN THING MIGHT BE REAL--BUT IT'S NOT CAUSED BY HUMANS.

FINE, THE PROVEN THING IS REAL-- BUT THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO. SO WE MIGHT AS WELL IGNORE IT! FUNNY HOW THAT WORKS OUT.

ALSO, AL GORE IS FAT. HEH HEH HEH

TOM TOMORROW © 2015

Help, not arrests

Lansing police get creative in addressing heroin 'surge'

Faced with a sharp increase in heroin overdose deaths, the city of Lansing is trying something new: Help instead of jail.

"In most cases, if someone came in and turned in their drug equipment and said, 'I want help,' we would not charge. We would not seek charges," Lansing Police Chief Michael Yankowski said.

Instead of facing jail time, Yankowski said officers will assist people to get into treatment immediately. And that is a move Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero said he supports.

Yankowski said heroin-related deaths in Lansing are on pace to rival homicides, which average 10 a year.

The chief, speaking in his office on Friday, said what he described as a heroin "surge" was not something the community was going to "arrest its way out of."

Bernero agrees, saying he has changed his view on how to handle the uptick in heroin use.

"It was mostly a law enforcement lens I was seeing it through," Bernero said Friday. "But now I see we're going to need a more collaborative model to tackle this."

The idea is similar to an initiative started in May by the Gloucester, Mass., Police Department. By August, The Washington Post reported recently, 109 addicts had been helped into treatment programs through the Gloucester Initiative. That program is funded by a partnership between public and private agencies.

With the local increase — the chief said heroin-related fatalities are on pace to rival homicides — Yankowski said he is interested in exploring the Gloucester Initiative.

Since Jan. 1, Lansing has verified 49 heroin overdoses, seven of which have been fatal. Yankowski said those numbers are likely going to be higher as the department processes more information. He also expects that the number of fatal overdoses will double as the medical examiner completes autopsies on additional deaths that have not yet been classified.

In all of 2014, there were 20 overdoses and three deaths in Lansing, while 2013 saw six overdoses and one death.

In the first six months of this year, Linda Vail, head of the Ingham County Health Department, said emergency first responders applied the drug Narcan — a drug which immediately reverses the effects of opioids on the body — 132 times. That's nearly double the 68 applications of the drug in the first six months of last year.

Yankowski had characterized the increase as an "epidemic" earlier, but he said it is unclear if there is truly an epidemic.

"We are still trying to gather all the data about what is happening, so we know in real time," he said. The data

is being collected by law enforcement, the county health department, local hospitals and medical providers, the medical examiner and fire departments.

Bernero said that he was aware the heroin "surge" was happening, but "it has not been much on my radar."

"I have not focused on this, but I am now," he said.

As part of that focus, Bernero said, he is leaning toward creating a multi-agency task force to find solutions to the surge and prevent it from crippling the community, as the drug has in several East Coast communities.

But Bernero cautions that such an approach takes money and committed substance abuse treatment facilities with open access, a problem Yankowski also noted. Bernero said if a person has insurance and access to wealth, they are more likely to get into effective long term treatment programs and facilities. If a person is poor and on Medicaid or a bronze plan under the Affordable Care Act, they might not get the care access they need.

Ericanne Spence, director of substance abuse services for Community Mental Health, said beds are available for heroin treatment in the county. Right now, there are at least 75 beds in residential facilities. If those fill up more are available outside Ingham County through a network of providers

But Spence suggested that treatment may not be effective for people suffering from overdoses. "These people are not seeking treatment," she said. "They tend to be angry and confused."

Bernero noted funding such an initiative may require reaching out to the Legislature.

But there might be a local solution as well. Voters renewed a millage last year to provide health care for uninsured and underinsured poor residents. The money raised from that program was funneled into the Ingham Health Plan, which cannot spend it all. That agency has a fund balance of \$10 million.

Ingham County Board of Commissioners Chairman Brian McGrain said the county would be interested in seeing how it can help.

"The door is open," said McGrain, an east-side Lansing Democrat, "but we would have to be very cautious about it."

See Help, Page 6



Photo courtesy of Visit Source



Property: 323 N. Sycamore St., Lansing

Owner: Ingham County Land Bank

While this house needs significant repair, it is ideally located on a street composed of beautiful homes. No doubt, its continued deteriorated state is a source of exasperation to the nearby owners, particularly those of the elaborate brick homes to the south.

Sitting on a well-tended lot, this building could be obtained for a reasonable sum. A savvy buyer might be able to capitalize on the value of the surrounding homes and own the least expensive house on the block, even after the necessary upgrades.

Proposed modifications for this house would usually include restoring the front porch. Alternately, the design shown above retains the existing sense of enclosure, while recalling the rhythm and scale of the original porch.

— Daniel E. Bollman, AIA

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

Help

from page 5

Vail said the situation is “certainly a public health crisis.” She said she has the power to declare a public health emergency but that it must involve “imminent danger to public health and safety.” Such an order would bring in more financial resources to address the problem and would free up public health’s powerful legal authorities.

Vail said if she found the overdoses were due to the drugs being laced with something — like the drug fentanyl — that might be grounds to declare a public health emergency, she said.

Yankowski said fentanyl-laced heroin is a problem on the East Coast.

Here, he said, a bigger concern is the purity of heroin.

“The heroin purity levels that we were seeing in the area were 3 to 5 percent,” Yankowski said. “Here in the Lansing metro area we are seeing 30 to 50 percent purity levels and in some areas of the country as high as 90 percent purity.”

In Lansing, heroin is replacing crack cocaine as the drug of choice, he said.

Heroin is selling for \$10 to \$15 a “bottle,” or one hit, Yankowski said, whereas crack crack can run \$40 or \$50.

The move by Lansing officials received a warm welcome from Ingham County Prosecutor Stuart Dunning III.

“I think it’s wonderful,” Dunning said in a phone interview. “I fully support it.”

“We cannot arrest and imprison our way out of this,” he added.

— Todd Heywood



Unpaid bills? City Council, city attorney at odds over internal auditor report

The Lansing city attorney and Mayor Virg Bernero are challenging a report by the City Council’s internal auditor that alleges the law department is four months behind on paying close to \$160,000 in bills for outside legal counsel.

The solution to this squabble would seem simple enough: Release the internal auditor’s documentation.

But the internal auditor, Jim DeLine, told City Pulse last week to file a Freedom of Information Act request. City Pulse did so on Thursday with the City Attorney’s Office.

On Monday, City Attorney Janene McIntyre said she hasn’t seen either the FOIA request or the documents. “I would like to see those [spreadsheets] as well,” she said, referring to DeLine’s report on what she called “alleged” late payments.

On Tuesday, she didn’t return telephone calls.

Thus, specifics on which lawyers may be owed, how much and for how long remain a mystery.

DeLine submitted an audit report on three city departments’ outstanding, unpaid billing obligations on Aug. 13 to the Council’s Committee on Ways and Means. That report found that the city’s obligations related to contracts for mowing its own properties as well as contracts related to vendors sent to private properties by premise inspectors had no outstanding obligations as of June 30 — the close of the city’s fiscal year. However, the Office of the City Attorney did not provide billing information to DeLine by July 24, and he was ordered to reach out to the city’s recognized legal vendors for outstanding bills.

From those letters, DeLine was able to

identify what he said were overdue bills. His report identified \$32,100.69 in bills less than 30 days old; \$9,165.32 in bills between 31 and 60 days overdue; \$16,739.54 in billing overdue between 61 and 90 days; \$9,473.22 in billing overdue 91 to 120 days; and \$158,111.14 more than 120 days overdue.

“It is highly unusual to withhold payment of vendor invoice for longer than 90 days,” DeLine wrote in his Aug. 13 report.

At a meeting Wednesday of the Committee on Ways and Means, the audit was challenged by McIntyre and city Finance Director Angela Bennett.

Committee Chairwoman Judi Brown Clarke read from the City Charter to note DeLine’s authorization to conduct audits and obtain information from vendors.

Mayor Virg Bernero on Tuesday last week sent a letter to City Council President Tina Houghton accusing DeLine of overstepping his authorized powers under the City Charter. The letter asked Houghton to reprimand DeLine.

Bernero also accused DeLine and Brown of conducting a “fishing expedition” with the audit, which also reviewed any outstanding bills for code compliance and the city owned property mowing contracts. That review found there were no outstanding bills.

Bennett took issue with DeLine’s audit during the meeting. She said normal practice for audits was for the auditor to share a draft of findings with the audit targets.

“I am also very concerned that this was released without any review, whatsoever, by myself,” Bennett told the committee.

DeLine did not share the draft findings, which Bennett said had several issues. Sharing draft audit reports is considered best practices, Bennett told the committee. The reason, she said, is it allows for a careful review of the information, clarifications and possible corrections of data before the final report is released.

Brown Clarke noted that current policies and procedures do not reflect that best practice. Instead she said the audits are expected to be placed on file with the Council, the Mayor’s office and the City Clerk — which DeLine did with the report in question.

“I’m just saying this is the process that has been established,” Brown Clarke said. “So

there probably needs to be some clarification in the language. But right now it doesn’t say those processes happen before there is a final audit report.”

Later she said, “I want to be very clear there are no improprieties as relates to our process.”

“I have been very prudent in paying our bills,” McIntyre told the committee. “I am not about paying first and asking questions later. But I have not been given an opportunity to speak to the specifics of this. There was a report that came out that based on our review at this point is inconsistent with the information Mr. DeLine provided.”

She did not get into detail about the inconsistencies, but did offer to discuss them at another date.

The meeting was contentious at times because McIntyre was present under threat of a subpoena from the committee. That threat was issued as the committee attempted to obtain information related to retiree health-care cost-sharing charges.

At issue was providing information to city retirees. The issue has been simmering since 2010, when the Bernero administration changed the formula for those who retired after Feb. 20, 2004, said Denise Estee, a 2005 retiree

McIntyre in her role as city attorney had reviewed that specific change as well as a change to another group of retirees. Her review, in fact, found the city had inappropriately been over-charging the retirees for their benefits.

But how that partial compensation payment schedule was developed is unclear because McIntyre put her reasoning in a confidential legal memo to the mayor and the Council. As a result of a closed-door session, McIntyre has agreed to provide Council members with a memo which does not contain any of the confidential information and that can be shared with retirees and the public.

After a lengthy and sometimes loud closed session with the committee, McIntyre agreed to provide the committee and the public a memo related to the cost sharing decisions with confidential information removed by Sept. 16.

— Todd Heywood



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Gingerbread 'abyss' Facelift for Moon house into descends into major surgery

For a homeowner with a gaping yellow hole 10 feet deep under her front door, where a porch would normally be, Carol Skilling was microwaving cat food pretty calmly last Tuesday morning.

"It's quite an abyss," Skilling said matter-of-factly, as if the front of her house weren't being shored up by scrap lumber.

The storybook porch that graces one of Lansing's most important buildings, the former home of architect Darius Moon at 216 Huron St. (south of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard between Kalamazoo and Allegan streets), is under repair this summer — big time.

What started as a delicate restoration of Moon's artful curves and curlicues turned into a drastic structural "correction" and local history lesson that will end up costing the owners, Skilling and Tom Stanton, more than \$75,000.

Stanton and Skilling bought the house in 2007, knowing its most prominent feature, the porch, might someday bring a financial day of reckoning.

But they were happy to assume stewardship of the 124-year-old "stick Victorian" style house where Lansing's foremost architect lived from 1891 until his death

in 1939.

"Tom and I weren't going to have kids, so instead of kids, this was something to take care of," Skilling said.

They started saving money for the porch project years ago.

"Now we're tapped out and going to the bank for a loan," Skilling said.

Moon built nearly 300 buildings over a 60-year career, only about 30 of which survive. His own house was one of his best. The porch, a curvy confection of gingerbread, was baked to entice clients.

"An architect's house was his calling card," said project leader Amanda Harrell Seyburn of Sedgewick & Ferwada Architects. "Your house says, 'This is what I do, this is my style.' Architects still do that."

In February, Harrell Seyburn and a builder specializing in historic restoration, Clayton Shafer, inventoried every piece of the porch to determine what was original and what was not.

Besides the expected wear and rot of 124 years, they found that many pieces were replaced incorrectly or missing. The porch's grandest flourish, a huge curlicue fiddlehead, was gone.

Working from century-old photos, Harrell Seyburn designed new pieces to match the originals.

Meanwhile, Clayton and his co-worker, Jared Browers, began stripping away 15 layers of paint, revealing intricate details

See House, Page 8



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Restorers found serious structural problems last month when they set out to restore the front porch of leading Lansing architect Darius Moon's house at 216 W. Huron St.



Lansing
Area
Public
Purchasing
Group

13th Annual

Meet the Buyer

Monday, October 5, 2015 from 7:30 AM to 1:00 PM, learn to do business with Lansing area public organizations.

Location: LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Dr., Lansing MI, 48917

Cost of Attendance: \$25, includes lunch Registration: <http://bit.ly/1JijgJP>

Questions: Contact Jenni Riehle, 517-284-7023, Riehlej2@Michigan.gov











CityPULSE At the Farmers Market on the Capitol lawn!

Pick up your copy of City Pulse and see if you won a \$50 gift certificate to Foods for Living, Jersey Giant, Red Haven and Smith Floral and Greenhouse!



ALSO

Free NCG tickets to the first 100 visitors who sign up for our newsletter or download our mobile app!



Look for City Pulse's booth on the south side of the Capitol!

Thursday, August 27 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.





WLNS CHANGES

Courtesy Photos

WLNS reporter Mariah Harrison (left) will host a new weekend morning news show starting Sept. 12, and Sheri Jones was recently named the permanent co-anchor for the station's evening news.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

Every now and then, the news itself makes the news, giving this old media ouroboros a good old mouthful of print, radio or television broadcasting news. This just in: Local CBS affiliate WLNS announced today its revival of a weekend morning news show. Nom nom nom.

Starting Sept. 12, WLNS morning show "6 News This Morning" will expand to Saturday and Sunday, anchored by morning reporter Mariah Harrison. The Pontiac native graduated from Central Michigan University with a degree in broadcast and cinematic arts before

joining WLNS in May 2014. She originally came on as a producer, but said she soon convinced the station's news director, Jam Sardar, to let her get in front of the camera. To hear it from Sardar, it didn't take that much convincing.

"I had my eye on Mariah since she was a college student," Sardar said. "She's extremely talented, an excellent journalist and has this great energy that you want to wake up to. She's perfect for the morning news. As soon as the opportunity came along to promote, I did."

The weekend version of "6 News This Morning," which will air from 6-7 a.m. and 8-9 a.m., will be an abbreviated version of the two-

and-half hour weekday show — a mix of news reporting, packaged stories and local event coverage.

"It seems like in mid-Michigan, everything happens on the weekends. So with this show we can let you know about events as they're happening," Harrison said. "And we'll also have a lot more leeway than during the week. It's also going to allow us to have more people on the show. It's a little lighter, but I'm pretty easy-going so it's a good fit."

The format is a resurrection of sorts for a previous weekend show, which aired from 2004 through 2007. Sardar said station cut-backs necessitated the show's demise, but now, with a new regime behind the studio and increased funding, adding weekend coverage became a priority.

"As a station, you're always looking for opportunities to expand your presence," Sardar said. "This is a very competitive market. With this show, Mariah is really going to be able to help us stand out."

In addition to her new weekend role, Harrison will continue to report during the week — even if she's not entirely thrilled about the hours.

"I never want to fully get used to it," she says. "I do hold out some hope of waking up at a normal time. But I love the morning news. And if it means I have to wake up at 1 a.m., I'll put on my big girl pants and make sure the coffee is ready to go."

The station's other transition has to do with someone who's normally getting home from work just as Harrison is waking up. For the past 26 years, Sheri Jones has anchored WLNS' 11 p.m. broadcast. She had previously co-

anchored the 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. shows as well — the only person in station history to anchor all three simultaneously — but six years ago decided to step away from the earlier slots to spend more time with her family.

Jones returned to the 6 p.m. desk in March, joining the station's longest-running anchor, Jane Aldrich. It was meant to be a temporary fix while Sardar sought out a new male anchor. But after ratings went up in May and again in July, the studio decided to make it official. Earlier this month, Jones was named the permanent 6 p.m. co-anchor. She will continue as solo anchor of the 11 p.m. broadcast.

"I'm thrilled with my new schedule," Jones said. "And I'm lucky that I was given the opportunity to come back. It was so great getting to be there for my kids."

"Sheri is one of the most loved, most popular people in the market," Sardar said. "We're happy, lucky and proud to have her. I'm really happy that she's in a place in her life where she can (return to 6 p.m.). And the best thing is she's genuine. I think viewers pick up on that."

Jones is also active with several local charities, which led to one of the station's newest segments, Friends for Life. In May, she led a team of 100 women in building a Habitat for Humanity home for the first segment. That led to segments on a Susan G. Komen walk and on organ donation. Adding these positive stories into the mix helped push WLNS to the top of the local ratings.

"It resonated really well," she said. "May was a big month, and it led to this (ongoing segment) which has a potential to do so much good. We won May, we won July and now we're gearing up for November."

House

from page 7

that have gone unseen for decades.

"The quality of wood is incredibly high," Clayton said. "Vertical grain Douglas fir, the most durable soft wood there is."

The most intricate bits are now taking shape in the workshop of Steve Hopkins, a Mason craftsman who specializes in fine old wood detailing, using lathes and saws from the period.

So much for the fun part.

The abyss opened when work on the

porch got underway in mid-July. First, the team tore out the floor and found that the joists under the porch were rotten — costly to fix, but not unusual.

Then they dug into the foundation.

Most porches sit on concrete footings, over a crawlspace, and more or less hang off of the house.

At the Moon house, the basement and underground foundation walls extended all the way to the front of the porch.

"There's a room under there," Skilling said. Demolition revealed a cheerful yellow dungeon that will eventually be linked, via trapdoor, to the porch above.

It sounds like fun, but Skilling and Stanton are paying dearly for this feature.

A basement under a porch is a rare thing — for good reason. It moves a major support wall from the front of the house to the front of the porch, where it isn't needed.

"Instead of the porch hanging from the house, the house was hanging from the porch," Harrell Seyburn said.

It wasn't Moon's fault. In 1975, the house was moved to Huron Street from its original location at 116 Logan St. (now Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard).

It was a miraculous, but hasty, save. Logan Street was set to be widened that year. Lansing put the Moon house and others on the demolition list. A grassroots nonprofit group, Save the Moon House, swung into action, raising money for a frantic, traffic-stopping, one-day move. (The story goes that sympathetic city officials moved the demo order to the bottom of the inbox to give them time to raise the money.)

The house made it safely to a vacant lot donated by the city, but the foundation wasn't put in with "proper understanding of construction principles," Shafer said.

"Everyone involved has asked how it passed inspection the first time," Shafer said. Last week, a course of bricks under the house's north wall were bowing a few inches outward, as if to say, "Hurry up! We can't hold this house up much longer."

In addition to putting proper joists under the porch, the restoration team plans

to cut out part of the basement floor, take the north basement wall out and replace the foundation.

Tuesday, Mark Fineis, the concrete man, came by to check out the "abyss" and got a surprise.

Fineis told Clayton that his grandfather, a master carpenter, worked on another Darius Moon house, the R.E. Olds house, demolished in 1971 to make way for I-496.

"My father used to go out there and work on the mansion with him," Fineis said. "Olds never liked to back his car up. He had a turnstile, like the old locomotive turnstiles, in his garage."

Fineis was delighted to learn that Olds house was also designed by Moon.

"You've come full circle," Clayton told him.

By early fall, the porch should be back in trim, complete with solid foundation, giant fiddleheads and trap door.

There will likely be one more feature on the front porch — the owners. If more problems crop up, the bill could approach six figures, but Skilling figures if you're in for a dime, you're in for a dollar.

"It's a few European vacations, isn't it?" she said. "I'll enjoy sitting on my porch instead."

—Lawrence Cosentino



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It ain't pretty

Mid-Michigan lagging far behind in natural amenities

Other than copywriters in the "Pure Michigan" spin shop, no one familiar with Ingham, Clinton and Eaton counties would rate them high on "natural amenities."

But who knew that they were among the least attractive counties in the country?

The U.S. Agriculture Department actually quantifies natural amenities, ranking all 3,111 counties (Hawaii and Alaska excluded) for scenery and climate. Mid-Michigan — in fact most of Michigan — is among the least desirable places to live in the country. Which isn't to say that there aren't beautiful vistas. But the amenities index deals with the weather, the landscape and access to water.



MICKY HIRTEN

Starting to make sense now, isn't it?

The Washington Post last week featured the USDA's analysis on its website, with a county-by-county map. It identified Ventura in California as the most attractive county in the country; last among counties at 3,111st was Red Lake County in Minnesota.

We're not that bad. But we're close. According to the ranking compiled by the Post, Ingham County was graded at 2,989, and Eaton at 2,938. Clinton trails at 3,006.

Here's the problem. The survey reflects factors that are driving population changes. As the last census report made clear, people are leaving the state, although this trend seems to have abated. Most of this migration is economic. Job prospects in Michigan are worse here than in other parts of the country. But in general the Michigan lifestyle is, how shall I put it, an acquired taste.

What the USDA quantified was average January temperatures, average January days of sun, the winter-summer temperature gap, low average July humidity, variations in topography and water area as a proportion of total county area.

"The six measures used in the natural amenities composite score were selected on the basis of a conception of the environmental qualities most people prefer, availability of measures, simplicity, non-redundancy, and the correlation to population change," the USDA said of its analysis. There are people who like flat terrain — me, for example, or long winters and cool summers. They cluster in the states surrounding the Great Lakes: Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Minnesota.

So here are Ingham County's attributes. The January temperature averaged 22.6 degrees (based on data from 1941 to 1970) with 104 hours of sunshine. The July

temperature averaged 70.9 with 60 percent humidity. And this is where the county really lost points: The percentage of water to land was just 0.31 percent. It was slightly better in Eaton County at 0.44 percent and in Clinton County at .54 percent. In Michigan, only Gratiot County at 0.26 percent does worse. The best are Keweenaw and Leelanau counties at 75 percent.

The last measurement is challenging for the USDA, but for mid-Michigan's landlocked and largely lakeless counties it really isn't an issue. But it explains the gulf between the haves and have nots.

"Coastal areas and areas with lakes are more pleasant than areas lacking surface water. Coding water area proved a problem, however. In this data tape, from the Bureau of the Census, coastal waters, because the boundaries extend out three miles, are inevitably large and dwarf inland lakes in their surface area. The problem is particularly distorting in the Great Lakes, as the entire water area within U.S. boundaries is assigned to counties along the shores." USDA said in its analysis.

Another factor that affects this region, and much of the northern tier of the country, is the variation between winter and summer temperatures. Most desirable is a temperate climate with little temperature gain between January and July. In Ingham, Clinton and Eaton, the difference is about 48 degrees. For most highly rated counties the difference is no higher than the low 30s, with Ventura showing just an 11-degree difference and highly rated Florida counties in the mid-teens.

Some counties like Jefferson in Colorado have wide swings, from 32 degrees in the winter to 73 degrees in the summer. Where they score high is scenery — high mountains. "In general, the more varied the topography, the more appealing the setting," USDA said.

And some perspective here. We're not Kittson County, Minnesota, where the January temperature is 1 degree, rising to 68 in the summer. This poor county is ranked 3,101 out of 3,111.

While some communities leading the most desirable list are spectacular, most of the country falls between low average and high average. Michigan's top-rated counties ring the northern rim of lakes Michigan and Huron, but even they are hardly beautiful or desirable everywhere. Few places are.

In Ingham, Clinton and Eaton, what we do is use what we've got: Grand and Red Cedar rivers or the cliffs in Grand Ledge. Nudging nature a bit, we create "natural amenities" like Hawk Island County Park or the city's new Fidelity Lake in Crego Park. And we interconnect these resources with a network of river trails.

It's not the Sierra Nevada Mountain range, but we don't have a drought. And it's not the Florida tropics, but there's no hurricane season. Our counties may be amenities-challenged, but they are sturdy, and there's something in that.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN NOTICE OF POSTING OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

On August 19, 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.

August 4, 2015 Regular Meeting

ELIZABETH LEGOFF
SUPERVISOR

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#15-206

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing City Council on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, to consider the following:

A public hearing will be held to consider an application from CC Abbott Road, LLC for planned unit development approval for the property at 6170 Abbqot Road to construct 13 residential duplex buildings plus a standalone residential unit for a total of 27 dwelling units. The site also includes a community building. The property is zoned RM-8, Planned Unit Development.

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_211

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF APPORTIONMENT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

In accordance with Chapter 8, Section 280.196 of The Drain Code of 1956, as amended, a Special Assessment will be ordered to cover the cost of maintenance for the following Drainage Districts:

DRAIN NAME	DRAIN #
ASQUITH DRAIN	A11-00
ATZINGER DRAIN	A12-00
BIRD DRAIN	B12-00
BROWN DRAIN	B19-00
BROWNELL EXTENSION DRAIN	B20-00
CARL DRAIN	C04-00
COSGRAY DRAIN	C28-00
DEER CREEK DRAIN	D06-00
DIETZ CREEK DRAIN	D12-00
DOAN CREEK DRAIN	D14-00
DOAN & DEER CREEK DRAIN	D15-00
FOSTER DRAIN	F07-00
FROST DRAIN	F21-00
HATHAWAY DRAIN	H09-00
HAYHOE DRAIN	H13-00
HAYNER DRAIN	H15-00
HAYWOOD DRAIN	H16-00
HERITAGE HILLS DRAIN	H20-00
LOCKE DRAIN NO. 5	L14-00
LOCKE CENTER DRAIN	L15-00
LOWE LAKE DRAIN	L16-00
LINDSAY DRAIN	L29-00
LINN DRAIN	L30-00
LOCKE DITCH NUMBER ONE	L41-00
PATRICK COUNTY DRAIN	P25-00
RED CEDAR MANOR DRAIN	R32-00
SEYMOUR DRAIN	S07-00
SULLIVAN CREEK DRAIN	S31-00
SQUAW CREEK DRAIN	S44-00
TOBIAS DRAIN	T14-00
WILSON DRAIN	W24-00
WELLINGTON ESTATES DRAIN	W67-00

These Drains are located in the following: Townships of **Alaiedon, Bunkerhill, Ingham, Leroy, Locke, Meridian, Stockbridge, Vevay, Wheatfield, White Oak, and Williamstown**; and: Cities of **East Lansing and Williamston**; and: Villages of **Dansville, Stockbridge, and Webberville**.

A Public Hearing of Apportionment will be held at the office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, 707 Buhl Avenue, in the City of Mason, Michigan, 48854, on **Thursday, September 3, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

August 13, 2015

Patrick E. Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#15-201

2015 MICHIGAN PRIDE

First clerk Barb Byrum makes her mark in same-sex marriage battle

By TODD HEYWOOD

Minutes after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that marriage was legal for same-gender couples in the entire United States, Barb Byrum had a couple before her who wanted to be married. The 37-year-old clerk of Ingham County hadn't even finished reading the ruling, but she was game to marry them. That move put her in the history books as the first elected official to marry a couple after the ruling. The marriage was performed so quickly, there was no media present.

"The couples had waited long enough," Byrum said.

Byrum no longer keeps track of how many same-sex couples she has married "since they are equal," but she figures at least 100.

She speaks of "my families." Those families are couples Byrum has married since the Supreme Court ruling, but also during a brief window in March 2014, after a federal judge in Detroit struck down Michigan's marriage ban. In the day before that window closed, she married the first couple in the state as well.

Byrum will serve as the grand marshal for this Saturday's Michigan Pride March. See schedule on Page 13.

City Pulse sat with Byrum in her offices located in the downtown Lansing Veteran's Memorial Courthouse. Her top aides were in the room for the interview, and before the interview she gave a tour of the operation. Banter,

jokes and laughter abound with Byrum and her staff.

But she warned that the fun house veneer covers up a hard-driving boss and an equally committed team of public employees.

In March 2014, after Judge Bernard Friedman ruled that Michigan's marriage ban was unconstitutional, Byrum was flooded with text messages and social media queries asking her to open the courthouse and issue marriage licenses on a Saturday. She wanted to but wasn't sure how to bring in staff on an unscheduled day.

"My biggest struggle on that day was — I can open, yeah my key will open the door, but how will I actually process those marriage licenses?" she said. "I couldn't sleep with the thought that I might be standing in the way of loving couples joining together in marriage."

She thought it over for hours, she said. And finally at about 3 a.m. she texted her team of eight employees that she planned to open the office in five hours.

"They didn't respond right way, which was really upsetting," she said with a smile. "We're still dealing with that," she quipped, her staff laughing along with her.

But by 6 a.m. the staff did start responding. All of them were in, and the office was opened at 8 a.m. March 21, just like it were any regular business day. She brags that she even processed a concealed

weapons permit request that day, between marriages.

For Byrum it was a matter of "doing what was right." She noted that many couples she married that March had been together for decades and had been waiting "long enough" to have the same rights and responsibilities attached to their relationships as she had with her husband, Brad Delaney.

She and Delaney have been married for 12 years. They have two sons, Bryce, 5, and Blake, 7. The boys are better

known in Byrum's prolific social media presence as Boo-Boo and Buggie, respectively. The family attends East Lansing's All Saints Episcopal Church. Delaney is a detective with the Ingham County Sheriff's Department.

Byrum is the daughter of Jim Byrum, a former Lansing Community College trustee and Diane Byrum, who served in the state House and then the Senate before returning to the House after losing a U.S. House race. She grew up in Ononadaga, a tiny agricultural enclave in southwestern Ingham County. Children in the area attend the Leslie Public Schools.

She acknowledged there is a perception that rural residents are less accepting of the LGBT community, but Byrum said that has not been her experience. She noted that many families she has married have lived in southern Ingham County, where rather than being involved in pride parades and other visible actions, they have lived their lives as out members of a rural community. Their sexuality is not a secret or an issue for their neighbors.

How did Byrum go from Leslie Public Schools and the Ononadaga "homestead" of her youth to vocal and national leader for equality? She said she had no distinct memory of when equality suddenly made sense. For her, it's always just been the way it is supposed to be.

"For whatever reason, I am an ally," Byrum said.

During her youth, she worked at the family hardware store in Leslie, good preparation for eventually running her own hardware store in Charlotte. And during high school, while her father was on the LCC Board, she attended high school during the day and classes at the community college at night. When she entered Michigan State University in 2000, she was a sophomore.

"That's just what I knew that you did," she said of the dual enrollment at the community college and high school.

That "that's just what you did" mentality is what has driven her over the years and something she learned from her family.

See Byrum, Page 12



BYRUM

FRIENDS, FRENEMIES AND ENEMIES

HEREWITH ARE SUBJECTIVE LISTS OF FOLKS AND INSTITUTIONS ON EITHER SIDE — OR IN THE MIDDLE — OF THE GAY RIGHTS STRUGGLE.



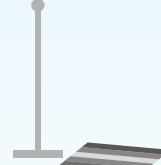
FRIENDS

SUPPORTERS OF FULL CIVIL RIGHTS AND EQUALITY FOR THE COMMUNITY.



FRENEMIES

FRENEMIES TALK THE TALK BUT THE WALK IS WOBBLY AT BEST.



ENEMIES

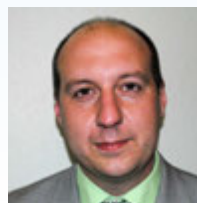
ENEMIES ARE PEOPLE AND INSTITUTIONS ACTIVELY WORKING TO DENY THE LGBT COMMUNITY ACCESS TO FULL CIVIL RIGHTS.

FRIENDS



SEN. CURTIS HERTEL JR. — A champion of the LGBT community since his first election, Hertel, D-East Lansing, has submitted legislation to modernize Michigan's marriage laws. He supports expanding Michigan's Elloitt Larsen Civil Rights Act to include the LGBT community and opposes reparative therapy as "harmful" and "hateful" and supports ban-

ning the practice in Michigan. He also supports requiring Medicaid and Medicare to cover medical necessary treatments, including gender reassignments, for transgender persons and believes that private businesses do not have the right

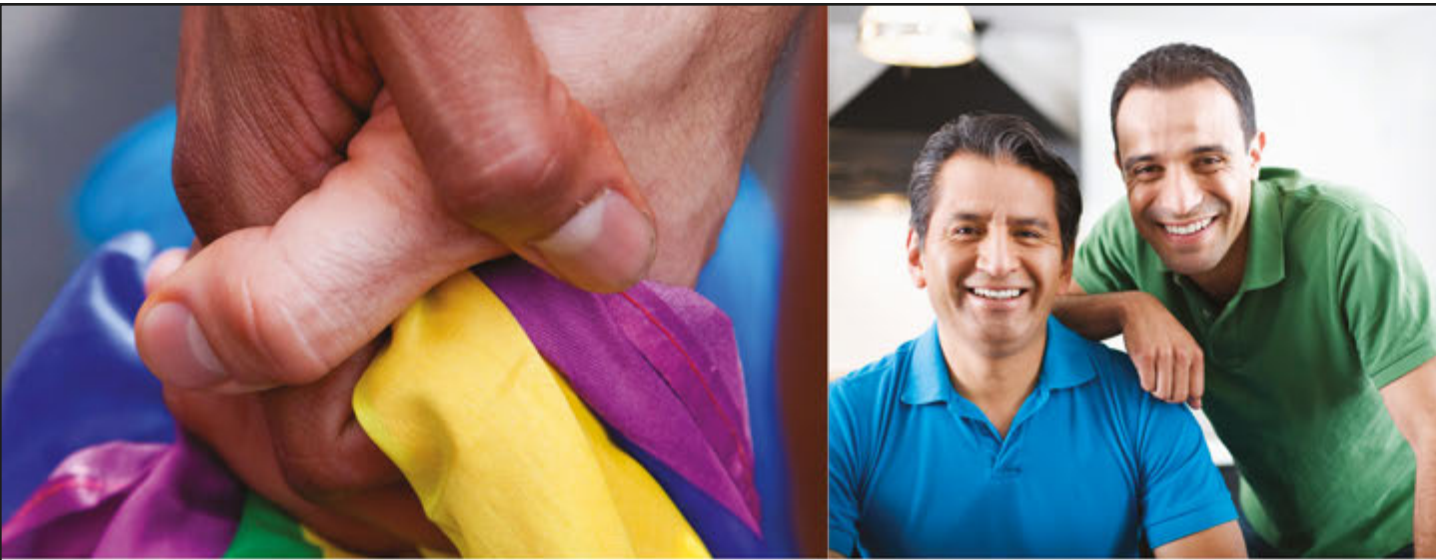


to discriminate against customers based their sincerely held religious beliefs and supports legislation to ban the practice.



THE REV. P.J. ANDERSON — Minister who runs the Space for Grace inclusive LGBT church in Lansing. She supports marriage equality "absolutely,

See Gay Rights, Page 13



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Byrum

from page 10

She credits the strong role models of her mother and grandmothers. Her paternal grandmother was a nurse. Her maternal grandmother, after her husband passed away, took over the family gas station.

"I remember she used to get up really early in the morning and she would pump gas," Byrum said. "It was a full service gas station. I remember her jumping in the wrecker with like an 18-year-old kid because she was worried about the kid that was going to pull someone out of a ditch."

She pauses as she thinks about the women in her life.

"These are the women I grew up with," she said. "I have had amazing people — that whether they know it or not — have played a very important role in my life."

She is told by her mother, and vaguely recalls in her own memories, of an incident in third grade. At the time, only boys were invited to hoist the U.S. flag in front of the school. The young Byrum — who would later be at the center of a firestorm of controversy in the state Legislature over women's reproductive rights — didn't think that was fair.

So she wrote a note to the principal. Next thing she knew, the principal had agreed with her, and she was selected to be the first

girl in the school to do so.

"I didn't want to be the girl raising the flag," she said. "I wanted to see another girl do it."

That is not the only example of her early advocacy efforts. She recalled walking out of a government class in the ninth grade because the substitute teacher was quoting the Bible. "I was never in trouble," Byrum said "I never walked out of class."

So like the good student, she walked to the office and reported her walk out — and her reasoning — to the principal. She was ordered back to class, which she dutifully did. But words spread in the small school, and other students followed her lead that day and walked out on the same Bible-touting substitute. By the end of the day, she said, the assistant principal pulled her from one of her last classes and apologized to her. And said the substitute would not be returning to school.

"I guess that shows I was an advocate before I even know I was one," she said. Her mother was in the state Senate at that point.

Despite that early advocacy, she said she had no intention of becoming a politician. She was happy running her hardware store. But she was also fascinated with learning. She holds a bachelor's degree in agribusiness management with an emphasis in crop and soil science.

"I know how to grow crops, kill weeds and run a farm," she said. "Then I have my law degree from Michigan State College of

Law, otherwise known as the Detroit College of Law."

But she has never practiced. She said she got the law degree because "I love to read."

"I went to law school without having an intent to ever practice law," she said. "I wouldn't change it."

She has no interest to this day in arguing in court, but she said she does "love" arguing.

In 2006, with her mother term limited, and the 67th House District seat up for grabs, Byrum said she was encouraged to run. She said supporters liked her because of her background in agriculture and as a small business owner

Her interest in the race was more about adequate representation.

"All of the people, the names I heard, that were going to run, were older, male individuals," she said about her decision to go for it.

Her mother, said was not surprised. She said her mother knew she was destined for a life in political office since she was young and the incident with the flag raising happened.

That first race, she said, thickened her skin. She had a primary, which she won. And her general election opponent was Don Vickers, a Republican who had been her middle school principal. During the race, Vickers, Byrum said, referred to her by her long abandoned childhood nickname — Barbie. That nickname is incongruous with the reputation she has since gained as a fierce advocate, she acknowledged. And while she gladly accepted the label then, it rankles her to hear it

to this day.

She prevailed in that general election and went on to win re-election twice.

Her accomplishments in the Legislature included legalizing onsite sales for local brews and distillation, which opened the floodgates to the brew pubs and distilleries popping up all over the state.

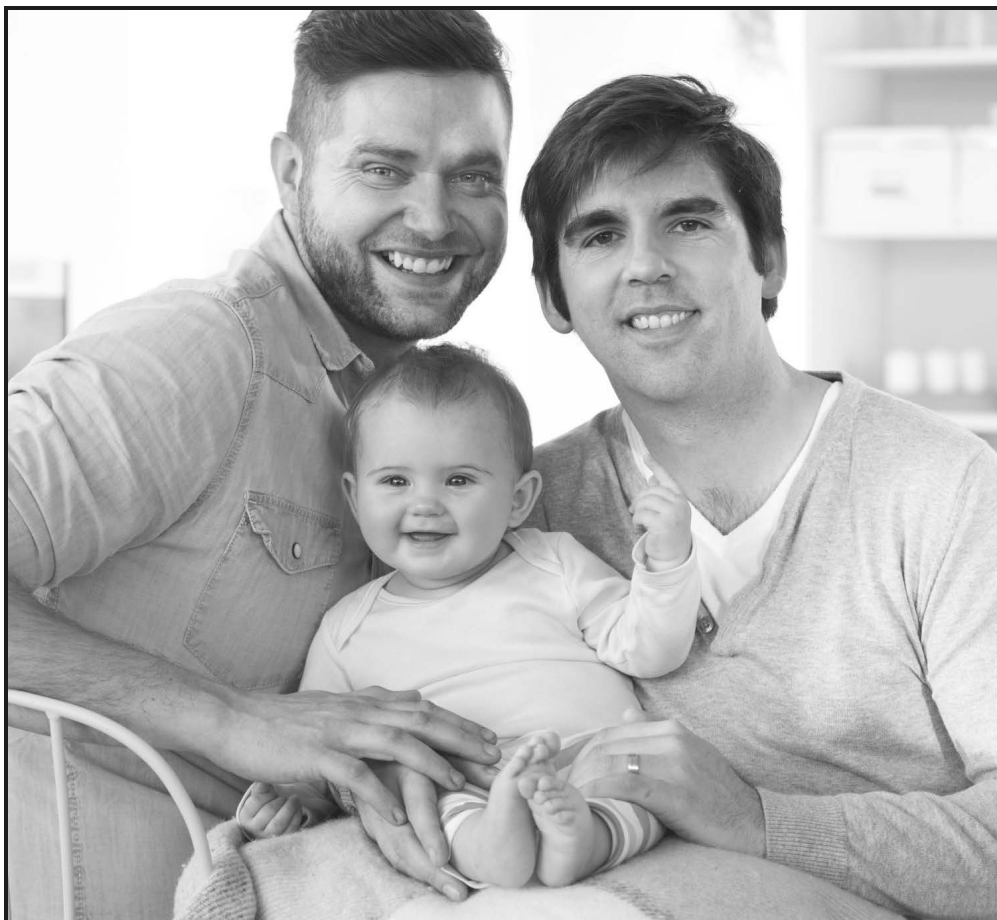
But it's a floor fight in June 2012 for which she became known statewide.

During a contentious fight over abortion-related legislation, Bryum and Rep. Lisa Brown, an Oakland County Democrat, challenged the GOP leadership. Both were ordered silenced because of their words. Byrum had used the word "vagina," and Brown had reminded her GOP colleagues that "no means no." GOP leadership told Democrat leadership the two were barred from speaking on the floor.

The situation erupted into a national fiasco for the GOP and resulted in a staged reading of the play "The Vagina Monologues" on the steps of the Capitol. Playwright Eve Ensler flew to Michigan to participate, and both Brown and Byrum read from the play. Thousands attended.

Term limited in the House, she decided to seek the post of Ingham County clerk, winning easily. She said she loves the job and plans to seek another term in 2016.

"I was very happy I was in the right place at the right time," she said, referring to her role as a gay ally. "I am very lucky to have had a small impact on people's lives."



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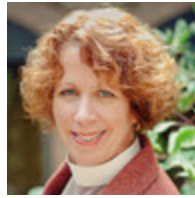
Gay rights


from page 10

1000 percent.” She supports amending the Elliott Larsen Civil Rights Act to include the LGBT community, and while she opposes banning reparative therapy, she does not support the practice either. Regarding coverage of medically necessary care of transgender persons, Anderson said the issue cannot be relegated to a simple discussion about genitalia. She believes coverage will come as care protocols continue to develop for transgender patients. She opposes legislation to ban religious-based discrimination by business owners, calling it “dangerous business,” but said folks want to know who discriminates so they can spend their money somewhere else.




 **THE REV. KIT CARLSON** — Rector of All Saints Episcopal Church in East Lansing. She supports marriage equality and hosted a wedding reception for couples married in Mason following the June ruling from the Supreme Court. She supports amending Elliott-Larsen and calls reparative therapy “cruel and dangerous.” She felt uninformed in responding to questions about medically necessary care for the transgender community. She believes businesses in Michigan should not be allowed to discriminate on the basis of “sincerely held religious beliefs.”



 **RIVERVIEW CHURCH** — but if you search the evangelical Christian rhetoric — same sex attraction — the website brings up information on how to get counseling for “those” struggling with same-sex attractions. That’s code for reparative therapy referrals. (Pastor Noel Heikkinen denies that Riverview makes such referrals.) But the church also has a close, effective and important relationship with the Lansing Area AIDS Network. Church volunteers have donated countless hours to volunteering for the agency and its clients — many of whom are gay or bisexual men or trans women — by rebuilding the food pantry, painting the offices, and providing support for food-bank volunteers.



FRENEMIES
 **RIVERVIEW CHURCH** — The hip church with locations as varied as MSU, Holt and REO Town doesn’t mention homosexuality, lesbian,

 **SEN. RICK JONES** — Grand Ledge Republican and former Eaton County sheriff. He said he does not support

See Gay Rights, Page 17

2015 PRIDE EVENTS

FRIDAY, AUG. 25 5 P.M. — WHITE PARTY CONCERT WITH STEVE GRAND

The White Party will begin with a concert at Adado Riverfront Park and will continue into the night at several Old Town bars. Gates for the concert and beer tent open at 5 p.m. WQHH radio personality Don Black will emcee both the White Party and Saturday’s festival.

Admission is \$25 at the gates, and \$20 presale tickets are available at michiganpride.org.

Spiral Dance Bar, Esquire Bar and Sir Pizza are participating in this year’s White Party. Attendees can purchase a \$10 wristband that will serve as a cover charge for all three locations.

WHITE PARTY LINEUP:

- 5-7 p.m.
Moon Disco (with DJ eKlipx)
- 7-7:30 p.m.
Asio Aviance (drag performance)
- 7:30-8:15 p.m.
Treading Bleu
- 9-10:15 p.m.
Steve Grand

SATURDAY, AUG. 26 NOON — PARADE & RALLY

This year’s grand marshal is Barb Byrum, Ingham Country Clerk. The parade starts at Adado Riverfront Park, 300 N. Grand Ave., Lansing, and will travel west down Shiawassee Street, turn south on Capitol Avenue and end in front of the Capitol Building at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Capitol Avenue.

Parade set-up for participants is at 11 a.m. and the parade steps off at noon. Participants are encouraged to register at michiganpride.org.

The parade will conclude with a rally on the Capitol lawn, including guest speakers Regina Calcagno, Michigan For Marriage public education campaign director, state Rep. Jeremy Moss and Amy Hunter, ACLU of Michigan transgender advocacy coordinator.

Couples will also have a chance to reaffirm their vows in a ceremony led by the Rev. Nicolette Siragusa of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Grand Ledge.

Following the rally, City Pulse invites all married or soon-to-be-married LGBT couples to meet on the Capitol steps for a historic photo that will run in the paper.

SATURDAY, AUG. 26 NOON-10 P.M. — FESTIVAL

This year’s festival will be at Adado Riverfront Park; gates open at noon. Festivities include live music and entertainment, a beer tent and food vendors. A children’s area will offer crafts and activities for kids from noon to 5 p.m.

There is a suggested admission of \$10. College or high school students and seniors over 65 can get in for \$5. Children under 12 are free. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. VIP tickets are available at michiganpride.org.

FESTIVAL MAIN STAGE LINEUP:

- 2-2:15 p.m.
LanSingOut (gay men’s chorus)
- 2:30-3 p.m.
Drag show
- 3-3:30 p.m.
SLYF
- 3:30-4:15 p.m.
Drag show No. 2
- 4:30-4:45 p.m.
Dahlia (Britney Spears illusionist)
- 4:50-5:10 p.m.
Chris (stand-up comedian)
- 5:15-5:45 p.m.
Volunteer award & announcements
- 5:45-6:30 p.m.
DJ Rose
- 7-8:15 p.m.
CeCe Peniston
- 8:30-10 p.m.
DJ Jay Prix



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Gay rights

from page 13

discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. However, he opposes a legislative amendment to the state's civil rights act to include the LGBT community. He said he would rather see the issue taken to the ballot. He said he doesn't know enough about the harms or benefits of reparative therapy, so at this point he would oppose banning the practice. "I'm reluctant to take away the rights of parents," he said. As for reparative therapy: "For most people there is no change." As for expanding Medicaid covered to medically necessary treatment options for transgender patients,



He opposes Medicaid coverage for transgender patients because of the fiscal strain on the program already. He said that businesses offering services to the public may have a legitimate reason to discriminate based on sincerely held religious beliefs. He used the example of a baker's being asked to make a Confederate flag decorated cake, saying that for him it was acceptable to refuse that service because the flag was offensive and racist to the baker. But he also said if a person goes somewhere for service — say to a mechanic — rather than a special-made product, they should receive the same service, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

GOV. RICK SNYDER — While Snyder refused to stop defending Michigan's ban on marriage for LGBT persons and he signed a law outlawing domestic partner benefits by governments; he has also been a vocal advocate of amending the state's Elliott Larsen Civil Rights Act to include the LGBT community.

He also came out and threatened a veto of any Religious Freedom Restoration Act legislation but then turned around and signed into law legislation allowing private, religious adoption agencies to continue to receive state dollars in facilitating adoptions, while refusing to provide such services to people who violate the agencies' sincerely held religious beliefs.



ENEMIES

ATTORNEY GENERAL BILL SCHUETTE — The Republican attorney, former judge and former lawmaker is a long-time opponent of LGBT equality. He defended the state's marriage ban, all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. He defended the state's attempt to deny recognition to the 300 couples married in 2014 during a brief window. He supports religious freedom laws.



STATE REP. TODD COURSER — The Republican lawmaker from Lapeer is a tea party favorite and an evangelical Christian. He is an opponent of LGBT equality. Following the

Supreme Court decision in June, Courser lamented we were living "in the end times." To fight LGBT folks getting married, Courser introduced legislation requiring that all marriage licenses had to be signed by a member of the clergy to be valid and would strip away the right of certain civil officeholders to perform such ceremonies. Courser, and his tea party ally Cindy Gamrat, R-Plainwell, are under investigation by the state House Business Office and a special select committee after it was revealed earlier this summer they were having an affair. The investigations are looking into whether or not the duo used state resources to cover up their sexual liaisons. Courser has admitted to sending out an email to GOP leaders and bloggers accusing himself of being bisexual and porn addicted. That email was to divert attention from his affair with Gamrat, he told an aide in a secret recording.



DAVE AGEMA — Former GOP state representative from west Michigan who serves on the Republican National Committee.

In the Legislature, Agema was a leading opponent of LGBT equality. He opposed anti-bullying legislation that would have explicitly protected students from bullying because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. He also authored legislation that hit state universities with a fine for providing domestic partner benefits to same-sex couples. He also introduced legislation that would have taken money from a special health care program used as the sole federal match for HIV funding from the federal government. The former airline pilot wanted to transfer that money into airport upkeep. Since his election to the national committee, he has been a lightning rod for controversy. State and national Republicans have called on him to resign from the RNC over his antigay rhetoric.



STATE REP. GARY GLENN — Republican lawmaker from Midland who made a name for himself as the president of the American Family Association of Michigan,

See Gay Rights, Page 19

There is no fear in love

Perfect love casts out fear

1 John 4:18

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Gay rights

from page 17

which spearheaded the successful constitutional amendment banning gay marriage in 2004. He supported sending homosexuals to jail, believes in reparative therapy, thinks the LGBT community is diseased and dying, opposed efforts to crack down on bullying based on sexual orientation and gender identity, opposes amending Elliott Larsen to include sexual orientation and gender identity and regularly misgenders transgender leaders while also accusing transgender people of wanting to cause harm to women and children in public bathrooms. Since taking office in January, however, he has maintained distance from anti-LGBT legislation, focusing instead on attacking workers' rights through repeal of prevailing wage laws.



Elliott Larsen Civil Rights Act to provide LGBT rights and has regularly supported legislation allow religious based discrimination in medical care as well as public services, such as adoption.



MOUNT HOPE CHURCH — Also known as the Church of the Flags. This large evangelical, non-denominational church on Lansing's west side has a long history with the LGBT community. The church supports reparative therapy efforts and actively opposes nondiscrimination laws. In 2007, the church was the target of a protest by the radical queer group Bash Back! Lansing. Activists protested inside and outside of the church accusing the church of harming LGBT youth. Their message: "It's OK to be gay." Church officials sued the group and its national organization under a federal law passed in the '80s to protect abortion clinics and churches from disruptive protests. The church won the case, achieving a permanent injunction against members of the group from protesting churches in the U.S. and small fines paid by each identified and named participant.



MICHIGAN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE — Pope Francis has made great strides in reaching across a centuries old divide between the Catholic Church and the LGBT community. But the Michigan Catholic Conference, the church's political arm in Lansing, has opposed efforts to amend the

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Lansing's Top Five Liquor Purchasers

#1 Harem Night Club (now Duke's Saloon), 414 E. Michigan Ave.

2014 purchases: \$186,550.58
2015 purchases to date: \$81,677.22
Notable violations since 2000: None

#2 Omar's Showbar, 316 E. Michigan Ave.

2014 purchases: \$128,230.01
2015 purchases to date: \$69,969.71
Notable violations since 2000: March 29, 2001
Sold to two minors.
Outcome: \$1100 negotiated settlement

Dec. 3, 2006

Allowed fights or brawls on licensed premises, allowed on the licensed premises the improper use of a firearm, knife or other weapon, allowed the annoying and/or molesting of customers by a non-customer.

Outcome: \$300 negotiated settlement

#3 Nuthouse Sports Grill, 420 E. Michigan Ave.

2014 purchases: \$93,086.53
2015 purchases to date: \$54,469.16

Notable violations since 2000:

Jan. 20, 2010

Warning for selling tobacco to a minor.

Sept. 24, 2010

Warning for opening prior to noon on Sunday.

Sept. 12, 2013

Sold to minor decoy.

Outcome: \$400 negotiated settlement

#4 Dream Girls/Centerfolds, 5910 S. Pennsylvania Ave.

2014 purchases: \$92,259.12
2015 purchases to date: \$41,343.70
Notable violations since 2000: March 9, 2006

Allowed fights or brawls on licensed premises, allowed the annoying and/or molesting of

customer by another customer, allowed the improper use of firearm on the licensed premises.

Outcome: \$300 negotiated settlement, two individuals banned from working or being present at the business.

Jan. 8, 2009

Allowed fights or brawls on licensed premises, sold to intoxicated person, allowed intoxicated person to consume, allowed intoxicated person to loiter, failed to cooperate with law enforcement officer and/or obstructed a law enforcement officer in the course of inspecting or investigating the licensed premises, allowed the annoying and/or molesting of an employee by a customer, allowed the annoying and/or molesting of an employee by an employee.

Outcome: Dismissed.

Jan. 19, 2009

Allowed fights or brawls on licensed premises, failed to cooperate with law enforcement officer and/or obstructed law enforcement officer in the course of inspecting or investigating the licensed premises, allowed the annoying and/or molesting of an employee by a customer.

Outcome: See Jan. 30, 2009.

Jan. 29, 2009

Sold or furnished alcohol to a minor, allowed a minor to consume, sold to an intoxicated person, allowed an intoxicated person to consume, allowed an intoxicated person to loiter, sold, furnished, or allowed consumption of alcoholic liquor or possessed alcoholic liquor on the licensed premises not purchased from an authorized source.

Outcome: See Jan. 30, 2009.

Jan. 30, 2009

Sold to an intoxicated person, allowed an intoxicated person to consume, allowed an intoxicated person to loiter, allowed fights or brawls on licensed premises, failed to cooperate with law enforcement officers in the course of inspecting or investigating the licensed premises.

Outcome: \$2,711.50 negotiated settlement (combined with Jan. 19

LIQUOR IN LANSING

Looking at the city's biggest spenders

By TY FORQUER

The area's top three bars, at least in terms of liquor purchases, are in East Lansing — but Lansing isn't too far behind. The top 10 liquor purchasers in the tri-county area, according to numbers from the Michigan Liquor Control Commission, are split evenly between East Lansing and Lansing. And while East Lansing has the top three spots locked down, Lansing holds the next four.

The nexus of liquor consumption in Lansing is the 300 and 400 blocks of Michigan Avenue. The top three Lansing liquor purchasers are located within this 500-foot span of Michigan Avenue.

Urban dance spot Harem Night Club — which closed earlier this year and reopened in May as country-themed Duke's Saloon — leads the pack with over \$186,000 in liquor purchased last year. The bar's numbers are certainly bolstered by its sister establishment, the Loft. The second-story concert venue shares a liquor license with its first-story neighbor.

Rounding out the top three are Omar's Showbar, downtown Lansing's "gentleman's

club," and popular downtown bar the Nuthouse Sports Grill. Omar's has a string of colorful Michigan Liquor Control Commission violations from the 1970s through the late '90s, including several charges of entertainers "who performed or simulated performance of" both sexual intercourse and cunnilingus and one charge of "allow(ing) patrons to take an active part in entertainment." The strip club seems to have cleaned up its act since then — relatively speaking — and boasts only two violations since 2000.

Completing the top five are south Lansing strip joint Centerfolds (formerly Dream Girls) and the Colonial Bar. While the Colonial Bar has a fairly clean record — just two violations since 2000 — Centerfolds/Dream Girls has racked up a laundry list of violations.

A particularly troublesome stretch in January 2009 includes charges of brawls, serving to minors, over-serving intoxicated individuals and obstructing police investigations. The commission also cited the establishment for seven instances of paying for its liquor with checks with insufficient funds.



Photos by Helen Murphy for City Pulse

Left: Nuthouse Sports Grill. Right: Omar's Showbar.

and Jan. 29, 2009)

July 29, 2009

Warning for failure to properly sign and post license and permits and for giving away prizes in excess of \$250 without Michigan Liquor Control Commission approval.

Oct. 8, 2013

Allowed the improper use of a firearm, knife or other weapon on the licensed premises, allowed fights/brawls on the premises, failed to cooperate and/or obstructed law enforcement officers in the course of inspecting or investigating licensed premises.

Outcome: Hearing postponed

#5 Colonial Bar, 3425 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

2014 purchases: \$86,660.36
2015 purchases to date: \$43,106.09
Notable violations since 2000:

June 9, 2004

Allowed unlawful gambling with NASCAR pool sheets and horse racing pool sheets on licensed premises, allowed unlawful gambling devices.

Outcome: \$600 negotiated settlement

Dec. 6, 2007

Sold to a minor.

Outcome: \$612.07 fine

LISTENING ROOM

Live and lively

The Applesed Collective turns in virtuoso performance on 'Live at the Ark'

By TY FORQUER

Ann Arbor-based group the Applesed Collective is certainly a folk band, but it doesn't take the preservation society approach common to many folk bands. The group specializes in writing new music that sounds old, drawing on a wide variety of American traditions. On its latest album, "Live at the Ark," you can hear the influence of Gypsy jazz, Southern blues, ragtime, zydeco and bluegrass, all mixed together into what the band calls "an amalgam of complementary and contrasting elements."

The Applesed Collective

With Rachel & Alex
8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29
The Loft
414 E. Michigan Ave.,
Lansing
(517) 913-0103,
theloftlansing.com

The source of much of this album's considerable energy is its dueling instrumental vir-

tuosi, Andrew Brown on guitar and Brandon Smith on violin. Most of the songs are structured in a typical bluegrass style — a main song featured at the beginning and the end bookending solos by Brown and/or Smith.

That isn't to say the rest of the band isn't pulling its weight. Katie Lee takes a few impressive solos on banjo and also weighs in on lead vocals on "After You've Gone," "Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out" and "Dinah."

"Here's one for the tip jar," quips Brown before the band launches into "Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out," a ballad that Lee milks for all the sultry smokiness she can squeeze out of it.

The lineup on this album is rounded out by bassist Ben Rolston and percussionist Vince Russo. Rolston provides the perfect harmonic underpinning for the group's instrumental adventures, and Russo keeps things chugging along on an off-kilter percussion set-up comprising a washboard — tricked out with bells and cymbals — and a kick drum. While some zydeco recordings are almost intolerable because of constant clumsy washboard scratching, Russo works his contraption with

uncommon dexterity and finesse.

(Since this album was recorded, the band's roster has changed. Lee moved to New York to pursue a solo career, and Rolston has been replaced by bassist Eric Dawe.)

The album's opening tune, "Periwinkle Blues," sets the tone for the rest of the album. An ominous intro — featuring Brown's vocal line moving in parallel with a minor key violin riff, underpinned by sinister bass notes and percussion flourishes — leads directly into a bouncy major key blues. Brown's lyrics mirror this sad/happy contrast.

"I'm so sad because I love you," Brown sings. "You make me so happy that I'm blue all the time."

On the album's second track, "Bad Man," the group navigates a tricky instrumental introduction with all the precision of a well-seasoned bebop quintet. Brown and Smith make the jagged, Gypsy-jazz inspired melody seem effortless, and the rest of the band backs them up with tight rhythmic outbursts.

The band's humor is also on display here, both in Brown's deadpan banter between songs and his playful lyrical content."



"Live at the Ark"
The Applesed Collective
2014, Earthwork Music

"This next song is about love. It's about marriage. It's about that sweet little girl. And it's about kidnapping," says Brown as the band gears up for the bluegrass-flavored "Lookee' for a Reason."

Brown has a serious side too, though, as evidenced by tracks like "The Inability to Feel," a meditative, dream-like meditation on love.

"The inability to feel, smell and taste, see and hear you — it's what drives me mad," Brown sings over a descending

chord progression.

Other highlights of the album include "Sisyphit," a quirky track based on the myth of Sisyphus.

"Never gonna stop, never gonna stop pushin' that rock," sings Smith on his only lead vocal appearance on this album.

The band ends the album with its take on an early jazz chestnut, "Sweet Georgia Brown." Even when the Applesed Collective covers an old tune, the band manages to put its own spin on it.

"It's gonna start slow and end fast and get really funky in the middle," says Brown, accurately describing the course the nine-minute track will take to close out the album.

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JUST MERCY

Author Bryan Stevenson

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REO GRAND

REO Town's commitment to the arts was on full display Saturday as the fifth annual Art Attack festival returned to the historic neighborhood. This year's festival included an art competition, live music, art vendors and a variety of other artistic activities. Before the kickoff of Art Attack — and less than a quarter mile to the south — another group honored the neighborhood's automotive history with the dedication of "Community Heart of REO," a mural that prominently features the REO Motor Car Co. clubhouse.

Photos by TY FORQUER



REACH Studio Art Center volunteer Sarah Garcia of East Lansing (left) and Lansing resident Honesty Godel make bubble paintings using colored bubble mixes.



Visitors to this year's Art Attack festival were invited to help color a paint-by-number mural that will hang somewhere in REO Town.



Jebadiah Half-hand (left) and Bryan "Scooter" Fell perform Saturday with the Jonestown Crows, a Lansing-based "doom-grass" band.



A crowd gathered Saturday morning to witness the dedication of "Community Heart of REO," a 56-by-28-foot mural that was hung this week on the former REO Motor Car Co. showroom.



Art competition participant Emma Eagle of Mason works on a Michigan-themed picnic table.



Mural artist Tony Hendrick (left), R.E. Old Transportation Museum office manager Kristi Schwartzly (center) and Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero addressed the crowd at the mural dedication.

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'The sun does shine'

Author Bryan Stevenson brings message of equal justice to MSU

By **BILL CASTNIER**

Lawyer Bryan Stevenson has helped make the sun shine again for some 115 men, among them Anthony Ray Hinton of Montgomery, Ala.

Stevenson, who founded and directs the Equal Justice Initiative, added Hinton to that number this past April, after he served more than 30 years on death row.

One Book One Community Kickoff

With Bryan Stevenson
7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 30
FREE
Hannah Community Center
819 Abbot Road, East Lansing
onebookeastlansing.com

MSU Academic Welcome

With Bryan Stevenson
9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 31
FREE
Breslin Student Events Center
534 Birch Road, East Lansing
onebookeastlansing.com

An Evening with Director Eugene Jarecki

7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 16
\$20/FREE for students and staff
Wharton Center
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing
(517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com

coerced testimony and bungled evidence in the cases he has represented, Stevenson argues that a majority of the innocent on death row are there because they couldn't get the legal help they needed.

"If they had (competent legal help), these cases would've turned out differently," he said.

Although Michigan doesn't have a death penalty, mid-Michigan residents may recall the 2005 case of Lansing resident Claude McCollum, who was unjustly convicted of the murder of a Lansing Community College professor — allowing a serial killer to go free in the interim. Matthew Macon was eventually found to be the actual murderer, and a closer look at McCollum's case revealed that McCollum's confession was coerced and that evidence showing his innocence was covered up.

Community members and MSU students will have two opportunities to hear Stevenson speak this week. Sunday at 7 p.m., Stevenson will speak at a free event at the Hannah Community Center. Monday he will address incoming freshmen at the MSU Academic Welcome at 9 a.m. at the Breslin Student Events Center.

Another One Book One Community program on Sept. 16 will give the commu-



Photo by Nina Subin

Lawyer Bryan Stevenson confronts issues of equal justice in "Just Mercy," this year's One Book One

nity a chance to see award-winning filmmaker Eugene Jarecki. His documentary, "The House I Live In," confronts the problem of mass incarceration in this country — a problem he partially blames on the "war on drugs."

Stevenson, 55 and a Harvard educated lawyer, credits his family's influence for a career dedicated to helping those with no voice to find justice.

"I think my grandmother, who was the daughter of slaves and grew up in a South with lynching and racial terror, and my parents, who grew up around segregation, were critical," he said.

"My grandmother would whisper in my ear, 'You have to fight, you have to push.'"

In his presentation to incoming MSU students, Stevenson said that he hopes to make them feel uncomfortable.

"Being uncomfortable is necessary to make change," he said. "I'm not averse to pulling students into to that."

In a recent interview with Terry Gross on NPR's "Fresh Air," Stevenson posed a question: Who is responsible for racism? His answer, "We are."

"We created the system, and we have to demand things change through our voting

and activism," he said.

Stevenson said he is very supportive of the goals of the Black Lives Matter movement and its efforts to bring more attention to the killings of unarmed black men.

"The culture of policing has to change, he said. "There are too many warrior police rather than guardians."

The work of the Equal Justice Initiative is mostly supported by grants and awards won by Stevenson — including a 1995 MacArthur Fellowship (colloquially known as the "genius grant") and a \$350,000 grant from the Lannan foundation earlier this year.

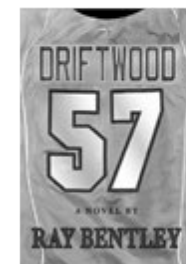
Although his work over the last 25 years has hardly made a dent in the 3,100 individuals who are currently on death row awaiting execution, Stevenson is still excited about his recent victory for Hinton.

"I'm really excited to have him out," Stevenson said. "We are speaking to young people and helping him recover from his 30 years."

SCHULER BOOKS & MUSIC

ESPN Analyst and Former NFL Linebacker RAY BENTLEY presents *Driftwood*

Wed., August 26 at 7 p.m.
Eastwood Towne Center location



Currently in his 13th year as an ESPN College Football TV Game Analyst, Bentley was born and raised in the Grand Rapids area, played college ball at Central Michigan

University, and played 10 years of professional football, including seven in the NFL. He'll be talking about his debut novel, *Driftwood*, informed by his own experiences as a player and coach.

Girls' Night Out presents NYT-bestselling Romance Author KRISTAN HIGGINS

Tuesday, September 1 @ 7 pm
Eastwood Towne Center location



Kristan Higgins is the NYT-bestselling author of more than a dozen novels and a two-time winner of the Romance Writers of America RITA Award. She is currently undergoing a national independent bookstore tour to promote her first ever women's fiction novel, *If You Only Knew*.

for more information visit www.SchulerBooks.com

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OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Allison at (517) 999-5066.

CASTING CALL FOR 'DRACULA' WITH THE ANDROMEDA COMMUNITY THEATRE

Six men and two women are needed for Hamilton Deane and John L. Balderston's dramatization of the classic horror novel. Contact kdempsey@andromedaplayers.org for more information.

Auditions are August 26-27, with callbacks on August 28. 6-9 p.m. Alive, 800 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. facebook.com/andromedacommunitytheatre.

Wednesday, August 26

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Vietnamese Buddhist Temple, 3015 S. Washington St., Lansing. (517) 351-5866. lamc.info.
Alcoholics Anonymous. A closed step meeting. 6 p.m. Donations. Pennsylvania Ave. Church of God, 3500 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 899-3215.

Aux Petits Soins: Explorers 3. French immersion for babies/toddlers. 4:30 p.m. \$15/\$12 students. Mother and Earth Baby Boutique, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 643-8059.

Ukulele Play-Along. Learn how to play chords and songs on the ukulele. 6 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St. Lansing. (517) 337-9700. marshallmusic.com.

EVENTS

Strategy Game Night. Ages 18 and up. 5-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4, dtdl.org.

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

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

See Out on the Town, Page 28

Here be dragons



Photo by Trumpie Photography
A dragon boat team celebrates its performance at last year's Capital City Dragon Boat Race.

Sunday, Aug 30

The Grand River will be filled with dragons Sunday. Luckily, none of the dragons will be able to breathe fire.

The river will be filled with traditional Chinese dragon boats — paddled longboats elaborately decorated with dragon heads, scales and tails. The boats will compete in the fourth annual Capital City Dragon Boat Race, a fundraiser benefitting the Women's Center of Greater Lansing.

A popular Chinese sport, dragon boat racing has been around for over 2,000 years. Some experts argue that the races date back to roughly 800 B.C., the same era as the first Olympic games. More recently, the sport has become popular in the United States, drawing tens of thousands of spectators per year to races held all over the country.

Though most people will come down to Adado Riverfront Park Sunday to watch the races, visitors will find several other attractions to check out. The all-day event includes free kids and family activities, vendors, food trucks and educational performances designed to teach attendees about traditional Chinese culture.

This is the second year that the race will be hosted by the Women's Center of Greater Lansing, an organization that provides services like support groups and counseling to women in the Lansing area.

"We were asked to take over the event by the Greater Lansing Sports Authority and the Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority," said Cindie Alwood, executive director of the Women's Center of Greater Lansing. "A lot of the charity dragon boat races around the country are done for breast cancer survivors. And because we have a cancer survivor program, they thought it would be a better fit."

A Pink Carnation Remembrance ceremony has been added to the beginning of this year's races to honor those who have died of breast cancer, as well as those who have survived breast cancer or are fighting it.

After the opening ceremonies, the races will start with time trials for the 14 teams to determine divisions. Each division will then compete in a bracket-style tournament.

The time trials begin at 8:30 a.m. Sunday, but interested spectators

are also invited to watch the team practices on Saturday, held from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"Saturday is practice day, and that's interesting just to watch," Alwood said.

"There won't be vendors there, but we do all the training and everything so (participants) don't have to know how to paddle a dragon boat beforehand. They can learn right there."

Each dragon boat holds 20 people: 18 paddlers, a drummer and a flag catcher. The course begins at the Lansing City Market and stretches 300 meters north to Adado Riverfront Park. The best places for spectators to view the race are the east and west banks of the park or the Shiawassee Street bridge. There will be an awards ceremony afterwards, including awards for the winners of the races and an award for the best "team theme," which celebrates the team with the most creative apparel and team spirit.

**Capital City
Dragon Boat Race**
8:30 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 30
FREE
Adado Riverfront Park,
Lansing
(517) 372-9163
capitalcitydragonboat.com

—HELEN MURPHY

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICHTUPICA



FRI. AUG 28TH

L Soul

L. SOUL ALBUM RELEASE AT THE LOFT

Friday, Aug. 28 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$12, \$10 adv., 8 p.m.

East Lansing-based rapper L Soul releases his new album Friday at the Loft, openers are Ca\$h Nelly, Ishmael, Swavy Nation, Diamond Jones and Tugga. L. Soul performs a poetry-driven style of rap — he calls it “opinion-based hip hop.” Garnering inspiration from a variety of artists, including Bob Marley, Kanye West, 2Pac and Talib Kweli, L. Soul’s has performed shows from Lansing and Detroit to New York. L. Soul’s career milestones include opening a show for Talib Kweli and performing at Common Ground Music Festival, and he was also one of 25 finalists selected by the Bob Marley family to participate in the Marley Music Uprising, a talent-search competition. Fans of Mos Def or Wiz Khalifa may want to check out this show.

CASH O'RILEY OPENS DOWNTOWN BROWN SHOW

Friday, Aug. 28 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+, \$10, 9 p.m.

Downtown Brown returns to Lansing Friday for a show at the Avenue Café. The Detroit-based punk/funk/metal/rock band is promoting its new full-length album, “Hot Part.” Opening the gig is songwriter Cash O’Riley, aka “the Ownsome Outlaw.” O’Riley is a Flint-based one-man band known for his rugged, Sun Records-inspired brand of honky-tonk music — or, as he calls it, “stewed-and-screwed Hellbilly blues.” Fans of Hank Williams, Carl Perkins or early Elvis Presley might want to check out his set. O’Riley plays a homemade electric guitar made from a two-gallon oil can and harmonica. He also commands the banjo and foot-pedal-operated-drums when needed. He’s proud to say he uses “no loops or backing tracks,” like some other one-man bands. Over the years he’s opened shows for a list of icons, including Jerry Lee Lewis, Chuck Berry, Big Sandy, Barbara Pittman and Wanda Jackson.



FRI. AUG 28TH

Cash O'Riley

HAVE GUN WILL TRAVEL AT MAC'S BAR

Sunday, Aug. 30 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan, Lansing. All ages, \$12, \$10 adv., 7 p.m.

Named after the classic Western TV series, Have Gun Will Travel plays a rustic blend of indie folk, classic country and hook-driven rock ‘n’ roll. The Florida-based outfit, known for its dynamic live shows, headlines an all-ages show Sunday at Mac’s Bar. Opening are All Eyes West, Garrett Klahn (of Texas is the Reason) and Ryan Dillaha & the Miracle Men. In July, Have Gun Will Travel released its fifth LP, “Science From an Easy Chair” via This Is American Music, an Atlanta-based indie label. The new disc is a full-length concept album based on British explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton and his 1914-1916 trans-Antarctic expedition. The band’s bio says the disc is “rife with luscious string arrangements, crooning horn sections and rich percussion.” Commercially, the band’s music has been featured on a national Chevrolet TV commercial, the PBS series “Roadtrip Nation” and CBS “The Good Wife.”



SUN. AUG 30TH

Have Gun Will Travel

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT RICHTUPICA AT RICHTUPICA@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.		Downtown Brown and Cash O'Riley, 9 p.m.	
Black Cat Bistro, 115 Albert Ave.			Chip Christy, 9 p.m.	Scott Seth, 8 p.m.
Capital Prime, 2324 Showtime Dr.			Rush Clement, 8:30 p.m.	Laurie Anne Gardener, 8:30 p.m.
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.			DJ, 9 p.m.
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Blvd.		Open Mic w/Pat Zelenka, 9 p.m.		
Coppe r, 2874 E. Lake Lansing Rd.		Mike Cooley, 6 p.m.		
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Fussion Shows Presents, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Dublin Square, 327 Abbot Rd.			Tell Yo Mama, 10 p.m.	Reggae Lou, 7 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues Jam w/ The Good Cookies	Skoryoke Live Band Karaoke	The Blue Haired Bettys	Summer of Sol
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Jam, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.	Second Nature, 9 p.m.	Tell Yo' Mama, 9 p.m.
Harper's, 131 Albert Ave.		Steve Cowles, 6 p.m.	Chris Lasko, 6 p.m.	
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave			Crosstide, 5 p.m.	
Leroys, 1526 S. Cedar St.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.		Lionfight, 7 p.m.	L. Soul Release Show, 9 p.m.	
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Cash O'Riley, 9 p.m.	Narc Out The Reds, 8 p.m.	Worthwhile, 7 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.			Dewaynes, 9 p.m.	Spoonful, 9 p.m.
Peppino's, 213 Ann St.	Reggae Lou, 5 p.m.			
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road	Don Middlebrook, 6 p.m.	Chris Lasko, 6 p.m.	Kathy Ford Band, 6 p.m.	Mark Sala, 6 p.m.
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27	Kathy Ford Band Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.	Jake Stevens, 6 p.m.	Dirty Helen, 6 p.m.	Chris Lasko, 6 p.m.
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.	Mark Sala, 6 p.m.	Crosstide, 6 p.m.	Mike Cooley, 6 p.m.	New Rule, 6 p.m.
Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Sq.			Steve Cowles, 8 p.m.	
Tin Can West, 644 Migaldi Ln.	Waterpong, 11 p.m.			DJ Chalky, 9 p.m.w
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog's Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.	Past Lives Reunion, 8:30 p.m.	Full House, Jeff the Magician, 8:30 p.m.
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive			Joe Wright, 7 p.m.	

LIVE & LOCAL LISTS UPCOMING GIGS!

To get listed just email us at liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com or call (517) 999-5066. Only submit information for the following week's paper.

Out on the town

from page 26

Wednesday Senior Discovery. Authors, artists, and librarians are frequent presenters. 10 a.m.-noon, FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St. Lansing. (517) 367-2468.

Allen Market Street Farmers Market. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

Home Safety. Home safety with Bruce Witwer and Maurice Ruiz, 10 a.m.-noon, FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-2468, allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

Setting the Captives Free! Local efforts and advocacy for inmates and felons. 6 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434, pilgrimucc.com.

PJ Storytime. Ages 3-12. 7 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi Library, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351, cadl.org.

MUSIC

Fusion Shows presents. Music begins at 10 p.m. 21 and older welcome. 10 p.m. FREE. Crunchy's Pizza & Burgers, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2506, crunchyseastlansing.com.

St. Johns Concert in the Park. With Matt King, Elvis Impersonator. 7 p.m. Donations Accepted. St. Johns City Park Performance Shell, 800 W. Park St., St. Johns. (989) 224-2429, clintoncountyarts.org.

Tania Hayward. Singer/songwriter Tania Hayward will perform. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing. (517) 999-3911, facebook.com/AllenStreetFarmersMarket.

Choir Auditions. Must call in advance. 3-7 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661, ow.ly/R9yTo.

Thursday, August 27 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

9183, newhopehaslett.com.

Baby Cafe. Drop-in breastfeeding center. Every Thursday. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Health Department, 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 337-7365, facebook.com/cababycfe.

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.

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

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

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

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

1866.

Current Events. Group discussion. 11 a.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5046.

HERO: Repairing Broken Windows. Call to register or email bruce@glhc.org. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980, glhc.org.

LifeTime Pilates Stretch. 9 a.m. Sparrow Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (800) Sparrow.

EVENTS

Household Hazardous Waste. Waste collection on Tuesday and Thursday. Thru Sept. 30. 2-6 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Health Department, 5303 S. Cedar St. Lansing. (517) 887-4312, ow.ly/QCPLp.

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

Spanish Conversation Group. Practice listening to and speaking Spanish. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East

THURSDAY, AUG. 27 >> ELDEN KELLY TRIO AT CONCERTS ON THE COURTYARD

The Old Town General Store still has just a few more shows on tap as it nears the end of this year's Concerts in the Courtyard series. This week's installment features the diverse sounds of the Elden Kelly Trio. Guitarist, composer and songwriter Elden Kelly draws from a wide range of influences, including jazz, American roots, Hindustani, and Turkish music. Rounding out the trio are percussionist Carolyn Koebel and bassist Denis Shebukhov. 7:30 p.m. \$15/\$10 students. Old Town General Store, 408 E. Grand River Ave., Old Town, Lansing. (517) 487-6847, oldtown-generalstore.com.

THURSDAY, AUG. 27 >> ONE BOOK #ONELCC KICKOFF EVENT

Lansing Community College kicks off this year's One Book #OneLCC community reading project with a Thursday event. This year's book selection is "The True American: Murder and Mercy in Texas," by New York Times columnist Anand Giridharadas. The year-long project encourages LCC students, faculty, staff and community members to read the book together and explore topics like stereotypes, immigration and what it means to be American. The kickoff event will feature light snacks and a panel discussion featuring LCC student immigrants. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE. LCC Library, 400 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1626, lcc.libcal.com/calendar/onebook.

SUDOKU

BEGINNER

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	3				9			1

TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 30

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"O for Two"--singles only, please.
Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Place for a nap
- 5 Part of a sequence?
- 10 Georgetown athlete
- 14 Jai ____
- 15 Specialty
- 16 Nursing school subj.
- 17 Comment about all-soloist concerts?
- 20 Critter with a pouch
- 21 " ____ Like It"
- 22 "Fuel" performer DiFranco
- 23 Audiophile's collection, perhaps
- 25 Slanted printing style
- 27 Haulers that repel everyone?
- 33 Wrinkly dog
- 34 Half a new wave group?
- 35 "Rashomon" director Kurosawa
- 39 Like fine wine
- 41 Member of the peerage
- 43 Flying solo
- 44 Shaun, for one
- 46 Eugene of travel guides
- 48 8 1/2" x 11" size, for short
- 49 Say "I guess we'll take DiCaprio"?
- 52 Disappear into thin air
- 55 "Sweet" Roman numeral?
- 56 Yes, at the altar
- 57 Hit the weights, maybe
- 61 "At the Movies" cohost

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
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68						69							70		
71							72							73	

- 9 Biographical bit
- 10 Hawaiian pizza ingredient
- 11 Shaq's surname
- 12 "Live at the Acropolis" New Ager
- 13 Overhead storage
- 18 Breakneck
- 19 "Straight ____ Comp-ton"
- 24 Brush-off
- 26 Wants to know
- 27 Hot springs
- 28 Julia's "Notting Hill" costar
- 29 S-shaped molding
- 30 Botanical transplant
- 31 Marcia's mom
- 32 Battery's negative terminal
- 36 " ____ be sweet!"
- 37 Flat fee
- 38 Farming pref
- 40 '50s sitcom name
- 42 L.A. hardcore punk band with the 1994 album "Punk in Drublic"
- 45 Green sauce
- 47 Moved about
- 50 Pushing force
- 51 Like corduroy and, um... (hey, get your mind out of the gutter!)
- 52 Crucial
- 53 "Chasing Pavements" singer
- 54 Cautionary list
- 58 Aqueduct feature
- 59 "Frankenstein" helper
- 60 ____ contendere (court plea)
- 62 100 cents, in Cyprus
- 63 Agitate
- 64 Actress Daly
- 66 Disgusted utterance
- 67 Dedicatory verse

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

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

Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2015 Top of the Town contest, we've assembled a guide to your favorite Lansing-area eateries. We'll run single categories in the paper periodically, but the complete dining guide is always available on our website or on our official mobile app, *The Pulse*. The app is available on iPhone and Android platforms; head over to facebook.com/lansingapp or text "pulse" to 77948 for links to download.

Bon appétit!

TOP 5 DINER

#1 GOLDEN HARVEST

Legendary Old Town diner known for loud music, off-kilter decor and creative breakfast offerings
1625 Turner St., Lansing, (517) 485-3663
7 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

#2 FLEETWOOD DINER

Twenty-four hour diner famous for its Hippie Hash
2211 S. Cedar St., Lansing, (517) 267-7606
thefleetwooddiner.com
Open 24 hours daily

#3 LOU & HARRY'S (DOWNTOWN)

Sandwich shop known for its gyros and Greek specialties
119 S. Washington Square, Lansing, (517) 708-7212
facebook.com/louhaslansing
10:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday

#4 GOOD TRUCKIN' DINER

REO Town diner known for its breakfast omelets and burritos and specialty burgers
1107 S. Washington Ave., Lansing, (517) 253-7961
7 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday; closed Monday

#5 ZEUS' CONEY ISLAND

City Pulse readers love its Greek specialties, coney dogs and diner fare
6525 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing, (517) 272-7900
grecianisland.com
7 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday

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So many choices

Herbal Solutions offers wide variety, high quality

By STEVE GREEN

The front of downtown Ypsilanti's Herbal Solutions features a large glass window with a basic neon "open" sign and the business'

name and address. It blends in well with the surrounding businesses. Parking in this area can be a bear at times, so don't pass a parking spot if you see one. I've had good luck with street parking, but there is also a parking lot behind the shop and several other lots nearby.

When I walked in the front door, I found myself in the front lobby, where I was immediately greeted by the receptionist. Since I was a returning member, she was able to quickly check my identification and check me into the system. For new members, signup is free to all patients with a valid Michigan medical marijuana card and ID.

The lobby was clean and welcoming, with small sitting area. I had a short wait of just two minutes to get in the back — there was one patient finishing up ahead of me. Once in the back, I found another small waiting area with a couch and TV — but I didn't wait long. It's a fast-paced shop with two green rooms. During my short wait in this room I was able to peruse some medical marijuana devices, supplies and

paraphernalia on display. Next, I was welcomed into one of the green rooms where I sat at a desk with one of the budtenders. Every question I asked was answered with accuracy, lab results were readily available and everything was very professional. The staff knew their products well — and the shop carries a lot of them.

The most difficult issue for me was choosing from the shop's vast array of options, including concentrates, buds and edibles. The shop's selection of 26 concentrates and extracts included everything from wax to shatter, live resin and even CO2 oil. There were more than 20 different flowers available, ranging from CBD-rich strains to strains with very high THC. The shop also carried 32 edible selections, including gummies, infused honey, candies, cookies and more. It's easy to get mesmerized while looking the products and smelling the contents of the jars. It's like aromatherapy.

I finally settled on an ounce of infused honey (\$10), one package of 100 mg infused gummies (\$12), a half gram of Death Star wax (\$20) and a gram of OG1 Kenobi (\$20/gram or \$400/ounce) that boasts a test result of over 30% THC.

I really enjoyed each of the products. The gummies, which are a popular among many patients I know, were on point.

A little more unusual was the infused local Michigan honey, which I used to sweeten my tea and oatmeal. I've been seeing more of an emphasis on natural, organic and health-conscious products, which I appreciate since we are talking about products



Photo by Steve Green for City Pulse

Herbal Solutions' simple storefront blends in well with surrounding Ypsilanti businesses.

that are intended for medical use.

The Death Star wax — which was very pungent and resembled the smell of the flower — worked great for pain relief. I was also very pleased with the OG1 Kenobi. It had an amazing appearance and taste, and the effects were even better. This had significant lung expansion. The taste was sweet and floral on the inhale, and it had a slight note of spice on the exhale. The burn was even with white ash, indicating a clean product that was flushed well before harvest. This strain helped to ease my muscle spasms and pain.

Steve Green, who writes this column every two weeks, uses marijuana to prevent seizures. He has no business tie to any dis-

THE GREEN REPORT



STEVE GREEN

SURF SIDE DIVE

Sunday, September 27, 3 p.m.
Reservations and questions please call Keith 316-2377 Limited seating available

by Soup Spoon's Chef *Jason Blastic*

A Pop-Up New England Shore 5 course Dinner

-Soft Shell Clams, Scallops, Soft Shell Crab and Lobster ••• \$65

Jakeonfoodblog.com
Soup Spoon Cafe, 1419 E. MI Ave.

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CityPULSE NEWSMAKERS

HOSTED BY BERL SCHWARTZ

THIS WEEK GAY PRIDE



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LGBT Project

BARB BYRUM
Ingham County Clerk

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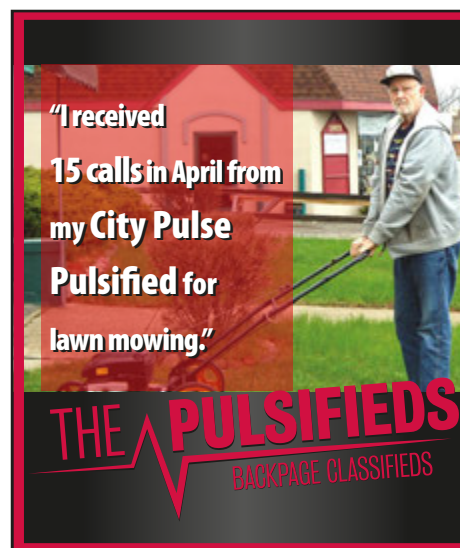


POLE BARN SALE!!

Aug. 28, 29, and 30
Friday 10am-6pm
Sat. 9am-5pm
Sunday 12 Noon-4 pm
16461 Griswold Road
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(from Lansing, head north on Old US 27. Turn left onto Valley Rd. Proceed to Griswold. Turn left on Griswold to Pole Barn.)

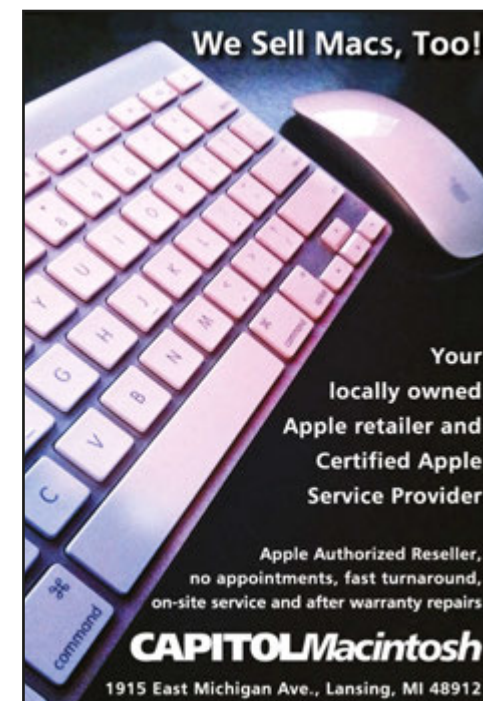
"I received 15 calls in April from my City Pulse Pulsified for lawn mowing."



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