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February 1-7, 2012

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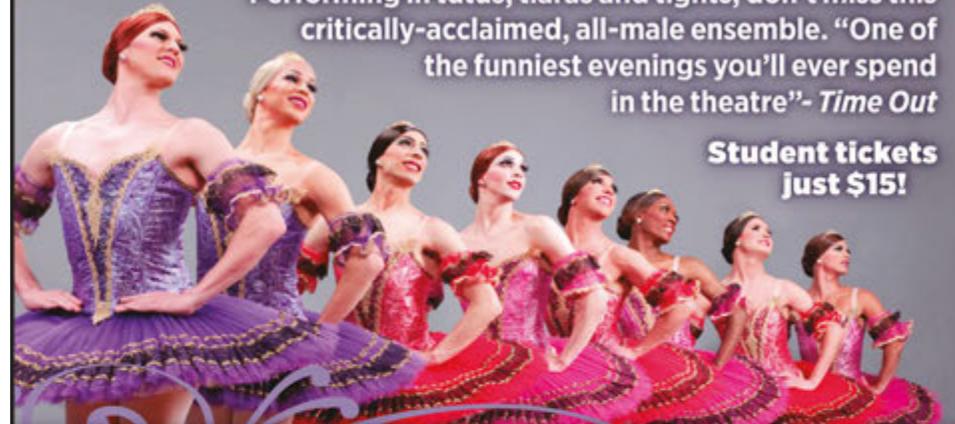
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Feedback

Board should explore other options before closing a high school

Currently, the Lansing Board of Education is confronting the challenges of recruiting a new superintendent and dealing with a potential multi-million dollar deficit for next year. Yet the Board has chosen to add to that overflowing plate by announcing its intention to decide within a few weeks whether to close either Eastern or Sexton high school next year without significant student, parent or community involvement.

In its December report, the facilities subcommittee of the Board's restructuring committee did not recommend closing any of the city's three high schools. Instead, that group advised the Board to consider closing some of its low enrollment elementary schools and transferring students to nearby elementaries which have room to accommodate them or moving the students to one or more of the under-utilized middle schools to create K-8 facilities.

According to the district's recently retired finance officer, closing a high school could save slightly in excess of \$1 million per year by eliminating salaries/fringes for the administrators, secretaries and custodians no longer needed and by cutting utility and maintenance costs. If the Board's major goal is to reduce expenditures, closing five or six elementary buildings could

reap annual savings ranging from \$1.8 to \$2.2 million (\$375,000 per school).

The Board also needs to consider the potentially negative impact which closing a high school could have on its future enrollment and state aid revenues. If just 100 students from the closed high school opted to transfer to a neighboring public school under the "schools of choice" plan, the district could lose close to \$700,000 in state aid based on the current allotment of almost \$7,000 per pupil.

As chair of the Lansing Eastern High School Alumni Association, I could recite a litany of valid reasons as to why Eastern should remain open. I suspect our west side counterparts could produce similar points to retain Sexton. But all that would accomplish is to pit one school against another and create divisiveness in the community at a time when the Lansing School District seems to be in a perpetual state of educational and financial crisis.

Therefore, I would encourage the nine board members to revisit the school closing/consolidation options contained in the restructuring committee's report and to solicit community input before taking final action to close a high school.

— Louis Hekhuis

Chair, Eastern High School Alumni Association

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing City Council on Tuesday, February 21, 2012, at 7:30 p.m., Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, to consider the following:

1. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Caddis Development Group, LLC for Site Plan and Special Use Permit approval for the property at 1525 West Lake Lansing Road. The proposed application would permit the construction of two medical office buildings and a banking facility with drive through lanes on the former Blue Cross Blue Shield office site. The majority of the property is zoned B-4, Restricted Office Business, with the remainder of the property proposed to be rezoned to B-4 under Ordinance 1272.
2. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1272 an application from Caddis Development Group, LLC to rezone the property at 1525 West Lake Lansing Road from B-5, Community Retail Sales District, subject to a Conditional Rezoning Agreement, to B-4, Restricted Office Business District.
3. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Trilogy Health Services, LLC for Site Plan and Special Use Permit approval for the vacant property at the southeast corner of Coleman and Coolidge Roads. The proposed application would permit construction of nearly 81,000 square feet of senior living and long term health care facilities in two buildings. The property is proposed to be rezoned to RM-8, Planned Unit Development, in conjunction with Ordinance 1273.
4. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1273 an application from Trilogy Health Services, LLC to rezone the vacant property at the southeast corner of Coleman and Coolidge Roads from DeWitt Township's A, Agricultural District to East Lansing's RM-8, Planned Unit Development District.
5. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from the Michigan Hot Dog Experiment, LLC for modified Special Use Permit approval for the property 301 M.A.C. Avenue, Suites 309-317. The application is a request to change the existing conditions for the What Up Dawg? restaurant to allow the dining room to remain open until 3:00 AM and to allow beer sales until 2:00 AM. The property is zoned B-3, City Center Commercial.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable accommodations, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at this meeting, upon notice to the City of East Lansing, prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations or services should write or call the City Manager's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 319-6920, TDD 1-800-649-3777.

Marie McKenna
City Clerk

CityPULSE

Volume 11, Issue 25

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

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7 p.m. Wednesdays

This Week

Fred Karger, gay candidate for the GOP presidential nomination

Chad DeKatch of "Company"

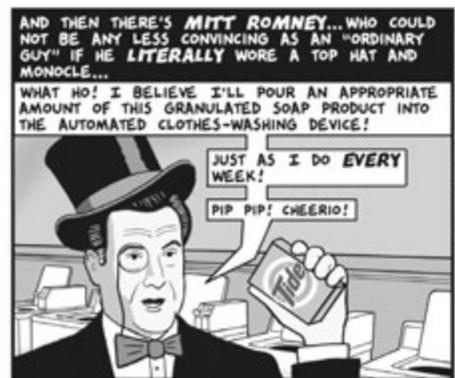
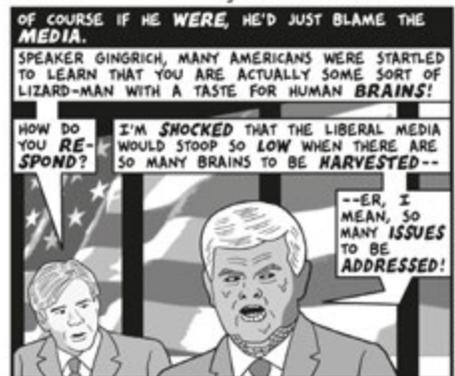
Former Lansing Mayor David Hollister



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PULSE



news & opinion

Foot-in-mouth disease

The mayor's loose cannon strikes again, and other memorable Bernero blow-ups

"Bernero calls the casino opposition 'full of bluster and bullshit' then calls Jim Nye 'a piece of crap.' Seriously."

That was a Twitter post by Kelly Rossman-McKinney on Thursday morning as Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero was delivering his annual State of the City preview speech at the Lansing Center.

McKinney, CEO of the local public relations firm Truscott Rossman, said it costs \$150 a person to attend the Bernero political fundraising event and includes "folks like me," major developers and attorneys.

"I was stunned," Rossman-McKinney said Monday. "The way he specifically referred to Jim Nye in front of hundreds of people. You know our mayor. He gets pretty worked up — and he was really worked up about the thing. It was undignified and uncalled for."

And Rossman-McKinney just tweeted the profanity. Bernero admits to calling Nye, the spokesman for the tribes opposing Lansing's downtown casino plan and a member of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, "Chief Chicken Little" for his role in advocating against the city's plans.

"I would say people were uncomfortable," Rossman-McKinney said. "I don't think they were amused by it. Some people who aren't used to Virg were a little stunned. Even I was a little stunned, and I'm used to Virg."

While he denies allegations that he also said he's being attacked with "bows and arrows," Bernero's gaffe Thursday morning is the latest in what many Lansing-area residents already know: that he's prone to make off-the-cuff remarks about opponents and he's prone to get vulgar.

However, the Chicken Little episode may be the first time Bernero's been pub-

licly accused of making racist comments. He apologized Monday night after his State of the City speech for any harm the comment has caused, but he denied it was premeditated racism.

"I was stunned," Bernero said after Monday night's State of the City speech when asked about the racial slur allegations. "I don't believe I said anything racist. My wife taught me that if she feels hurt, then I owe an apology. My apology is heartfelt. To those I offended, I apologize."

Before taking the stage Thursday morning to address the several hundred people in the audience — which sources say included young children — Bernero said "someone plastered" a makeshift target on his back "as a joke."

He said his intention was not to be racially insensitive. "That was not intended as a title, but to say he's the lead opponent, or lead naysayer — the guy who is leading the charge — the lead Chicken Little saying the sky is falling. I don't see how that is racist. I grew up reading Chicken Little."

Nye sees it differently. He wasn't at the

town Lansing. "That's the thing: The mayor knows who I am," he said, adding that he's never had a personal relationship with Bernero.

Bernero and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians announced the proposed downtown casino. Bernero and tribal leaders are suggesting Nye's counter-attack is a chapter in the high-stakes lobbying and public relations effort accompanying the project.

Aaron Payment, Sault Tribe chairman from 2004 to 2008, defended Bernero in a phone interview Monday night.

"What I think happened is they goaded him," he said. "The term 'chief' is used in English vernacular so frequently: chief lobbyist, chief opponent."

Payment said he called Bernero on his cell phone when he read media reports of the incident.

Yet Payment said had he been there, "I would have been uncomfortable. I would have had to go to Virg and say: 'Do you realize what you said?' Virg has a reputation for saying things off the cuff."

MLive.com reported Monday that Sault Tribe Chairman Joe Eitrem, who did not return calls for comment for this story, said in a statement: "I would ask people to see this episode for what it is: it is nothing more than the operators of other casinos desperately trying to stop a new competitor and thousands of new jobs and economic benefits for the Lansing region and our tribe."

Through the years

Rossman-McKinney not only witnessed Bernero's latest flare-up: She was the target of one in 2007. Here's a look back at some of Bernero's publicly controversial behavior:

- **2006.** Bernero calls City Councilman Brian Jeffries a "pathetic piece of shit" for blocking the nomination of Bob Tresize to head the Lansing Economic Development Corp. Jeffries accepted Bernero's apology.

- **2007.** Bernero calls Democratic state Rep. Joan Bauer's office in a "temper tantrum," City Pulse reported, because she helped raise money for Councilwoman Carol Wood's 2007 Council campaign, Bernero's arch opponent.

- **2007.** Bernero allegedly threat-



Genna Musial/City Pulse

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero delivers his seventh State of the City address Monday night on the heels of some controversial comments he made last week, calling one opponent of the city's casino plan "Chief Chicken Little."

breakfast, but was "contacted by about 10 people who were all there."

"I am deeply offended. ... I think it is disgusting. I should be able to do my job, represent my clients and advocate for their position without being attacked for being Native American."

Nye is the official spokesman for the Saginaw Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the Nottawaseppi Band of Potawatomi Indians, which oppose the city's casino plan. He has been a consultant for Native American issues for more than 12 years, he said, and owns his own firm in down-



Address: 827 N. Washington Ave., Lansing
 Owner: Michigan Press Association
 Assessed value: \$122,200

A quick lesson in mid-century modern architecture coupling: Frank Lloyd Wright and the Guggenheim. Mies van der Rohe and the S.R. Crown Hall. Eero Saarinen and the TWA Terminal. Now add Charles V. Opdyke and the Michigan Press Association.

Opdyke was a Lansing architect who designed this striking modernist cube at 827 N. Washington Ave. Easily overlooked, this diminutive glass and steel box is among the best of the best in Lansing. Flat planes. Flat roof. Large windows. Totally modernist.

According to Michael MacLaren, executive director of the Michigan Press Association, it was built in 1962 and its first life was a bank, the Lansing Teachers Credit Union. The MPA is the building's second owner and has occupied it since 1976.

Luckily, unappreciated mid-century modern buildings are starting to be recognized on the National Register as historic buildings worth preserving.

— Amanda Harrell Seyburn

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

See Bernero, Page 6

Bernero

from page 5

ened retribution to two Old Town merchants for displaying campaign signs in their windows supporting former 1st Ward Councilman Eric Hewitt. (See 2009 below.)

- 2007. Rossman-McKinney loses a contract with the city after Bernero found out she gave the eulogy at Ruth Hallman's funeral, Wood's mother.

- 2009. Bernero and Hewitt exchange vulgarities in the hallway of the City Council chambers over improvements to Frances Park that Hewitt opposed. Bernero called Hewitt "the dumbest motherfucker I have ever seen" and a "piece of shit," and Hewitt responded by calling Bernero a "wop-headed guinea motherfucker," Hewitt, who is half-Italian himself, told City Pulse in December.

- 2012. Bernero admits to calling the opposition's spokesman of the city's casino plan "Chief Chicken Little."

What are we to make of Bernero's latest comment? And how many times have observers explained the behavior as "Virg being Virg?"

Democratic political strategist Todd Cook, who has only read media reports of the latest incident, said the "Chief Chicken Little" comment is out of sync with Bernero's

record on diversity issues. "No doubt Virg is a very passionate politician. He makes no bones about it," Cook said. "When it comes to lots of other communities and diversity, he's been very, very good. Whether it's LGBT, race — he is very good on it."

Rossman-McKinney has a slightly different take.

"It's consistent overall with his angriest mayor" persona, Rossman-McKinney said Monday. "At the same time, I think it eclipsed that, even for him. It's one thing to be angry. It's a whole 'nother thing to be rude, especially when it's uncalled for. You can still disagree with respect and dignity."

Meanwhile, despite the furor over his remarks last week, when Bernero gave his State of the City address Monday night, he departed from his prepared text with a comment some might think demeaning.

Saying the audience may have seen a new Cadillac in the lobby, he added in Henny Youngman fashion, "Unfortunately, so did my wife."



Nye

— Andy Balaskovitz

Going to Plan B

MSU students say they will draw up alternative energy transition plan

A coalition of Michigan State University students, frustrated with the university's newly minted energy transition plan, announced Friday it will submit an alternative plan to MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon by Feb. 28.

"This plan ends with language alone," Talya Tavor of MSU Beyond Coal said of the administration's plan. "There is no actual plan to get to 100 percent renewable energy."

Tavor and another MSU student, Adam Litek of Greenpeace, served on the steering committee of 24 MSU faculty members, staff and students that came up with the energy plan, unveiled Jan. 17.

"We felt we were there as really good pictures," Tavor said of herself and Litek. "But when it came time to listen to what the students wanted, they didn't."

The student groups want the university to pull the plug on its T.B. Simon Power Plant, the largest coal-burning university power plant in the nation, as soon as possible.

MSU's energy transition plan declares an "ultimate goal" of "100 percent renewable energy," but does not specify a time frame.

Read, comment on the plan

To view and give input on the MSU Energy Transition plan, visit www.president.msu.edu/energy-transition-plan/index.html.

Instead, it lays out a series of stepwise targets, from 15 percent renewable energy by 2015 to 40 percent by 2030.

Short-term strategies include

switching to more natural gas, which emits 45 percent less carbon dioxide than coal, and using more biomass at the power plant.

Friday's student speakers said the plan ignores new energy storage technologies, inflates campus growth projections, underestimates the potential of energy conservation, efficiency and solar energy, and wrongly assumes that burning biomass is carbon neutral, among other shortcomings.

"We had to set targets based on the

knowledge and technology we have today, not what might come along," Jennifer Battle, assistant director of MSU's Office of Campus Sustainability and a member of the steering committee, said. "Our planning window stops at 2030, but we intend to review the plan in detail, robustly, every five years."

Tavor said the students on the steering committee weren't given access to the modeling tool used to run the various energy scenarios.

"The modeling tool was only utilized by two people on the steering committee," Tavor said.

Battle said more than two committee members worked with the model, including herself, power plant and Office of Management and Budget staff members, faculty and others. All those who worked with the model, she said, were trained to use it before the committee was formed.

"The model is very complex and there are hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of spreadsheets," Battle said. "With a time limit of one year [to finish the plan], it didn't make sense to spend 90 percent of the time training people in how to use it."

Tavor said she and Litek wanted to train. "There wasn't time in a year?" she asked. "That doesn't sound legitimate."

Simon will submit the steering committee's plan, with or without modifications, to the Board of Trustees at its next meeting, April 13, for final recommendation.

The Beyond Coal coalition plans to submit its alternative plan to Simon Feb. 28.

"They can have a 40 percent renewable plan from the university or a true 100 percent renewable plan from the students," Tavor said.

"If there's an alternative, I'd love to see it," Battle said. "I don't see it as dueling plans. I feel we're going in the same direction."

Thursday, at a public forum at the East Lansing Library, MSU Professor David Wiley offered moral support to anti-coal student activists.

Wiley, an expert on Africa, described the disproportionate health cost of climate change there. He also reminded the group that MSU was the first university in the nation to pass sanctions against companies operating in South Africa under the apartheid regime.

"So the Board of Trustees at MSU is capable of doing some forward-looking things," Wiley told the group.

— Lawrence Cosentino

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PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF LANSING
PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST
FOR THE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2012
PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the public test of the program which will be used for tabulating the results of the Presidential Primary Election to be held Tuesday, February 28, 2012 in the City of Lansing will be conducted at the City Clerk's Election Unit located at the South Washington Office Complex at 2500 South Washington Avenue on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

The public accuracy test is conducted to determine that the program used to tabulate the results of the election counts the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

Chris Swope
Lansing City Clerk

Back for the board

Ferguson to run for fourth term on MSU Board of Trustees

The boss is looking to come back.

Joel Ferguson, chairman of the Michigan State University Board of Trustees for the past six years, announced Wednesday that he's running for a fourth term.

Ferguson, a Democrat, says he still feels like he's adding value to the university's eight-member governing board. He enjoys what he's doing and, at age 73, Ferguson is still viewed as the public face and leader of the statewide elected board.



Ferguson

"Now isn't the time to lose the institutional memory of the board," he said. "We need to continue to get things done. ... MSU must keep its sights on ensuring that this great university is available, accessible and affordable to students of all income levels."

The founder of two television stations in Lansing, WFSL-47 and WLAJ-53, Ferguson has had high praise for MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon. By all accounts, the two work well together.

The Michigan Democratic Party is scheduled to endorse candidates for several down-ballot slots, including MSU trustees, at an early convention in March. For the second straight election cycle, the MDP will officially nominate the candidates who will appear on the Democratic ticket in August or September.

But in order to give its eventual nominees a leg up in the fundraising and name recognition categories, it's giving candidates the informal nod early. The eight-year term will run from 2013 to 2020.

Ferguson is a virtual lock to win one of two spots on the 2012 ballot for Democrats. Board Vice Chairwoman Melanie Foster, a Republican, is also up for re-election. The only other known candidate for the Democratic nomination is Brian Mosallam, a former co-captain on the 1996 MSU football team and current group adviser for AXA Advisors. Ferguson said he's supporting Mosallam's nomination as well.

Earlier this year, a movement to get Cal Rapson — the former No. 2 at UAW International — to run never got off the ground.

Ferguson's decision doesn't come as an enormous surprise. Last year, the president of Lansing-based Ferguson Development told the Michigan Gaming Control Board he would not step down from the MSU board — a decision that cost him the opportunity to serve on the Greektown Casino Board. The Greektown position would have paid him \$210,000 in stock and benefits immediately and \$85,000 annually for five board meetings a year. State law bans elected officials from serving on casino boards.

Ferguson was the first African American elected to the Lansing City Council and the Ingham County Board of Supervisors. He piloted Jesse Jackson's statewide win in the Democratic presidential primary and has run for Lansing mayor and the U.S. Senate.

Ferguson first won a seat on the MSU board in 1986. He was knocked off in 1994 when Democrats struggled during then-Gov. John Engler's re-election campaign. Ferguson ran again in 1996, and with Bill Clinton topping the ticket, he won a second term on the board.

— Kyle Melinn

T's NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of East Lansing in the Counties of Clinton and Ingham

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ADOPTION OF THE BROWNFIELD PLAN #16 FOR THE CITY OF EAST LANSING PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACT 381, 1996, AS AMENDED, OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN.

Please take notice that a Public Hearing shall be held before the Council of the City of East Lansing on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 7:30 pm in Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing, MI 48823 on the adoption of the Brownfield Plan #16 for the City of East Lansing, within which the Authority shall exercise its powers, all pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, being Act 381 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan of 1996, as amended.

The brownfield site includes the property at 1525 West Lake Lansing Road (former Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Central). The property consists of land and there is no personal property included. A detailed legal description of the property along with maps and a copy of the Brownfield #16 are available for public inspection in the Department of Planning and Community Development, City of East Lansing, 517-319-6930.

Please note that all aspects of the Brownfield Plan are open for discussion at the public hearing, at which all interested persons will be provided an opportunity to be heard and written communication will be received and considered. **The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable accommodations, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at this meeting, upon notice to the City of East Lansing prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations or services should write or call the City Manager's Office, 410 Abbott Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, 517-319-6920, TDD 1-800-649-3777.**

Marie McKenna
City Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF EAST LANSING

ORDINANCE 1269

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 50-222 CHAPTER 50 – ZONING – OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING.

Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1269 was adopted by the East Lansing City Council at a regular meeting of the Council held on January 17, 2012, and will become effective 7 days after the publication of the following summary of ordinance.

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO 1269

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

A zoning code amendment to allow commercial outdoor recreational facilities in the RA, Residential Agricultural, zoning district.

A true copy of Ordinance No. 1269 can be inspected or obtained at the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan during normal business hours.

Marie McKenna
City Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on **Wednesday, February 22, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1270, a City-initiated ordinance to amend Article VI, Division 6 at Section 50-794 – of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to amend the permitted land uses.

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

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

Marie McKenna
City Clerk

CITY OF EAST LANSING

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 1271

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING USE DISTRICT MAP OF CHAPTER 50 -- ZONING -- OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING

Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1271 was adopted by the East Lansing City Council at a regular meeting of the Council held on January 17, 2012, and will become effective 7 days after the publication of the following summary of ordinance.

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

The Zoning Use District Map is hereby amended to rezone the following described parcel from the B-3, City Center Commercial District (subject to a Conditional Rezoning Agreement), to B-2, Retail Sales Business District:

Parcel Number: 33-20-01-13-227-020

Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Plat of Oakwood as recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, Page 33, Ingham County Records, also being the Southeast corner of Plat of College Heights as recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, Page 13, Ingham County Records; thence S70°11'09"E along the South line of said Plat of Oakwood 37.78 feet to the point of beginning of this description; thence N19°52'19"E 140.80 feet; thence S67°45'43"E 16.95 feet; thence Southeasterly 117.58 feet along a curve to the left, said curve having a radius of 700.00 feet, a delta angle of 09°37'26", and a chord of 117.44 feet bearing S73°08'53"E; thence S77°28'59"E parallel with the South line of Valley Court 33.37 feet to a point 11.00 feet North of said South line of Valley Court; thence S19°49'52"W 150.54 feet to a point on the South line of said Plat of Oakwood; thence N70°07'45"W continuing along the South line of said Plat of Oakwood 152.49 feet to the Southwest corner of Lot 1 of said Plat of Oakwood; thence N70°11'09"W along said South line 14.93 feet to the point of beginning; said parcel containing 0.55 acre more or less; said parcel subject to all easements and restrictions if any.

More commonly known as 300-310 West Grand River Avenue

A true copy of Ordinance No. 1271 can be inspected or obtained at the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan during normal business hours.

Marie McKenna
City Clerk

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@CityPulse

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Ingham County Housing Commission, on behalf of the Ingham County Land Bank is accepting proposals for the **demolition and disposal** of various properties listed in **Bid Packet# NSP2 11-003-02** available after February 1, 2012 online at www.inghamlandbank.org or at the Ingham County Land Bank NSP2 Office, 600 W. Maple Street, Lansing, Michigan 48906, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Proposals will be due at the NSP2 office before 11:00 am on February 15, 2012. The Bid Opening will be February 15, 2012 at 11:01 a.m. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. 

**NOTICE OF ELECTION
PRIMARY ELECTION
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2012**



**CHRIS SWOPE
LANSING CITY CLERK
CITY OF LANSING**

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing, Counties of Ingham and Eaton, State of Michigan

Notice is hereby given that the City of Lansing will conduct the Presidential Primary Election in the City of Lansing, Counties of Ingham and Eaton, State of Michigan on Tuesday, February 28, 2012. Polls will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will remain open until 8:00 p.m.

For the purpose of nominating candidates to the following offices:

President of the United States (Democratic)
President of the United States (Republican)

The following proposal will be submitted to City of Lansing electors who reside in the East Lansing School District.

East Lansing Schools – Bonding Proposal

Voting Precincts and Polling Places are:

Lansing Ward 1

Pct. 1 - Otto Middle School
Pct. 2 - Board of Water & Light
Pct. 3 - Grand River Headstart
Pct. 4 - Bethlehem Temple Church
Pct. 5 - South Washington Office Complex
Pct. 8 - Fairview Elementary School
Pct. 9 - Post Oak Elementary School
Pct. 10 - Riverfront Apartments
Pct. 12 - Bingham Elementary School
Pct. 14 - Foster Community Center

Lansing Ward 2

Pct. 2 - Forest View Elementary School
Pct. 3 - South Washington Office Complex
Pct. 4 - Mt. Hope Elementary School
Pct. 5 - Henry North Elementary School
Pct. 6 - Henry North Elementary School
Pct. 8 - Gardner Middle School
Pct. 10 - Forest View Elementary School
Pct. 11 - Gardner Middle School
Pct. 12 - Lyons Ave. Elementary School
Pct. 13 - Kendon Elementary School
Pct. 14 - Cavanaugh Elementary School

Lansing Ward 3

Pct. 1E - Southside Community Center
Pct. 4 - Lewton Elementary School
Pct. 5 - Attwood Elementary School
Pct. 6E - Averill Elementary School
Pct. 7 - Attwood Elementary School
Pct. 8 - Wainwright Magnet School
Pct. 10 - Elmhurst Elementary School
Pct. 12 - Averill Elementary School
Pct. 13 - Southside Community Center
Pct. 15 - Pleasant View Magnet School

Lansing Ward 4

Pct. 2 - Emanuel First Lutheran Church
Pct. 3 - Willow Elementary School
Pct. 5 - Willow Elementary School
Pct. 6 - South Washington Office Complex
Pct. 7 - Grace Lutheran Church
Pct. 8 - Letts Community Center
Pct. 9 - Letts Community Center
Pct. 12 - Cumberland School
Pct. 13 - Transitions North
Pct. 14 - St. Stephen Lutheran Church
Pct. 15 - Lewton Elementary School
Pct. 16 - Elmhurst Elementary School

All polling places are accessible and voting instructions are available in alternative formats of audio and Braille. An accessible voting device is also available.

Polling Place Changes: Voters in Ward 2 Precinct 3 now vote at South Washington Office Complex. Voters in Ward 3 Precinct 6E now vote at Averill Elementary School. Voters in Ward 3 Precinct 10 now vote in Elmhurst Elementary School. Voters in Ward 4 Precinct 8 now vote at Letts Community Center. Former Ward 3 Precinct 3 is now Ward 4 Precinct 16.

Photo Identification Required to Vote:

Under Michigan law, ALL voters will be asked to show photo identification to vote at the polls. Voters without identification will be required to fill out and sign an affidavit in order to receive a ballot.

To see if you are registered or to find your polling location, check the Lansing City Clerk's web site at www.lansingmi.gov/clerk.

The Lansing City Clerk's Election Unit, 2500 S. Washington Ave. will be open on Saturday, February 25, 2012, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. to issue and accept absentee ballots to qualified electors. Saturday, February 25, 2012 at 2 p.m. is the deadline to request an absentee ballot be mailed to a voter or have one issued and taken out of the Clerk's Office.

Monday, February 27 at 4 p.m. is the deadline to request an absentee ballot. Ballots requested on Monday, February 27 must be requested and voted in person at the Clerk's Office at 124 W. Michigan Ave, 9th Floor or 2500 S. Washington Ave.

**Chris Swope
Lansing City Clerk**

He's gay, Republican and running for president

POLITICS



KYLE MELINN

At times, Fred Karger wishes he had a counseling degree.

As the first openly gay major party presidential candidate, Karger's been pulled aside more times than he can count to hear the

personal stories.

There's a friend or a family member who just came out as gay or lesbian. They are gay themselves. For some reason they feel comfortable talking to the 62-year-old former Ronald Reagan aide, although the experience is all very new to him.

Being openly gay, that is.

A former Republican political consultant, Karger was always a behind-the-scenes guy, cooking up strategies to blow up opponents. His handiwork includes helping Lee Atwater trot around the families of furloughed murderer Willie Horton's victims, which doomed '88 Democratic presidential nominee Michael Dukakis.

Karger lived with a male partner for 10 years, but he hid the news, rushing his partner out and hiding pictures on family visits.

About six years ago, Karger left the Dolphin Group and the world of Republican politics and took on an unlikely cause — an attempt to save a historic gay bar in Orange County, Calif., called the Boom Boom Room.

He put an ad in Variety magazine, asking rumored buyers George Clooney and Brad Pitt to back off. At that point, Karger was out. Now he's out in a big way.

He's jumping around the country, talking to anyone who will listen about the "caring" Republican Party he knew in the '70s and early '80s. He talks about how old southern Democrats like Jesse Helms and Strom Thurmond drove the GOP into this socially conservative bent, a position Tea Partiers are doing little to correct.

"I know I'm doing the right thing," Karger said. "For a long time of leading this double life that I lived, I'm hoping I can help others live more fulfilling lives, not wait until they're 59."

Karger spent the last several days in Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids, Detroit and Lansing. He's anxious to visit socially conservative Holland and Charlevoix, where the Illinois native's family once vacationed, but neither are on his public agenda.

To be clear, Karger won't win the nomination. He's only on the ballot in Michigan, Puerto Rico, Maryland and North Carolina for now. He'll discover his fate in California next week. About six other states are possibilities, too.

However, he did finish only five votes behind Michele Bachmann and 184 votes ahead of Herman Cain in New Hampshire (good for ninth place).

"I'd like to say that I'm not delusional," he told me. "I know it's a long shot, but if I get in one debate ... There's a desperation

for a new face and I am that outsider, kind of like Herman Cain."

Yet on social issues, Karger is nothing like Cain or any other presidential contender, past or present. Despite being a small-government, low-taxes, strong-national defense Republican, he's also pro-choice and pro-gay marriage.

Interestingly, it's not the national, state or local Republican Party establishment slamming the doors. It's organizations like the American Conservative Union, leaders of the popular CPAC conference.

Karger wanted an opportunity to address the Washington, D.C.-based conference last year and this year. Each time excuses were made. Appeals were ignored. Since the nation's capitol has an ordinance banning discrimination based on sexual orientation, Karger is preparing a legal complaint against the "homophobic group."

"If I have to force them to move their annual conference from Washington to Virginia or some state that doesn't have anti-discrimination laws against LGBT individuals, than so be it," Karger said.

"That's one of my purposes for running. It's to stop this discrimination.

The way he sees it, the Republican Party is chasing away "Bill Milliken" moderates and the polling backs that statement up. The GOP needs to be a big tent for its own survival and right now he sees it as a "minority party on the decline."

The Tea Party is only making things worse because they're not bringing new activists into the fold.

"It's just a rebranding of the conservative, far-right Republicans," he said. "It's not a party. It's a new name for some very, very conservative people. ... I try to talk to as many Tea Partiers as I can so I can get to their values.

"They tell me, 'We just care about taxes,' but then some of them are very active on social issues. They just use the tax thing as a convenient cover," he said.

They do have a place in the Republican Party, though, he said. So do libertarians. So do moderates. So do a growing number of young fiscal conservatives who aren't onboard with the harsh social conservative views of their elders.

Karger said he's reaching out to that younger segment of conservatives and that's why he feels the Republican Party has been so encouraging of his efforts.

"It's because, right now, I'm the only candidate doing that."

(Kyle Melinn is the editor of the MIRS Newsletter. He can be reached at melinn@lansingcitypulse.com.)



Karger



Quest for quality

Genna Musial/City Pulse

The search continues for first-class dining in Lansing

By **JOE TOROK**

We have a well-fed culture of eating in the Lansing region. What we need to nourish is a culture that appreciates great food.

Many of us seem to have an assembly-line mentality when it comes to dining out, and perhaps that's understandable in a car town: We want to eat cheap, fast and in vast quantities. Maybe it's an American thing, like in retail, in which we sometimes consume just to consume. Around here, we sometimes eat just to eat.

As a lifelong Lansing resident and a food writer for four years, I've seen such a culture of eating around this town (and restaurateurs' corresponding eagerness to feed, feed, feed) both in the dining room and behind the scenes. Quality suffers when a restaurant's goal is to stuff people full — and then some — for less money than it costs to see a movie. That's a recipe for mediocrity.

A Michigan State University administrator who wishes to remain anonymous told me the dining scene around Lansing has made deciding on where to host moderate-sized meetings relatively easy.

"Hotel facilities are comparable and ease of travel is not much different," he said. "The deciding factor was the quality and quantity of restaurants. Ann Arbor was the choice in each case. There was no comparison."

Such anecdotal feedback, along with restaurant profiles that some considered fluff without a discerning voice, spurred City Pulse's shift to writing more nuanced, critical reflections of

restaurants, reflections that chronicle one-time dining experiences at eateries around town.

A handful of these reviews have been unflattering. Letters to the editor have cast shame on me, and my writing has been described as crass and ruthless. I've been accused of throwing local restaurants — and their small business owners — under the bus.

Other readers value a critical perspective. Such a perspective is necessary, they say, if the Lansing area is to reach culinary parity with towns of similar stature.

Dan Stockwell is an East Lansing information technology consultant who has dined in fine restaurants around the country, from Bobby Flay's Mesa Grill in New York City to the Buena Vista Café in San Francisco. He comes from a culinary family, too, and is the first in four generations to not own a restaurant. But that hasn't stopped him from appreciating food done well.

"The Lansing food scene needs critical voices," Stockwell says. Stockwell is an articulate connoisseur of restaurants and, along with his wife, Donna Clingersmith, looks for excuses to dine out — of town. Among other destinations, they frequent Zingerman's establishments in Ann Arbor, in part because of the limited number of consistently reliable restaurants in the area.

"You can go to a place and it can be terrific," Stockwell says of dining in the greater Lansing area, "but go back two months later and it's like (the food) came right off a Gordon Food Service truck."

Disagreements over the value of

critical reviews aside, few would make the case that Lansing is a foodie destination. Yes, there are good places to eat in town — a few great places, in fact.

But for culinary adventurers looking to plan a road trip, Lansing's not on the same map as Ann Arbor. Despite an internationally oriented university in the area, a tremendous public sector infrastructure as the state capital and a substantial professional class, Lansing's not even on par with a much smaller Michigan town like Traverse City.

A lackluster dining reputation has certainly not resulted in a shortage of places to eat, as demonstrated by a wealth of both locally owned and chain restaurants. But more choice hasn't necessarily fostered a culture that demands and appreciates great food.

On the western edge of Lansing, a culture of food, literally rooted in the community, may be burgeoning with a more forceful identity at Fork in the Road Artesian Diner.

See Quality, Page 10



Genna Musial/City Pulse

Soup Spoon Cafe cook Stefan Johnson prepares dishes for the lunchtime crowd. The Lansing eatery's afternoon menu includes whitefish tacos, Greek tenderloin linguine and Shrimp "Voodoo" Pasta, tossed in a Cajun tarragon-sherry sauce.

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Source: OCLC primary research, 2010

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Quality

from page 9

Owners Jesse Hahn and Ben Ackerman are delighted to be on the cutting edge of a different way of dining in this town. Their enterprise is local to the core: Fork in the Road works with area farmers and food producers to secure as much local produce, meat, cheese, eggs and whatever else they can find from the region's fertile and diverse farmland to put on the menu. Local is the way to go, they say, when serving high-quality food is not an option.

"It's fresher, it's crisper. Take our carrots and take a chain restaurant's carrots. There's no comparison," Hahn says. "We have a strategic advantage."

Fork in the Road encourages a respect for food at the most fundamental level. The owners plan to maintain a small garden outside the restaurant next summer and take staff field trips to local farms.

Ackerman says he spent 10 hours on a farm one day last summer. Getting his hands dirty gave Ackerman a greater appreciation for the dishes he serves.

"It helped me understand what it takes to get food from the earth to the table," he says. "It's important to know where your food comes from."

A culture that demands high-quality food may be malnourished in this town's restaurant scene, but that's nothing new. Fine dining has come, gone and reappeared in various forms through the years. On Lansing's eastside, Soup Spoon Café has grown into a destination for good eats.

Owner Nick Gavrilides says Soup Spoon's success comes from the talented staff he's assembled and people in the area who respect food done right. Building a success story like Soup Spoon, though, is difficult, to put it mildly.

"People don't realize how small, how tiny the profit margin is," Gavrilides says of owning a restaurant.

Food costs are just the start; regulations, licenses, security, heating, lighting, décor, staff, accidents and so many other variables chip away at what is already a tight operating budget.

"My advice to someone who wants to start a restaurant is work in one, for a long time," Gavrilides says. "Know your business inside and out, and care about your guests. They don't have to come in."

That kind of foodie-focused attitude embraces both a commitment to plate first-rate meals and a mission to making the dining experience both pleasurable and memorable. It's what great restaurants are known for, and it's what regions with outstanding dining offer in more than isolated pockets.

Self-described foodie Mark Nixon, communications director for the Board

"You can go to a place and it can be terrific," Stockwell says of dining in the greater Lansing area, "but go back two months later and it's like (the food) came right off a Gordon Food Service truck."

—Dan Stockwell

of Water and Light, has witnessed the vicissitudes of local dining over the years. A former writer for the Lansing State Journal, Nixon wrote an editorial in April 2001, bemoaning the dearth of quality dining in town.

Things have improved since he penned that opinion, he says.

"I would call it above average and getting better," Nixon says of the area's restaurant options. "To put it in automotive terms, it's not Car of the Year, but it's only a few years away from being mentioned with Ann Arbor and Traverse City."

Perhaps.

This area robustly supports a culture of fine arts, sports and entertainment. We pay premium prices for world-class performances at the Wharton Center. Many of us are thrilled at the opportunity to spend thousands of dollars for season tickets to collegiate football or basketball games, and we'll travel thousands of miles to bowl games and Final Fours. We even support professional baseball — and a shiny new casino could be on the way next.

We can support a renowned dining scene in this town, too, and a growing identity linked to locally sourced food production wouldn't hurt.

But a culture of copious consumption is no way to do it. It's unhealthy beyond the corporeal; it's a culture that's unsustainable for many local restaurateurs who operate with miniscule profit margins, without the safety net of a corporate superstructure that includes lawyers, extended credit lines and supply chain perks. In the end, a dismal culinary ethos of eating more, more, more for less, less, less lowers the food service bar to the least common denominator.

Julia Child was quoted as saying she didn't learn to cook until she was 32; up until then she just ate.

For the Lansing region to raise its culinary reputation, both diners and restaurateurs must think beyond merely eating. If haute cuisine is on the menu, we must continue to cultivate great love for great food.

Fall In LOVE With Old Town

Old Town Hosts Annual Meeting & Winter Mixer

The Old Town Commercial Association (OTCA) will be hosting their Annual Meeting & Winter Mixer on February 7 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at Perspective2 Studio, 319 East Grand River Avenue in Old Town Lansing. This is a great opportunity to celebrate a year of successes in Old Town and the very talented and dedicated volunteers and partners that allowed it all to happen.

There will be opportunities to join one of the five committees that OTCA facilitates; Promotion, Design, Economic Restructuring, Organization, and Residential Initiatives. A variety of refreshments from Old Town businesses as well as cocktails and light hors d'oeuvres will be served at the event. This event is free and open to the public. We encourage everyone to join us and learn about the variety of opportunities available to get involved with the Old Town community!

Black History Month Exhibit

This February, Old Town's By the Riverside Gallery will be commemorating Black History Month with an exhibit dedicated to African American artists. The exhibit "Color-Blind" opens February 5th for 1-4p.m. Owner Karen Massoglia has collaborated with local artists including Anna Williams, Shalonda Garza, and Julian K. Van Dyke to produce this exhibit.

Living near Detroit and surrounded by its diversified culture, Massoglia was raised to be 'blind' to color. Recently inspired by a photograph she took of a bi-racial couple who live near her gallery, she selected the exhibit's title Color-Blind.

Featured Artists

- Anna Williams: Textile artist, including quilting inspired by the Underground Railroad.
- Julian K. Van Dyke: Illustrator, actor, author and also a dear friend of Robert Busby's.
- Shalonda Garza: Expresses an emotional side of the African-American family that everyone can relate to.
- Robert Busby will be honored with a self-portrait on display in the gallery.

The Riverside Gallery is located at 1209 Turner, Lansing.. Weekly hours at By the Riverside are the following: Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 11:00am-6:00pm, Wednesday 1:00-6:00pm, Saturday 10:00am-5:00pm

February Events

For complete list of events visit iloveoldtown.org

- First Sunday Gallery Walk.....February 5th
- Promotions Committee.....February 7th
- Design Committee Meeting.....February 7th
- Winter Mixer & Annual Meeting.....February 7th
- LCC Class @ MICA: Fan The Flash.....February 11th
- ROOT Group Meeting.....February 16th
- LCC Class @ MICA: World of Wine.....February 17th
- Organization Committee Meeting.....February 27th



Arts & Culture

art • books • film • music • theater

Make your own kind of music

Everyone gets a chance to be part of the chorus in annual Singing Festival

By RICH TUPICA

When upwards of 500 people meet at the Hannah Community Center to simultaneously and brazenly sing their hearts out, the result is an enormous wave of sound.

Each year the Ten Pound Fiddle hosts the Mid-Winter Singing Festival, along with help from “song leaders,” who keep things moving from the stage. All skill levels are welcome to show up, grab a lyric book and shamelessly belt it out.

Event organizer Sally Potter said the festival, celebrating its 10th year, isn't an ordinary performance-style concert: It's all about audience interaction.

“There's nothing like connecting with people when you're sharing the same sound,” Potter said. “When you're making the same sound at the same time, it's powerful. When you sit in the Hannah Community Center with all these people, and these wonderful song leaders on stage, they're not performing — they're song-leading.

“This festival gives you permission to sing, no matter how good you are. It encourages you to sing all the words to every song. The sound is immense, it's very moving.”



Courtesy photo

Musician Joel Mabus will be one of the song leaders on Saturday night at the Mid-Winter Singing Festival at Hannah Community Center in East Lansing.



Courtesy photo

Suzy Bogguss racked up many hit singles on the country chart in the 1990s, including “Hey Cinderella,” “Drive South” and “Just Like the Weather.” She went back a long way for the material on last year's “American Folk Songbook” album, which features such standards as “Banks Of The Ohio,” “Wildwood Flower” and “Froggy Went A-Courtin'.”

This year's two-day event kicks off Friday with Suzy Bogguss appearing as a song leader. Bogguss is a platinum-selling country star who's also a Grammy and Country Music Awards winner. On Saturday night, local song leaders include Joel Mabus, Pat Madden, Frank Youngman and Mark Dvorak, along with help from choir director Rachel Alexander.

As for the songs, Potter said, “People will know ‘em, they'll love ‘em.” Fiddle organizers have amassed a 42-page lyric book filled with songs by James Taylor, Bob Dylan, Woody Guthrie, John Hartford, Leonard Cohen, Pete Seeger and more.

As for Bogguss, during a phone interview the Illinois-born songwriter said she'll lead the audience on some of her '90s country hits and tunes from her 2011 album, “American Folk Songbook,” which meshes perfectly with the singing festival's motif.

The 55-year-old songwriter said she decided to record stripped-down folk classics in hopes of introducing them to a younger audience.

“I was on tour with Garrison Keillor of ‘Prairie Home Companion,’ and he picked out one of the old folk songs I remember from my fifth-grade songbook for a sing-a-long,” Bogguss recalled. “Everybody who was 30 or younger didn't know the words, and it made me think about losing some of these songs.”

As for her part in the Mid-Winter Singing Festival, Bogguss said it's all new to her.

“I've never done anything like this before and it sounds really fun,” Bogguss said. “They'll have basically all the lyrics for every song in order, which I hope I can hold myself to because I'm one of those people that sort of fights complacency. I don't really know what to expect except that my players are fantastic and people will get to see some great musicians as well as a sing-a-long.”

After a decade of hosting annual group sings, Potter said the festival draws fans from as far away as Chicago, Ontario and Cleveland.

“Each year we get a few more people coming,” Potter said. “It's a transient community, it's a university community, so people leave town — but they're replaced by new fans. We're noticing more and more people from out of town are finding us.”

Lighter side of darkness

‘Addams Family’ haunts the Wharton Center

By PAUL WOZNIAK

They're cheeky and they're goofy/Not too mysterious but playfully spooky/They perform quite musically/“The Addams Family” (Snap! Snap!).

It's yet another adaptation of the Charles Addams cartoons, this time for the Broadway stage. But this show is hardly a reanimated sellout. It is mostly funny and highly entertaining for its target audience, which would be parents who were raised on the 1960s TV show. Think of “The Birdcage” mixed with Tim Burton's Gothic aesthetics and you have the essence of “The Addams Family.”

When young Wednesday Addams (Cortney Wolfson) falls for Lucas Beineke (Brian Justin Crum), she swears her father to secrecy regarding their upcoming nuptials. Now, Gomez (Douglas Sills) must choose between honoring Morticia (Sara Gettelinger) by never telling a lie,

and honoring his daughter's request. After Wednesday's parents meet Lucas' parents, plans go awry and truths finally emerge.

“The Addams Family” may be a musical, but the emphasis is on the jokes cued by long beats and longer stares. Many are morbid but most are just groaners. Example: When Lucas' mother Alice (Christy Morton) asks if the Addamses have a “little girls room,” Gomez responds, “We used to, but we let



Courtesy photo

Daughter Wednesday (Cortney Wolfson) has some shocking news for her usually shock-proof parents Gomez (Douglas Sills) and Morticia (Sara Gettelinger) in the musical version of “The Addams Family.”

Review

‘The Addams Family’

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1 and Thursday, Feb. 2; 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3; 2 and 8 p.m. Sat., Feb. 4; 1 and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5
Wharton Center
\$30-\$70

(800) WHARTON

www.whartoncenter.com

10th Annual Mid-Winter Singing Festival

Presented by Ten Pound Fiddle

Friday, Feb. 3, with song leader Suzy Bogguss; Saturday, Feb. 4, with song leaders Joel Mabus, Pat Madden, Frank Youngman and Mark Dvorak

Hannah Community Center
819 Abbot Road, East Lansing

Gate opens at 7 p.m., doors at 7:30 p.m., singing begins at 8 p.m. each night
\$20 public, \$15 Fiddle members, \$5 for students.
www.tenpoundfiddle.org

See Addams, Page 13

Finding her 'Courage'

Leslie Hull bids farewell to MSU by taking on Bertolt Brecht's 'Mother'

By PAUL WOZNAK

The Michigan State University Theatre production of Bertolt Brecht's "Mother Courage and Her Children" utilizes the same English translation by Tony Kushner ("Angels in America") as the 2006 Shakespeare in the Park production starring Meryl Streep (yes, that Meryl Streep).

At the time, Ben Brantley of The New York Times likened Streep's performance to watching "one willowy human being lift a 12-ton play onto her shoulders and hold it there for hours."

It should come as no surprise to MSU Theatre fans that master's student Leslie Hull is taking on the monumental title character as her thesis role. Anna Fierling, a.k.a. "Canteen Anna," makes her living from the war, only to lose all three of her children during the conflict. The role presented new challenges as someone who is admirable for her stoicism but detestable for her extremely misplaced values.

"My first reading of her — I did not like her," says Hull, noting Anna's cold persona. "But after I spent more time with her, I could see where she was coming from."

Hull says she grew to empathize with a person surrounded by constant violence and the strength it takes to keep moving despite the slow loss of her own humanity. Hull conducted considerable research for the role, including taking a trip to Berlin to see a production of "Mother Courage." In a twist of fate, the performance was canceled the day Hull arrived, due to an injury sustained by the lead actress from pulling the character's

giant cart. Fortunately, Hull was able to watch another Brecht production and visit Brecht's home, which she described as "very Spartan."

Hull's total immersion into her character is just one thing that the show's director Mark Colson admires. "I couldn't have asked for a better actress to play this role," Colson says. "She does have that strength (and) power. She has a tremendous vulnerability as well."

Colson says what really makes Hull a professional is her willingness to try new things every rehearsal. "As far as a director is concerned, that's the most you can ask from your actor: going out there and trying different things and stretching your own boundaries every single time. That's amazing because it gives you multitude of choices for the two of us."

In addition to the extra demands that come with directing Brecht — such as interpreting Brecht's body of theories throughout the play — Colson says this production also has to incorporate

multimedia elements. The real challenge is that multimedia in theater can still mean virtually anything.

Colson and Hull agreed that it was important the multimedia element "wasn't going to take away from our storytelling," Colson says.

Hull says that while the play is set during the Thirty Years' War in the 1600s, the commentary is much broader.

"There is always something going on like this somewhere, and not just military conflict. It's about thinking of war in a broader sense," she says.

Despite deliberately anachronistic costumes that aim to distort the sense of period to frequent out-of-character asides designed to throw the audience off balance, Hull and Colson argue that this show is accessible to everyone.

"I'm not interested in doing some dusty old piece for a bunch of Brecht scholars," Colson says. "We're doing this piece for a modern, contemporary audience."

As Hull's final performance at MSU, "Mother Courage" will be a bittersweet farewell. "I've enjoyed my time here so much," Hull says. "I've had so many wonderful experiences onstage and off. It's a beautiful show to honor that."



Leslie Hull

'Mother Courage and Her Children'

Michigan State University Theatre
Fairchild Theatre
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 7,
Wednesday, Feb. 8, and
Thursday, Feb. 9; 8 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 10; 2 and 8 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 11; 2 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 12
\$15; \$10 students
(800) WHARTON
www.whartoncenter.com

Addams

from page 12

them all go." Get it?

Fortunately, the entire cast plays into the show's tongue-in-cheek vibe. As Gomez, Sills distills an earnest blend of passionate husband and family humorist that at times sounds like Batman's nemesis The Joker as played by Ricky Ricardo. Gettelfinger perfectly mirrors Sills' flam-

boyancy with her deadpan delivery. Their chemistry is electric.

But it's Morton who almost steals the spotlight with her sultry showstopper, "Waiting," at the end of Act One.

The strongest numbers appear in the second act including Uncle Fester's "The Moon and Me" and the Gomez and Morticia duet "Tango de Amor," although the entire production flows smoothly.

"The Addams Family" succeeds by being truthful to its source material in all its forms, living and dead.

THE SCREENING ROOM by JAMES SANFORD

Cronenberg tackles 'Dangerous' material with style

Director David Cronenberg's "A Dangerous Method" starts with a bang — and a banshee — as a hysterical Sabrina Spielrein (Keira Knightley) enters the picture, howling and growling, threatening to rip off her gown and shred her skin. Although she's a Russian aristocrat, she does not embody the stereotype of suffering in silence.

It's 1904, and she's being whisked away to the secluded Swiss clinic of psychiatrist Carl Jung (Michael Fassbender), who envisions Spielrein as a perfect candidate for his "talking cure." Asked what kinds of interests she has, Spielrein sneeringly replies, "Suicide. Interplanetary travel." Jung will also quickly learn she's fascinated by spankings, even though they make her feel "vile and filthy and corrupt."

Jung's patient will become his secret lover, which jeopardizes his personal and professional relationship with his mentor, Sigmund Freud (Viggo Mortensen). But when Freud and Spielrein finally meet, Freud's stern stance is challenged.

Lurking on the edges of what could turn into a bizarre love triangle is Otto Gross (Vincent Cassel), a doctor who has sought treatment from Jung and who's not above making a diagnosis of his own.

"If there's one thing I have learned in my short life, it's this," Gross declares. "Never repress anything."

'A Dangerous Method'

Playing at Celebration Cinema Lansing,
200 E. Edgewood Blvd.,
Lansing
www.celebrationcinema.com

To Cronenberg, those must sound like words to live by. The filmmaker has never been one to soft-sell kinkiness or ignore the scarier side of human nature.

Even so, what's most shocking about Cronenberg's treatment of Christopher Hampton's screenplay (adapted from John Kerr's book, "A Most Dangerous Method") is its unexpectedly low-key atmosphere. It is reminiscent of his 1988 shocker, "Dead Ringers," in which Jeremy Irons played twin gynecologists; the movie was so calm



Courtesy photo

Keira Knightley and Michael Fassbender play doctor and patient in director David Cronenberg's "A Dangerous Method."

and cool that only in the last third did you realize how creepy it was.

The wild card in "Method" is Knightley, who turns in a bold, daring and aggressively physical performance. Sabina's fits seem to stop just short of turning her inside out: Her posture stiffens as if she's being stretched on a torture rack, her jaw juts out, her eyes nearly burst out of their sockets.

By contrast, Fassbender and Mortensen are nearly reduced to elegant wallflowers. Mortensen's Freud is often dryly amusing, especially when he tries to maintain a pompous air in the powerhouse presence of Spielrein.

As Jung's high-mindedness slowly disintegrates — "Why should we put so much effort into suppressing our most basic instincts?" he wonders as he contemplates an affair with Spielrein — Fassbender unveils a mass of conflicted emotions and unaddressed desires buried inside a seemingly upright, pipe-puffing family man. While Knightley may have the dramatic fireworks in her corner, Fassbender masterfully and subtly etches a portrait of a dedicated doctor who is utterly incapable of helping himself.

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Courtesy photo
Love is a comic battlefield for Roger Ortman and Lisa Sodman, who play multiple roles in Stormfield Theatre's "Romantic Fools," directed by Rob Roznowski.

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Saturday, February 11, 2012
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CALL 989-399-7589 for tickets

STEAM RAILROADING INSTITUTE
405 Washington Street
Owosso, Michigan



'Fools' rush in at Stormfield

Romance is a laughing matter in 'vaudeville' show

By MARY C. CUSACK

Chalk one up for truth in advertising, as a show subtitled "A Comic Vaudeville" lives up to its promise.

From the props to the physical farce, the show is a throwback to traditional vaudeville styles, spiced up with modern-day sexual politics.

The full title of Stormfield Theatre's production is "Romantic Fools: A Comic Vaudeville." The work is a series of vignettes that trace the evolution of relationships from blind dates to meeting Mr./Ms. Right, concluding with matrimony. The first act focuses on the many clichés of dating and sexual politics between single people.

A cast of two, aptly named Man (Roger Ortman) and Woman (Lisa Sodman), play multiple characters. Eventually the broad characters morph from Man and Woman to Roger and Lisa, more realistic characters who deal with self-doubt as they grow toward emotional intimacy. It's more humorous than it sounds.

It is obvious that director Rob Roznowski has great affection for the script, and has a pair of actors who fearlessly throw themselves into roles that require a complete lack of self-consciousness to be successful. Ortman and Sodman are game while playing everything from a caveman to a call girl.

The script relies on the familiar, sometimes tired Mars/Venus contrasts. As with any vaudeville show, for every amateur magician who can't find the right card, there's a contortionist who amazes with her ability to pull herself through a small wire hoop.

An early vignette involving Lisa's blind date with a caveman is predictable and almost painfully goofy.

Thankfully, the material gets better and eventually allows the cast to stretch. Sodman hits her mark as the "Nightmare in a Sexy Skirt," bringing to life every man's worst imaginings of a bad first date.

Playwright Rich Orloff creates the most successful gags when presenting modern clichés in the context of familiar vaudeville bits. He hits a home run when Man gives a "Who's on First" play-by-play of a swingers party.

Abbott and Costello must be rolling in their graves — with laughter. Ortman and Sodman hit their stride in the opening of Act Two, when they prove that a little competition is good for a relationship.

The show would seem to climax with "Vegetarians in Lust," in which Lisa seduces Roger by talking dirty. Never have the words "Doritos" and "Cheetos" been more salacious.

That bit is funny, but the show actually peaks when Ortman takes the stage as Groucho Marx, a wedding planner who persistently hits on his client. Ortman has mastered the speed of Marx's clipped quips and winking nods to the audience.

Unfortunately, after this vignette the show loses its edginess and the couple devolves into being the titular romantic fools.

The play may not end with a whimper, but it doesn't end with a bang, either. Save the cigarette for the next Tennessee Williams production.

'Romantic Fools'

Through Feb. 19
7 p.m. Thursdays; 8 p.m.
Fridays and Saturdays; 2
p.m. Sundays
Stormfield Theatre
201 Morgan Lane,
Lansing
\$18 Thursdays; \$24
Fridays and Saturdays;
\$20 Sundays; \$10
students with ID; \$2 off
regular price for seniors
(517) 372-0945
www.stormfieldtheatre.org

CityPULSE

The weekly paper Lansing reads | **RATE CARD 2012**

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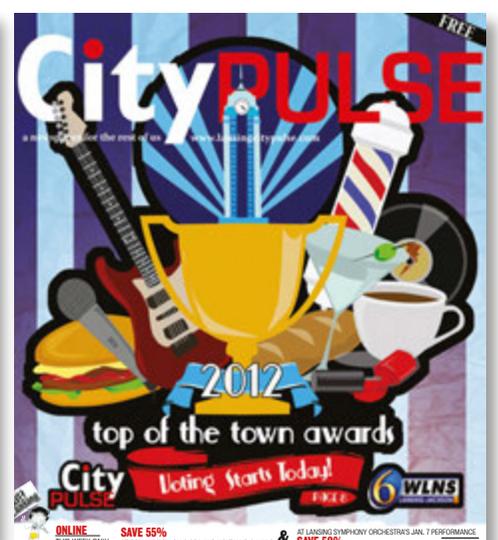
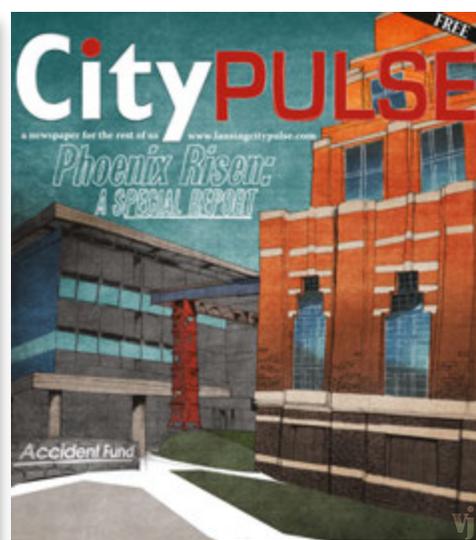
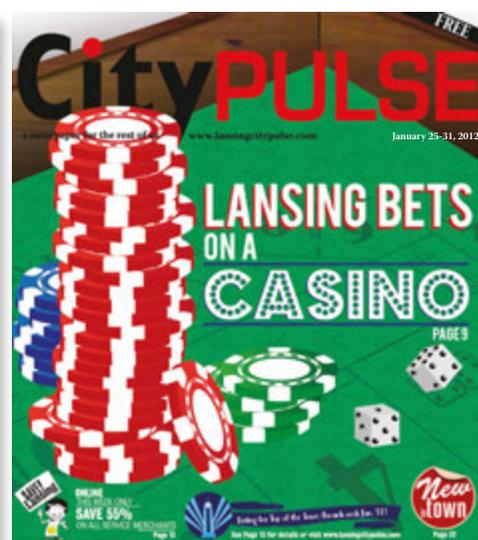
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 Feb. 8 Valentine's Day Issue; Pet Page
 Feb. 15 Greenhouse Page
 Feb. 22
 Feb. 29 Leap Year Issue; First Sunday Gallery Page

MARCH
 March 7
 March 14 St. Patrick's Day Issue; Pet Page
 March 21 "Top of the Town" Winners Issue
 March 28 First Sunday Gallery Walk Page

APRIL
 April 4 Summer Camp Page
 April 11
 April 18
 April 25 First Sunday Gallery Walk Page

MAY
 May 2
 May 9 Mother's Day Issue; Pet Page
 May 16
 May 23
 May 30 First Sunday Gallery Walk Page

JUNE
 June 6
 June 13 Gay Pride and Father's Day Issue; Pet Page
 June 20 Farmers Market Issue
 June 27 First Sunday Gallery Walk Page

JULY
 July 5 (Thursday)
 July 11 Pet Page
 July 18
 July 25 JazzFest Issue; First Sunday Gallery Walk Page

AUGUST
 Aug. 1
 Aug. 8 Primary Election Preview; Pet Page
 Aug. 15
 Aug. 22
 Aug. 29 Back-to-School Issue; First Sunday Gallery Walk Issue

SEPTEMBER
 Sept. 5 BluesFest Issue
 Sept. 12 Non Profit Issue
 Sept. 19
 Sept. 26

OCTOBER
 Oct. 3
 Oct. 10
 Oct. 17
 Oct. 24 Halloween Issue
 Oct. 31 General Election Preview

NOVEMBER
 Nov. 7
 Nov. 14
 Nov. 21
 Nov. 28 Holiday Gift Guide

DECEMBER
 Dec. 6
 Dec. 12 Last-Minute Gift Issue
 Dec. 19
 Dec. 26 New Year's Eve Issue

JANUARY 2013
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 Jan. 9 Bridal Guide; Pet Page
 Jan. 16 Grower Supply Issue
 Jan. 23
 Jan. 30 First Sunday Gallery Walk Page

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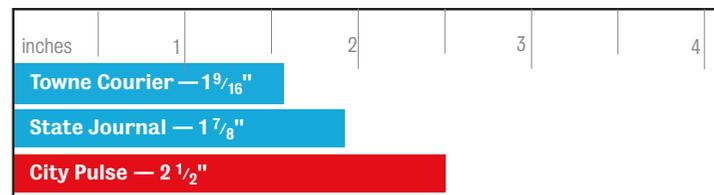
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a newspaper for the rest of us

City Pulse surveyed 495 readers in December 2012.

Among the findings:

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Level of Education Completed: High School: 14.57% College: 51.62% Graduate Degree: 33.81%	Dining Out (Not Fast Food): Daily: 3.43% 2 or more times a week: 31.31% Once a week: 34.55% Less than weekly: 17.17% Less than monthly: 13.54%	Obtain City Pulse: Pick it up myself 87.7% Online 6.05% City Pulse Newsletter .04% Spouse/Partner brings it home 3.83% Co-workers bring it into office 2.02%	Take City Pulse with you to read: Take it along: 76.86% Don't take: 23.14%
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A single man

Chad DeKatch heads up the ensemble cast of Sondheim's 'Company'

By CHRISTOPHER HORB

When the lights come up on the Holt Dimondale Community Players' production of "Company," it will be the realization of a dream for its star, Chad DeKatch.

"I love Sondheim, of course, and I've always been a really big fan of this show. This is one of those roles I've always wanted to do," said DeKatch, who leads the cast as Bobby in the Stephen Sondheim musical.

"Company," directed by Kelly Stuible, bows Thursday at Holt Junior High School.

It's a character — and a story — DeKatch can strongly relate to these days.

"It's about a single 35-year-old man surrounded by lots of married friends, and I am a 35-year-old man with lots of married friends," he said, with a laugh.

'Company'

Holt-Dimondale Community Players
Through Feb. 11
Holt Junior High School,
1784 Aurelius Road, Holt
7 p.m. Thursdays and
Fridays; 2 and 7 p.m.
Saturdays
\$12; \$8 students and
seniors
(517) 694-3411

examining the lives of his closest friends — five very different sets of couples — as

he celebrates his birthday and begins to question his stance on intimacy.

"These themes and questions are just so universal. (Bobby) is asking 'Am I meant to share my life with someone? Do I even want to share my life with someone?'" DeKatch said.

"I don't think anyone has found the equation for a perfect relationship, but he's kind of looking to his friends for answers."

The cast includes Joe Quick, Doak Bloss, Joe Dickson, Sarah Hauck, Mandy



Photo by Luke Anthony Photography

Chad DeKatch can't decide whether to put a ring on it in Stephen Sondheim's "Company."

Fuller, Joe Baumann, Mandy Fuller, Shelly Garyet, Nate Tyockki, Nicole Martin, Abbie Tyockki, Abigail English, Amanda Knowlton and Veronica Gracia-Wing.

"Company," which won the Tony Award for best musical of 1970, is known for its unusual non-linear plot being composed of series of vignettes. Its best-known numbers include "Being

Alive," "Marry Me A Little" and "Side by Side by Side."

"Sondheim truly is brilliant — and he's actually pretty difficult to sing," DeKatch said. "He's a master of making you think a song is going in one direction, but then taking it in a completely different one."

DeKatch said the show has endured because there's so much for audience members — whether single or married — to identify with in Bobby's journey of self-discovery.

"He's a good guy, very real. You want to get on board with him and make the right decision — whatever that decision is. You want him to win."

'Shoes' with a history

A true story inspired Joseph Zettelmaier's Western

By ALYSSA FIRTH

Playwright Joseph Zettelmaier is picking up where a famous outlaw left off in his new play, "Dead Man's Shoes," which gets its world premiere at Williamston Theatre.

In 1881, outlaw George Parrott was hanged for the murder of two law enforcement officers in Wyoming. After his death, Drs. Thomas Maghee and John Eugene Osborne took Parrot's body to study his "criminal brain" and to perform experiments on the corpse. Among other things,

'Dead Man's Shoes'

Williamston Theatre
123 S. Putnam Road,
Williamston
Through Feb. 26
8 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays;
3 and 8 p.m. Saturdays; 2
p.m. Sundays
8 p.m. preview Thursday, Feb.
2; all seats \$15
As of Feb. 3: \$20 Thursdays,
\$25 Friday and Saturday
evenings, \$22 matinees (\$2
off for seniors); \$10 students
(517) 655-7469
www.williamstontheatre.com

Parrot's skin was made into a pair of shoes that Dr. Osborne kept — and later allegedly wore to the inaugural ball when he became governor of Wyoming in 1893.

The story of Parrott was one of the first things to come up when Zettelmaier did a quick search of outlaw stories on the Internet, and he said he knew right away there was a play in it.

"Shoes" opens in 1883, with the meeting of Injun Bill Pecote (Drew Parker) and his drunken cohort, Froggy (Aral Gribble.) Pecote and Froggy have escaped from prison, and the play follows them on their journey through the Wild West. Pecote is on a mission to find Osborne and get vengeance for his friend, Parrott.

Zettelmaier, who lives in Milan, said the parts of Pecote and Froggy were written with Parker and Gribble in mind. "Shoes" co-stars Paul Hopper and Maggie Meyer, who play the many characters that Pecote

and Froggy meet along the way.

The 37-year-old Zettelmaier has already won his second Edgerton Foundation New American Plays Award for "Shoes"; he won his first in 2009 for "It Came From Mars," which was produced by Williamston Theatre and Ann Arbor's Performance Network in 2010. Zettelmaier's culture-clash comedy, "And the Creek Don't Rise," broke records at Williamston last summer, becoming the theater's best-selling show ever.

Zettelmaier said he knew he wanted to write a different kind of Western before he even started his research.

"One of my big things is, I never write the same play twice," he said. "I always like to be different."

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Courtesy Photo

You probably won't see former presidential candidate Herman Cain yukking it up in the audience when comedian D.L. Hughley takes the stage at Connxtions Comedy Club this weekend: Last fall, Hughley created a firestorm of controversy when he used Twitter to tell the world that Cain looks "like he should be on the Cream of Wheat box." Cain's supporters were not amused. Don't expect the former CNN host to pull any punches when he performs at 8 and 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Tickets are \$25. Connxtions is located at 2900 N. East St. in Lansing. Call (517) 374-4242, or visit www.connxtionscomedyclub.com for more information.

Stunning 'Stone'

Purple Rose Theatre drama is a solid triumph

By TOM HELMA

It takes a singer with a great voice to bring out the complexities of a well-composed opera. Likewise, it takes an actor with great range to project the nuances of a well-written script. Behold the pairing in "A Stone Carver," by epic-writer William Mastrosimone, which demonstrates the talents of Purple Rose Theater's artistic director, Guy Sanville. It's a marriage of mind and heart made in, if not heaven, at least close to Sicily.

Review

"A Stone Carver" is a word-opera with soaring heights of spirited and passionate conflicts between aging first generation Sicilian-American sculptor Agostino Malatesta (Sanville), a bit beyond his prime years, and his only son, Raff (Matthew Davis), who has assimilated to appear like the coolest of cucumbers. Add to the mix, Raff's fiancée, Janice (Charlyn Swarthout), and this Italianate salad gets truly tossed.

Agostino is old-school, a man of many words — most of them bilingual curses. He is intense, scary to Janice at first, rude, crude, obnoxious and angry.

Did I say angry? "He's not angry, he's him," Raff explains to Janice. The antagonism between father and son has been stewing and brewing for a long time, and now Raff (short for Raphael) is running for mayor.

Meanwhile, Agostino refuses to leave his house, which is scheduled for demolition: A proposed expressway offramp is

supposed to run right through his small piece of property.

Sanville brings a native intensity to his role. His Agostino physically dominates his son, and he owns the stage.

He convincingly portrays an increasingly drunk, paranoid Sicilian who has lost his wife and mourns her passing by occasionally talking to her as if she is still there. His lines are infused with passion and Sicilian words of "wisdom" that must have come from the personal life of Mastrosimone when he was growing up.

The scenes with Janice, however, come to life with a different shimmering intensity. Swarthout is initially appalled at what seems to be the old man's repugnant disrespect for women, and yet as the play progresses she manages to find a way to carve through the stony exterior of this troubled soul to find, first a playful humor that his son has never seen, and then the tenderness inside.

In the midst of this Mastrosimone throws in a plot twist that wrenches one's soul.

Baby boomers who have taken on the task of caring at home for aging difficult parents will easily understand the love/confusion/hate dynamic of this story.

Agostino is not an easy character to like. Long unresolved issues between father and son do more than linger: They bubble up, like a volcano about to explode.

Does the father break? Is there reconciliation? Do these three people live happily ever after? Of course not.

'A Stone Carver'

Purple Rose Theatre
137 Park St., Chelsea
Through March 10
3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Wednesdays and
Saturdays; 8 p.m.
Thursdays and Fridays;
2 p.m. Sundays
\$25 Wednesdays and
Thursdays; \$35 Fridays
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\$40 Saturday evenings
(734) 433-7673
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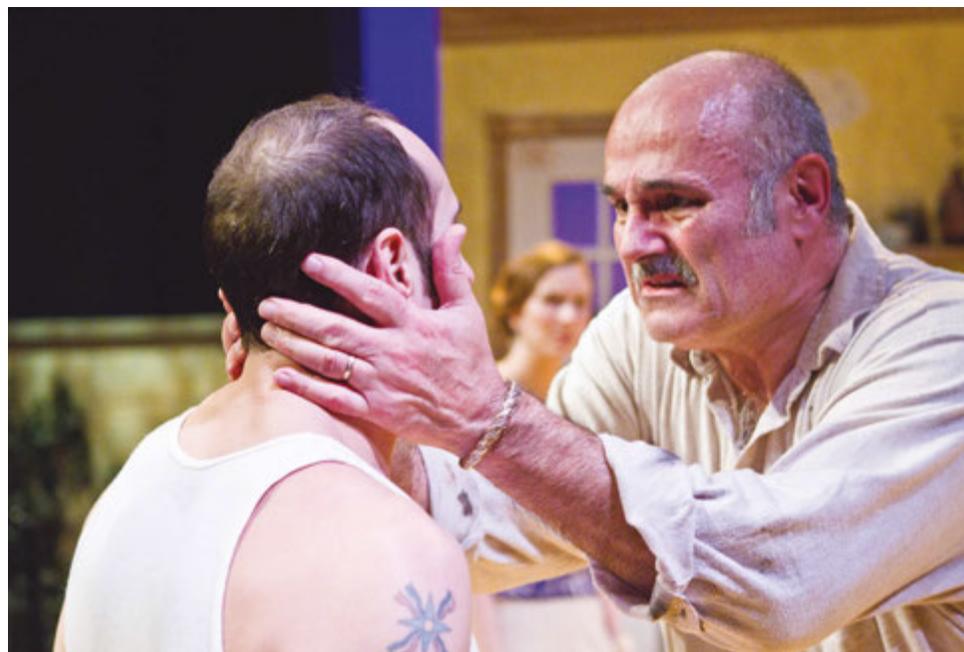


Photo by Sean Carter Photography

Outsider Janice (Charlyn Swarthout, in the background) is caught up in the conflict when long-suppressed tensions finally flare up between father and son Agostino (Guy Sanville) and Raff (Matthew Davis) in William Mastrosimone's domestic drama "A Stone Carver," playing at Chelsea's Purple Rose Theatre.



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★April 14-22 ★

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★June 10-15 ★

★ **Washington DC** ★
★June 21-26 ★

★ **Chicago** ★
★ Hilton Garden Inn..... July 3-5 ★

★ **New York City with Ellis Island & Ground Zero** ★
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New Exhibits

Absolute Gallery

"The World of Mike," a showcase of artwork of artist Mike Scieszka. Reception: Noon-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5. Hours: 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 1632 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 482-8845.



Courtesy Photo

"The World of Mike," by painter Mike Scieszka, continues through Feb. at Absolute Gallery.

By the Riverside

In celebration of Black History month, the exhibit on display is "Color Blind." The show will feature textile artist Anna William, artist and author Julian Van Dyke, and Shalonda James-Garza photographer. Reception: 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5. Hours: 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 1-6 p.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, special showings by appointment. 1209 Turner St., Old Town, Lansing. (517) 484-6534.

East Lansing Public Art Gallery

Showcasing photos from the 2011 Great Lakes Folk Festival titled, "2011 Great Lakes Folk Festival Redux: Photos by Pearl Yee Wong, Raymond Holt and Patrick T. Power." Reception: 1-2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5. Hours: 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday and Noon-8 p.m. Sunday. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 241-9230.

Ledge Craft Lane

Featuring the photography of Steve Scarborough. Hours: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. 120 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. (517) 627-9843. www.ledgecraftlane.com

Mackerel Sky

"Freshteh Parvizi: New Paintings" a further exploration of subject, color and mood from the East Lansing artist in her second exhibit at Mackerel Sky. Reception: Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5. Hours: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday & Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and Noon-5 p.m. Sunday. (517) 351-2211.

Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame: Belen Gallery

"Treasures" features approximately 40 small-size works in a variety of media, pieces by the Birmingham Society of Women Painters. Reception: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5. Hours: Noon-4 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, 2-4 p.m. Sunday. 213 W. Main St., Lansing. (517) 484-1880

MSU Museum, Main Gallery

"On Equal Terms" is a mixed-media installation by Susan Eisenberg addresses the cost of gender barriers in any occupation. Reception: 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday. (517) 355-2570. www.museum.msu.edu

Okemos Library

Multiple artists from the Mid-Michigan Art Guild will be featured; the Guild is celebrating its 60th Diamond Jubilee Anniversary. Reception: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 349-0250.

TIC Gallery

"Element: Air" a multi-media exhibit featuring works by Carole Steinberg Berk, Linda Brundage, Juanita Baldwin, and ten other local artists. Reception: 6-7:30 p.m. Friday Feb. 10. Technology Innovation Center, 325 E. Grand River. (517) 319-6861.

Ongoing

Lansing Art Gallery

"Solitude," an exhibition of Curtis Hans Miller's fine art

a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday. 433 Albert Ave., Lansing. (517) 351-0815. www.sapergalleries.com.

(SCENE) MetroSpace

"A Michigan State University Showcase" features a variety of work from Michigan State University artists Jon Anthony, Yareth Fernandez, Ryan Groendyk, Megan Mack, April Matthews, Volodymyr Shcherbak, Jacob Varty and Rebekah Zurenko. Hours: Thursday 2-5 p.m.; 2-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday; Noon-4 p.m. Sunday. 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832. www.scenemetrospace.com

Shiawassee Arts Center

Work by former Owosso resident Kathleen Shanahan (a printmaker and painter), painter Susan McGuire of Corunna and mixed-media artist Pamela Frazier O'Neil of Milford. Hours: 1-5 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. 206 Curwood Castle Drive, Owosso. (989) 723-8354, or www.shiawasseearts.org



Courtesy Photo

Laura Whitesides Host's "Patterns for Raising Girls" is included in the Michigan Women's Historical Center and Hall of Fame's "Treasures" show, which features pieces by the Birmingham Society of Women Painters. The society was founded in 1944 to provide formal instruction and workspace for female artists.

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The 'March' begins

Former City Pulse writer Chris Galford ventures into a fantasy world

By ALLISON BERRYMAN

Michigan State University graduate and former City Pulse writer Chris Galford says he has hit "a fantasy goldmine" with "The Hollow March," his first novel for Amazon Kindle.

"The Hollow March," published late last year, is an adult fantasy novel, the first in Galford's "The Haunted Shadows" series. It introduces the fictional Idasian Empire, a society threatened by war and on the verge of what Galford calls a "cultural and technological renaissance." The story focuses on two families in the midst of chaos, and

their individual quests for power and struggle for survival.

"What you don't tend to see in fantasy is renaissance," Galford said. "This series is mired in one — for all the good and all the bad it brings. I wanted to show a world where tradition and innovation are at their greatest point of clashing, and to capture the human factor that conflict inevitably presses. There is simply so much one can do therein, so many paths one can head down. It's a fantasy goldmine."

Galford, who moved from Lansing to Golden, Colo., last year, graduated from MSU with a bachelor's in journalism. Although reporting the news is not quite as time-consuming as penning a fantasy novel, he found his training in journalism useful while writing "The Hollow March."

"Oftentimes you see a lot of superfluous writing in novels — over-description, if you will. Journalism helps a person cut down on that, slicing to the core of a scene as succinctly and powerfully as possible. It teaches you the value of brevity, as well as where and how to break it. My novel may be long, but it would be far longer without my time as a journalist, and certainly not as organized."

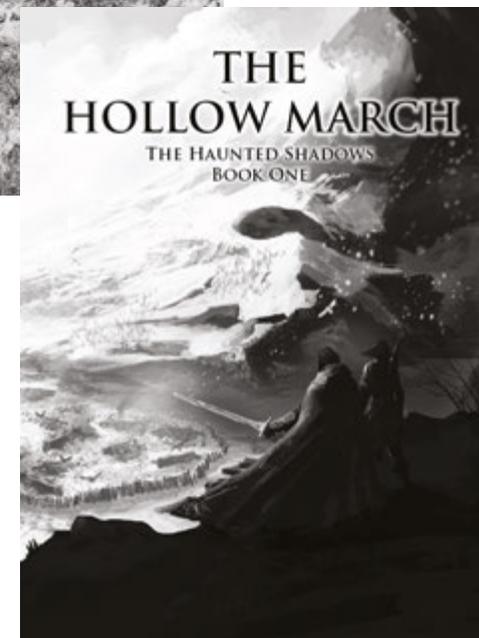
Another important aspect of journalism, the use of social media, came in handy for Galford in the process of publishing his novel. While Facebook and Twitter allowed him to spread the word to fellow authors and book reviewers, he credits his blog, The Walking Den (cianphelan.wordpress.com), as his primary source of promoting "The Hollow March."

"I've done my best to use all the resources presently available to me," Galford said. "My friends and associates have been a big help in that regard, taking word of the book to the streets, so to speak, and under-



Courtesy photos

"The Hollow March" is the first book of "The Haunted Shadows" series. Author Chris Galford plans a trilogy about the Idasian Empire, a society threatened by war and on the verge of what he calls a "cultural and technological renaissance."



taking something of a grassroots push for literary regard. One has even taken it upon himself to operate a Facebook book page chronicling my book's journey. I certainly couldn't ask for more."

Although the novel was originally self-published for Amazon Kindle, Schuler's Books & Music in Lansing has agreed to carry "The Hollow March" in hard-copy format. Galford claims to be an advocate for physical reading material; however, he insists the reader will have an equally enjoyable time reading "The Hollow March" in either format.

"Personally, I've always been a proponent of the physical copy," he said. "It's a sensory thing — or a possessive one. I like the experience of having a book in my hands, the weight of it, the feel of it, knowing that I undeniably own it. Call it a quirk."

"In truth, though, the difference between e-reader or book reading is just one of personal taste. They read the same. The feel is the same. It's not like reading on your computer monitor, where you must sit and scroll. Either way, you can take them where you will, flick through pages as you may and devour the story at your leisure."

Publication of "The Hollow March" is only the beginning of Galford's career as a novelist. He is in the process of writing part

two of the Haunted Shadows trilogy, "At Faith's End." No date has been announced for its release.

In the meantime, he offers some advice to fellow writers and journalists who hope to have their own work published.

"Learn your market and your niche. For all the joys of finally getting your work into the public eye, being an author is a lot of work. You are the primary cheerleader, so to speak: the publicist, agent, or what have you. Be ready for the challenge, and have a concrete plan of attack."

"In terms of self-publication, organizations like Amazon and Barnes and Noble make the process easy. But success? That's on your shoulders."

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AMY ALKON
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Q: My commitment-phobic boyfriend of several years is also my neighbor. I resolved to make it work with him and then caught him on

FriendFinder exchanging numerous messages with some woman in Tijuana. He claimed he was just being friendly. I asked if he'd correspond with a guy. He responded, "No. I'm not gay." Humiliatingly, I've let him use me for things he can't afford. (He's been unemployed for two years.) He sometimes showers at his tiny apartment but basically uses it for storage. He refuses to move in with me so we could pay expenses with money his grandma gives him for his rent, but he spends all his time at my place (where I pay for everything). He partakes of my cable TV, Internet, food, and beer, and he even eats food I buy specially for my 9-year-old son. Well, he's now my ex-boyfriend. As he's been many times before. What's with him? Is talking to some random woman on the Internet worth losing everything over?

—Fuming

A: Feminists have hammered into us girls that we aren't supposed to sit around dreaming of being rescued by some prince. Somehow, I don't think the alternative's supposed to be opting for the mooch neighbor who eats your kid's food while using your DSL to talk to some chiquita in Tijuana.

Reality, like angry little dogs, often bites. Every day, I wake up wishing for home-invasion house-cleaners. But, as much as both Nature and I abhor a vacuum, at a certain point, I have to pull one out, lest my rugs provide shelter to a lot of little things with a lot of little legs. You, likewise, can pretend you've found Prince Charming, but that won't transform your Parasite Charming (not even if you throw both hands into the air and say "Poof!" six or seven times, very energetically).

Why do you keep taking him back? You're

probably engaging in "future discounting," an econ term explaining how we're prone to forgo big benefits down the road for a small immediate reward. It helps to recognize that you'll be tempted to go for the quick fix. You'll be lonely some night and want a snuggle, rationalize all the reasons he isn't so bad after all, and before you know it, there'll be a familiar barnacle attaching itself to the beer tap on your hull.

To avoid backsliding, don't rely on yourself to gin up self-control in the moment; use tricks like "precommitment" to your goal, a strategy originated by Nobel Prize-winning economist Thomas Schelling and recommended by Dr. Roy Baumeister and John Tierney in their book, "Willpower." Precommitment involves setting things up in advance so it's hard to cheat. Research suggests that two of the most helpful measures are recruiting others to monitor your progress and establishing financial penalties for relapse — the higher, the better. It also helps to give yourself small rewards for daily good behavior. Maybe put aside \$5 on each day you don't call him and give yourself occasional lump-sum rewards (like at the two months loser-free mark). The website stickK.com can help. (You can configure it to forfeit your money to a cause you hate if you fail.) Research from Baumeister's lab also suggests that practicing daily self-discipline unrelated to your goal (say, making yourself a weird green health shake every morning) increases overall self-control. This should increase your self-respect. Which should increase your chances of having a man in your life who sings your praises — stuff like "your lips are like wine," not "your Wi-Fi's, like, free."

Q: I've been delighted and humbled by my interactions with this girl who goes to my favorite coffee shop. She is in a band and probably has lots of dates and fans, but I keep picturing us together, and not just sexually — making dinner, going on hikes, doing little couple-y things. I'm not sure why she'd want to go out with me, but I can't stop thinking about her.

—Fixated

A: It's the teenage fangirl approach to being a man. (Are your bedroom walls plastered with photos of her that you took while pretending to check your phone?) Here you are imagining this woman running slow-motion through a field of daisies into your arms. The reality: She's walking out of the coffee shop, probably without giving you a second thought. Yes, she might be out of your league. There's a way to know for sure in seconds, and it's by asking her out. Pining over a woman transforms her from a person to an unapproachable ideal. The more you grow your fantasy girl the more impossible it'll be for you to speak to the real deal. If you want an imaginary something in your life, have an imaginary goldfish. Should things go badly, you could make it die an imaginary death and flush it down your imaginary toilet.

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Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"In a Roundabout Way"—freestyle puzzling for all.

By Matt Jones

Across

- 1 "Tsk, tsk"
- 10 They're to dye for
- 14 LOLcat-eating-a-cheez-burger noise
- 15 How scripts are read
- 17 Taking one's sweet time
- 18 Harry Potter's house elf
- 19 It's one step up from giga-
- 20 To some, a "rat with wings"
- 21 English Channel swimmer Gertrude
- 24 Creatures that do a waggle dance
- 26 Title for Italian monks
- 27 Animal frequently seen as roadkill

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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- 52 Michael's wife, for a while
- 57 2007 documentary with the tagline "This might hurt a little"
- 58 Medicine that slows a chemical reaction
- 59 Like some ground beef
- 60 Unlikely to change... ever

- 8 Leather shoe, for short
- 9 Accident victim helper
- 10 "Quo ___?"
- 11 Sleep like ___
- 12 Devil's advocate phrase
- 13 It's bigger than family
- 16 Nighttime soap of the 1980s
- 20 2-in-1 shampoo-conditioner since 1987
- 22 Unit of light
- 23 Bubbled up (from)
- 24 Hogs
- 25 Cupid's Greek counterpart
- 29 "Nope, you're wrong!" follow-up
- 32 Hopping video game character
- 33 They're strummed with a B and D

- 34 Baked potato rub
- 35 Tendency to let things slide
- 36 Kumquat coat
- 42 Peter Lorre's role in "Casablanca"
- 43 American or Foreign follower
- 44 State
- 46 Put money behind, as a candidate
- 49 Suzanne Vega song about child abuse
- 52 Backtalk
- 53 Suffix for opal or salt
- 54 Single stock: abbr.
- 55 Program with a "Buddy List," for short
- 56 CEO-to-be's degree

Down

- 1 Shoe sole curve
- 2 Holy city?
- 3 Three-ingredient deserts
- 4 Egyptian president of the 1970s
- 5 Barstool dweller
- 6 Insurance gp.
- 7 Palindromic woman's name

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

MACHINE TOOL ELECTRICIAN
AND PIPEFITTERS - experienced - for openings in Dexter. Long-term placement. Own tools required. Good work ethic. Please contact Mike or Jim at 734.427.2422 or email resume@advancestaffingonline.com

Room for rent. Share kitchen, washer & dryer. Close to bus line, restaurants and convenient stores. \$350/month Call 243-0759.

Creative General Manager Lansing's Top Gay Nightclub is seeking a full-time creative general manager. Must possess a high-school diploma and have bar management experience. Must be highly organized and have great people skills. Send cover letter and resumes to clubspir@aol.com. Please no calls.

VOLUNTEERS/ORGANIZERS
Volunteers and organizers wanted. Fight for justice and equality in the workplace and in the community. Help the helpless, punish the wicked. Join Lansing Workers Center, 517-342-6435 Lworkerscenter@gmail.com Meetings every Tues, 7pm Gone Wired Cafe.

DIRECT CARE WORKERS
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Visit www.turningleafrehab.com to apply

ENERGY PERFORMANCE CONTRACTING
The Lansing Housing Commission (LHC) is accepting proposals for energy performance contracting services (Esco) for its public housing communities located in Lansing Michigan. LHC operated 832 housing units consisting of townhouses, mid-rise apartments, duplexes and single family homes. The RFP package is available by contacting Forrest Babcock at forrestb@lanshc.org or calling 517-487-9847. Sealed proposals are due before the close of business on March 16th, 2012. Minority and woman owned business are encouraged to respond. LHC reserves the right to waive inconsequential irregularities and to reject any and all proposals (517) 487-9847

FOR SALE - Dentist chair, or tattoo chair.
Fully operational and in excellent condition, \$4,000 new, just a couple years old. Also have 2nd one with one non-functional switch, easily replaced. Selling for \$450 for the best one, \$250 for the 2nd - by them both for \$575. Call 517-575-5599 or email garrett@5yearweb.com for pix...

OUT on the TOWN

Listings deadline is 5 p.m. the THURSDAY BEFORE publication. Paid classes will be listed in print at the cost of one enrollment (maximum \$20). Please submit them to the events calendar at www.lansingcitypulse.com. If you need help, please call Jessica at (517) 999-5069. E-mail information to calendar@lansingcitypulse.com.



Courtesy Photo

Feb. 1-5

Return trip to 'Paris'

The East Lansing Film Society journeys through the lighter side of the City of Light by bringing back writer-director Woody Allen's hit "Midnight in Paris." The comic fantasy — starring Owen Wilson, Marion Cotillard, Rachel McAdams, Michael Sheen and Kathy Bates — is nominated for three Academy Awards, including best picture and best director. City Pulse arts and culture editor James Sanford called the film "a beguiling turnaround, throwing out the arch, starchy dialogue that has hobbled too many of Allen's recent films and recapturing the joy and comic electricity that, outside of 'Vicky Cristina Barcelona,' hasn't surfaced very often in his output during the last decade." 7:30 p.m. today, Hannah Community Center in East Lansing; 7:30 p.m. Feb. 2, and 7 and 9:15 p.m. Feb. 3-5, Wells Hall on the Michigan State University campus.

Feb. 2

'Soul Fitness' author speaks at MSU

Frederick D. Haynes III, author of "Healing Our Broken Village" and the daily devotional "Soul Fitness," speaks about his fight against racial, social and economic injustice as part of Michigan State University's 12th annual visiting faculty lecture series, "Slavery to Freedom: An American Odyssey." The event is organized by the College of Osteopathic Medicine. Haynes has been the senior pastor at Friendship-West Baptist Church in Dallas for three decades. 5 p.m., Kellogg Center Big Ten A, MSU. Free.



Frederick D. Haynes III

Feb. 3

Women's Expo returns to Lansing

Wall Street Journal columnist and best-selling author Jeffrey Zaslow and self-proclaimed "Wall Wizard" Brian Santos are among the guests at the 12th annual Mid-Michigan Women's Expo, which takes place this weekend at the Lansing Center. Zaslow will discuss his latest book, "The Magic Room, A Story About the Love We Wish for Our Daughters," and Santos is scheduled to demonstrate painting techniques for the home. Ingham Regional Medical Center will host 20 booths giving several free healthcare screenings, including cholesterol, high blood pressure, diabetes and stroke risk assessments, and more. Pregnant women may receive a free 3D/4D ultrasound photo as well. More than 250 businesses focused on health, home and style will be included. Tickets can be purchased in advance at any Meijer store for \$6; admission at the door is \$8 for adults and \$6 for children under 14. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Feb. 3; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Feb. 4; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 5, Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (616) 532-8833, or www.kohlerexpo.com

Feb. 3-18

Occupy Sherwood Forest

Long before the Occupy Movement talked about taking from the rich and giving to the poor, there was Robin Hood and his band of Merry Men. The hero of Sherwood Forest returns this weekend in All-of-us Express Children's Theatre's production of "Robin Hood." The story is familiar, but All-of-us Express artistic director Miranda Sue Hartmann promises some new twists: "The part of Maid Marian will be called Marian Harper instead," Hartmann said. "She's a little bit stronger than Maid Marian: She wields weapons, and even fights with Robin. When we first meet her, she is hunting the king's deer." "Robin Hood" is directed by Morgan Lees, an alumna of the All-of-us Express Guild Program. 7 p.m. Fridays; 2 and 4:30 p.m. Saturdays, through Feb. 18, Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. \$7 adults; \$5 17 and younger. (517) 333-2580 ex. 0, or at the door. www.cityfoeastlansing.com/allofus



Courtesy Photo

Wednesday, February 1

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Community Yoga. Power yoga class. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

Drop-in figure drawing. Easels and drawing boards provided, bring other supplies. All are welcome. 7:30-10 p.m. \$5, \$3 students. Kresge Art Museum, located at Physics and Auditorium roads, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 337-1170.

E-mail Basics. Set up e-mail account & learn to send and receive messages. 11 a.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Google Basics. By appointment only. 11 a.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Intermediate Microsoft Word. Learn how to format pages, create tables and more. 11 a.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Internet Basics. Learn how to do a simple search. 11 a.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Microsoft Word Basics. Modify text, cut and paste text; open, close, and save documents. 11 a.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

See Out on the Town, Page 26

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TURN IT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

ROCKING OUT FOR THE GREATER LANSING FOOD BANK



Courtesy Photo

Lord Vapid

For all the local rock scene folks who have an urge to do something positive for those in need, the Benefit for The Greater Lansing Food Bank at Mac's Bar may be the ticket. On Thursday, five local bands will perform in hopes of raising some funds — all door money and canned food donations go to the food bank. This annual event is hosted by local musician Todd Karinen of Jackpine Snag, a heavy-blues band. Performers include Lord Vapid, Croatone, Bert, The Plurals, and Paul Dubya and The Oak River Bridge Boys Band. Lord Vapid (a.k.a. Andrew Lucas) is a Lansing-based one-man-band that draws influence from '50s and '60s R&B while also giving nods

to classic punk and alternative rock. Vapid has been playing shows and recording since 2006. For a discounted admission fee, be sure to bring a canned good to the show.

Thursday, Feb. 2 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 18 and over, \$7, \$5 with canned good, show at 9 p.m.

MIDDLE OF THE MITTEN HOST 17 BANDS



Courtesy Photo

Mark Foyer of Gun Lake

Since opening, The Record Lounge has always been a record store dedicated to supporting local bands. Each year the vinyl shop hosts the Middle of the Mitten festival, a live music event that features Michigan-based groups and solo acts. The 4th annual event is spread across two days, in two different venues: (SCENE) Metrospace and The Loft. Pre-sales are available at the Record Lounge for \$10, tickets are \$12 at the door; one ticket allows entry to both nights. For more ticket information, visit www.facebook.com/MiddleOfTheMitten.

Day One kicks off Friday at (SCENE) and features headliners Gun Lake, an emerging Ann Arbor-based indie-folk group led by songwriter Mark Fain. Opening the extended show are American Opera, Life Size Ghost, Sunny Side Up, Nathan K, Nathan Alan, Match by Match, Paige Bolen and Vince Zydeck.

Friday, Feb. 3 "Day One" @ (SCENE) Metrospace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing, 7 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Day Two of the fest (Saturday) features a collection of indie and folk groups, including Simien the Whale, The Sunset Club, Newday Dreamers, Bangups, Citizen Smile, Meadower, The Blue Effect and Commodore Cosmos.

Saturday, Feb. 4 "Day Two" @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 7 p.m. to 2 a.m.

NOTHIN' 2 LOSE AT THE COLONIAL

For those looking for some foot-stompin' retro rock and blues covers, Nothin' 2 Lose plays a two-nighter at the Colonial Bar and Grill on Lansing's south side. On Friday and Saturday the band will tear through classics with a sound similar to the Allman Brothers, Humble Pie and The James Gang. The Lansing-based band includes vocalist Jamie Rohda, Geoff Crusen (lead guitar), Steve Garcia (drums) and Phil DeMaggio (bass).

Friday Feb. 3 and Saturday, Feb. 4 @ The Colonial Bar and Grill, 3425 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing, 21 and over, 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

PUMP HOUSE HOSTS AMERICANA ROCKERS

Grievous Angel, a Ferndale-based folk group named after the classic Gram Parsons tune, performs at the Pump House on Sunday. The Americana band has won multiple honors at the Detroit Music Awards, including the awards for "Outstanding Acoustic Group" and "Outstanding Folk Group." The band's sound is mainly a mixture of folk, rockabilly, blues, and alt-country, but also includes some cosmic jamming, vintage rocking and roadhouse boogies.

Sunday, Feb. 5 @ Pump House, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing, all ages, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

BILLBOARD TOPPING RAPPER, WALE, HITS LANSING

Wale (pronounced: wah-lay), is a major-label rapper signed to Rick Ross' Maybach Music Group. He performs Monday at the Causeway Bay Hotel Grand Ballroom in Lansing. His new single, "Lotus Flower Bomb," is currently topping the Billboard Rap/Hip-Hop charts. Wale, whose real name is Olubowale Victor Akintimehin, is touring in support of his second studio album, "Ambition." Wale says his



Courtesy Photo

Wale

rap style draws heavily from the "go-go" genre, which is a rawer, more percussion-heavy offshoot of disco. The 27-year-old rapper was raised by Nigerian parents in Washington, where he first gained a local following with a string of mix tapes. Since 2006 he's been gaining international momentum and managed to sign a couple million dollar record deals. In 2009 Lady GaGa was featured on Wale's single, "Chillin'."

Monday, Feb. 6 @ Causeway Bay Hotel Grand Ballroom, 6820 South Cedar Street, Lansing, advance, doors 7 p.m., show at 8 p.m., ticket information at: www.walemusic.com.

RAP-METAL LIVES AT THE LOFT

West Virginia-based alt-metal band Bobaflex has been dropping progressive hard-rock albums since 1998. Tuesday the band rocks The Loft along with openers Wayland, Prospect Hill and Circus Asylum. Bobaflex is led by founding members Shaun McCoy (guitar, vocals) and Martin McCoy (guitar, vocals). While the band has been through many lineup changes, it continues to tour and record. The outfit's latest album, "Hell in My Heart," was released on Megaforce Records in late 2011.

Tuesday, Feb. 7 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, \$13 advance, \$15 at door, 18 and over, doors 8 p.m.

UPCOMING SHOW?

POST IT AT
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TURNITDOWN

LIVE AND LOCAL

To be listed in Live and Local, e-mail your information to liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com by Thursday of the week before publication.

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.			Nothing 2 Lose, 9 p.m.	Nothing 2 Lose, 9 p.m.
Brannigan Brothers, 210 S. Washington Square		Jammin' DJs, 9 p.m.	Jammin' DJs, 9 p.m.	Jammin' DJs, 9 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Cloud Magic, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
The Exchange, 314, E. Michigan Ave.		Tryst Thursdays, 8:30 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 9 p.m.	Summer of Sol, 9 p.m.
The Firm, 227 S. Washington Square		DnW Sound DJs, 9 p.m.	Various DJs, 9 p.m.	DJ Donnie D, 9 p.m.
Grand Café/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.	Driver & Rider Show, 7 p.m.	Kathy Ford Band, 7 p.m.	Karaoke, 7 p.m.	
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Krosby's Conspiracy, 9:30 p.m.	Still Rain, 9:30 p.m.	Starfarm, 9:30 p.m.	Starfarm, 9:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.	Animeaux, 9 :30 p.m.			The Sunset Club, 7 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Croatone & Bert, 9 p.m.	DJ Southpaw, 9 p.m.	Broccoli Samural, 9 p.m.
Rick's American Cafe, 224 Abbott Road			Jedi Mind Trip, 10:30 p.m.	JYD Band, 10:30 p.m.
Rookies, 16460 S. US 27	Sea Cruisers, 7-10 p.m.	Water Pong DJ with Ryan, 9 p.m.	Karaoke with Bob, 9 p.m.	Karaoke with Bob, 9 p.m.
Rum Runners, 601 East Michigan Ave.	Open Mic, 9 p.m.	Josh Josh Marquita, 9 p.m.		
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog & The Beeftones, 9 p.m.	Dr. Gunn, 9 p.m.	Dr. Gunn, 9 p.m.

Sunday Open Jam with Bad Gravy, 9:30 p.m., Green Door; Karaoke, 9 p.m. Drag Queens Gone Wild, 11 p.m., Spiral Dance Bar; DJ Mike, 9:30 p.m., LeRoy's Bar & Grill; Open Mic, 5 p.m., Ull's Haus of Rock.
Monday Steppin' In It, 9:30 p.m., Green Door; Easy Babies funk trio, 10 p.m., The Exchange. Open-Mic Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Michigan Brewing Company-Lansing.
Tuesday Tommy Foster & Guitar Bob, 9 p.m., The Exchange; Neon Tuesday, 9 p.m., Mac's Bar. Jazz Tuesday Open Jam, 9 p.m., Stober's Bar, 812 E. Michigan Ave.

Out on the town

from page 24

EVENTS

Toddler Storytime. Ages 1-3. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363. www.cadl.org.

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. Grand Ledge Baptist Church, 1120 W. Willow Hwy., Grand Ledge. (517) 256-6954.

Practice Your English. Allows community members to join conversations and practice speaking and listening to English in a friendly, relaxing atmosphere. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Baby Story Time. For babies 6-24 months of age and their adult caregiver. 11:30 a.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. www.dewittlibrary.org.

Toddler Tales. For toddlers 2-3 years of age and their adult caregivers. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. www.dewittlibrary.org.

Baby Time. Books and songs for ages 2 years and younger, with a parent/caregiver. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 x3.

Toddler Storytime. Ages 2-3. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Okemos Library, 4321, Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

Baby Storytime. Featuring movement and stories. 3 p.m.. FREE. Okemos Library, 4321, Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

MUSIC

Jazz Wednesdays. Live entertainment. 7-10 p.m. FREE. ENSO, 16800 Chandler Road. East Lansing. (517) 333-1656. www.enjoyenso.com.

Jazz Wednesdays. Featuring the Jeff Shoup Trio. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Gracies Place, 151 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-1100.

Together, Let's Jam. Music experiences for teenagers and adults of all ability levels to gather together. 7:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 841-B Timberlane St., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Lansing Area Science Fiction Association Weekly Meeting. Informal dinner and lively con-

versation. 7 p.m. FREE. Sammy's Lounge, 301 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 402-4481.

Baby Time. Books and songs for ages 2 years and younger, with a parent/caregiver. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 x3.

Thursday, February 2

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Yoga XL. Learn to move with confidence. 7:15-8:15 p.m. \$8 suggested donation. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

Eating Disorders Anonymous Meeting. A group of people recovering from eating disorders who talk about recovery. 7-7:45 p.m. FREE. CADL Mason Library, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 899-3515. www.cadl.org.

EVENTS

Morning Storytime. All ages welcome for stories, songs, rhymes and fun. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014.

Fedora Film Series. A fabulous film every Thursday night. 7 p.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Euchre. Come play euchre and meet new people. No partner needed. 6-9 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

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

Mid-day Movies. Watch recent releases on the big screen. 2 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363. www.cadl.org.

Sierra Club-CMG. MSU Beyond Coal. Speakers include Callie Bruley, MSU student activist and Anne Woiwode. 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 487-6467. http://cmgsierraclub.yolasite.com/.

Electronic Waste Collection. Bring electronics to ensure they are disposed of properly and do not end up in a landfill. 5-8 p.m. FREE. Power On, 114 W. Allegan St., Lansing. niclej11@gmail.com.

Pre-School Story Time. An open story time for pre-school aged children. Stories and a craft. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. www.dewittlibrary.org.

Teen Gaming. Drop-in crafting for teens. Wii

games, board games, and snacks. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt.

(517) 669-3156. www.dewittlibrary.org.

Bananagrams Night. Play the hot new timed word game. 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music (Lansing), 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495. www.schulerbooks.com.

Preschool Storytime. Ages 3-5. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363. www.cadl.org.

Advanced LinkedIn. Learn how to maximize your LinkedIn profile. 6 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363. www.cadl.org.

Toddler Storytime. Ages 2-3. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Okemos Library, 4321, Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

Friends Book Club. Discuss "Arc of Justice," by Kevin Boyle. Noon. FREE. Okemos Library, 4321, Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

MUSIC

Jazz Thursdays. Various artists featured each week. 6:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. Mumbai Cuisine, 340 Albert St., East Lansing. (517) 336-4150.

THEATER

"Dead Man's Shoes." The year is 1883. The notorious outlaw Injun Bill Picote has escaped from prison, along with a hard-luck drunk named Froggy. 8 p.m. \$15. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-SHOW. www.williamstontheatre.com

"Romantic Fools." A dozen sketches about love, lust, dating and romance, from a date with a caveman to the joys of dull sex. 7 p.m. \$18, \$16 senior, \$10 student. Stormfield Theatre, 201 Morgan Lane, Lansing. www.stormfieldtheatre.org.

Friday, February 3

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Relics of the Big Bang. Emphasizes research currently underway at CERN. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4676.

EVENTS

MSU Comics Forum. Jessica Abel, award winning comics creator and professor will be this year's keynote speaker. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. FREE. Snyder/Phillips Hall, The intersection between Grand River Ave. and Bogue St., on MSU campus, East Lansing. www.comicsforum.msu.edu. www.msu.edu.

D.L. Hughley. Comedy. 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. \$25. Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St., Lansing. (517) 374-4242. www.connxtionscomedyclub.com.

Seniors Outreach. Books will be made available for checkout. Noon. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200

Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Kindergarten Storytime. With Kathy Schroder for stories, puppets, props and lots of audience participation. 1:30 p.m. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Alcoholics Anonymous. Open meeting for family and friends with American Sign Language interpretation. 8 p.m. FREE. Alano Club East, 220 S. Howard St., Lansing. (517) 482-8957.

Microsoft Excel Basics. Learn to use a spreadsheet for tasks like balancing a checkbook. 10 a.m. Okemos Library, 4321, Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

THEATER

"Dead Man's Shoes." (Please See Details Feb. 2) 8 p.m. \$25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-SHOW. www.williamstontheatre.com

"Romantic Fools." (Please See Details Feb. 2) 8 p.m. \$24, \$22 senior, \$10 student. Stormfield Theatre, 201 Morgan Lane, Lansing. www.stormfieldtheatre.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Music & Movement Storytime. Dance and sing to music, and learn to play with instruments and more. 1 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3.

Saturday, February 4

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Beginner Tai Chi. Can build strength and reduce stress. 8-9 a.m. \$8. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

Relics of the Big Bang. Emphasizes research currently underway at CERN. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4676.

Tai Chi in the Park. Meditation at 8:45 a.m. followed by Tai Chi. 9:30 a.m. FREE donations. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. Contact Bob Teachout (517) 272-9379.

Overeaters Anonymous. 9:30 a.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-6003.

Skiing or Snowshoeing. Snowshoeing class runs from 1-3 p.m. Space is limited, so contact for a spot. 9:30-11:30 a.m. \$15, \$20 to rent equipment. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Pre-U.S. Citizenship Class. Focus on the English vocabulary required to be successful during the U.S. Citizenship interview. 10 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing.

See Out on the Town, Page 27

HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE?

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TO PLAY

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

To avoid erasing, pencil in your possible answers in the scratchpad space beneath the short line in each vacant square. For solving tips, visit www.SundayCrosswords.com

Answers on page 29

Out on the town

from page 26

(517) 367-6363. www.cadl.org.

EVENTS

MSU Comics Forum. Several panel discussions with academics studying comic books and professionals working in the comic book industry. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. FREE. MSU Snyder Hall, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.comicsforum.msu.edu.

Salsa Dancing. DJ Adrian "Ace" Lopez hosts Lansing's longest standing weekly salsa event. Singles welcome. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$5. Gregory's Bar & Grille, 2510 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. (517) 323-7122.

D.L. Hughley. Comedy. 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. \$25. Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St. Lansing. (517) 374-4242. www.connxtionscomedyclub.com.

Moonlight Skiing and Snowshoeing. Glide along the moonlit trails as you ski or snowshoe through the sparkling snow, 6-9 p.m. \$3, \$9 to rent equipment. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Investing Fundamentals. Avoid common investing pitfalls and make more-informed decisions. 10 a.m. Okemos Library, 4321, Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

THEATER

"Dead Man's Shoes." (Please See Details Feb. 2) 3 & 8 p.m. \$22 matinee, \$25 eveing. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-SHOW. www.williamstontheatre.com

"Romantic Fools." (Please See Details Feb. 2) 8 p.m. \$24, \$22 senior, \$10 student. Stormfield Theatre, 201 Morgan Lane, Lansing. www.stormfieldtheatre.org.

Sunday, February 5

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Overeaters Anonymous. 2 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-8789. www.becauseeverybodyreads.com.

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. Meets on the third floor. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave. Lansing. (517) 367-6300. www.cadl.org.

Relics of the Big Bang. Emphasizes research currently underway at CERN. 4 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4676.

The Super Sky Show. Children will hear star myths and learn about the night sky and the planet around them. 2:30 & 3:30 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4676.

EVENTS

Occupy Lansing Meeting. Followed by general assembly. 5 p.m. FREE. Gone Wired Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 853-0550. www.gone-wiredlansing.com.

Salsa Dancing. DJ Mojito spins salsa, merengue & Bachata. 7 p.m.-Midnight, \$5 21, \$7 under 21. Fahrenheit Ultra Lounge, 6810 S. Cedar St., Lansing.

Occupy Lansing Meeting. Followed by general assembly. 5 p.m. FREE. Gone Wired Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 853-0550.

Alcoholics Anonymous. Closed meeting for those who desire to stop drinking, with American Sign Language interpretation. 9 a.m. FREE. Alano Club East, 220 S. Howard St., Lansing. (517) 482-8957.

THEATER

"Dead Man's Shoes." (Please See Details Feb. 2)

2 p.m. \$22. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-SHOW. www.williamstontheatre.com

"Romantic Fools." (Please See Details Feb. 2) 2 p.m. \$20, \$18 senior, \$10 student. Stormfield Theatre, 201 Morgan Lane, Lansing. www.stormfieldtheatre.org.

Monday, February 6

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Divorced, Separated, Widowed Conversation Group. For those who have gone through loss of a spouse due to death or divorce and ready to move on. 7:30 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272.

Photography Seminar. Single Lens Reflex Cameras. Part of photo seminars lead by local instructor Bob Grzesiak. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Call for price. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. www.dewittlibrary.org.

GriefShare Seminar. A DVD series, with small support group discussion. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 490-3218.

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (989) 587-4609. www.stdavidslansing.org.

My Cub & I. For children under 3 years old, enjoy nature activities, games, walks, crafts, stories and songs. 10:30-11:30 a.m. \$35 for six weeks. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Timber Tots. For 3 and 4 year olds. Enjoy nature activities, games, walks, crafts, stories and songs. 9-10 a.m. \$35 for six weeks. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

EVENTS

Euchre. Come play euchre and meet new people. 6-9 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

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

Writers' Discussion Group. Share work, get feedback, talk about projects and try different prompts and activities. 4:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Monday Morning Movie. Get your film fix at the library. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext.4.

Pre-School Storytime. Ages 3-6. 2 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321, Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

MUSIC

Open-Mic Mondays. Sign up to play solo, duo, with your band. Spoken-Word acts welcome. 6:30-10:30 p.m. FREE. Michigan Brewing Company, 402 Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 977-1349.

Tuesday, February 7

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Schizophrenics Anonymous. A self-help support group. 10 a.m. Room 215-F, Community Mental Health Building, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 485-3775. (517) 614-7820.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Anyone wanting to lose weight is welcome. 7 p.m. FREE to visit.. Eaton Rapids Medical Center, 1500 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids.

See Out on the Town, Page 28

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by Shelly Olson, Sales Executive

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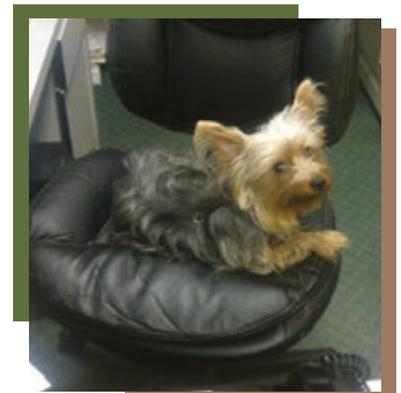
Our love of animals is apparent when you are greeted at the office by Ole a miniature Yorkie, who works 3 days a week. We welcome all sizes and breeds of dogs and cats, the only restriction is that your pet be socialized and people and other animal friendly. We keep treats on the office counter for all our residents, both furry and non-furry.

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NEW IN TOWN >> Vine and Brew



By **ALYSSA FIRTH**

The latest liquor store in the area is more than just a convenience store. Local craft beers, Michigan-grown foods, international wines and more are available at Vine & Brew in Okemos.

Vine & Brew has its official opening this weekend, with several events to showcase its products and customer service.

"We just try to make the whole beverage and food experience a fun experience and try to bring as many new and interesting items in as we can," said owner Curt Kosal.

Kosal is running the store with his wife, Leslie. Although it's their first business, he said he developed an interest in wine and spirits after working in the industry



Monique Goch, Moxy Imagery/City Pulse

Kurt Kosal, owner of Vine and Brew, runs the specialty beer and wine shop with his wife Leslie.

for roughly 15 years, most recently at Goodrich's Shop-Rite in East Lansing.

Craft beers are the store's biggest focus: Vine & Brew offers a make-your-own-six-pack option. Any six-pack can be changed with no upcharge, according to Kosal.

He said Michigan breweries are on the rise. "I don't know if a lot of people realize it, but we're on the cutting edge in that regard, and it's just growing," Kosal said.

The grand opening features the type of events the store plans to offer in the future. Thursday will feature a "Foods from Michigan" tasting from 4-7 p.m. A sparkling wine tasting takes place from 5-7:30 p.m. on Friday, and a representative from Dark Horse Brewing Co. will be at the store for a beer tasting from 1-4 p.m. on Saturday.

"It will be an ever-evolving endeavor, but we're having fun with it," Kosal said.

Out on the town

from page 27

ids. Judy @ (517) 543-0786.

Schizophrenics Anonymous Self-help Support Group. For persons with schizophrenia and related disorders. 5:30 p.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-3775.

Yoga 40. For those in their 40s, 50s, 60s and beyond; yoga is for anyone of any age. 7:15 p.m. Suggested \$7. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road. Okemos. (517) 505-0068.

Caregivers Program. Those caring for one with dementia can garner skills to manage stress & increase effective caregiving skills. Part of six-week series. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Valley Court Community Center, 201 Hillside Ct., East Lansing. (517) 887-1440.

Intro. to Computers. Professionals from Career Quest instruct attendees in the basics everyone needs to know. 2:30-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area Michigan Works, 2110 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 492-5500.

EcoTrek Fitness Outdoor Workout. Meet in parking lot. Parking lot is just beyond Whiskey Barrel Saloon. 5:45-7 p.m. \$12. Lansing River Trail, Clippert St., Lansing. (517) 243-6538. www.ecotrekfitness.com.

On the Way To Wellness. Barb Geske provides

nutrition & wellness coaching. 9:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. \$10. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 349-9536.

Laughter Yoga. A six-week class with Kiran Gupta, a licensed clinical social worker. 5:30-6 p.m. FREE. Campus Village Center, 1151 Michigan Ave., East Lansing. ivcgupta@gmail.com.

Mindful Motivator. For those seeking weight loss, stress management and healthy goal achievements. 9:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. FREE. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 930-4265.

Internet Basics. Learn how to do simple searches. 2 & 6 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363. www.cadl.org.

EVENTS

Game On. Play a variety of board and video games. 3-5 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 x3.

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

Morning Storytime. All ages welcome for stories, songs, rhymes, and fun. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014.

Mid-day Movies. Watch recent releases on the big screen. 2 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing

Out on the town

from page 28

Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave. Lansing. (517) 367-6363. www.cadl.org.

Introduction to Computers. Professionals from Career Quest instruct attendees in the basics everyone needs to be comfortable with computers. 2:30-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area Michigan Works, 2110 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 492-5500.

Daddy/Daughter Butterfly Ball. Children can bring a parent or guardian as "date" for a dance. Call for tickets. 7-8:30 p.m. \$14. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 333-2580 ext. 0.

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 5:45-6:45 pm. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900. www.becauseeverybodyreads.com.

Pre-School Storytime. Stories and crafts. Ages 3-6. 10:30 a.m. Okemos Library, 4321, Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

MUSIC

Jazz Tuesdays. Hosted by the Jeff Shoup Quartet and will feature regular guest artists from the MSU Jazz Studies Department and the Mid-Michigan jazz community. 10 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. Stober's Bar, 812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

Wednesday, February 8

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Community Yoga. Power yoga class. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

Drop-in figure drawing. Easels and drawing boards provided, bring other supplies. All are welcome. 7:30-10 p.m. \$5, \$3 students. Kresge Art Museum, located at Physics and Auditorium roads, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 337-1170.

Microsoft Word Basics. Ages 1-3. 9:15 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363. www.cadl.org.

E-mail Basics. Set up e-mail account and learn to send and receive messages. 11 a.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Google Basics. By appointment only. 11 a.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Intermediate Microsoft Word. Learn how to format pages, create tables and more. 11 a.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stock-

bridge. (517) 851-7810.

Internet Basics. Learn how to do a simple search. 11 a.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Microsoft Word Basics. Modify text, cut and paste text; open, close, and save documents. 11 a.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

EVENTS

Comedy Club Open Mic Night. 7 p.m. \$8, \$4 students. Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St., Lansing. (517) 374-4242. www.connxtionscomedy-club.com.

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. Grand Ledge Baptist Church, 1120 W. Willow Hwy., Grand Ledge. (517) 256-6954.

Practice Your English. Allows community members to join conversations and practice speaking and listening to English in a friendly, relaxing atmosphere. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Baby Story Time. For babies 6-24 months of age and their adult caregiver. 11:30 a.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. www.dewittlibrary.org.

Toddler Tales. For toddlers 2-3 years of age and their adult caregivers. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. www.dewittlibrary.org.

Daddy/Daughter Butterfly Ball. Call for tickets. 7-8:30 p.m. \$14. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 333-2580 ext. 0.

Toddler Storytime. Ages 2-3. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Okemos Library, 4321, Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

Baby Storytime. Featuring movement and stories. 3 p.m.. FREE. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

MUSIC

Jazz Wednesdays. Live entertainment. 7-10 p.m. FREE. ENSO, 16800 Chandler Road. East Lansing. (517) 333-1656. www.enjoyenso.com.

Jazz Wednesdays. Featuring the Jeff Shoup Trio. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Gracies Place, 151 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-1100.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Lansing Area Science Fiction Association

Weekly Meeting. Informal dinner and lively conversation. 7 p.m. FREE. Sammy's Lounge, 301 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 402-4481.

Pizza & Pages Book Discussion. Read any book that fits theme of Historical Fiction, grades 3 and up. 4 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsny

January 25-31

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The coming week is likely to be abnormally free of worries and frustrations. I'm afraid that means you're not going to have as much right to complain as you usually do. Can you handle that? Or will you feel bereft when faced with the prospect of having so little to grumble about? Just in case, I've compiled a list of fake annoyances for you to draw on. 1. "My iPhone wont light my cigarette." 2. "The next tissue in my tissue box doesn't magically poke out when I take one." 3. "I want some ice cream, but I overstuffed myself at dinner." 4. "I ran out of bottled water and now I have to drink from the tap." 5. "My cat's Facebook profile gets more friend requests than me." 6. "When people tell me I should feel grateful for all I have instead of complaining all the time, I feel guilty."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The state of California was named after a storybook land described in a 16th-century Spanish novel. The mythical paradise was ruled by Queen Calafia. Gold was so plentiful that the people who lived there made weapons out of it and even adorned their animals with it. Did the real California turn out to be anything like that fictional realm? Well, 300 years after it got its name, the California Gold Rush attracted 300,000 visitors who mined a fortune in the precious metal. Your assignment, Taurus: Think of the myths you believed in when you were young and the fantasies that have played at the edges of your imagination for years. Have any of them come true, even a little? I suspect that one may do just that in the coming weeks and months.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In Bill Moyers' DVD *The Language of Life*, poet Naomi Shihab Nye is shown giving advice to aspiring young poets. She urges them to keep an open mind about where their creative urges might take them. Sometimes when you start a poem, she says, you think you want to go to church, but where you end up is at the dog races. I'll make that same point to you, Gemini. As you tune in to the looming call to adventure, don't be too sure you know what destination it has in mind for you. You might be inclined to assume it'll lead you toward a local bar for drinks when in fact it's nudging you in the direction of a wild frontier for a divine brouhaha.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Renowned comic book writer Grant Morrison claims he performed a magic ritual in which he conjured the spirit of John Lennon, who appeared and bestowed on him the gift of a new song. I've heard Morrison sing the tune, and it does sound rather Lennon-esque. The coming week would be a good time for you to go in quest of a comparable boon, Cancerian: a useful and beautiful blessing bequeathed to you by the departed spirit of someone you love or admire.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "There are works which wait, and which one does not understand for a long time," said Oscar Wilde. "The reason is that they bring answers to questions which have not yet been raised; for the question often arrives a terribly long time after the answer." I predict that sometime soon, Leo, you will prove that wisdom true. You will finally learn the brilliant question whose crucial answer you got years ago. When it arrives, you will comprehend a mystery that has been churning in the semi-darkness all this time.

VRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Shedding is healthy — not just for cats and dogs and other animals but also for us humans. Did you know that you shed thousands of particles of dead skin every hour? And just as our bodies need to shed, so do our psyches. I bring this up, Virgo, because you are in an unusually favorable phase to do a whole lot of psychic shedding. What should you shed exactly? How about some of these: old ideas that don't serve you any more, habits that undermine your ability to pursue your dreams, compulsions that are at odds with your noble intentions, resentment against people who did you wrong a long, long time ago, and anything else you carry with you that keeps you from being fully alive and radiant. To paraphrase Thomas Jefferson, the price of freedom and aliveness is eternal shedding.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): According to research published in the journal *Psychological Science*, many people are virtually allergic to creative ideas. When asked to consider a novel proposal, they're quite likely to reject it in favor of an approach that's well-known to them. (More info here: tinyurl.com/3oor4nq.) This could be a problem for you in the coming weeks, Libra, since one of your strengths will be your ability to come up with innovations. So it won't be enough for you to offer your brilliant notions and original departures from the way things have always been done; you will also have to be persuasive and diplomatic. Think you can handle that dual assignment?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "A single sunbeam is enough to drive away shadows," said St. Francis of Assisi. I'm afraid that's an overly optimistic assessment. In many circumstances, just one ray of light may not be sufficient to dispel encroaching haze and murk. Luckily for you, though, there will be quite an assortment of sunbeams appearing in your sphere during the coming weeks. Here's the complication: They won't all be showing up at once, and they'll be arriving in disparate locations. So your task will be to gather them all up and unite them so they can add to each other's strength. If you do that successfully, you'll have more than enough illumination to chase away any darkness that might be creeping around.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Poet Elizabeth Alexander says that in order to create a novel, a writer needs a lot of uninterrupted time alone. Poems, on the other hand, can be snared in the midst of the jumbled rhythms of everyday chaos — between hurried appointments or while riding the subway or at the kitchen table waiting for the coffee to brew. Alexander says that inspiration can sprout like grass poking up out of the sidewalk cracks. Whether or not you're a writer, Sagittarius, I see your coming weeks as being more akin to snagging poems than cooking up a novel.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "A true poet does not bother to be poetical," said the poet Jean Cocteau. "Nor does a nursery gardener perfume his roses." I think that's wise counsel for you in the coming weeks, Capricorn. It's important that you do what you do best without any embellishment, pretentiousness, or self-consciousness. Don't you dare try too hard or think too much or twist yourself like a contortionist to meet impossible-to-satisfy expectations. Trust the thrust of your simple urges.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Collectors prefer wild orchids, says William Langley, writing in the UK's *Telegraph*. Orchids grown in nurseries, which comprise 99.5 percent of the total, are tarnished with "the stigma of perfection." Their colors are generic and their petal patterns are boringly regular. Far more appealing are the exotic varieties untouched by human intervention, with their "downy, smooth petals and moistened lips pouting in the direction of tautly curved shafts and heavily veined pouches." Whatever your sphere or specialty is, Aquarius, I suggest you model yourself after the wild orchid collectors in the coming days. Shun the stigma of perfection.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): While doing a film a few years ago, actress Sandra Bullock stumbled upon a stunning secret: Rubbing hemorrhoid cream on her face helped shrink her wrinkles and improve her complexion. I predict that at least one and possibly more comparable discoveries will soon grace your life. You will find unexpected uses for things that were supposedly not meant to be used in those ways. Here's a corollary, courtesy of scientist Albert Szent-Gyorgyi, that describes a related talent you'll have at your disposal: "Discovery consists of seeing what everybody has seen and thinking what nobody has thought."

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 26

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

From Pg. 23

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S	I	C	K	O		I	N	H	I	B	I	T	O	R
L	E	A	N			P	E	R	M	A	N	E	N	T

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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.

CASUAL DINING

CONRAD'S COLLEGE TOWN GRILL

Featuring creative sandwiches such as the J.F.K. (with chicken, jalapenos, mozzarella and honey mustard) and a full slew of breakfast items, burgers and (we swear, this is what the menu calls them) "Magical Munchies." 101 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Monday-Friday, noon-3 a.m. Saturday, noon-2:30 p.m. Sunday. (517) 337-2723. www.conradsgrill.com. D, OM, \$.

CORAL GABLES

Serving meals for generations, this family-style restaurant offers hand-made desserts, home-made soups and a small menu of homemade Greek specialties. 2838 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday; 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 7 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday; 8 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday; 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday. (517) 337-1311. www.coralgablesrestaurant.com, WB, WiFi, FB, TO,

OM, \$\$

DIMITRI'S

The former stalwart of downtown Lansing now serves Delta Township with a full dinner menu along with familiar Coney dogs, burgers and fries. Also find full breakfasts and dinners like barbeque beef brisket and tilapia with lemon butter cream sauce on the expanded menu. 6334 W. Saginaw, Lansing; Monday-Saturday 7 a.m.-8:30 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; (517) 323-6867; TO, \$\$.

EL BURRITO

A cozy, authentic taqueria offering homemade Mexican cooking and baked goods. Stop by early for a breakfast burrito, try a lunch special entrée that comes with rice and beans, or fill a taco with marinated pork, beef tongue, chicken or a number of other meats. 5920 S. Cedar St., Lansing. 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday; 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday; Friday; 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday; Closed Sunday. (517) 272-1665. TO, \$\$

EMIL'S

Lansing's oldest restaurant still has charming atmosphere, although its often overcooked "Italian" dishes now leave much to be desired. See full review at tinyurl.com/emilscitypulse 2012 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 11 a.m.-9:45 p.m. daily. (517) 482-4430. TO, \$-\$\$.

FISH & CHIPS

Serving fish, fries and more on Lansing east side for almost 40 years. Dine in or pull up to the drive-thru window for dinner on the go. 2418 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday. (517) 487-5774. TO, P, \$

GENO'S PIZZERIA

Owner Geno Abbey has captured the essence of East Coast-style pie. The dough is made fresh from scratch several times a day, the sauce is composed of hand-crushed San Marzano tomatoes (considered the world's best for making sauces) flown in from Italy, and all vegetable toppings are garden-fresh. Fresh salads

are also available and calzones and strombolis are made to order. 208 S. Washington Square, Lansing. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 4-9 p.m. Saturday. Closed Sundays. (517) 580-7124. www.genospizzeria.com. OM, \$\$

GRACIE'S PLACE

A classy, cozy restaurant in downtown Williamston offering some of the finest dining in the area. Try specials like the Dancing Zorba vegetarian sandwich with grilled veggies, roasted eggplant, zucchini, portabella mushrooms and baby tomatoes on a whole wheat tortilla with roasted red pepper hummus. Full review at tinyurl.com/graciescitypulse. 151 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday; 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; closed Sunday. (517) 655-1100. graciesplacewilliamston.com BW, TO, RES, P, WiFi, \$\$

Average price per person, not including drinks:
\$ Less than \$8 | \$\$ \$8 to \$14 | \$\$\$ \$14 to \$20 | \$\$\$\$ Over \$20

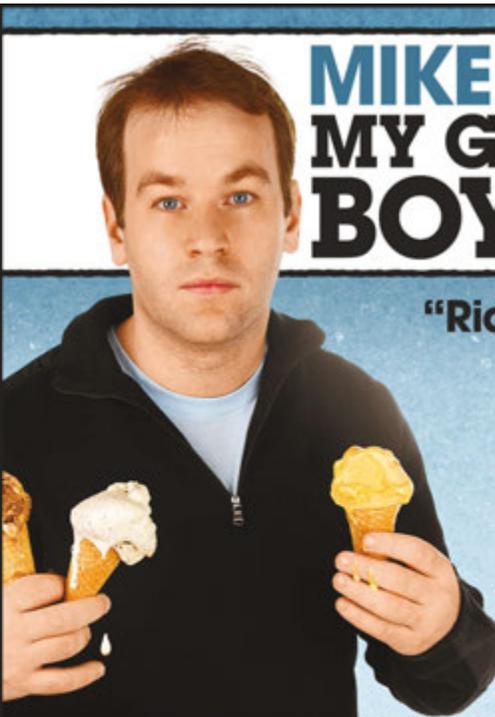
FB Full Bar **WB** Wine & Beer **TO** Take Out **OM** Online Menu
RES Reservations **P** Patio **WiFi** Wireless Internet **D** Delivery

Michael Brenton's "Uncorked" column will return next month.

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