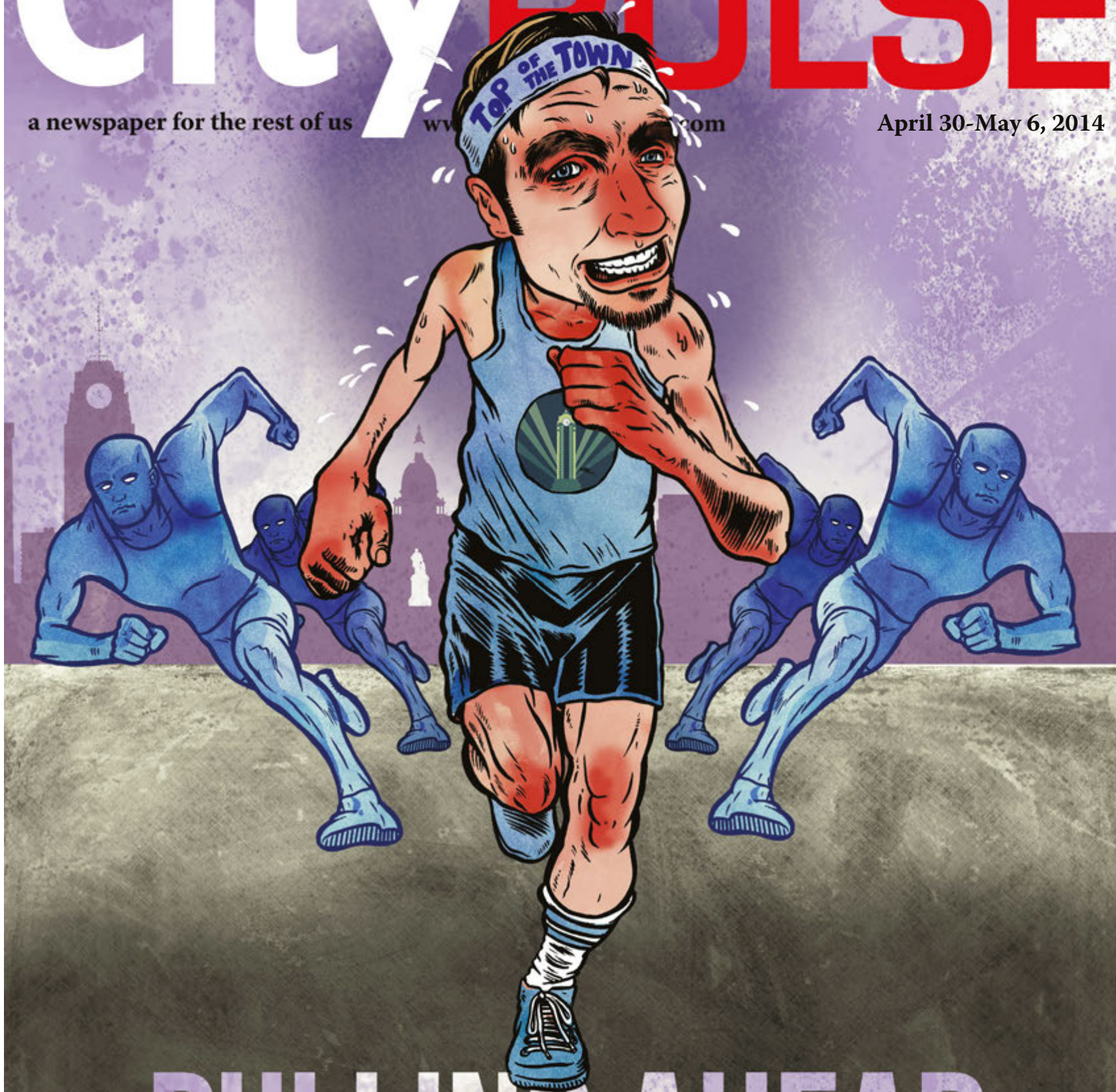


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TOP OF THE TOWN FINAL FIVE CONTEST — VOTING STARTS TODAY

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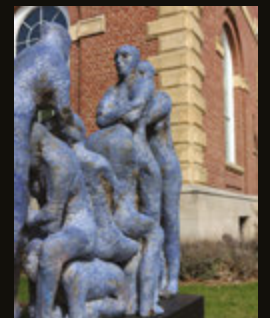
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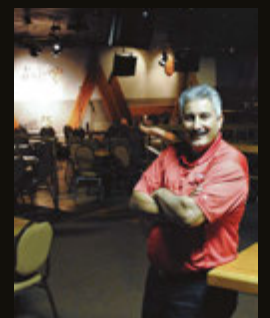
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Feedback

Vote yes for Lansing schools Tuesday

Helping our local kids get the education they need to succeed should be our community's top priority. That means voting yes on Tuesday for the Lansing School District Non-Homestead Millage Renewal.

It's important to note that this is a renewal — not a tax increase. Voting yes on Tuesday simply continues the current contribution made by owners of non-homestead property, such as commercial properties.

Friends of Lansing Schools strongly supports open government. The Lansing School District undergoes an annual independent audit, to ensure that our tax dollars are being spent wisely and transparently.

On the flip side, voting no would mean losing an additional \$18.1 million annually from our local classrooms, resulting in the loss of about 170 teachers and cuts to the educational programs that our kids depend on. That's on top of the \$23 million the Lansing School District has already lost since 2011 due to state budget cuts, according to KidsNotCEOs.com.

Investing in our local schools is the best way to improve our local economy and create more opportunities for local families, and that's why we're urging voters to vote yes on Tuesday.

— Thomas Morgan
Chairman, Friends of Lansing Schools

Fix City Market problems

A city market like Lansing has had for decades is part of the current urban scene in all the places the young and old want to live around the state and country. The locavore movement is real and draws people to the places city promoters want them. Why Mayor Bernero, city officials, and developers must you make it so hard for Lansing's market to survive?

Parking must be convenient, available, and affordable (preferably free). Why Mayor Bernero (and other in charge here) must you play political games with this indispensable city service? Pushing the problem down the road, finger-pointing, and playing the blame game won't provide the customers, present and future, what they need at the City Market. If parking is provided, the market will thrive. If not, it will languish. Come on guys, do the right thing for the market, for the vendors, and for the citizens.

— Tom Hardenbergh
Bath

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

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

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

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Bernero administration planning big changes to code compliance ordinance



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John Bean Building open house pays tribute to beloved LCG photography professor



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Crowdsourcing: A roundup of local crowdsourcing fundraising efforts



COVER ART

PULLING AHEAD by CRAIG HORKY

ADVERTISING INQUIRIES: (517) 999-6705
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or email citypulse@lansingcitypulse.com

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER • Berl Schwartz
publisher@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5061

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER • Mickey Hirten
mickey@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5067

MANAGING/NEWS EDITOR • Andy Balaskovitz
andy@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5064

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR • Allan I. Ross
allan@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5068

PRODUCTION MANAGER • Rachel Harper
adcopy@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5066

CALENDAR EDITOR • Jonathan Griffith
jonathan@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5069

STAFF WRITER • Lawrence Cosentino
lawrence@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5063

MARKETING/PROMOTIONS COORDINATOR • Rich Tupica
rich@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-6710

ADVERTISING • Jeralyn Garvey
jeralyn@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-6704

ADVERTISING • Shelly Olson
shelly@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-6705

Contributors: Justin Bilicki, Daniel E. Bollman, Capital News Service, Bill Castanier, Mary C. Cusack, Tom Helma, Gabrielle Johnson, Terry Link, Andy McGlashen, Kyle Melinn, Mark Nixon, Shawn Parker, Stefanie Pohl, Dennis Preston, Ute Von Der Heyden, Paul Wozniak

Delivery drivers: Richard Bridenbaker, Dave Fisher, Ron Lupu, Brent Robison, Robert Wiche

Interns: Katy Barth, Nicole Halvorsen, Alexandra Harakas, Kyle Koehler, RJ Wolcott



THIS WEEK

- MSU Law Professor Mae Kuykendall
- Lansing City Councilwoman Jessica Yorke
- Jeffrey Hank, 8th Congressional District candidate



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THIS WEEK: Lansing Police Department Move

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WITH GUEST:
Police Chief Mike Yankowski

<p>OVER THE AIR</p> <p>Lansing/East Lansing.....Ch. 18</p> <p>COMCAST</p> <p>Lansing/East Lansing/Holt.....Ch. 8</p> <p>Jackson.....Ch. 18</p> <p>Summit/Leoni Township.....Ch. 8</p>	<p>MILLENNIUM</p> <p>Bath, Charlotte/Williamston/others.....Ch. 6</p> <p>Vermontville.....Ch. 12</p> <p>Grass Lake.....Ch. 11</p> <p>CABLE PROPERTIES</p> <p>Rives Junction.....Ch. 18</p> <p>Springport.....Ch. 18</p>
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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

The hidden cost of moving LPD

A counter offer made by North Precinct landlord shows the city could save hundreds of thousands of dollars by not moving police operations to a Lansing School District-owned building, even though Bernero says it will be cost-neutral.

The landlord of the Lansing Police Department's North Precinct says the city could save nearly \$100,000 a year for the next four years by staying put and not moving to the Lansing School District-owned Hill Center on the far south side of the city.

Documents anonymously provided to City Pulse last week show that the property owner, developer Harry Hepler's Summit Street Development Co., made an offer to the city late last month for staying at the North Precinct for the next four years, the same lease length agreed to with the school district. Hepler's cost analysis for doing so shows the city could save \$386,049 over the next four years. Savings could be even greater if the city agreed to allow Hepler to buy City Hall.

Such a cost analysis has not been made public by the city, even though the city says it has its own "cost-neutral analysis." In an announcement last week,

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero said the move "will cost the city the same amount of money over the term of the agreement as the current lease." An email statement Tuesday afternoon from Bernero's chief of staff, Randy Hannan, said: "We don't agree with (Hepler's) analysis."

Hannan declined to release a copy of the city's cost analysis Tuesday, saying the Lansing City Council will see it first at a budget hearing on Thursday. The Council will consider a budget amendment from the administration that would re-allocate money to pay for some of the \$875,000 in planned renovations at the Hill Center, 5815 Wise Road, about seven miles south of the North Precinct.

The Lansing School Board unanimously approved the lease agreement

at its April 17 meeting, nearly three weeks after Hepler presented his offer. According to Hepler, it was at least the second offer he has made to the city since February to keep LPD at the North Precinct. The city has leased the North Precinct since 1997. It leases the space, near the Saginaw/Larch streets intersection, for about \$300,000 a year.

According to the proposal, Hepler offered to extend the lease for four years at market-rate rent, \$435,960, annually. In the school district lease, the city would be rent-free for the first two years, pay \$25,000 in the third year and \$125,000 in the fourth. It also needs to spend \$875,000 over four years in building design and improvement, plus \$130,000 to move.

The school district has also agreed to fix the community pool at the Hill Center by 2016. The city hopes to move into 87,000 square feet of the Hill Center by the end of August.



File photo

The Lansing Police Department is set to move out of the North Precinct on May Street, above, despite documents provided by the landlord showing that the city could save nearly \$400,000 over the next four years by staying.

However, Hepler also offered to donate gym and general event space at the North Precinct; pay for most janitorial work; maintain and upgrade the grounds; and make building improvements, according to the proposal.

While the city says it will pay at least \$1,155,000 to go to the Hill Center for four years (\$150,000 total in rent plus \$875,000 in building upgrades and \$130,000 in moving costs), it has not disclosed specific costs for custodial, utilities and maintenance work, which the city would pay for its space, according to the lease agreement. Starting Oct. 31, the city is also responsible for grounds and exterior maintenance.

When factoring in all of the operational costs, Hepler's estimates show that over

four years, the city would pay \$2,062,331 for staying at the North Precinct versus \$2,448,380 for moving to the far south side. The city's North Precinct lease expires Aug. 31.

"I guess we're asking the city to reconsider (the lease) just on the basis of what the costs (of moving) are and the savings we can deliver to the city," said Steve Purchase, vice president of Hepler's H Inc. "We weren't interested in getting in a bidding war with the school district. We wanted to deliver something that makes sense for the city."

Hannan said the administration asked Hepler in October to "propose a short-term lease extension with no strings attached. Mr. Hepler in late March 2014 presented us with a proposed lease extension that included long-term options to purchase City Hall and a city-owned parking ramp. That wasn't a responsive or acceptable offer, so it was rejected."

Hannan added that Hepler's and the district's offers are "basically cost-neutral compared to the current lease agreement. This cost-neutral analysis does not include the other benefits of our agreement with the school district, which includes the renovation of the Hill Center swimming pool."

That renovation will cost the district between \$350,000 and \$500,000, even though a funding source is still unknown, the State Journal reported last week.

The second angle to Hepler's proposal involves the city's reported desire to sell City Hall. Hepler is prepared to defer rent payments to the city if it gives him the first option to purchase City Hall and the North Capitol parking ramp as collateral. Hepler said it could free up another \$550,000 annually in cash flow that could go into the city's rainy day fund.

"At the end of the term, if you wanted to sell City Hall, we ask for the option to buy it. We trade the deferred rent," Purchase said. "If the city decided it didn't want to sell to us, it could just pay us their rent that's accrued at that time, no interest."

Hepler said he sees "long-term residents or a hotel and restaurant space" for City Hall — a "structurally solid, historical structure with an advantageous footprint."

While the school board has already



Property: 134 Regent St., Lansing
Owner: David and Carrie Muylle

Architect Daniel E. Bollman says: While its exterior is plainly attractive, the subtle details make this unassuming home notable. The painted siding is synthetic and low maintenance, but it lacks the telltale tackiness of vinyl or aluminum. A traditional blue porch ceiling is capped with a standing seam metal roof. Galvanized half-round eaves troughs terminate not at downspouts but with chains that guide the rain — splashless — to grade.

The traditional, public exterior is contrasted by the private interior, which echoes the innovative nature of the development. Copper tubing is fabricated into a guardrail that overlooks the two-story entry space. There, the second-floor ceiling is finished with textured metal, calling to mind a vernacular corrugated tin roof.

Some minor exterior modifications have made the original house more functional, without detracting from its neighbors. In fact, this building is one part of a larger effort that emphasizes the collective development and considers the impact each house has on the overall project site.

Editor's note: On Saturday, owner Dave Muylle and the Allen Neighborhood Center host an open house of this property from 2 to 6 p.m.

Dave Muylle is not one to seek the spotlight when he rehabilitates Lansing's eyesore homes. But he deserves it.

In the backyard of two properties he has already redeveloped as rental homes, and two doors down from his own house, Muylle is at it again on Lansing's East Side.

A before-and-after shot of 134 Regent

See Eye Candy, Page 6

"Eye Candy of the Week" is our look at some of the nicer properties in Lansing. It rotates with Eyesore of the Week. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call Andy Balaskovitz at 999-5064.

See Police, Page 6

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Eye Candy

from page 5

doesn't do Muylle's work justice. As they say, it's on the inside that counts. Over the course of five years, Muylle invested about \$20,000 a year to completely gut and redesign the inside of this house originally built in 1905. Starting with essentially an empty box of a house, Muylle's vision for a new floor plan took over. Upon entering, the sightlines through the house make it seem bigger than the 1,024-square-foot floor plan. A second-story loft visible from the entryway and the abundance of windows gives the house a beach-cottage feel.

"This house was a perfect candidate for tearing down," Muylle said, adding that it needed a new foundation. He also reframed the roof to accommodate the loft design. Muylle said he has rehabili-

tated a dozen houses on the East Side. "The goal is to always work within the footprint of the house, which is what we did here. It's just a little house, but there are tricks you can perform that will make it live large."

When entering the front door, the eye is drawn to the second-floor railing, which is adorned with a wheel from a 1934 Model A Ford. "My brother found it at an estate sale in Tennessee," Muylle said. "It tells a story."

Muylle bought the foreclosed house in 2008 and has worked on it off and on ever since. He has a renter lined up, and he says eventually he may consider selling it. But that's not the immediate plan.

"This is not for short-term profits. This is not a flip," he said. "It's more taking the long view and having a unique product in five to 10 years."

— Andy Balaskovitz

Police

from page 5

approved the lease, the Lansing City Council will soon consider a budget amendment from the administration to free up costs for repurposing the Hill Center. According to the lease agreement, the city has to put up \$400,000 for renovations within 20 days after the district approved the lease, which was on April 17. Another \$75,000 will go for design, permitting and inspection costs. The city projects that money to be moved from higher-than-expected income tax revenue.

Because she feels she has been left in the dark over the cost analysis, Councilwoman Carol Wood — who chairs the Ways and Means Committee handling the budget amendment — said Monday she would not support the amendment. Moreover, the city has spent over \$187,000 since March 2010 on a long-term consolidation study at the South Washington Office Complex, plus another \$30,000 on studies for moving to the Hill Center.

"We've been studying since 2010 and still have come up with no solution," she said. "If I had to vote up or down on (the budget amendment), without additional information, I wouldn't support it."

Councilwoman Judi Brown Clarke also has more questions than answers when asked how she feels about the move.

"I'm very curious of the costs," she said. "Side-by-side, what does it look like? I have quite a few questions. I also don't have a good handle on what the overall public thinks of the move."

A source with close knowledge of the LPD, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said not involving the public on important community-police issues is a growing problem within the department — and is evident with the Hill Center lease.

"If I was rolling this thing out, I'd ask for public input. And frankly, the City Council should have but it didn't," the source said. The source added that the department has started outgrowing the North Precinct, which should be taken into consideration. Hepler said he's responded to resolve that issue by donating space.

As far as response times for moving operations several miles south, "Time will tell," the source said.

"I'm not contending whether we move, it's how we're moving," the source said.

But, like Wood, the source wonders about the long-term plan, which seemed most feasible by repurposing the city-owned South Washington Office Complex.

"I just don't get it. I don't understand why they're doing it this way long-term," the source said. "It's like putting a Band-Aid on. Are they going to stay in Harry Hill for 10 years? I'd say no. If that's the case, why are they doing it?"

— Andy Balaskovitz



Grass, weed remedies

Bernero administration planning big changes to code compliance ordinance

Mayor Virg Bernero and his administration are preparing to introduce amendments to the city's code compliance ordinance that would effectively eliminate property-owner notifications of alleged code violations.

See Nuisance, Page 7

Nuisance

from page 5

The plan, first mentioned in a Colonial Village Neighborhood Association meeting on April 16 by Scott Sanford, the city's lead housing inspector, would shift notification to twice yearly public announcements aired on local television and published in various outlets. After that notice had been published, those who violate the city's ordinance on length of grass and weeds, or the snow removal ordinance, would be subjected to contractors' fixing the issue without further notification by city officials.

The proposed changes could hit City Council anytime, administration officials say.

Currently, when a violation of grass and weeds is received by code compliance, officers have to travel to the property in question and inspect it. There are thousands of such actions each year: In 2013, there were over 8,000 weed notices issued.

If they find a violation, they then have to send a letter to the property owner and resident providing them seven days to fix the problem. The officer then has to re-inspect the property when that seven-day period has elapsed. If the problem still has not been addressed, the city can hire outside contractors to remediate the problem. There are hundreds of these actions, and they cost violators hundreds of dollars in fees and actual contractor payments. There were just under 1,000 contractors in 2013.

"Mayor Bernero believes our current nuisance enforcement process is cumbersome and ineffective as it relates to grass and weed violations, as well as snow and ice removal from sidewalks," Randy Hannan, Bernero's chief of staff, said in an email. "In both areas, the current notification period is excessive and does not lend itself to prompt resolution of quality of life concerns in our neighborhoods."

Hannan said city residents are already well informed about city regulations as regard to grass and weeds or snow shoveling.

But Carolyn Dunn, a resident of Colonial Village, said she thought the rule on grass was 10 inches. It is actually eight inches.

Mike Morosky and Dunn were two of the neighborhood members present at the April 16 meeting. While initially they expressed support for the plan, they harbor some reservations.

"Anything that can speed it up and get the neighborhood looking good, is good," says Dunn. She noted, as did Morosky, ongoing problems with bank-owned foreclosures.

Morosky noted that city officials have told him that much of the delay in addressing problem properties has to do with the backlog of contractor orders. Something like the proposed changes would not address.

Both noted it could take months and sometimes years to address code viola-

tions on a property. The question is: Why the delay?

Councilwoman Carol Wood said there are many issues related to the delays on contractors responding to code compliance requests. She said since she has been on the Council, the body has repeatedly been told contractors are backed up three weeks during peak periods. That, she noted, shows the problem with the "prompt" resolution concerns cited by the Mayor's Office.

"The question is: Do we need to have more contractors on the payroll during peak times?" she asked.

She says she is not opposed to revisiting the notification time period for grass and snow violations, but she believes there must continue to be personalized letters. She says she has heard the amendment would require public notification using sources as diverse as utility bills, recycling bins, newspaper advertisements and cable television channel notices.

She points out that the onetime notification might be a problem for people with disabilities, or someone who has been unexpectedly hospitalized or even for a resident who is working two or three jobs and there has been a significant amount of rainfall causing grass growth spurts. How do those people protect against a code compliance contractor showing up unannounced, and the resulting costs that will be billed to the property taxes?

Code compliance was recently transferred to the Fire Department for oversight. Along with the transfer came new enforcement zones and a web system designed to allow anonymous complaints to be filed against property owners. Inspectors are required by city policy to respond in a timely fashion to complaints received, including the anonymous ones.

— Todd Heywood



No art money

Lansing City Council looks like it will stop short of appropriating funding for public art ... for now

It appears the Lansing City Council will hold off on appropriating money for public art in the annual budget, opting for a less formal set of guidelines and procedures for installing works throughout the city.

In recent weeks, the Council's General Services Committee has been considering establishing an arts commission that, among other duties, would oversee budget dollars devoted to purchasing public art. Lansing is unlike most nearby municipalities by not having a process for commissioning public works. Some places, such as East Lansing, devote a portion of its annual budget toward purchasing public art.

Proponents say public art is crucial for

making cities and towns unique, creating a "sense of place" and even serving as an economic driver.

Lansing City Councilwoman Jessica Yorke, who chairs General Services, said Monday that the committee is looking closely at DeWitt Township's "public art guidelines," a four-page document that states the township's goals, the art selection process and funding options. Since the policy was adopted in 2012, DeWitt Township has not set aside funding for buying public art. However, township Manager Rod Taylor said the township is considering setting aside an amount as a budget line item in the next fiscal year.

Known as a "percent for art," some communities require 1 percent of the costs of a Capital Improvement Project — such as installing sidewalks or upgrading infrastructure or facilities — go toward commissioning art at the site of the project. Yorke has been working with the Arts Council of Greater Lansing on a policy. In one draft, the Arts Council recommended 3 percent of money spent on Capital Improvement Projects go toward purchasing art at the project site, which equals about \$325,000.

"I did not get the sense that there was a feeling of comfort for that concept in the committee," Yorke said. Adopting the DeWitt model, she added, would at least qualify the city for annual public-art grants issued by the Lansing Economic Area Partnership. "The other committee members (Carol Wood and Jody Washington) both indicated that they would feel comfortable with the DeWitt version.

"We decided to move forward quickly, swiftly with a resolution that establishes an internal policy, like what DeWitt has done, and then continue the conversation about other options for a commission, an advisory board, a percent set-aside or allocation from the budget," Yorke said.

DeWitt's policy states the purpose and goals for public art; allows the township supervisor to set up an ad-hoc committee to oversee the selection process — which comes in three phases — and issuing a Request for Proposals. "The Township will financially support the installation and maintenance of public art whenever possible within the constraints of the yearly budget," DeWitt's guidelines say.

Taylor could not specify how much has been spent from the township's general fund on installation and maintenance, though he said it was "minimal." The discussion about setting aside dollars will likely be revisited, he said: "To allocate limited tax dollars with no very specific defined project just didn't make sense for us today."

In the meantime, Yorke said the city will continue to try and fund public art through grants and donations. Like in DeWitt, a general fund set-aside will likely surface again.

"Honestly what I think the committee wants is to hear more from the public," Yorke said.

— Andy Balaskovitz

Vote Tuesday

Lansing and three other area school districts hold votes on millages Tuesday

Voters in the Lansing School District will be asked Tuesday to renew a 20-year millage that provides about \$18 million in revenue for operating costs — or about 11 percent percent of the district's budget.

District officials are adamant that the levy is simply a renewal, not a new tax. They're also adamant that it could be devastating if not approved, resulting in the loss of 170 teachers and cuts to programs.

"Without it, we can't afford to operate," said school board President Peter Spadafore. The money levied each year goes toward "keeping the lights on, paying the teachers — all of the basic operational functions of the district," he said.

The levy assessed on non-homestead properties — which include industrial and commercial sites, but not principal residences — is just under \$18 for each \$1,000 of a property's taxable value.

"The majority of people voting probably don't pay the tax," Spadafore said.

The Lansing City Clerk's Office will open the South Washington Office Complex, 2500 S. Washington Ave. in Lansing, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday for in-person absentee voting. The site also has a 24-hour drop-box for any completed absentee ballots.

The district boundaries extend beyond the city of Lansing, but City Clerk Chris Swope says voters outside of the city but within the district can still vote within the city. For more information on polling locations, visit lansingmi.gov/elections, call (517) 483-4131 or email clerk@lansingmi.gov.

Outside of Lansing, Williamston and Bath school districts are also requesting millage renewals. Williamston is seeking to renew for 10 years a .75-mill levy for public recreation and playgrounds. Bath district voters are being asked to renew a five-year site-sinking fund. Grand Ledge School District has proposed issuing bonds for security and technology improvements as well as replacing temporary classrooms. The bonds would be paid off by raising the millage rate.

— Andy Balaskovitz

Stop the presses

Gannett's decision to shut down its 20-year-old printing plant in Delta Township is a blow for the 103 employees who produce the State Journal and other papers



MICKEY HIRTEN

It was a very sad announcement from the Lansing State Journal Tuesday that it plans to close its production plant in Delta Township.

The move was not unexpected. Gannett Co. Inc. is shedding printing plants throughout the country. The company,

which now derives significant revenue from television stations, wants its community newspapers to focus solely on selling ads and producing local news and information. It wants newspapers like the Lansing State Journal out of the businesses of production, delivery and circulation, even the choice of national and international news articles. Gannett established a separate business, Gannett Publishing Services, to orchestrate its print site closings.

Of little concern — make that, no concern — is the jobs of skilled and unskilled workers who create a community newspaper. According to the LSJ, the move will eliminate 27 full-time and 76 part-time jobs. The shutdown of the Delta plant will occur over several months and be completed by late July. The newspaper will be printed by Advanced Central Services, which is better identified as the Walker, Michigan, print facility for the Grand Rapids Press and other MLive Media Group newspapers. It is about 75 miles

from downtown Lansing, nestled nicely in the Western Michigan snowbelt. Advanced Central Services has been pushing Gannett for years to let it handle production.

The closing is just another step in the transformation of newspapers and, for the LSJ, severs its manufacturing roots. The power of the press has a double meaning. For me, a printing press is a mesmerizing piece of engineering: large, loud and romantic in a 20th century way. Seeing what I've cobbled together on a sterile computer, or in earlier days, a typewriter, transformed on a printing press into something real, reproduced many thousands of times, never lost its allure.

The LSJ, in a web article announcing the change, said delivery times will not be affected. But the news content will suffer, especially coverage of late night sports. The newspaper now prints at about 1 a.m., which is unusually late these days for a morning newspaper. To account for the travel time from Walker to Lansing, the LSJ will need to close its edition earlier, perhaps as early as 11 p.m. during the week. Deadlines for the Sunday paper will be even tighter.

Decisions like this are forced on local newspapers. The LSJ's president and publisher, Brian Priester, fought against the move as best he could. But the imperative to shed printing operations had too much momentum. Gannett has been doing this for years. Its largest Ohio newspaper, The Cincinnati Enquirer, is published in Columbus, 106 miles away. The company's New York suburban newspapers are published across the Hudson River in Rockaway Township, New Jersey, a site that also prints the Poughkeepsie Journal, located 90 miles away. Michigan newspapers like the Battle Creek Inquirer and the Port Huron

Press, both owned by Gannett, are printed at the LSJ plant. Their press operations were eliminated in an earlier round of consolidations. They, too, will be printed in Walker.

The negotiations between Gannett and Advanced to print the LSJ and other newspapers vexed publisher Priester. The LSJ and other Gannett news operations in Michigan like the Detroit Free Press, Grand Rapids TV station WZZM and the partnership that oversees business operations for both Detroit newspapers are obsessed with MLive's digital strength. The website is tightly integrated with the company's eight newspapers.

Priester has rightly questioned the rationale of strengthening MLive's Michigan operation with a fat production contract, while Gannett's Michigan Group competes against MLive in the emerging and competitive digital marketplace. But cost cutting trumps this argument.

In its 2013 annual report, Gannett crowed about its printing operation, saying it "reduced annualized distribution costs, production costs and customer call center costs by over \$30 million as a result of automation and other efficiency efforts."

And one final LSJ note. Advertising Director Stacia King is leaving for Gannett's Jackson, Miss., newspaper where she will work for former LSJ publisher Leslie Hurst. I worked closely with Stacia while editor of the LSJ and recognize that her departure is a loss for the newspaper and the community. She was a strong supporter of the news department and certainly righted a wobbly advertising department. I wish her well. She will work at a site under the overall control of another former LSJ publisher, Michael Kane.

(Mickey Hirten is the former executive editor of the Lansing State Journal. His email is mickey@lansingcitypulse.com.)

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PARK BOARD MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held at Foster Community Center located at 200 N. Foster Avenue, Room 211, on May 14, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of considering goals for the 2015-2020 Parks 5-Year Master Plan. This meeting will focus on receiving public input on the first goal of the plan - NATURALIZATION AND ECOLOGY MANAGEMENT.

All interested persons are invited to attend this public hearing or submit written comments to Lansing Parks and Recreation, 200 N. Foster Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48912

BRETT KASCHINSKE, DIRECTOR, PARKS AND RECREATION

CP#14_115

CITY OF LANSING
INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN

The City of Lansing
Brownfield Redevelopment Authority

Is now accepting

PUBLIC COMMENTS

on the

PROPOSED ABATEMENT OF ASBESTOS-CONTAINING MATERIALS

ON THE BUILDING

located at 4000 NORTH GRAND RIVER AVE., Lansing, Michigan

The City of Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (LBRA) is recommending that asbestos-containing materials be abated during the demolition of the building at 4000 North Grand River Avenue to support site redevelopment.

Copies of a Community Involvement Plan, Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives, and other related documents will be available during regular business hours for review at:

Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority
1000 S. Washington Avenue, Suite 201
Lansing MI 48910

The administrative record, which contains the information upon which the final decision will be based, is available for review at the location listed above.

Written comments on the referenced documents may be submitted from April 30, 2014 to May 20, 2014 to:

Karl Dorshimer
Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority
1000 S. Washington Avenue, Suite 201
Lansing MI 48910
(517) 702-3387 x210
e-mail: karl@purelansing.com

CP#14_116

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ARTS & CULTURE

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Blue material

Williamston artist's sculpture sparks orgy of debate in sleepy college town

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Williamston sculptor Mark Chatterley's primordial, rough-skinned ceramic figures inhabit private homes, galleries and public squares, from New York to South Korea. Last week, a cozy clinch of Chatterley's "blue people" fired up a small revolution closer to home, in the mid-size town of Adrian, about 60 miles southeast of Lansing.

"It's the first time we've ever had a big discussion about art in this community," said Garin Horner, professor of art and design at Adrian College. "Adrian was destined to cross this bridge. I'm happy it's happening."

The sculpture, "Blue Human Condition," went up April 21 as part of a public art program, the Adrian Art Discovery Trail,

"If I was doing wild monkey sex with these things, I would have nothing to stand on, but that's not what I'm doing."

— MARK CHATTERLEY, ARTIST

a 3-year-old program funded by private grants. Two days later, the cluster of faceless, sexless figures was covered with a blue tarp after city officials got complaints from people who thought it looked like an "orgy." The city announced that the sculpture would be removed, but backtracked in the face of public support for it. Monday afternoon, Adrian city administrator Shane Horn announced that the blue people would be moved to Yew Park, a small downtown park, some time Tuesday, "weather permitting."

The hornet's nest of buzz over Chatterley's sculpture came as a surprise to many, including the artist.

"I'm thrilled by the support from the art community," Chatterley said. "That alone is worth the whole problematic thing. People realize how ridiculous it is."

As soon as the blue people went under wraps, a groundswell of support for the sculpture swept the conservative town, including letters and calls to city officials, stacks of comments on a news website and an online "Save the Blue Humans" petition that garnered more than 600 signatures.

Chris Miller, Adrian's economic development coordinator, said the tide turned from "20 to 30" complaints about the sculpture to "overwhelmingly favorable" public support over the weekend.

"I think it's great," Chatterley said. "You've gotta love it. I had no idea this would be a controversial piece."

Chatterley would have liked to see the sculpture stay in its prime spot near the police department and the public library.

"The police building protected it," he said. "I don't want the same thing happening to it that happened in Lansing."

In June 2012, Chatterley's half-ton totem of stacked ceramic thinkers, "Meditation Tower," was smashed by vandals during its run as part of Lansing's Art by the River program. Miller said complaints focused on the Adrian sculpture's proximity to the library and high visibility to children. He thinks Yew Park, close to downtown but tucked among trees and buildings, is a good compromise.

"People still have every opportunity to appreciate the artwork," Miller said. "And people that don't want to see it won't have to."

Chatterley wasn't trying to be edgy. He said the sculpture is meant to show how people need to support one another.

"If I was doing wild monkey sex with these things, I would have nothing to stand on, but that's not what I'm doing," he said.

Chatterley took some flak four years ago



Photo by Alexandra Hammersley-Murray, Day Walker Designs of Adrian, Michigan

Mark Chatterley's sculpture "Blue Man Condition" caused controversy for its perceived lurid nature when it was unveiled in Adrian April 21.

for a sculpture at the Krasel Art Center in St. Joseph, but he said that sculpture was "more suggestive" than "Blue Human Condition."

"I'm used to working in big cities where galleries that handle my work know what to expect," Chatterley said. "I only run into this kind of thing when I put it outside in small towns in Michigan."

Since last week, when it looked as if the city of Adrian might get rid of the sculpture, Chatterley got invitations to bring it to three other cities. Three galleries have contacted him about doing shows. "Even though the whole thing has been blown out of proportion, it has been sort of fun," he said.

Adrian hosts Adrian College, Siena Heights University and a campus Jackson Community College — but Horner said the two worlds are "isolated" from each other.

"The sculpture controversy has served as a bridge from the colleges to the city, in a strange way," Horner said. "Now we feel like this is something we can engage with."

Chatterley has done workshops and exhibitions at Adrian College, but this was his first taste of real public exposure in the city.

"It's an interesting town," he said. "It'll take a while, but they're coming into their own. They're putting sculptures up around town and people are noticing, which is great."

Horner takes his students to Europe to show them how highly the arts are appreciated there. He pointed out that the city of Adrian is named after the Roman emperor Hadrian, but has a long way to go to catch up with the art-loving (let alone nudity-friendly) ways of past millennia.

"We're at the beginning of something and it's going to be an uphill battle," Horner said.

Chatterley launches a new exhibit of paintings and sculptures at Lansing Art Gallery on Friday. The show is called "Getting Dirty" (see page 22), but the title is no cause to rustle one's trench coat. It only refers to the ink splats and coffee spills that Chatterley sometimes exploits in his paintings.



City Pulse File Photo

Connxtions Comedy Club owner Frank Stevens closed his 29-year-old business this week.

Dis-Connxted

After 29 years, Lansing comedy club kills the spotlight

By ALLAN I. ROSS

Last weekend, stand-up comic Carlos Mencia took the stage at Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St. on Lansing's north side. Since the club opened in 1985, thousands of aspiring and professional comedians had stood in that exact spot under the club's spotlight — pre-"Home Improvement" Tim Allen, pre-"Tonight Show" Jay Leno, post-"Tom Green Show" Tom Green — but Mencia has a singular distinction among them: He was the last act that will ever perform there.

"Connxtions closed today," the club's manager Tina Hanson wrote on her Facebook wall Monday night. "Officially building is sold, not business & hopefully will reopen in fall."

Connxtions owner Frank Stevens confirmed the news in

a phone interview Tuesday. He wouldn't say who bought the building or what was planned for it; he had been leasing it from Lansing-based company Spartan Properties, but no one from Spartan returned calls for comment.

Stevens said Connxtions is simply down, not out.

"I definitely want to keep Connxtions going, but it could take some time," he said. Stevens bought the Lansing bowling alley that would become Connxtions in 1979. He first turned it into a nightclub before transforming it into a comedy club. He didn't say when he sold it and became a lessee, but an online real estate site said the 14,667-square-foot building was refinanced in 2004. The same site said it was assessed for \$199,900 in 2012.

Stevens wouldn't say how long he knew about the impending sale, but employees were alerted by email on Monday that Connxtions had closed.

"It's just a matter of someone wanting the building before I found new place for the business," Stevens said. "The timing kind of sucks."

Afterimage

Open house pays tribute to beloved LCC photography professor

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Longtime Lansing Community College photography Professor Steve Beck was famous for being easygoing, but there's one thing he hated to hear: "I'll fix that in post." Beck's directive, "do it in the camera now," went beyond technical advice to become a

life lesson for hundreds of students. Like a frosty spider web poised to melt at sunrise, life gives you one exposure at best.

LCC's photography guru from 1975 to 2008 died at 67 on Feb. 13.

2nd Annual John Bean Creative Community Open House

5-9 p.m. Friday, May 2
John Bean Building
1305 S. Cedar St., Lansing
FREE
facebook.com/
johnbeancreativecommunity

Many of his devoted, far-flung students pay tribute with an exhibit of prints inspired by Beck at Lansing's John Bean building Friday.

"He was the king," Lansing photographer and former Beck student Kurt Gordon said. "Nobody held a candle to him."

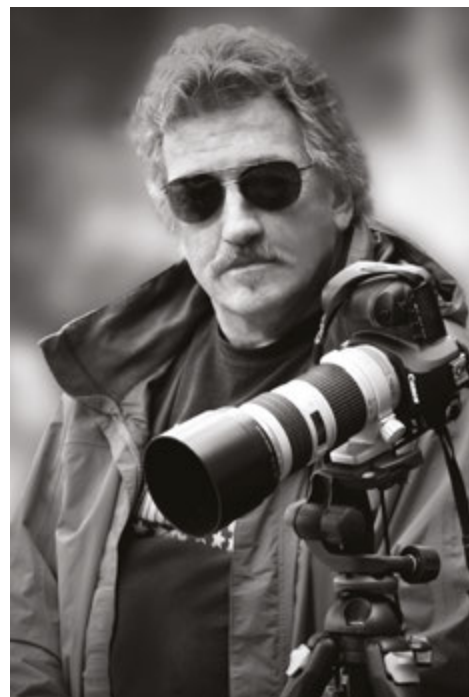
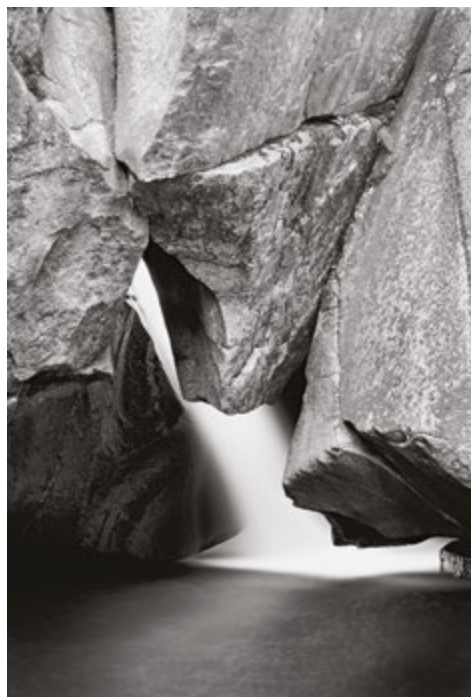
The second-floor display of photography by Beck's academic progeny is part of the second annual open house at the hulking 500,000-square-foot building. Built in 1936 as a warehouse, it's an eclectic warren of businesses and artist studios, including several photographers trained by Beck.

This time last year, Beck was battling cancer, but he came to the first John Bean open house to kibitz. More than 200 people showed up and more are expected this year.

"Everybody was in awe: 'Steve's here,'" photographer Monique Goch said.

Beck was tickled to see many of his former students ensconced in professional studios.

"I knew you'd have your own studio some day," Beck told Goch, who took his rule of doing it right "in the camera" to heart in more ways than one. Before digital photography, lazy students tried to cover their mistakes in the darkroom. Later, they counted on digi-



Left: Steve Beck; right, © 2010 John Lang

LCC photography professor Steve Beck (right), who died in February, will be honored at the John Bean Open House on Friday. His work, such as "Agassiz Basin New Hampshire," (left) was based on the fundamentals of photography.

tal wizardry to bail them out. Beck would have none of that. He pushed his students to get the exposure right when it counted most, behind the camera, or crucial details would be lost forever.

"I'm a nut about proper exposure, and I learned it from him," Goch said. "Don't blow out your highlight. Expose for shadow."

After taking classes with Beck, Goch decided not to wait for post to get her life right, either. After selling insurance for 20 years, she retired and went into photography full time.

"I felt like I wanted to live authentically, and that principle was inspired by people like Steve," she said.

Lansing photographer Tom Gennara was an LCC student from 1979 to 1981, the heyday of Beck's freewheeling field trips.

In 1979, Beck piled Gennara and seven other students into a van for a camping and photography trip out West, hitting Arches National Park, the Tetons and Yellowstone. The next year, he took the students to New

England, stopping at his parents' house in New Hampshire.

"We had an eclectic mix of people at close quarters, but we had a blast," Gennara said. Blues, country and folk music, especially Willie Nelson's "On the Road Again," rolled continuously with the wheels. Beck, a fine guitar player, loved music as much as he loved photography.

In the classroom and in the field, Beck taught his students to take care at every step, from exposure to final print.

"He taught us that everything in the image mattered, not just the focal point," said Gordon, one of the tribute's co-organizers. "He was so accurate and precise in his instructions that if you just listened in his class, you'd learn. You didn't have to look at books. He was just that good."

Gennara said he saw Beck angry "once or twice," but never at a student and only when LCC's administrative politics got in the way of his students' goals.

"It didn't matter how bad your image was,

he was able to correct you without bringing you down," Gordon said. "You walked out laughing about your mistakes."

Last year, when it was clear that Beck was battling serious illness, Gordon put together a series of lunches reuniting Beck with former students. Gordon put out the call for one last lunch at Tripper's in early February, just before Beck died. More than 20 former students from around the country came to talk about art and life and thank Beck for all he'd done for them.

"He meant a lot to a bunch of us," Gordon said.

About 15 of Beck's former students from the early '80s to his retirement in 2007 have contributed prints to Friday's tribute. Most of the photographers still live in the area, but some are sending work from Oregon and Georgia. The artists donated the prints, which Gennara said would be "affordably" priced. The proceeds will go to charities favored by Beck: The Capital Area Humane Society, the American Cancer Society and the Littleton Studio School Scholarship Fund in New Hampshire. (During his LCC years, Beck often summured in his native Bethlehem, N.H., and was an advocate for the arts there.)

Gordon's contribution is a large fiber-based print of a covered bridge near Lowell in Ionia County. It seems like an idiot-proof subject, but Beck urged his students to reach beyond the obvious calendar shot.

"He'd tell us to lay on the ground, go to the top of the parking ramp, take a different perspective," Gordon recalled. "Don't just stand there and take the picture."

Instead of sitting pretty, Gordon's covered bridge scene makes the eye want to explore further.

"My image was totally influenced by Steve," he said. "The shadows of the branches across the road in front, the angle of the road — it's not a straight shot."

Goch's contribution to Friday's tribute is a moody nature study Beck would have loved: fog rolling in over Lake Charlevoix. It's the kind of picture that makes you think of what isn't there, along with what is.

"It was in the middle of summer, but when the fog rolled in, it suddenly looked like fall," Goch said. "It's very lonely image."

Dropping the other Hsu

Young pianist brings mature skills to Lansing Symphony season finale

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Andrew Hsu hasn't touched Robert Schumann's epic concerto since he performed it seven years ago with the Oakland Symphony, but the guest soloist at tonight's Lansing Symphony season finale will revisit the piece with the mature soul of a man deep in his advanced teenage years. Did I mention that Hsu is only 19?

"There are only so many things a 12-year-old can think of," Hsu conceded.

Hsu is a throwback to the days of Beethoven, Mozart, Liszt and Rachmaninoff, when performers were also composers. He has written dozens of art songs and chamber works and loves to improvise at the piano. The combination intrigues Lansing Symphony maestro Timothy Muffitt.

"He's performing great masterworks, like Schumann, but also writing new music from this generation," Muffitt said. "He has a really interesting profile and I'm excited to be working on this piece with him."

Hsu comes to Lansing by arrangement with Kalamazoo's heavyweight Gilmore Keyboard Festival. Each year, the Lansing Symphony showcases a Gilmore Young



Courtesy Photo

Andrew Hsu has written dozens of art songs and chamber works and loves to improvise at the piano. The 19-year-old plays with the Lansing Symphony tonight.

Artist, a title bestowed on America's most promising pianists 22 or younger.

Hsu's nickname at Philadelphia's pres-

tigious Curtis Institute, where he studies piano and composition, happens to be



City Pulse File Photo

Maestro Timothy Muffitt closes the LSO season with a piano concerto.

Symphony

from page 9

"Schumann," not only because he plays the moody Romantic genius' music like a man possessed, but also because "Hsu" is pronounced "shoe."

A lot of classical pianists are glorified stenographers of other people's ideas, but Hsu probes Schumann's shifting moods with the insight of a performer-composer.

"[The Schumann concerto] was originally a fantasy for piano and orchestra, and it's very improvisational," Hsu said. "It passes through all these changes in blinks of light."

The challenge, he said, is to hold it all together.

"It's difficult to make sure you create a single narrative, not 20."

Performing and composing have gone hand in hand for Hsu since he started playing piano at 7.

"I had a knack for playing around on the keyboard, recomposing over pieces I was supposed to practice," he said. His parents wisely decided to go with the flow and started him on composition lessons at age 9.

"I always saw myself as a composer-pianist and I can't separate the two parts of my personality," he said. "Separation of composition and performance is a recent novelty that shouldn't have happened anyway."

Hsu voraciously reads poetry, combing every collection for texts he can set to music. He considers himself mainly a vocal composer, influenced by the legacy of American legends (and fellow Curtis grads) Ned Rorem and Samuel Barber. He's working on a cycle of songs based on poems by American poet Sara Teasdale, who committed suicide at 33.

"It's innocent, romantic poetry, very songful and good to set to music," he said.

By contrast, Hsu said his instrumental music is more "abstract and gestural," influenced by 20th-century modernists like Messiaen, Berg and Webern. He also loves jazz pianist Keith Jarrett. (They also have teacher in common: Curtis' legendary Eleanor Sokoloff.)

Hsu would like to be a modern-day Franz Liszt, not only by performing and writing music, but also by turning people on to other composers' works. That's a little-remembered service Liszt performed back in the 19th century, before radio, records or YouTube, when many people who wouldn't

have heard Beethoven's symphonies were exposed to them via Liszt's famous piano transcriptions.

Hsu feels wants to do the same with today's art music.

"Modern contemporary music is greatly misunderstood," he said. "What is going on in these young composers' minds? That's something I'm fascinated with, being one of them myself."

"Rainbow Body," the first work on tonight's slate, is a poster child for new music and has one of the most performed orchestral works of the tender 21st century.

"It was written in 2000 and stands alone," Muffitt said. "There has never been anything quite like it. It's incredibly uplifting. Every time I do it, people ask me when I'm going to do it again."

The music is new, but it summons up an ancient feeling that moves audiences deeply. One section of the orchestra plays a note and hangs onto it while another section moves to the next note, creating an uncanny, cathedral-like set of reverberations.

"You get this built-in sustain, this resonance built into the music, and that's a stunning effect," Muffitt said.

For a fitting season closer, Muffitt chose Johannes Brahms' Fourth Symphony, a vast and rich tapestry of gorgeous harmonies, textures and melodies unparalleled in all of music.

"I like Schumann/Brahms pairings in concerts," Muffitt said. "They always work well together for many reasons." It doesn't hurt to have the famous soap opera involving Schumann and Brahms (they both loved Clara Schumann) bubbling in the background.

For Muffitt, Brahms' Fourth is as good as his job gets, but cracking the score can be a little intimidating.

"It's as though someone had given you the 'Mona Lisa' to take care of for the weekend," he said. "Then, in the process of studying it, you realize that Brahms created a close connection between himself and the performer, even between the centuries. He's very clear in his scores about how they should unfold."

The problem is knowing what to do with yourself when the symphony is over. It seems silly to kill yourself, especially when the LSO is about to announce its 2014-'15 season. Nothing at all is a good option; lighting up a Cuban cigar on an Alpine crag is a distant second.

"There's little to say after Brahms' Fourth," Muffitt said. "That's for sure."

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Loving on 'Lucy' and cellos

Wharton announces full 2014-'15 schedule

By CITY PULSE STAFF

Last week, the Wharton Center unveiled the remainder of its 2014-'15 schedule. Earlier this month, it announced the first part of its slate, which includes powerhouse shows such as multiple Tony winner "Kinky Boots" and violin virtuoso Itzhak Perlman. The new announcement included a mix of Broadway hits, symphony performances and a peek behind the curtain of the mother of all TV sitcoms.

"The Phantom of the Opera" makes its fourth tour through town April 1-12, with new elements incorporating cutting edge technology and special effects. "Pippin," the Tony Award-winner for best musical revival, springboards across the stage Jan. 27-Feb. 1, featuring Cirque de Soleil-style performances incorporated into the story of Charlemagne's son, who finds himself in an existential quandary.

Ever want to see how an old-school TV sitcom was made? "I Love Lucy — Live on Stage" (Feb. 13-15) is a re-creation of the live-studio-audience taping of two classic episodes of "I Love Lucy."

"When you come in the audience, it's like coming into a TV studio," said Wharton spokesman Bob Hoffman. "The stage manager talks to you, you react to signs and there will be live commercials. It's hilarious, and uncanny how well they play these charac-

ters." Another audience participation event is **The Blue Man Group**, which blasts into Wharton for five performances Jan. 16-18.

The **Worldview Lecture Series** features NPR's **Michelle Norris** (Sept. 15), whose recent memoir discusses her experiences being an African American woman in the media world. Pulitzer Prize-winning author, actor and teacher **Anna Deavere Smith** (Nov. 10) will discuss her work, and **Susan Cain** (March 2) will discuss the power of introverts.

The **Doctors Company Variety Series** includes a return appearance by **David Sedaris** (Oct. 26), who's been through Wharton twice before. This appearance will combine elements of stand-up, stories, interactions with audiences and readings.

"Every time he comes through, audiences love him," Hoffman said. "He's insightful, scathing and hilariously funny."

Keeping with the NPR angle, **Ira Glass**, host of "This American Life," has conceived a novel show where dancers interpret his readings into creative movement (April 18). **Dancing Pros Live** (Nov. 15) features two professionals from ABC's "Dancing With the Stars" competing with each live on stage, hosted by Alan Thicke. And '70s mime/puppet group **Mummenschanz** introduces its wordless, otherworldly performance art to 21st century audiences March 25. **Mannheim Steamroller** rolls into Wharton as part of its 30th anniversary celebration Dec. 3.

Those boards were meant for pounding, too. David Mamet's **"A Life in the Theatre"** (Feb. 11-12) is a dramatic theater take on "A Star is Born," as a young actor surpasses his mentor. The **Reduced Shakespeare Co.**



Courtesy Photo

The Wharton Center announced its complete 2014-'15 season last week, which includes last year's Tony winner for Best Musical Revival, "Pippin."

covers the evolution of humor from amebas through Jimmy Fallon on "The Tonight Show" in **"The Complete History of Comedy (abridged)"** on March 19.

"And if anything new happens between now and then, it's incorporated too," Hoffman said. "These guys are funny."

On the jazz side, fiery Cuban trumpeter-composer **Arturo Sandoval** will hit the Great Hall with his sizzling big band Nov. 14. A grand assemblage of **"New Orleans Jazz Legends"** featuring the Preservation Hall Jazz Band and Allen Toussaint arrives Oct. 8.

Wharton will host **Cécile McLorin Salvant**, a young vocal sensation in the vein of gypsy-tinged singer Cyrille Aimee, on April 29. Local jazz lovers will get to sample Sal-

vant's spellbinding vocal style at this June's East Lansing Summer Solstice Jazz Festival.

On the classical side, the **Moscow State Symphony Orchestra** with Pavel Kogan conducting, will tackle the monumental Fifth Symphony of Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich Nov. 9.

The head-banging, hair-flinging electrified cello duo called **2Cellos** (Luka Sulic and Stjepan Hauser) will give the classical folks a bracing dose of intense rock, pop, and pumped-up classical beats on March 27.

Tickets are on sale to Wharton subscribers, with package deals that offer up to 30 percent off for five performing arts attractions or Broadway shows. Individual tickets go on sale in late summer. For more information, go to whartoncenter.com.

CROWDSOURCING

A GUIDE TO LANSING-AREA ONLINE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS

Crowdsourcing is a new City Pulse occasional feature that will highlight local crowdsourcing campaigns. To find the events, go to the designated website and search by title.

Crowdsource surfing

Raising zombies, dodging gluten and fighting cancer

By ALEXANDRA HARAKAS

Crowdsourcing websites like Kickstarter, Indiegogo and GiveForward give local artists, entrepreneurs and charities extensive access to dollars that can help complete projects, fund business startups and pay hospital bills.

'Back From the Grave' (kickstarter.com)

Holt native Jeremy Hull and a team of aspiring filmmakers have started a \$50,000 campaign on Kickstarter to finance "Back from the Grave," a film that puts a comedic spin on cheesy '80s horror movies. It follows a teenager who returns from the dead to reunite with his ex-girlfriend.

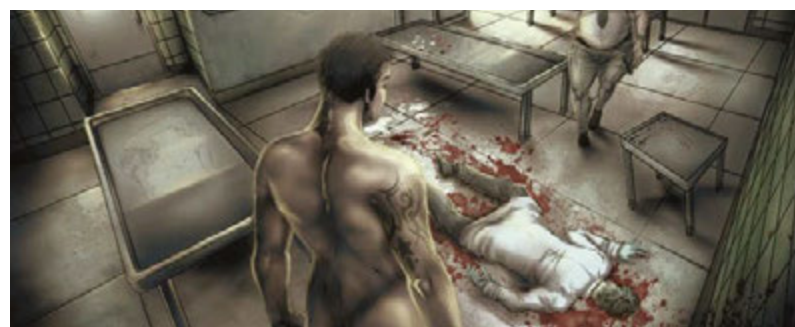
"It's designed to be a fun adventure and to

break the cliché of gruesome and gritty horror films you see these days," said Hull, the project's co-producer and writer. "Having a relatable theme is what makes great storytelling."

The film will be shot in Eaton Rapids this September. Hull said the small town feel and quiet nature of the area will allow them to manipulate the setting to look like the '80s. Hull said that since the project launched last week, it's already attracted donors from as far away as the U.K. However, he expects that the majority of funding to come from local sources.

Gluten Free Rox (kickstarter.com)

Gluten-free is hot lately, and Bath Township baker Roxanne Andrews is looking to maximize on that trend. She's a baker who sells wheat- and flour-free baked goods at Michigan farmers markets. She's hoping to raise \$2,500 by May 13 to start a company called Gluten Free Rox. Money will go toward supplies and ingredients in



Concept art by Megan Scott

Concept art from "Back from the Dead," a spoof of '80s horror movies that has a Kickstarter campaign.

bulk to begin distribution.

Linda Abar (gofundme.com)

Teacher and vocal performer Linda Abar has a benign tumor in her neck that's affecting her ability to sing. Funds are being collected to assist Abar as she pursues surgery options.

Jason Gooley (giveforward.com)

The family of Grand Ledge police officer Jason Gooley has started a campaign to raise money that will help him as he battles with cancer. Gooley has not been able to work because of the pain from his treatment; he is working with the Pain Management Center at Sparrow Hospital. The Gooley family wants to raise \$5,000 to cover his treatments and any incidental costs. They've raised about \$4,000 of that amount.

Mission accomplished

Projects that have been successfully funded in the area extend throughout a wide range of genres. Casey Sorrow of Lansing more than doubled his goal of \$1,600 for his project of "An Illustrated Bestiary of Fantastic Creatures." He raised \$3,945 to develop books comprising his drawings of a variety of mythical creatures intended for role playing games.

Another successful project came from Micah Ling, a musician from Lansing. She pledged a goal of \$6,500 to record an album of original, traditional music. She was able to more than meet her goal by raising \$7,372.

If you have a crowdsourcing event to promote, send a link and a short description to allan@lansingcitypulse.com.



THE HOME STRETCH



TOP OF THE TOWN AWARDS ENTERS FINAL FIVE ROUND

By **ALLAN I. ROSS**

“It was an honor just being nominated.”

That, traditionally, is what the losers say from the wings through clenched teeth and barely concealed contempt. But in the case of the **City Pulse/News 6/MLive Lansing Top of the Town Awards**, a nomination is a significant distinction all its own. Every name you see on the next 11 pages is a tribute to the best of everything that makes the Capital city so ... capital, from Grand Ledge to Williamston, and from DeWitt to Dimondale.

It's all in fun; there's no cash prize, just bragging rights. If life is a competitive foot race, consider the Top of the Town Awards a downhill stretch with a cool back breeze.

The only two themes tying the contenders together are geography and all-around awesomeness. **Contestants are pitted against each other in 88 categories:** Politicians are up against politicians. Comedians against comedians. Marijuana strains versus marijuana strains. Only in the Top of the Town Awards could the same name appear in all three categories.

Never before has Lansing been celebrated in such diversity. Or levity.

Round 1, which launched March 19, narrowed the field down. **Over 10,000 of you voted for the best in local dining, arts, entertainment, retail and politics, and now you get to vote again.** Starting today, Round 2 takes the contest into its final

leg, where the true winner will emerge May 21.

We asked you to vote for your favorite [fill in the blanks] and then we did the math. The list was winnowed down to a lean five contenders in each category, and now we want you to vote for a winner. (Sometimes there weren't enough vote-getters to warrant a top five; sometimes a tie resulted in six nominees — just in case you're wondering.) Only one can cross that finish line first.

Several upgrades from last year include new categories and new ways to vote. **This year, for the first time, you can vote from your smart phone using the new free City Pulse app, The Pulse.** It's easily downloadable from your favorite mobile app store. **Or if you want to vote the old fashioned way, you can go to lansingcitypulse.com/finalfive.** Additionally, votes from the first round carry over

this year, giving you a second chance to cast a ballot for your favorite band, burger or bookstore.

We're not playing favorites with those bold-faced entries; those businesses are members of **Capital Area Local First**, a nonprofit group dedicated to advancing locally owned establishments. It's no mystery: buying local is good for the local economy, good for your community and good for the environment.

So take a gander at the people, places and businesses on the following pages and know they wouldn't be here without the acclaim of the people who put them there. And only the people —that's you — can pick a champion.

Let the voting begin.



2014 CITY PULSE/NEWS 6/MLIVE LANSING
TOP OF THE TOWN AWARDS
VOTE NOW AT LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM/FINALFIVE

Artwork by Craig Horkey

SEE PAGE 14
FOR THE **FINAL FIVE NOMINEES**



Thank You for Voting
Soup Spoon Café

in the Final Five
of the Top of the Town Awards

VOTE FOR US TODAY!
lansingcitypulse.com/tott2014

Best Cocktails • Best Diner • Best Bartender (Kevin Angell)
Best Chili • Best Gourmet Restaurant • Best Restaurant Staff
Best Sandwich/Deli • Best Vegetarian/Vegan • Best Breakfast

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FINAL FIVE NOMINEES! VOTE NOW AT LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM/FINALFIVE



2014
TOP OF THE TOWN
FINAL FIVE
NOMINEES

List is in alphabetic order. **Bold nominees marked with (*)** are members of Capital Area Local First. For more information, see page 3.

- BEST SHOPPING ANTIQUE SHOP**
- Antiques Market (Williamston)
 - Lambs Gate Antiques
 - Love, Betti
 - Mason Antique District
 - Mega Mall
- ART GALLERY**
- Absolute Gallery
 - Broad Museum
 - Creole Gallery
 - Lansing Art Gallery
 - **Saper Gallery***
- BOOKSTORE**
- Barnes & Noble (Lansing Mall)
 - Bestsellers (Mason)
 - Curious Book
- Shop**
- Schuler Books & Music (Eastwood)
 - Schuler Books & Music (Meridian Mall)
- BUTCHER**
- Goodrich's Shoprite
 - Horrock's
 - Merindorf Meats (Mason)
 - Merindorf Meats (Williamston)
 - Mert's Meats
- CLOTHING STORE**
- DEFYE Clothing
 - Grace Boutique
 - Kohl's
 - Maurice's (Meridian Mall)
 - Younker's
- CONSIGNMENT SHOP**
- Goodwill Emporium
 - Kellie's Consignments
 - Plato's Closet
 - Plush Consignments
 - Second Time Around
- CONVENIENCE/ LIQUOR STORE**
- Big Ten Party Store (Holt)
 - Big Ten Party Store (East Lansing)
 - Oades Big Ten Party Store (Clippert St.)
 - Quality Dairy
 - Tom's Party Store
- FLORIST**
- BA Florist
 - Bancroft Flowers
- INDOOR GROW STORE**
- Capital City Grower Supply
 - Greener Planet
 - H2O Hydroponics (Okemos)
 - Horizen Hydroponics
 - Hydroworld
- JEWELRY STORE**
- Becky Beauchane Kulka
 - H&H Jewelry Design
 - Kay's Jewelry
 - Medawar Jewelers (West)
 - Medawar Jewelers (Frondor)
- LOCAL GROCERY STORE**
- D&W Fresh
- Horrocks**
- Smith Floral
 - Tallulah's Folly


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See Final Five, Page 15

Final Five

from page 14

- Market**
(Williamston)
- East Lansing Food Co-op*
 - Foods for Living
 - Goodrich's Shop-Rite
 - Horrock's

- MUSICAL INSTRUMENT STORE**
- Elderly Instruments
 - Guitar Center
 - Marshall Music
 - Meridian Winds
 - Music Manor

- PET STORE**
- Capital Area Humane Society
 - Pet Supplies Plus
 - PetSmart
 - Preuss Pets
 - Soldan's

- PRODUCE/FARMERS MARKET**
- Allen St. Farmers Market*
 - East Lansing Farmers Market
 - Horrock's Farm Market
 - Lansing City Market
 - Meridian Township Farmers Market

- VINYL RECORD STORE**
- Dicker & Deal
 - Flat, Black & Circular
 - Record Lounge
 - Replay Entertainment Exchange
 - Schuler Books & Music (Eastwood)

- WINE SHOP**
- Dusty's Cellar
 - Goodrich's Shop-Rite
 - Horrock's
 - Vine & Brew
 - World Market

- BEST WHATEVER ANNUAL FESTIVAL/ EVENT**
- Be A Tourist In Your Own Town
 - Common Ground Music Festival
 - East Lansing Art Festival
 - Old Town BluesFest
 - Festival of the Sun & Moon

- BEST NIGHT OUT**
- Connxtions Comedy Club
 - Downtown Lansing
 - Lugnuts Game
 - Painting With A Twist
 - Zoobie's Old Town Tavern*

- BEST LOCAL THEATRE GROUP**
- Lansing Community College
 - MSU Theatre Dept.
 - Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.
 - Riverwalk Theatre
 - Williamston Theatre

- BEST MARIJUANA STRAIN**
- Blue Cheese
 - Blueberry Kush
 - Danny Trevino
 - Headband
 - Virg Bernero

- PLACE TO TAKE OUT-OF-TOWNERS (TIE)**
- Broad Art Museum
 - Connxtions Comedy Club
 - Golden Harvest
 - Lugnuts Game
 - MSU Campus
 - Old Town

- BEST PEOPLE BEST BARTENDER**
- Cattie Jensen (The Avenue)
 - Craig Doepker (Mac's Bar)
 - Kevin Angell (Soup Spoon Café*)
 - Rocky Gray (Ledges Sports Bar & Grill)
 - Sami Hutting (Watershed Tavern & Grill)

- BEST LOCAL POLITICIAN**
- Barbara Byrum
 - Gretchen Whitmer
 - Mike Rogers
 - Rick Snyder
 - Virg Bernero

- BEST CAR SALEPERSON**
- Brent Wesley (Shaheen Chevrolet)
 - Dennis Lemon (Shaheen Chevrolet)
 - Dorene Fuller (Grand Ledge Ford)
 - Jimmy Johnson (Sundance Chevrolet)
 - Nick Cypher (Sundance Chevrolet)

- BEST ENVIRONMENTALIST**
- Cecilia "Chica" Garcia
 - Denis Laidler (Potter Park Zoo)
 - Jessica Yorke
 - Julie Powers
 - Nature Conservatory of Michigan

- BEST LOCAL COMEDIAN**
- Dan Currie
 - Dwayne Gill
 - Evan Pinsonnault
 - Jason Carlen
 - Melik Brown

- LOCAL FM/ AM RADIO PERSONALITY**
- Alabama (97.5 NOWFM)
 - Banana Don & Stephanie (100.7 WITL)
 - Deb Hart (94.9 WMMQ)
 - Josh Strickland (97.5 NOW FM)
 - Tim Barron (92.9 WLMI)

- LOCAL TV NEWS PERSONALITY**
- Andy Provenzano (WILX)
 - Evan Pinsonnault (WLNS)
 - Jake Dunne (WLNS)
 - Jane Aldrich (WLNS)
 - Jason Colthorp (WILX)

- WORST LOCAL POLITICIAN**
- Carol Wood
 - Mike Rogers
 - Rick Jones
 - Rick Snyder
 - Virg Bernero

- BEST DINING ASIAN CUISINE**
- Al Fusion
 - Maru
 - P.F. Chang's China Bistro
 - Sansu
 - Ukai Japanese Hibachi & Sushi

- BBQ**
- Backyard BarBQ
 - Famous Dave's
 - Meat. Southern BBQ & Carnivore Cuisine
 - Smokey Bones
 - Wacousta General Store

- BAKERY**
- Bake 'N Cakes*
 - Great Harvest Bread Co.
 - Roma Bakery

See Final Five, Page 16

Thank you
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JULY 11 BIG SEAN
JUICY J & MORE

JULY 12 FITZ & THE TANTRUMS
DR. DOG, DALE EARNHARDT JR JR & MORE

JULY 13 EARTH WIND & FIRE
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2014 CITY PULSE/NEWS 6/MLIVE LANSING
TOP OF THE TOWN CONTEST FINAL FIVE NOMINEES!
VOTE NOW AT LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM/FINALFIVE

Final Five

from page 15

- Sugar Shack
- Sweetie-licious

BREAKFAST

- Bob Evans
- Flap Jack Restaurants
- Fleetwood Diner
- Golden Harvest
- **Soup Spoon Café***

LANSING-AREA BREWERY

- BAD Brewing Company
- Eagle Monk
- Harper's Restaurant and Brewpub
- Midtown Brewing Company

BURGER

- Bagger Dave's
- Crunchy's
- Dagwood's Tavern & Grill
- Five Guys

- Burgers and Fries
- Red Robin

CHILI (TIE)

- Beggar's Banquet
- Buddie's Pub & Grill
- Dagwood's Tavern & Grill
- Meat. Southern BBQ & Carnivore Cuisine
- **Soup Spoon Café***
- Wendy's

COCKTAILS

- Applebee's
- The Exchange
- **Soup Spoon Café***
- Watershed Tavern & Grill
- **Zoobie's Old Town Tavern***

CRAFT BEER SELECTION

- Crunchy's

- Harry's Place
- Hopcat
- **Taps 25***
- **Zoobie's Old Town Tavern***

DESSERT

- Bake 'N Cakes
- Cold Stone Creamery
- Grand Traverse Pie Co.
- MSU Dairy Store
- Sugar Shack

DINER

- Fleetwood Diner
- Fork in the Road
- Golden Harvest
- **Soup Spoon Café***
- Theio's

FARM TO TABLE (LOCAL PRODUCTS)

- Dewitt Farmers Market
- Fork in the Road
- Horrock's
- Lansing City Market
- Red Haven

FRIES

- Dagwood's Tavern & Grill
- Five Guys Burgers & Fries
- Hopcat
- McDonald's
- Red Robin

GOURMET RESTAURANT

- Capital Prime Steaks & Seafood
- Dusty's Cellar
- English Inn
- Red Haven
- **Soup Spoon Café***

INDIAN

- Jerusalem Bakery
- Myanmar Family Restaurant
- Persis Indian Grill
- Sindhu Indian Cuisine
- Swagath Indian Cuisine

ITALIAN

- Bravo!
- Carrabba's Italian Grill

- Cugino's
- Deluca's Restaurant
- Emil's

MEDITERRANEAN

- Aladdin's
- Embassy Grill
- Sultan's Place
- Woody's Oasis
- Zaytoon Mediterranean

MEXICAN

- Cancun Mexican Grill
- El Azteco
- El Oasis
- Los Tres Amigos
- Pablo's Panderia

NEW RESTAURANT

- Capital Prime Steaks and Seafood
- Famous Dave's
- Hopcat
- Tom and Chee

- Zaytoon's Mediterranean

PIZZA

- Arts Bar and Grill
- Cugino's
- Deluca's Restaurant
- Jet's Pizza
- Pizza House

RESTAURANT WAIT STAFF

- Applebees
- Golden Harvest
- **Soup Spoon Café***
- Texas Roadhouse
- Watershed Tavern & Grill

SANDWICH/DELI

- Big John's Steak and Onion
- **Jersey Giant***
- Jimmy John's
- McAllister's Deli
- **Soup Spoon**

Café*

SEAFOOD

- Al Fusion
- Blue Gill Grill
- Maru Sushi
- Mitchell's Fish Market
- Red Lobster

STEAK

- Capital Prime Steaks and Seafood
- Knight Cap
- Outback Steakhouse (Okemos)
- Outback Steakhouse (West Side)
- Texas Roadhouse

SUSHI

- Al Fusion Sushi & Grill
- Maru (Lake

- Lansing)
- Maru (Okemos)
- SanSu Sushi
- Ukai Japanese Steakhouse

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN/GLUTEN FREE (TIE)

- Better Health Café
- Fork in the Road
- Golden Harvest
- LEAF
- **Soup Spoon Café***
- Woody's Oasis

BEST LOCAL MUSIC

BEST LOCAL SOLO ARTIST

- Jen Sygit
- Jimi Kanklez
- Phil Denny
- Taylor Taylor
- WardSkillz

See Final Five, Page 17



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UNIVERSITY
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Building Dreams Together

Final Five

from page 16

CLUB DJ

- Craig Doecker
- DJ Donnie D
- DJ James
- DJ Leeky
- Skitzo

RADIO STATION

- 88.9 The Impact
- 94.1 The Edge
- 96.5 Power FM
- 97.5 NOW FM
- 100.7 WITL

COVER BAND

- Global Village
- Kathy Ford Band
- Showdown
- Soulstice
- Starfarm

ORIGINAL BAND

- Devereux
- The Devil's Cut
- Frog & the Beeftones
- Root Doctor

- Steppin In It

BEST HANGOUTS

BEST SPARTAN SPORTS HANGOUTS

- Buffalo Wild Wings (East Lansing)
- Buffalo Wild Wing's (Lansing)
- Crunchy's
- Reno's East
- Spartan Hall of Fame Café

COFFEE SHOP

- Avenue Café
- Biggby (Holt)
- Biggby (Okemos)
- Decker's Coffee Company
- Grand River Coffee Café

CHURCH (TIE)

- Cristo Rey
- Mount Hope Church

- Riverview
- St. John Student Parish
- Trinity Church
- Unitarian Universalist

DANCE BAR

- Dublin Square
- Green Door
- Harem Urban Lounge
- Spiral Dance Bar
- Whiskey Barrel

GAY/LESBIAN BAR

- Esquire Bar
- Preston's Bar
- Sir Pizza Grand Café
- Spiral Dance Bar
- **Zoobie's Old Town Tavern***

KARAOKE

- Buddies Pub & Grill (Okemos)
- Crunchy's
- Ledges Sports Bar & Grill
- Leroy's Classic Bar & Grill
- Sir Pizza Grand Café

MOVIE THEATER

- Celebration! Cinema
- Goodrich Lansing Mall 6
- NCG Cinemas
- Studio C!
- Sun Theater (Grand Ledge)

MUSIC VENUE

- Avenue Café
- Breslin Center
- Green Door
- The Loft
- Mac's Bar

OPEN-MIC NIGHT

- Comedy Night at The Green Door
- Connxtions Comedy Club
- Dagwood's Tavern & Grill
- Mac's Monday Comedy Night
- Sir Pizza Grand Café

PATIO

- Blue Gill Grill
- El Azteco (East Lansing)

See Final Five, Page 18



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- Best **Burger**
- Best **Chili**
- Best **Fries**
- Best **Open Mic Night**
- Best **Pub/Tavern**

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Final Five

from page 17

- Peanut Barrel
- Reno's West
- Waterfront Bar & Grill

PUB/TAVERN

- Claddagh Irish Pub
- Crunchy's
- Dagwoods Bar & Grill
- Watershed Tavern & Grill
- Zoobie's Old Town Tavern*

SPORTS BAR

- Buffalo Wild Wing's (East Lansing)
- Buffalo Wild Wings (W. Saginaw)
- Champps
- Reno's East
- Reno's West

BEST SERVICES

ALTERNATIVE HEALTH

- Alive – Charlotte
- Creative Wellness Holistic Health Center
- East Lansing Hot Yoga
- Hilltop Yoga
- Just B Yoga

AUTO REPAIR

- A & J

- Transmission
- Brogan's Tire & Auto Service
- Frankie D's Auto and Truck Repair
- Mike's Auto Care
- Shaheen Chevrolet

BANK/CREDIT UNION

- C.A.S.E
- Chase
- LAFCU
- Lake Trust Credit Union
- MSU Federal Credit Union

BICYCLE SHOP

- Denny's Central
- Park Bicycles
- Holt Pro Cycle
- Riverfront Cycle
- SPIN Bicycle Shop
- Velocipede Peddler

CAR WASH/DETAILING

- Fast Eddie's (Holt)
- Fast Eddie's (West Side)
- Kwik Car Wash (Cedar)
- Showroom Shine (East Lansing)
- Soapy Joe's

ELECTRICAL

- B & D Electric
- Bohnet Electrical Co.
- BWL
- Capital City Electric Co.
- Consumers Energy

HOTEL/BED & BREAKFAST (TIE)

- Cozy Koi B & B
- English Inn
- Kellogg Center
- Marriott at University Place (East Lansing)
- Radisson Hotel
- Wild Goose Inn

LAUNDROMAT/DRY CLEANERS

- Baryames
- Holt Cleaners
- Maurer's
- Point Laundry
- Sunshine Laundromat (Frantor)

LAWYER

- Aaron Matthews
- Andrew Abood
- Doug Meeks
- Foster Swift Collins & Smith, P.C.
- Sinas Dramis Law Firm

MAID SERVICE

- Aunt JoJo's Cleaning Service
- Bee Clean

- Leeney's Cleaning Service
- Merry Maids
- Molly Maid of Lansing

MOVERS

- B & J Moving Storage
- EJ & Sons Moving Services
- Kingsley Moving Systems
- Two Men and a Truck
- U-Haul

PET CARE SERVICES

- AnnaBelle's Pet Station
- Miller Animal Clinic
- Patterson's
- Waverly Animal Hospital
- Wag'n Tails Pet Resort

PHOTOGRAPHER

- Autumn Luciano Photography
- Benjamin David
- Jena McShane Photography
- Jessica Cowles
- Natosha Cribbs Photography

PLUMBER (TIE)

- Applegate Heating & Plumbing
- Capital City Plumbing
- Fedewa Plumbing

See Final Five, Page 19

2014 CITY PULSE/NEWS 6/MLIVE LANSING
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 Best Pub/Tavern
 Best Bartender-Sami and
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Final Five

from page 18

- Hedlund Plumbing
- Meridian Plumbing
- Michigan Plumbing Sewer & Drain Cleaning

- Douglas J. (Okemos) Headroom Salon
- Matthew Ryan Salon
- Patrick's Salon & Spa

SALON/SPA/ BARBER SHOP

- Douglas J. Aveda Institute

TANNING SALON

- J2

- Pacific Tan
- Simple as 1,2,Tan
- Tanfaster South
- Tanzania

TATTOO PARLOR

- Eclectic Art Tattoo Gallery
- Fish Ladder Tattoo
- Liquid Tattoo
- Splash of Color
- Vivid Ink



Bold nominees marked with (*) are members of Capital Area Local First. For more information, see page 3.



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Schuler vs. Schuler

Chelsea Handler in Okemos, Christopher Moore in Eastwood on Saturday

By **BILL CASTANIER**

A funny thing happened on the way to the book signing. Chelsea Handler, comedian, author and late night talk show host, and Christopher Moore, author of 13 comedic

Chelsea Handler

2 p.m. Saturday, May 3
Schuler Books & Music-
Meridian Mall
1982 Grand River Ave.,
Okemos
(517) 349-8840

Christopher Moore

2 p.m. Saturday, May 3
Schuler Books & Music-
Eastwood
2820 Towne Center Blvd.,
Lansing Twp.
(517) 316-7495
schulerbooks.com

novels, have been scheduled for stops in the Lansing area on the same day and time — 2 p.m. Saturday — at both local Schuler Books & Music locations. Moore will speak and sign books at Eastwood Towne Center and

Handler will sign at Meridian Mall. Schuler is taking this literary meteor shower in stride and expects both events to be packed with standing room only for fans of these New York Times best-selling authors.

When Rhoda Wolff, manager of the Eastwood Schuler, took the call from Handler's handlers requesting the Saturday slot, she said there was no way she was about to tell them no. Knowing that Moore's folks had already booked Eastwood, she directed them to Okemos and the head-to-head was on. Both in-store appearances are ticketed events, free with a book purchase. Tickets allow a prime place in line.

Handler will most likely draw young women who enjoy her raw barroom humor, while Moore's audience will be probably consist of male readers who love his comic fantasy.

Moore cut his teeth on writing ribald humor about supernatural and absurdist fiction, including the "Love Story" trilogy

("Bloodsucking Fiends," "You Suck" and "Bite Me"), but in 2009 he got Shakespearean with "Fool," a comedic look at "King Lear" as told by the play's jester, Pocket. In his newest book, "The Serpent of Venice," Moore revisits Pocket, and puts him at the mercy of antagonists from other Shakespeare plays, with a dash of Edgar Allan Poe for good measure.

As the book opens, another crusade is about to begin. Although this is comic fantasy and not political satire, there are crossovers even a fool could not miss.

"The Venetians were the Halliburtons of their day," Moore said. "The parallels are not accidental coincidences. The Venetians made a fortune outfitting war."

He said you can "easily recognize" characters like Karl Rove and Sarah Palin in his work. No topic is sacred, not even the Pope. In one section, the fool's spouse asks him to visit Venice and intercede to stop the next "holy war," prompting this witty exchange:

"But lamb, sending a fool to the Pope — " "Oh, bugger the Pope!"

"I think he already has someone to do that."

Moore assures readers they do not have to have read Shakespeare to enjoy his books, but some knowledge of the Bard makes "Fool" and the "Serpent of Venice" more enjoyable. There are many codpiece jokes, sexual entanglements, gruesome deaths, ghosts and surprise parental revelations. As a fool, Pocket can say anything he wants, at anytime and to anyone — sort of like Handler. Also, like Handler, his sexual libido knows no bounds, and he beds a few "shagalicious princess."

Wolff said, "Chelsea Handler says things we all want to say, but can't get away with." In Handler's new travel memoir, "Uganda be Kidding Me," she packs up a bunch of like-



Courtesy Photo

On Saturday, comedian/author Chelsea Handler (left) and tongue-in-cheek supernatural author Christopher Moore make separate appearances at both local Schuler Books & Music locations; Handler at Meridian Mall, Moore at Eastwood Towne Center.

minded friends and toddles off on an African safari. This being Handler, the trip naturally descends into non-stop drinking, carousing and general bathroom humor. No animals were killed in writing this book; the only trophy is "the big man" Handler beds after being rejected by her tour guide.

The reader is rewarded with color photos of Handler and her friends, including one that showcases Handler's bare ass hanging out of the window of her Jeep. No, Handler wasn't mooning a lion; she just had to pee. She later contracts diarrhea and sullies her bikini in public.

Handler has been criticized for her use of racial humor, and she crosses the line several times in "Uganda": The group toasts the first black person they see, one chapter is titled "Mount a Negro" and when asked why she's going on an safari she replies, "I want to know where rappers' names come from."

Handler does counter with funny riffs on the Kardashian girls and cute quips about safari life, which she describes as "Jurassic Park with room service." Later, in a fine twist of the tongue, she writes that she loved her twin bed, saying "it was like

sleeping in a marshmallow surrounded by mosquito netting."

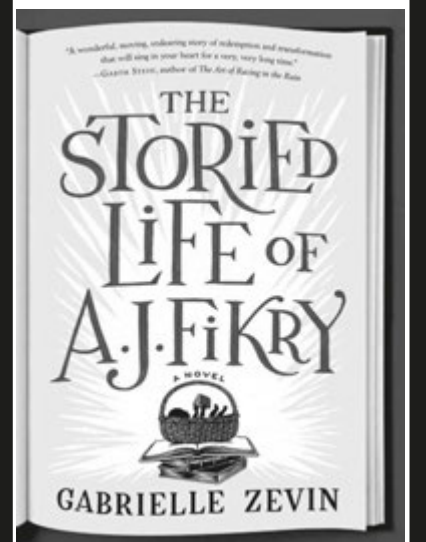
Hey, no one said this is Teddy Roosevelt's African Safari.

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1st Sunday gallery walk & other exhibitions

New Exhibits

Belen Gallery (inside the Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame) "Early Women Artists," featuring oil paintings from various early 20th century artists. **Reception: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, May 4.** Hours: Noon-4 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday; 2-4 p.m. Sunday. 213 W. Malcolm X St., Lansing. (517) 484-1880.

Clinton County Arts Council Mother's Day-themed exhibition featuring various artists. **Reception: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, May 3 & 1-3 p.m. Sunday, May 4.** Hours: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Clinton County Arts Gallery, 215 N. Clinton Ave., St. Johns. (989) 224-2429.

Creole Gallery Class of 2014 LCC photography portfolio exhibition. **Reception: Noon-5 p.m. Sunday, May 4.** Hours: Saturday, Sunday or by appointment. Creole Gallery, 1218 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 809-8828.

EagleMonk Pub and Brewery Colored pencil drawings by Miranda Hartmann and photography by Katy Kettles. **Reception:**

3-5 p.m. **Sunday, May 4.** Hours: 3-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; noon-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-8 p.m. Sunday. 4906 W. Mt. Hope Highway, Lansing. (517) 708-7350.

East Lansing Public Art Gallery "Figures and Grounds," by Stephanie Palaygi and Julie Avery. **Reception: 1-2 p.m. Sunday, May 4.** Hours: 6 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Friday; 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday; noon-8 p.m. Sunday. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 894-2166.

Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum "Border Unseen," by Mithu Sen and Ralli Quilts exhibition, featuring selections from MSU Museum's quilt collection. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday & Saturday-Sunday; noon-9 p.m. Friday; closed Monday. 556 E. Circle Drive, MSU campus, East Lansing. (517) 884-3900.

Great Lakes Artworks Works by artists David Carrigan, Jodie Grzadzinski and Valerie Kniffen. Hours: 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday; 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; noon-4 p.m. Sunday. 306 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-4293.

Grove Gallery and Studios Works by Nancy McRay, Sue Hale and Jack Malangton. **Reception: 12-4 p.m.**

Sunday, May 4. Hours: Noon-6 p.m. Thursday-Friday; noon-4 p.m. Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday. 325 Grove St., East Lansing. (517) 333-7180.

Lansing Art Gallery "Getting Dirty," paintings and sculpture by Mark Chatterley. **Reception: 7-9 p.m. Friday, May 2.** Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 1-4 p.m. Saturday and First Sunday. 119 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 374-6400.

Ledge Craft Lane Free activities for Victorian Days. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. 120 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. (517) 627-9843.

Lookout! Art Gallery "Color Wheel of Emotions" and "Mapping Memories Michigan," two art quilt exhibits. Opens



"Pink Blob" by Mattheus Leitner, part of "Reductive Uncertainty" at East Lansing's (SCENE) Metrospace.

May 19. Hours: 1-3 p.m. Monday-Friday. Residential College in the Arts and Humanities at MSU, 362 Bogue St., Room C210, East Lansing. (517) 355-0210.

Mackerel Sky Enamel jewelry trunk show by Carly Wright. Also: "Confluence," camera-less photo collages by Kim Kauffman. Hours: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday; noon-4 p.m. Sunday. 211 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2211.

MICA Gallery Works by Dylan Wahl and Jefferson Kielwagen. **Reception: Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, May 4.** Hours: Noon-5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; noon-3 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. 1210 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600.

MSU Museum "The Folk Festival: A Hands-On MSU Museum Tradition," a photographic history of MSU Museum festivals. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday. 409 W. Circle Drive, MSU campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-2370.

Okemos Library Juried art show featuring artists from the Mid-Michigan Art Guild. **Reception: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, May 4.** Hours: 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday-Saturday; Noon-6 p.m. Sunday. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2031.

(SCENE) Metrospace "Reductive Uncertainty," by Mattheus Leitner and "Shifting Scenes," award-winning art from the East Lansing Art Festival. **Reception: 6-9 p.m. Friday, May 2.** Hours: 2-5 p.m. Thursday; 2-6 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-4 p.m. Sunday. 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832.

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Fiesta time

Where to celebrate **Cinco de Mayo** in Lansing

By ALEXANDRA HARAKAS

Cinco de Mayo falls on a Monday this year, but there are still plenty of Lansing establishments commemorating Mexican Independence Day with food and drink specials and music performances. Here's a brief guide to where to go and what to do.

SUNDAY, MAY 4:

The Bread House South:

Free food, live music, door prizes and face painting. Noon to 5 p.m. Bread House South Church, 5606 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Lansing.

MONDAY, MAY 5:

Cancun Mexican Grill:

Mexican beer specials. Two locations: 1754 Central Park Drive, Okemos. Hours: 11 a.m.-10 p.m. (517) 347-8114. Also: 8741 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing. (517) 622-0343.

Dublin Square Irish Pub:

Drink specials 9 p.m.-2 a.m. 327 Abbott Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2222.

El Azteco: Food, margarita and shot specials. Two locations: 1016 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. Hours: 11 a.m.-midnight. (517)

485-4589. Also: 225 Ann St., East Lansing. (517) 351-9111.

The Embassy Restaurant & Lounge:

Fundraiser for the Latino Advisory Committee, Lansing School District and Civil Rights for Immigrants. Featuring food and drink specials and live music by Trio Corporacion and the Bear Band featuring Ronnie Hernandez. \$10 donation. 5 p.m. 5421 W. Saginaw, Lansing. (517) 323-9960, theembassygrill.com.

The Green Door: Live music, beer and appetizer deals. 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. Hours: 4 p.m.-2 a.m. (517) 482-6376.

La Senorita: Live music and discounts on Mexican beer. 2706 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. Hours: 11 a.m.-11 p.m. (517) 485-0166.

Los Tres Amigos: \$1 tacos all day. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Four locations: 107 E. Allegan St., Lansing. (517) 316-0066; 1227 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 853-5800; 6405 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 393-4100; 5010 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 327-0545.

Midtown Brewing Co.: Food and drink specials. 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing. Hours: 11 a.m.-midnight. (517) 977-1349.

Old Chicago: Try eight different Mexican beers, win a T-shirt. 1983 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. Hours: 11 a.m.-2 a.m. (517) 347-1111.

The Riv: Mexican beer specials and \$1 tacos. 231 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. Hours: 4:30 p.m.-2 a.m. (517) 351-5855.

First Sunday

from page 22

Ongoing

Craig Mitchell Smith Glass

Indoor and outdoor glass art creations. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; Noon-6 p.m. Sunday; or by appointment. 1220 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 349-1345, craigmitchellsmith.com.

Decker's Coffee Co. Variety of work by local artists. Hours: 6:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday. 220 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 484-7899.

Neighborhood Empowerment Center "Artist Empowerment," featuring works by Pat Bursch, Kyle Raetz, Joy Schroeder and Jim Wolnosky. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980.

Nokomis Learning Center Gallery The art of Anishinaabe Native Americans. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday; noon-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. 5153 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 349-5777.

Riverwalk Theatre Various works by Jackie Borszich. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and during performances. 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-9812.

Saper Galleries Featuring the world's largest selection of Hebron Glass outside the West Bank. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 1-4 p.m. First Sunday. 433 Albert Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-0815, sapergalleries.com.

Shiawassee Arts Center 17th Annual Members Show. Hours: 1-5 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. 206 Curwood Castle Drive, Owosso. (989) 723-8354. shiawasseearts.org.

TIC Gallery "Miscellany," works in a variety of media by 13 local artists. Hours: 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday. Technology Innovation Center, 325 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 319-6861.

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsny

Apr. 30-May 7

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "Dear Astrologer: We Aries people have an intense fire burning inside us. It's an honor and a privilege. We're lucky to be animated with such a generous share of the big energy that gives life to all of nature. But sometimes the fire gets too wild and strong for us. We can't manage it. It gets out of our control. That's how I'm feeling lately. These beloved flames that normally move me and excite me are now the very thing that's making me crazy. What to do?" - Aries." Dear Aries: Learn from what firefighters do to fight forest fires. They use digging tools to create wide strips of dirt around the fire, removing all the flammable brush and wood debris. When the fire reaches this path, it's deprived of fuel. Close your eyes and visualize that scene.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): "My personal philosophy is not to undertake a project unless it is manifestly important and nearly impossible." So said Taurus-born Edwin Land, the man who invented the Polaroid camera. I have a feeling these might be useful words for you to live by between your birthday in 2014 and your birthday in 2015. In the coming 12 months, you will have the potential of homing in on a dream that will fuel your passions for years. It may seem to be nearly impossible, but that's exactly what will excite you about it so much -- and keep you going for as long as it takes to actually accomplish.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): I wish there was a way you could play around with construction equipment for a few hours. I'd love it if you could get behind the wheel of a bulldozer and flatten a small hill. It would be good for you to use an excavator to destroy a decrepit old shed or clear some land of stumps and dead trees. Metaphorically speaking, that's the kind of work you need to do in your inner landscape: move around big, heavy stuff; demolish outworn structures; reshape the real estate to make way for new building projects.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): In the *Transformers* movies, Optimus Prime is a giant extraterrestrial warrior robot. His body contains an array of weapons that he uses for righteous causes, like protecting Earth's creatures. His character is voiced by actor Peter Cullen. Cullen has also worked extensively for another entertainment franchise, *Winnie the Pooh*. He does the vocals for Eeyore, a gloomy donkey who writes poetry and has a pink ribbon tied in a bow on his tail. Let's make Cullen your role model for now. I'm hoping this will inspire you to get the Eeyore side of your personality to work together with the Optimus Prime part of you. What's that you say? You don't have an Optimus Prime part of you? Well, that's what Eeyore might say, but I say different.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Do you finally understand that you don't have to imitate the stress-addled workaholics and self-wounding overachievers in order to be as proficient as they are? Are you coming to see that if you want to fix, heal, and change the world around you, you have to fix, heal, and change yourself? Is it becoming clear that if you hope to gain more power to shape the institutions you're part of, you've got to strengthen your power over yourself? Are you ready to see that if you'd like to reach the next level of success, you must dissolve some of your fears of success?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "Beauty is the purgation of superfluties," said Michelangelo. Do you agree? Could you make your life more marvelous by giving up some of your trivial pursuits? Would you become more attractive if you got rid of one of your unimportant desires? Is it possible you'd experience more lyrical grace if you sloughed off your irrelevant worries? I suggest you meditate on questions like these, Virgo. According to my interpretation of the astrological omens, experiencing beauty is not a luxury right now, but rather a necessity. For the sake of your mental, physical, and spiritual health, you need to be in its pres-

ence as much as possible.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I'm pretty sure God wants you to be rich. Or at least richer. And I know for a fact that I want you to be richer. What about you? Do you want to be wealthier? Or at least a bit more flush? Or would you rather dodge the spiritual tests you'd have to face if you became a money magnet? Would you prefer to go about your daily affairs without having to deal with the increased responsibilities and obligations that would come with a bigger income? I suspect you will soon receive fresh evidence about these matters. How you respond will determine whether or not you'll be able to take advantage of new financial opportunities that are becoming available.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The U.S. military budget this year is \$633 billion. In comparison, the United Nations' peacekeeping budget is \$7.8 billion. So my country will spend 81 times more to wage war than the U.N. will spend to make peace. I would prefer it if the ratio were reversed, but my opinion carries no weight. It's possible, though, that I might be able to convince you Scorpios, at least in the short run, to place a greater emphasis on cultivating cooperation and harmony than on being swept up in aggression and conflict. You might be tempted to get riled up over and over again in the coming weeks, but I think that would lead you astray from living the good life.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Actor Matthew McConaughey prides himself on his willingness to learn from his mistakes and failures. A few years ago he collected and read all the negative reviews that critics had ever written about his work in films. It was "an interesting kind of experiment," he told Yahoo News. "There was some really good constructive criticism." According to my reading of the astrological omens, Sagittarius, now would be an excellent time for you to try an experiment comparable to McConaughey's. Be brave!

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "Dear Oracle: I might be hallucinating, but recently I swear my pet iguana has been getting turned on whenever I disrobe in front of it. My naked body seems to incite it to strut around and make guttural hissing sounds and basically act like it's doing a mating dance. Is it me, or is the planets? I think my iguana is a Capricorn like me. - Captivating Capricorn." Dear Capricorn: Only on rare occasions have I seen you Capricorns exude such high levels of animal magnetism as you are now. Be careful where you point that stuff! I won't be shocked if a wide variety of creatures finds you extra alluring.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "Eat like you love yourself," advises author Tara Stiles. "Move like you love yourself. Speak like you love yourself. Act like you love yourself." Those four prescriptions should be top priorities for you, Aquarius. Right now, you can't afford to treat your beautiful organism with even a hint of carelessness. You need to upgrade the respect and compassion and reverence you give yourself. So please breathe like you love yourself. Sleep and dream like you love yourself. Think like you love yourself. Make love like you love yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): If blindfolded, most people can't tell the difference between Pepsi and Coca-Cola. But I bet you could, at least this week. Odds are good that you will also be adept at distinguishing between genuine promises and fakes ones. And you will always know when people are fooling themselves. No one will be able to trick you into believing in hype, lies, or nonsense. Why? Because these days you are unusually perceptive and sensitive and discerning. This might on occasion be a problem, of course, since you won't be able to enjoy the comfort and consolation that illusions can offer. But mostly it will be an asset, providing you with a huge tactical advantage and lots of good material for jokes.

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

OUT ON THE TOWN

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

Wednesday, April 30

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

AARP Drivers Safety. Designed for the older driver. 1-5 p.m. \$20/\$15 AARP members. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

Be Your Berry Best. Activities and more with strawberries. 1:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m. FREE. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-7460. LansingCityMarket.com.

The Incarceration Epidemic. Discussion. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434. PilgrimUCC.com.

Recording Made Easy for iPad. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Guitar Center, 517 Mall Court, Frandor Shopping Center, Lansing. (517) 333-6627. stores.guitarcenter.com.

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

EVENTS

Farmers Market at Allen Market Place. Featuring locally grown prepared foods. Live music. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

Capital Area Crisis Men's Rugby Practice. Weather Permitting. All experience levels welcome. 6:30 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2151 W. Hillsdale, Lansing. crisisrfc.com.

Practice Your English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Senior Discovery Group. Coffee and conversations. 10 a.m.-noon, FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

Paws to Play: Therapy Dogs. Certified therapy

See Out on the Town, Page 26

THURSDAY-SATURDAY MAY 1-3 >> GREATER LANSING POTTERS' GUILD SPRING SALE

Jewelry, wall pieces, teapots and lamps can be found at the Greater Lansing Potters' Guild Spring Sale. Guild member Tina Oxer said that all items are handmade by the group's 32 potters, including functional dinnerware and mugs that are dishwasher safe. Some items are influenced by Asian designs, while some of the pieces are made by potters in Michigan State University's master's of fine arts program. The guild has been around for 45 years. 5:30 p.m.-9 p.m. Thursday; 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. All Saints Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. glpg.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, MAY 2-4 >> CHILDREN'S BALLET THEATRE PRESENTS 'ALICE IN WONDERLAND: THE BALLET'



The Children's Ballet Theatre of Michigan will perform a full-length ballet based on Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland" this weekend. Shari Dann, one of the event's organizers, hopes that it gives an opportunity to "open up the world of classical ballet to everyone. It tells a familiar story in a creative and unique way," Dann said. "It's very appropriate for young families and young people not familiar with ballet while retaining classical elements like tutus and ballerinas on pointe." The costumes are handmade, and crafted to fit their dancers, and the production will employ projection and lighting effects for the audience to give the show a cinematic feel. The ballet company includes five children who are patients or former patients in Sparrow Hospital's pediatric center. 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday. \$15/\$12 students. Holt High School Auditorium, 5885 Holt Road, Holt. cbtdance.org.

SATURDAY, MAY 3 >> FREE COMIC BOOK DAY



For the last 12 years, Free Comic Book Day has been held on the first Saturday in May, with comic book industry's big publishers (Marvel, DC, etc.) offering free special edition comics at stores nationwide. This year, the event falls on the opening weekend of "The Amazing Spider-Man 2." It's a perfect storm of spandex.

"People see these films, hear about Free Comic Book Day and think about how they haven't been in a comic book shop in a while," said Tom Flammer, who is in charge of planning Clem's Comics' Free Comic Day events in downtown Lansing. Hollow Mountain Comics in East Lansing will also have several comics to give away. Creating Heroes within Everybody Reads

Bookstore, whose profits from all the comics they sell benefits youth-oriented programs, will hand out comics with costumed heroes on hand to greet attendees.

This year's free comics lineup includes an issue based on the August movie "Guardians of the Galaxy." Archaia Entertainment is giving away a hardcover anthology, which includes Michigan-based writer/artist David Petersen's "Mouse Guard." With a limited number of the anthologies to give away, Flammer has one piece of advice:

"Get here early."

Clem's Comics and Games, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., 216 S. Washington Square, Lansing, (517) 485-2369, clemslansing.com; Hollow Mountain Comics, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. 611 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing, (517) 708-7191, hollowmountaincomics.com; Everybody Reads Bookstore, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, (517) 346-9900, becauseeverybodyreads.com

SUNDAY, MAY 4 >> MARK HERMAN AT GRAND LEDGE OPERA HOUSE

Born in 1987, Mark Herman is the youngest person ever to receive the American Theatre Organ Society's Organist of the Year. Sunday he will perform hit songs from Academy Award-winning movies at the Grand Ledge Opera House as part of the Riverside Pops series. Herman's set list will feature the work of Harry Warren, the first American composer to write primarily for film. Warren was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Song 11 times, winning Oscars for "Jeepers Creepers," "Chattanooga Choo-Choo," and "Lullaby of Broadway." Herman will give tribute to Warren through these songs as part of the season's "Art of the Composer" series. The Riverside Pops series is presented by Lansing Theatre Organ. 3 p.m. \$15/\$12 in advance. Grand Ledge Opera House, 121 S. Bridge St. (517) 394-9881, lto-pops.org.



SUNDAY, MAY 4 >> 5TH ANNUAL PASS-IT-FORWARD PARTY

Remember that New Year's resolution you made to keep that holiday giving spirit going all year? At Sunday's Pass-it-Forward party, hosted by the nonprofit group ePIFanyNow, you'll get to join local philanthropists to bring a little cheer into the world. The group has been doing good deeds in the Lansing area since 2009. "It's all about creating excitement, energy and enthusiasm about being generous to others," said group founder Bob Hoffman. "It's just people helping people for the sake of being nice." At the event, the party will break into teams and venture into the community to perform acts of kindness. They then reconvene to share stories about touching the lives of strangers. "It leaves everyone feeling so positive about the world," Hoffman said. "And it's just a lot of fun." 1-5 p.m. FREE. MSU Federal Credit Union, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. epifanynow.org.

TURN IT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA



THU. MAY 8TH

GOLF CLAP AT MAC'S

Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 18+, \$7, \$5 adv., 9 p.m., Thursday, May 8.

Golf Clap, an emerging electronic duo from Detroit, was voted 2014's "Best Electronic Artist" by Real Detroit Weekly, and got buzz for its deep-house single, "Dream Trippin'," on Grant Nelson's Freeze Dried record label (the song is streamed at soundcloud.com/freeze-dried). Golf Clap (Bryan Jones and Hugh Cleal) have played at large festivals such as Electric Forest, but you can catch the DJ and production whiz kids at Mac's Bar. Openers are ARP220 (Craig D & Juan Trevino) and James Cheskaty. Last year Golf Clap gigged at over 150 shows and are booked for coast-to-coast shows this year. The "peak-hour deep house" musicians also topped the Traxsource house music chart with their song, "Another Way."

SPRING COMMUNITY SING WITH ANN REED



FRI. MAY 2ND

Unitarian Universalist Church, \$18, \$15 members, \$5 students, \$30 family. 8 p.m., Friday, May 2.

The Ten Pound Fiddle hosts its annual singing event led by Ann Reed, a Minneapolis-based singer/songwriter. The event invites all skill levels to join in song. Reed, 59, taught herself guitar at age 12; influences include Pete Seeger, Kingston Trio and Mary Travers. Reed has been touring the United States and Canada for over 30 years and has appeared on "A Prairie Home Companion," "Good Morning America" and "NPR's Morning Edition." She's recorded over 20 albums since her 1980 debut LP, "Carpediem." Her 2008 disc, "Songs for Minnesota," features five ditties about the Minnesota State Fair. Her latest LP, "Eventually," was released last year.

NAPPY ROOTS AT THE LOFT



SAT. MAY 3RD

The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+, \$20, \$15 adv., 8 p.m., Saturday, May 3.

Southern hip-hop band Nappy Roots headlines the Loft along with One Be Lo and an array of local artists, including DJ Ruckus, D-Boy, The Funk Munks, James Gardin and IRusH. Nappy Roots formed in 1995 and soon earned an international following, due in part to the hit singles "Awnaw" and "Po' Folks." In 2002 the quartet was the best-selling rap group of the year thanks to its "Watermelon, Chicken & Gritz" LP, which peaked at No. 22 on the Billboard Hot 100. The group's last proper full-length LP was 2011's "Nappy Dot Org." Last year it released the single "These Walls Revisited" featuring Kanye West.

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

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Jayke Orvis & James Hunnicutt, 9 p.m.			
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.	Updraft, 9 p.m.	Blue Hair Betty's, 9 p.m.	DJ Jimmy, 9 p.m.
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Blvd.		DJ, 9 p.m.	Soulstice, 9 p.m.	Soulstice, 9 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Jeremy Kratky & Doug Fritch, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Blue Wednesday, 8 p.m.	Skoryoke Live Band Karaoke, 8 p.m.		
Fireside Grill, 6591 Lansing Rd.			Rory Miller, 8:30 p.m.	The Regulators, 9 p.m.
Grand Café/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.		Kathy Ford Band, 7:30 p.m.	Karaoke, 7 p.m.	Ladies Night, 8 p.m.
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Johnny D Jam, 8 p.m.		Star Farm, 9:30 p.m.	Star Farm, 9:30 p.m.
Gus's Bar, 2321 W. Michigan Ave.		Open Mic, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.	
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.	Let Live, 6 p.m.	Spiritual Rez, 9 p.m.	Deveraux, 8 p.m.	Nappy Roots, 8 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.			Sky Lexington & Prada Leary, 9 p.m.	
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Game Night, 9 p.m.	Lincoln County Process, 9 p.m.	Second Nature, 9:30 p.m.	Good Cookies, 9:30 p.m.
R-Club, 6409 Centurion Dr.			Episode, 8:30 p.m.	Episode, 8:30 p.m.
Tin Can West, 644 Migaldi Ln.	Waterpong, 11 p.m.	Scott Martin, 8 p.m.		
Tin Can DeWitt, 13175 Schavey Rd.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.	Dave Floyd, 8 p.m.		
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog & the Beeftones, 9 p.m.	Frog & the Beeftones, 9 p.m.	Frog & the Beeftones, 9 p.m.
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive		Steve Cowles, 7 p.m.	Joe Wright, 7 p.m.	Craig Hendershott, 7 p.m.
Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert St.	DJ, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.	Cody Johnson, 9 p.m.

PLAY IN A BAND? BOOK SHOWS? LIVE & LOCAL LISTS UPCOMING GIGS!

To get listed just email us at liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com or call (517) 999-6710

WHAT TODO: Submit information by the Friday before publication (City Pulse comes out every Wednesday.) Be sure to tell us the name of the performer and the day, date and time of the performance. Only submit information for the following week's paper.

NAING MYANMAR FAMILY RESTAURANT

Allan I. Ross/City Pulse
The Naing Myanmar Family Restaurant on Lansing's south side features authentic cuisine from Malaysia, Thailand and Myanmar. (Bottom right) The Pad Thai Noodles with shrimp at Naing Myanmar Family Restaurant.



By ALLAN I. ROSS

Add "Malaysian" and "Burmese" to the list of Asian cuisine offerings in the Lansing area. The two styles are joined by Thai food to make a triad of Asian dish options on the menu at **Naing Myanmar Family Restaurant.**



Owner/operator Moe Latt was born in Burma, now Myanmar, but moved to Malaysia, where he operated a restaurant for 20 years. He moved to the U.S. to increase his business prospects, and set up shop in south Lansing last November.

"I moved to Boston first, where I worked in the Starbucks at the Logan Airport, but a friend told me there were opportunities in Lansing," Latt said. "I came here to see for myself and had found this building before I even left. I just picked up my family and moved."

Latt's restaurant is set up in a strip mall on Cedar Street, just north of Holmes Road. Most of the other businesses in Naing's building are vacant, giving the environs a desolate look. It's not the greatest

location, particularly because the building runs perpendicular with the street, making it hard to spot. He said he'd like to expand into East Lansing eventually, as that's where he's noticed most of his customers come from.

"We haven't had big crowds yet, but the people who find us really like it and come back often," Latt said. "I've heard many good comments about the food."

Burmese cuisine is influenced by a variety of Asian styles, including Indian. Seafood and fish sauces are prominently featured, as are eggs. All dishes listed on Latt's menu include a list of all ingredients and an 8-by-10-inch color photo to make it easier.

"Burmese food is similar to Thai food, but it's got a lot more flavor and use different spices," Latt said. "We cook it in the traditional way, but we adjust the dishes based on how you want it. We make every dish to order. We don't have any food (in warmers)."

There are only five Malaysian dishes on the menu; mostly vegetarian offerings and traditional soups. The Thai section



of the menu is the most extensive, with 20 selections. Latt said his wife, Mi, primarily handles the Thai orders, while he takes care of the Malaysian and Burmese dishes. The menu also features a selection of raw juice shakes and smoothies, and the beverage list features a host of authentic Asian teas.

"People in Lansing are mostly used to Chinese cuisine and Thai cuisine, so it's great to be able to introduce them to something new," Latt said, who added that he's self-taught. "This is food from three countries. A lot of people have never heard of Myanmar. Now they get to taste the food from there and get exposed to a whole new culture."

Naing Myanmar Family Restaurant
3308 S. Cedar St., Lansing
10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday; closed Sunday
(857) 615-8393

Troppo, 111 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 371-4000.

LCC Jazz Band. Directed by Jon Gewirtz. 7:30 p.m. FREE. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. 517-483-1546. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Second Nature. Live performance. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 4585-5287.

Karaoke Night. Food and drink specials. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. Gus's Bar, 2321 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-4714. facebook.com/gusbuster11.

THEATER

"Twinderella." A hilarious send-up of Cinderella. 7

See Out on the Town, Page 28

Out on the town

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Control Outreach Center, 826 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 367-0676. ac.ingham.org.

Live Pro Wrestling. Watch Pro Wrestling and Live Musical Performances. 6 p.m. \$5. 1200 Marquette St., Lansing. (517) 574-1993. facebook.com/TheIROG.

Choosing Health Rally. Use community resources to stay in shape. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Gier Community Center, 2400 Hall St., Lansing. (517) 347-3377. capitalareahealthalliance.org.

MUSIC

Matt LoRusso Trio. Jazz. 9 p.m.-midnight, FREE.

TIM BARRON
EVERY WEEKDAY MORNING
6AM-9AM
WLMI 92.9

And hear Berl Schwartz of City Pulse call Tim an ignorant slut — or worse. Every Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.

Williamstown Township
FINE ART SALE
STUDIO TOUR FUNDRAISER

Saturday May 3 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday May 4 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

LOCATIONS:

ST. KATHERINE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND 6 ARTISTS' STUDIOS.



Participating Artist's: Bob Crawford, Mark Chatterley, Margabeth Cibulka, Jane Cloutier, Ron Cook, Gretchen Fielek, Bobbi Kilty, Lee Kronenberg, Nancy Kronenberg, Sue Long, Joanne Lose, Mark Mehaffey, Paul Nilsson, Wendy Shaft, and Jeanne VanWieren.

Tickets available at:
Williamstown Township Hall
4990 Zimmer Rd.,
Williamston, MI
and participating artists.

TICKETS \$5

TICKET PROCEEDS AND 12% OF ARTIST'S SALES ARE DEDICATED TO THE PURCHASE OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT.

Sponsored in part by Spag's Bar & Grill and Burqdorf's Winery



For more information contact Williamstown Township Hall at 517-655-3193 or visit: www.williamstowntownship.com

Out on the town

from page 27

p.m. \$7/\$5 ages 12 and under. Mid Michigan Family Theatre, 440 Frandor Ave., Lansing. (517) 339-2145. freewebs.com/midmichfamilytheatre.

Saturday, May 3

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Introduction to Aquaponics. Grow vegetables and fish in one system. 12:30-2 p.m. \$10 donation. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910.

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

It's All About Plants. Keynote presentations, lunch and more. 8 a.m.-4:15 p.m. \$79/\$69 for 2014 MSU Garden members. MSU Horticulture Gardens, MSU Campus, East Lansing. hrt.msu.edu.

Tai Chi in the Park. For beginning and experienced tai chi players. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community Garden House, 1400 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

Clarinet Day. Workshops and games for all ages. 1-6 p.m. \$10/CMS students FREE. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

Qigong for Health. Conditions the body and quiets the mind. 9-10 a.m. \$10. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866. meridian.mi.us.

Eden 5 Minute Energy Technique. Balance and healing. 10-11:15 a.m. \$20. Mindful Movement and Physical Therapy, 2740 East Lansing Drive, East Lansing. (517) 853-9139. mindfulmovement.biz.

EVENTS

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

Victorian Days in Grand Ledge. Victorian presentations to delight your family. 10 a.m. Costs vary. Bridge Street, downtown Grand Ledge. (517) 627-5170. victoriandays.org.

Ionic Foot Detox Spa Grand Re-opening. Free Ionic Foot detoxes and more. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Ionic Foot Detox Spa, 1801 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 204-3794. laurapeiffer.com.

Hike for Hannahs House. Fundraising event. 8 a.m. \$30/\$15 for youth/ages 5 and under FREE. Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 482-5856. hannahshouselansing.org.

Native Plants Day. Native plants sale. Locally grown wildflowers. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866. meridian.mi.us.

Foods For Living Plant Sale. Organic vegetable, herb and flower starter plants. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. FREE. Foods For Living, 2655 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 324-9010. foodsforliving.com.

Free Comic Book Day Downtown! Artists, games, prizes, but mostly — free comics! 8 a.m.-6 p.m. FREE. Clem's Comics & Games, 216 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 485-2369. clemslansing.com.

Free Comic Book Day. Free comics! All profits from comics go back to youth programs. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Everybody reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave.,

Lansing. (517) 349-9900.

Kentucky Derby Party Fundraiser. To benefit Sparrow Hospital patients. 4:30 p.m. \$45/\$35 advance. Lou & Harry's Sports Bar and Grill, 16800 Chandler Road, East Lansing. (517) 364-5680. sparrowfoundation.org.

CTMassage Open House. Free 10-minute massages, prizes and more. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Hamilton Center, 2109 Hamilton Road, Okemos. (517) 214-7277. ctmassageokemos.com.

Drum and Dance Circle. All ages. No experience necessary. Extra drums provided. FREE. 3 p.m. Brenke Fish Ladder, Burchard Park, Lansing. (989) 413-3848. facebook.com/lansingdrumcircle.

MUSIC

Matt LoRusso Trio. Jazz. 9 p.m.-midnight, FREE. Troppo, 111 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 371-4000.

"And Heaven and Nature Sing." Sacred and secular music. 7 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors and students. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 218 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. (517) 482-9454. stpaulslansing.org.

Deacon Earl at City Market. Live blues, reggae and more. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460. lansingcitymarket.com.

Live music with Ervin Boyd. Live music. A family friendly event. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460. lansingcitymarket.com.

Good Cookies. Live performance. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 4585-5287.

Music for the Military. Delta Community Choir & GL Community Band perform. 7 p.m. FREE, donations accepted. Grand Ledge High School, 820 Spring St., Grand Ledge. (517) 925-5815.

THEATER

"Twinderella." A hilarious send-up of Cinderella. 3 p.m. \$7/\$5 ages 12 and under. Mid Michigan Family Theatre, 440 Frandor Ave., Lansing. (517) 339-2145. freewebs.com/midmichfamilytheatre.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Women's Spring Event & Brunch. FREE, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434. PilgrimUCC.com.

Sunday, May 4

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Juggling. Learn how to juggle. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. (517) 485-9190. ruetenik@gmail.com.

Spiritual Talk, Pure Meditation and Silent Prayer. 10 a.m. FREE. Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre, 7187 Drumheller Road, Bath. (517) 641-6201. SelfRealizationCentreMichigan.org.

EVENTS

Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance. Lessons 6-6:45 p.m. Dance 6:45-10 p.m. \$8 dance/\$10 dance and lesson. The Lansing Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 490-7838.

Bird Watching Walk. Bird watching walk with Capital Area Audubon guide. 8-9 a.m. FREE. Edgewood Elementary, 1826 Osage Drive, Okemos.

(517) 349-3866. meridian.mi.us.

ePIFanyNow Event. Perform random acts of kindness and share. 1-5 p.m. FREE. MSU Federal Credit Union, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. (517) 230-8807. msufcu.org.

Foods For Living Plant Sale. Organic vegetable, herb and flower starter plants. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. FREE. Foods For Living, 2655 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 324-9010. foodsforliving.com.

LCC Photo Portfolio Exhibition. Meet students and discuss their work. Noon-5 p.m. FREE. Creole Gallery, 1218 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 282-0077. ow.ly/wfkMr.

Greater Lansing Vegan Meetup. Vegan Potluck. See website for details. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Clerical Technical Union, 2990 E. Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing. (517) 332-7898. meetup.com.

MUSIC

Pops Concert: Theatre Organ. Mark Herman at Barton Theatre Organ. 3 p.m. \$15/\$12 advance. Grand Ledge Opera House, 121 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. (517) 394-9881. lto-pops.org.

THEATRE

"Twinderella." A hilarious send-up of Cinderella. 3 p.m. \$7/\$5 ages 12 and under. Mid Michigan Family Theatre, 440 Frandor Ave., Lansing. (517) 339-2145. freewebs.com/midmichfamilytheatre.

Monday, May 5

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

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

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

EVENTS

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

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

Club Shakespeare. 6-8:45 p.m. Donations. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 348-5728. cadl.org.

Saints, Sinners & Cynics. Discuss a variety of topics in a relaxed setting. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Coral Gables, 2838 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 882-9733. saintmichaellansing.org.

MUSIC

Open-Mic Blues Mondays. Solo, duo, band and spoken-word acts welcome. 6:30-10:30 p.m. FREE. Suits Tavern, 210 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 702-9150.

Coming in City Pulse May 28: Made in Lansing: A Special Issue

Join us in saluting Lansing-made products, such as:

H. Smith Pocket Protector • Mary Olds Sheet Music
Sailor Boy Oysters • REO Lawn Mower • Bement Bobsleigh
and many, many more

This issue — tied to a new exhibit at City Hall organized by the Historical Society of Greater Lansing — will be well read.

Advertising Space Reservation deadline: May 21

Contact Berl Schwartz

(517) 999-5061 • publisher@lansingcitypulse.com

Out on the town

from page 28

Tuesday, May 6

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

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

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

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

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

Transgender Support Group. Discussion for parents and guardians. 7:15 p.m. FREE. MSU LGBT Resource Center, 556 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 927-8260.

Compassionate Friends of Lansing. Support for parents who have lost a child. 7:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. Salvation Army (South) Community Center, 701 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 351-6480.

Weekday Wildflower Walk. Walk with a

naturalist guide to see wildflowers. 10:30-11:30 a.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866. meridian.mi.us.

Financial Literacy Workshop. Financial Literacy and Credit Review Workshop. 6 p.m. FREE. 530 W. Ionia St. Suite D, Lansing. (517) 999-2894.

"Why am I so pooped?" Lecture on wellness and medicine. Call to RSVP. 6 p.m. FREE. Kellogg Conference Center, 219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. (517) 324-9400. cfohealth.com.

Monthly Membership Meeting. Seminar on flooring and sales. 5:30-7 p.m. \$35/members FREE. Barber's Floors and More, 2321 S. US 27, St. Johns.

EVENTS

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

Wednesday, May 7

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

Crazy Action Songs. Music therapy class for kids. 6 p.m. \$5/CADSA members FREE. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

Together, Let's Jam! Music therapy class for all ages. 6:30 p.m. \$5/CADSA members FREE. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

Appreciative Inquiry. Discussion. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of

Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434. PilgrimUCC.com.

EVENTS

Farmers Market at Allen Market Place. Featuring locally grown prepared foods. Live music. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

Capital Area Crisis Men's Rugby Practice. Weather Permitting. All experience levels welcome. 6:30 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2151 W. Hillsdale, Lansing. crisisrhc.com.

Practice Your English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Senior Discovery Group. Coffee and conversations. 10 a.m.-noon, FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

Spring Salad Luncheon. Includes sauerkraut, brats and more. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. \$8. Lansing Liederkrantz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 882-6330. liederkrantzclub.org.

Whisker Wednesday Baby Shower. Free cat adoptions, half off dog adoptions and more. Noon-6 p.m. Ingham County Animal Control & Shelter, 600 Curtis St., Mason. (517) 242-7440. ac.ingham.org.

Wind Farm Tour. Now taking reservations for June 7. Call (517) 285-4150 to sign up. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. \$25.

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

MUSIC

New Horizons Band Performance. Part of community enrichment and engagement concerts.

Noon, FREE. Holt Senior Care Center, 5091 Willoughby Road, Holt. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

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

City Pulse Classifieds

Interested in placing a classified ad in City Pulse?
(517) 999-5066 or adcopy@lansingcitypulse.com

Edgewood United Church (UCC), 469 N. Hagadorn Rd., East Lansing, MI 48823 seeks a Building Manager – 20 hours a week. Applicant must have experience in building maintenance, the ability to work with a variety of people, in a group or independently, and support building policies based on the congregation's core values. Must pass a criminal background check. Submit a resume/letter of interest on-line to personnel@edgewooducc.org or via postal services to the above address. A full job description is available on the web at www.edgewooducc.org.

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 26

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SUDOKU SOLUTION
From Pg. 26

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Court marshal

Pizza entrepreneur wants to mobilize food carts in north Lansing

By **ALLAN I. ROSS**

Mobile food carts are the ronin of the dining world: Rootless, solitary creatures, easily transportable to “hot” locations, good at getting a job done and then disappearing when the mission’s complete. Each has a dedicated discipline (tacos, hot dogs, skewered kebabs) and uses that specialty to fill a particular need in society. Occasionally they must set aside their differences and band together to keep the peace — a hungry crowd is a dangerous crowd.

These group occasions are usually limited to major outdoor events where grab-and-go noshing is de rigueur, but once the festival is gone, so goes the solidarity. In some bigger cities, though, food cart communes are a staple of the seasonal food scene. Columbus has a kicking collection of eight food trucks called Columbus Commons; a little closer to home, Mark’s Carts in Ann Arbor has eight rotating vendors.

In Lansing, food trucks are scattered haphazardly around the city grid. Entrepreneur/pizza slinger Frank Tignanelli hopes to unite them under his grand vision: A dedicated Lansing food court.

“Lansing needs a place where people can just drive up, grab something to eat and go,” Tignanelli said. “Obviously if they have a choice of several (types of food), all the better. It’s a simple concept. And this is the perfect spot for one.”

Tignanelli is the owner/operator of Detroit Frankie’s Wood Fired Brick Oven, a food cart he opened earlier this month in the parking lot of the former Nationwide Gold & Silver Exchange on the corner of Oakland Avenue and Cedar Street. Tignanelli owned and operated a pizzeria with his friend in Northern Michigan from 1979 to 1989 before transitioning into the food distribution business. His forte: Pizza ingredients.

“I got to know all the best cheeses, sauces and dough mixtures working as a distributor for 13 years,” Tignanelli said. “So I know what to buy.”

He opened an Italian restaurant in Petokey, but after three years he returned to distribution. And then last year he bought his mobile wood-fired pizza oven and started catering and setting up at farmers markets. His oven is a Forno Bravo brick oven that’s easily transportable.

“Just throw in some wood and it’s ready to go,” he said. “I deal with thin crust pizza because it’s faster to cook. It’s healthier too — not a lot of oil. You can drive right up and get a hot piece of pizza in three minutes.”

Detroit Frankie’s is across the street from a Rally’s and kitty-corner from an A&W. He said the competition has kept business steady, and that’s where the idea for the food court came to him.

“People are in a hurry, but they want to know what they’re eating is real food,” he said. “That’s the (attraction of) food carts. They’re fast, inexpensive and you get



Allan I. Ross/City Pulse

Frank Tignanelli, owner/operator of the mobile food cart Detroit Frankie’s Wood Fired Brick Oven, hopes to lure other food cart owners to the parking lot on the corner of Oakland and Cedar to create a north Lansing food court.

something made to order with fresh ingredients. You can’t get that with fast food.”

Gary Ganakas co-owns the 2.4-acre property south of Oakland between Cedar and Larch Street where Tignanelli is set up. The Nationwide Gold & Silver Exchange closed the week Detroit Frankie’s opened and sits vacant. Before that it was home to Auggie’s Chicken, and before that it was an Arby’s. He said he’d like to sell the land to a builder who could turn it into a mixed-use development space, but he’s curious to see where this food court concept goes.

“I think that’s a very cool idea,” Ganakas said. “Lansing needs something that makes them laugh. It would be great if we could create something fun that was still able to thrive. There’s so much traffic there: 12,000-15,000 cars pass by every

day on each of those three streets (and it’s only 500 feet off the Lansing River Trail. If we had a food court, we could sell ice cream there too, maybe do something like a beer garden. That would be really nice.”

He said he’s not sure what licenses he’d need to proceed; Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope said he’s not sure either; nothing like this has been attempted in Lansing before.

“That approval would be processed though me,” Swope said. “The city regulates businesses in non-permanent locations. We’d have to go through all the approvals, separate license for each vendor. Beyond that, I’m not sure what departments need so sign off.”

See Food Court, Page 31



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Food Court

from page 30

Mark's Carts in Ann Arbor utilizes a common commissary for the eight vendors, something Ganakas said is possible for the former gold exchange, which still has a kitchen area, including walk-in coolers. Mark's Carts founder Mark Hodesh said his experiment has worked out in multiple ways.

"It's increased foot traffic exponentially here," Hodesh said. "It's also given

some aspiring restaurant owners the confidence and the skills they needed to start brick-and-mortar restaurants. I've had two carts go on to open restaurants. It's also spawned new business in the area including a beer garden. I'd call it highly successful."

Tignanelli, however, has no desire to go back into the restaurant business.

"I'm living the dream now," he said. "I can do catering events, I can do festivals, I can go anywhere I want. But if I can get this food court started, that would be the best. I can't believe nobody's thought of it before."

foodfinder

Food Finder listings are rotated each week based on space. If you have an update for the listings, please e-mail food@lansingcitypulse.com.

EASTERN CUISINE

THAI PRINCESS — Authentic Thai cuisine. 1754 Central Park Drive, Okemos. 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; noon-9 p.m. Saturday; noon-8 p.m. Sunday. (517) 381-1558, thaiprincessmi.com. TO, OM, RES, \$\$

THAI VILLAGE — Authentic Thai cuisine. 400 S. Washington Square, Lansing. 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; noon-9 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday. (517) 371-1000, thaivillagelansing.com. TO, OM, \$

THAILAND — Authentic Thai cuisine. 401 E. Grand River, Lansing. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday; closed Saturday-Sunday. (517) 372-8992. OM, TO, \$

UDON SUSHI BAKERY

— Korean cuisine. 134 N. Harrison Road, East Lansing. 5 p.m.-3 a.m. Monday-Saturday; closed Sunday. (517) 332-5995. TO, \$-\$\$

UKAI JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE

Hibachi style grill. 2167 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 4-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 4-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-9 p.m. Sunday. (517) 349-0820. Second location: 754 Delta Commerce Drive, Lansing. (517) 853-8888. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. & 4-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 4-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-9 p.m. Sunday. iloveukai.com. FB, P, RES, OM, TO, WiFi, \$\$-\$\$\$

WOK AND ROLL — Chinese cuisine. 3050

E. Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing Suite 2A. 11 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday; noon-10 p.m. Sunday. (517) 332-1811. TO, \$

XIAO CHINA GRILLE & LOUNGE

— Asian fusion grill & sushi bar. 3415 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-9 p.m. Sunday. (517) 580-3720, xiaochinagrille.com. FB, P, TO, OM, WiFi, \$\$\$

UPSCALE CUISINE BISTRO 43

— Upscale dining inside the East Lansing Marriott Hotel. 200 M.A.C. Ave, East Lansing. 6:30 a.m.-2 p.m. & 5-11 p.m. Monday-Friday; 7 a.m.-2 p.m. & 5-11 p.m. Saturday; 7

a.m.-2 p.m. & 5-10 p.m. Sunday. (517) 337-4440. marriott.com/lanea. FB, RES, P, TO, WiFi, \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

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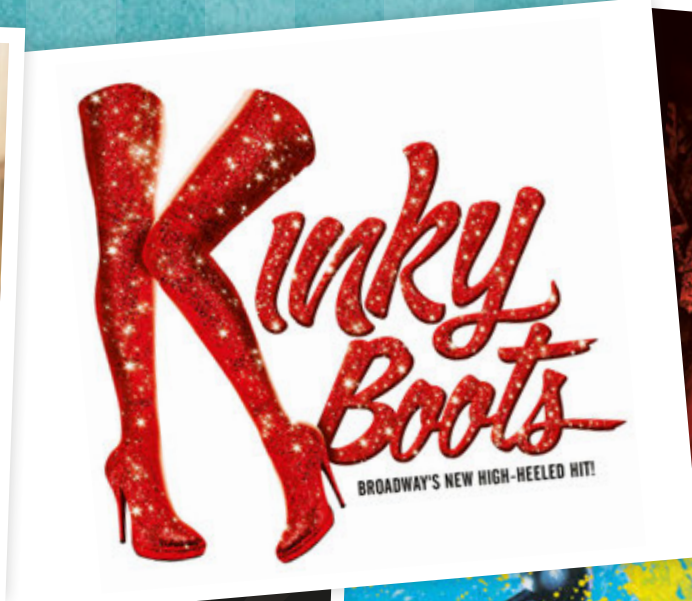


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