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November 21-27, 2012

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CITY

PULSE'S

#LOVELANSING

GIFT

GUIDE

SEE PAGE 11



One of "America's Top College Hotels" —Travel & Leisure Magazine, June 2012

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November 23rd-
December 24th

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Share the warning signs
visit sparrow.org/stroke

Feedback

Not impressed with Broad

My family and I arrived around 10:30 to the museum. The doors facing Grand River were blocked with a crowd of people watching a crew film something. We strolled over to the other side. I loved the steel tree sculpture outside and thought this is going to be a great experience for me and my daughter. Well the tree was the best part of the outside experience. We reached the other side and found that a huge white tent was blocking the side walk and there was only a tiny area between the building and a cement fixture to walk through. The stroller would not fit (how could a wheel chair!) so we had to lift the stroller over the cement fixture. We enter the building and find ourselves lost. There was no flow to the museum and it was hard to find anyone that worked there amongst the crowd. We strolled around for a bit enjoying some of the art, disappointed by most. What really ticked me off

was when after using the stroller for 15 minutes already we had worker stop us and say we had to check in the stroller and that they are prohibited. I wish this was posted on their site because I would not have brought my young non-walking daughter with me. I go to check it in and find them trying to shove a handful of strollers in the tiny (very tiny) coat area. To make this short I felt that the museum was a disaster and almost a waste of my time. When I go to museums I expect to walk out blown away or with the feeling of wanting to return. When going to a museum you want to see pieces that make you think or question life. The only thing I was thinking was where the exit was! One positive thing I will say about the workers is that they knew their art or at least the few pieces in the rooms. I hope to see something better in the future.

— Jessica Yurgel
Lansing

CityPULSE

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PAGE 7

Officials are meeting regularly to hash out Capital Gateway project details, but there's still no price on remaining acreage



PAGE 8

New upscale movie theater will let you wine and dine at the show



PAGE 26

Food Fight searches for Lansing's best chili



COVER ART

PHOTO & DESIGN by RACHEL HARPER | MODEL: COLIN DICK

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- ✓ Current rebates put cash in your pocket.
- ✓ To participate in the program or to learn more, call 877-674-5295 or visit www.lbwl.com/ Energy Savers.

CITY PULSE ON THE AIR

THIS WEEK

State Rep. Joan Bauer, D-Lansing
Ron Van Timmeren, vice president of programming for Loeks Theaters
Mary Elaine Kiener, Walnut Neighborhood resident

Editor & Publisher
Berl Schwartz
7 p.m. Wednesdays

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

GENERAL PETRAEUS, SIR! IT'S ME, DRONEY! I JUST GOT BACK FROM PARISTAN!
YOU CAN SCRATCH A FEW MORE PROBABLE MILITANTS OFF THE KILL LIST!
ALSO THEIR NEIGHBORS.

UM, SIR--WHAT'S WITH ALL THE BOXES? ARE YOU MOVING TO AN EVEN MORE PRESTIGIOUS OFFICE?
ER, NO, DRONEY--I HAD TO RESIGN. YOU SEE, THERE'S BEEN A SCANDAL--
OH NO!!

I ALWAYS FEARED THIS DAY WOULD COME! DID AMERICANS FINALLY TAKE NOTICE OF THE CREEPING MILITARIZATION OF THE C.I.A.?

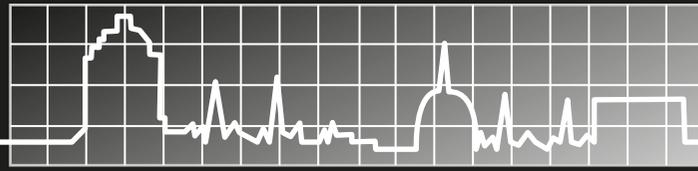
HAVE THEY RISEN UP IN OUTRAGE AGAINST OUR LACK OF ACCOUNTABILITY? OUR REFUSAL TO EVEN ACKNOWLEDGE THE DRONE PROGRAM, LET ALONE EXPLAIN WHO WE'RE KILLING IN THEIR NAME, AND UNDER WHAT OVERSIGHT?

ACTUALLY, I PUT MY PENIS SOMEWHERE I WASN'T SUPPOSED TO.

HUMANS ARE WEIRD.
SIR.

© 2012 TOM TOMORROW

PULSE



news & opinion

'All time low'

A plan for the pole barn surfaced, but Niowave and the Walnut Neighborhood appear to be on different wavelengths

The relationship between residents of the Walnut Neighborhood and Niowave Inc. is at an "all-time low," one resident told the Lansing City Council on Monday night. The comments came three days after a few neighbors were shown what they've been waiting on for over four months: a plan to improve the appearance of Niowave's 14,000-square-foot pole barn in their neighborhood.

Mary Elaine Kiener, a Seymour Avenue resident, and Rina Risper, president of the Walnut Neighborhood Organization, told the Council Niowave refuses to talk with more than a few residents at a time and is slow to respond to neighborhood concerns.

The declining rapport between the two groups comes after three neighbors were shown a plan on Friday by Lansing landscape architect Bob Ford, who was retained by Niowave to help address concerns of neighbors. Kiener and Risper expressed satisfaction on Monday with the plan, but not with how the company is engaging — or isn't — with neighbors. Kiener said the plan is exclusively landscaping around the building to make the building "disappear" and said it doesn't change the building's façade.

Niowave is housed in the old Walnut School building north of downtown. The pole barn was part of a \$10 million expansion to conduct further particle accelerator research.

"The relationship between the neighbors and Niowave appears to only have deteriorated over the last six months," Kiener said in an interview. "The level of trust on the part of the neighbors ... is in doubt. It's like they're saying, 'Just trust us.' Well, they've not done anything right from the beginning of the building" to give neighbors reason to.

Kiener said the design that Ford did,

if implemented properly, could help relieve neighbors' frustrations.

"The design that he did is brilliant, and what he's proposing through landscaping is to make the building appear to disappear by drawing your eye away from it," Kiener said. "It's a lot of trees and a lot of landscaping," she said, adding that there were no changes to the façade.

Dale Schrader, who lives nearby, said residents plan on discussing the plans as a neighborhood. But in his opinion, a simple "Home Depot" fix with landscaping isn't enough to address the "white behemoth."

"We may have to take our protest to another level," he said. "We don't have their attention yet, apparently — we're waiting to hear from them all the time."

After seeing Ford's plans at Friday's meeting with Niowave, Kiener said she

it "proprietary information" and that "nothing is set in stone" — but he thinks it's a "pretty good plan" to get the issues resolved.

Kiener said she plans on hosting a series of "community listening sessions" this weekend. She said there would also be a Walnut Neighborhood Organization meeting Nov. 29. The meetings will give residents a chance to voice their opinion on the proposal and decide whether to give their support.

Sinila said Niowave is waiting for unanimous neighborhood support of the landscaping fix before the company asks the Council to revisit a personal property tax exemption related to the expansion. The company is seeking a waiver on more than \$230,000 in taxes over six years on new equipment in the facility. "It was postponed until we make amends with the neighbors," he said.

The City Council is also set to take up an ordinance that was drafted as a direct result of this saga. Council President Brian Jeffries said the ordinance would amend the city's zoning code by requiring property owners to notify the Council about any new construction on sites with an already approved special land use permit. City planning officials have said the pole barn was allowed because it fit within the parameters of a permit approved in 2006.

However, Jeffries said the ordinance won't be passed until after Jan. 1. A resolution to set a public hearing for Dec. 3 on it was tabled at Monday's meeting for further discussion in committee and by the Planning Board.

Meanwhile, as a testament to how sour things have gotten between the company and the neighbors, Risper, the neighborhood organization president, addressed a rumor that if neighbors were unwilling to work with Niowave, that the company would pack up and leave.

"If Niowave is threatening to move," Risper told the Council, "I say move if you're not willing to work with the neighborhood."

Jeffries hopes the groups can work out their differences and was surprised at the tone: "That is something I have not heard before."

— Sam Ingot and Andy Balaskovitz



Sam Ingot/City Pulse

A plan to fix the appearance of the Niowave pole barn in the Walnut Neighborhood has surfaced, but neighbors say relations with the company are at an "all time low" because Niowave won't meet with more than a few neighbors at a time. Residents plan to meet to discuss the plan in the coming weeks.

had to ask "five times" to take a photo of Ford's concept to show the neighbors. She said they plan on hosting a series of discussions with the neighborhood to see what people think and if the plan would be enough to hide the building. She declined to show the plan to City Pulse.

Niowave Chief Financial Officer Mark Sinila said he is "surprised" to hear about breakdown of the relationship from the neighborhood.

"I thought things had taken a positive step forward," he said on Tuesday. "We told them we were ready to make some immediate changes once we get their OK."

Sinila also declined to show the concept to City Pulse because he called



SORE OF THE WEEK

Property: 1016 Cleo St., Lansing

Assessed value: \$29,200

Owner: Kerstin Hunt

Owner says: Could not be reached for comment

Architecture critic Amanda Harrell-Seyburn says: Left unsecured, an exposed roof is a death sentence to any building. The roof is the first line of defense against wind, rain and snow — not to mention sleet. It doesn't matter how well maintained the rest of the structure is, everything else will be compromised. A secure roof is especially vital to the survival of an unoccupied house. With its repetition of a form-repeated gable in the main façade, the smaller front addition, elegant doors and shingle siding, this house is worth the effort. Hopefully, it will receive the roof repairs it so desperately needs. Fingers crossed.

Having a blue and yellow paint job — albeit woefully faded — instantly makes this house an eyesore in Spartan country. It's difficult to tell what the surface of the front porch is made of. Is it carpet? Is it moss? It's most likely a gross combination of the two. The roof appears to be in a stasis of repair — it's entirely covered in blue tarps. If the hole-filled roof in the garage and the ruptured edges of siding are any indication of the roof's status, it can't be good. The house next door is for sale with a sign that reads: "Cute, cute, cute." If one were to put a sign in front of this house it would say: "Run, run, run."

— Sam Ingot

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

'Very complicated puzzle'

Still no price tag on remaining Red Cedar Golf Course land; officials forge ahead

Once a week, about two dozen people with a stake in how the Capital Gateway project unfolds meet in Lansing to talk shop.

What will a 20-acre park on the south side of the old Red Cedar Golf Course look like? Who will be anchor tenants in the buildings that are planned? How will storm water runoff from the Frandor area be filtered before it gets to the Red Cedar River? How will the area be served with roads and utilities? How much land will Chris Jerome and Joel Ferguson buy from the city and at what price?

This is a sampling of the issues being worked out since voters authorized the sale of up to 48 more acres of the shuttered golf course on the east end of Michigan Avenue to the development team of Jerome and Ferguson. Representatives from the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office, various city departments, Jerome and Ferguson, Clark Construction and the Hobbes and Black architecture firm are tackling them. Sometimes they meet at Clark Construction's offices; sometimes at the Lansing Economic Area Partnership offices in the Stadium District. It's all part of a "very complicated puzzle," Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero's chief of staff, Randy Hannan, said.

It's neither simple nor quick working through a \$100 million development, they say. There's no timeline for starting construction.

"Now comes the hard part," Jerome said. "It's called doing what we said we were going to do."

In a two-step process, voters have given the city the right to sell all 60-plus acres of the old golf course. First, they voted in 2011 to sell 12.5 acres fronting Michigan Avenue. Then, after developers Jerome and Ferguson said they wanted even more land, they voted in November to allow the city to sell all of the remaining 48.5 acres. The city charter requires voter approval of selling parkland.

One of the outstanding, short-term questions is how much the city will get for what the administration tentatively says will be about 28 more acres of the golf course Ferguson and Jerome plan to buy. While the 12.5-acre parcel voters originally authorized to sell was appraised at \$5 million, the value of the rest of the land is uncertain. The administration intends for the city to keep ownership of the public parkland on the south side of the parcel, Hannan said.

The developers won't speculate what they'd pay and the administration won't appraise the land until it knows what exactly the developers will buy. Ferguson downplays the importance of the land sale.

"The price is a minor thing — it's the economic impact this is going to have," Ferguson said. He was asked several months ago on the "City Pulse Newsmakers" TV show about the \$5 million price tag of the 12.5 acres and whether the rest would be in a similar ballpark. "Heavens no," Ferguson said at the time.

— **Andy Balaskovitz**



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STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
INGHAM COUNTY
CIRCUIT COURT
FAMILY DIVISION

NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE NO.
12-2781-GA

In the matter of David Fitch

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on 11/29/2012 at 10:00 AM, at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Economy for the following purpose(s):

Guardianship Hearing.

If you require special accommodations to use the court because of a disability, or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.

Date: 11/21/2012
Deann Moreno
5303 S. Cedar St.
Lansing, MI 48909
(517)-887-9664

PUBLIC NOTICES



Ingham County seeks proposals from organizations interested in the development and operation of a residential treatment facility to be located in Ingham County, for male court wards, 12-17 years old. Services are needed for the operation of a facility to provide out-of-home care for male youth in need of a short term placement (3-6 months) pending return to their own home, placement in foster care or other appropriate living situation. The scope of this request can be found in the proposal document which is posted on-line at <http://pu.ingham.org> under the Current Bids link and assigned #53-12. Proposals are due no later than 11:00 AM on December 13th in the Purchasing Department.

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, November 26, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering an Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, repealing Chapter 1615 – Fireworks Ordinance and replace it with a new Chapter 1615 prohibiting the use of consumer fireworks without a license on any day other than the day preceding, the day of, and the day after a national holiday; and requiring a license for the use of agricultural and wildlife fireworks, articles pyrotechnic, display fireworks, special effects, or consumer fireworks.. For more information please call 483-4177.

Interested Persons are invited to attend this Public Hearing

CHRIS SWOPE, LANSING CITY CLERK

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SLU-2-2012, 221 N. Pine Street
Special Land Use Permit – Parking Lot

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 10, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, to consider SLU-2-2012. This is a request by the Michigan Retailers Association to construct a surface parking lot on the property at 221 N. Pine Street. Parking lots are permitted in the "D-1" Professional Office district, which is the designation of the subject property, if a Special Land Use permit is approved by the Lansing City Council.

For more information about this case, phone City Council Offices on City business days, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., Monday, December 10, 2012, at the City Council Offices, Tenth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933 1696.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk

NOTICE OF CITYWIDE PUBLIC HEARING COMMUNITY NEEDS HEARING

- TO:** Citizens of the City of Lansing
- FROM:** Virg Bernero, Mayor
- PURPOSE:** To encourage citizen participation at public hearings and to allow citizens an opportunity to provide input and indicate needs, views and proposals for:
1. Housing and nonhousing community development needs within the City of Lansing relevant to preparation of the City's Annual Action Plan Submission, FY 2013 - 2014 to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and HOME Investment Partnerships formula programs.
 2. The use of CDBG, HOME and ESG Program funds for fiscal year 2013 commencing July 1, 2013.

RESULTS: Recommendations affecting the City's Consolidated Plan and the proposed use of CDBG, HOME and ESG program funds to be submitted to the Mayor and City Council.

This is an opportunity for concerned citizens and neighborhood organizations to participate in the planning process and influence future programming and use of Federal program funds in Lansing.

PLACE: Lansing Planning Board Meeting
Neighborhood Empowerment Center
600 W. Maple
Lansing, Michigan 48915

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

DATE: Tuesday, December 4, 2012

If you cannot attend the hearing and wish to submit comments, or if you have questions about the public hearing, please contact Doris Witherspoon, Senior Planner of the City of Lansing Planning/Development Office, 316 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, MI, dwithers@lansingmi.gov, (517) 483-4063.

Please note that identifying housing and community development needs in the Lansing area is a community effort and public participation is strongly encouraged.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, December 3, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering an Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to Add Section 1282.04 to the Lansing Codified Ordinances by requiring construction code permit applications covering a lot for which a special land use has been approved to be submitted to the City Clerk for forwarding to City Council. For more information please call 483-4177.

Interested Persons are invited to attend this Public Hearing

CHRIS SWOPE, LANSING CITY CLERK

Arts & Culture

art • books • film • music • theater

Coming soon: a theater near you

Upscale movie theater will provide an intimate, full-service experience

By ALLANI I. ROSS

Sometime in 2015, “Star Wars: Episode VII” will come out and you can already picture the midnight premiere: middle-aged fanboys and fangirls dressed like Vader, Fett and Slave Leia, swinging plastic lightsabers at each other as they stand in 12-hour lines that stretch around the movie theater. Even for a die-hard fan of the Skywalker saga, all that waiting and uncertainty of a good seat sounds like a day in Dagobah.

Now picture yourself calmly walking up to the ticket booth at 11:55 p.m., picking up your ticket and strolling into the sea of costumed characters who’ve been in line all day. You plop into a plush, reclining seat just in time for the previews. No long line, no racing into the theater to fight for your seat. In fact, here comes a waiter with some free popcorn to take your drink order (wine or beer?) and see if you’d like to order a late dinner. The Wookiee in the next row looks over in bewilderment — what’s going on here, Jedi mind games?

Not exactly — you’re at Studio C!, an upscale specialty movie house that’s part of the Celebration! Cinema family. Studio C! opens Dec. 10 at 1999 Central Park Drive in Okemos, in the former AMC Meridian 6 near the Meridian Mall. It will consist of six theaters — two 200-seaters, two 150-seaters and two 100-seaters — and feature a full dinner menu, a liquor license and pick-your-own

seating. It will also include the aforementioned preferred seating (for a \$7 premium charge), which comes with swanky recliners, complimentary popcorn and full-service waitstaff (to which each theater will dedicate about 15 percent of its floor space).

“This is part of a bigger trend in movie-going,” says Ron Van Timmeren, vice president in charge of programming for Loeks Theatres Inc., which does business as Celebration! Cinema. “We’ve seen it work pretty well in major markets like New York and Chicago, so we’re testing the waters here. But the date-and-a-movie concept is all-American — I feel this will work in the Lansing area.”

And the man knows his trends. In 2003, Van Timmeren told City Pulse that he predicted 3-D and IMAX movies would become a major force in the movie market, a claim that proved to be quite prescient. A lot of it had to do with “Avatar,” which changed the course of movie watching: bigger became better again. But now Van Timmeren is gambling on the small.

And so Studio C! is reversing that trend — the idea is to make movie watching a more intimate and service-oriented experience. You see, even though Lansing already has two megaplexes — Lansing Township’s NCG Cinemas to the north and Lansing’s Celebration! Cinemas to the south — the first-come, first-serve seating rule is in hard effect and your best options for food are still hot dogs and nachos. Moreover, neither is known



Allan I. Ross/City Pulse

Susan Woods, director of the East Lansing Film Festival and founder of the East Lansing Film Society, in one of the screening rooms at Studio C! The new theater has rocking chairs, a dinner menu and a full bar, including 10 beers on tap. It opens Dec. 10.

for showing foreign, art house or local films. Case in point: “The Intouchables,” a French film that set worldwide box offices on fire earlier this year. But chances are you haven’t heard of it — unless, perhaps, you were at the East Lansing Film Festival.

Susan Woods, director of the ELFF, heard international buzz about “Intouchables” and fought to bring it here last week, and she says the audience response was worth it.

“I don’t think I’ve ever heard an audience laugh harder at a movie before,”

she said. “I was so, so happy to play a part in introducing that film to the Lansing area. It’s what I love to do. And with Studio C!, it will be a lot easier do that.”

Woods, 60, was recently picked by Celebration to do programming for one of Studio C!’s six theaters. For 15 years, she has built up the ELFF as well as its sibling, the East Lansing Film Society, which grew from a ragtag group of a few dozen film fans to over 2,300 members. She started with a 35mm projector in

See Studio C! Page 9



KEN ZUCKER

“Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation: Lessons Learned from Life-Course Research”
4 p.m.
Monday
Wells Hall
room 115B
MSU Campus
FREE

Gender identity and children

Ken Zucker, psychologist-in-chief at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto, is the 10th speaker in Michigan State University’s semester-long series, “Whom You Love: the biology of sexual orientation,” which aims to demonstrate that homosexuality is a natural occurrence in humans. His speech is called “Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation: Lessons Learned from Life-

Course Research”

Zucker is the head of the Gender Identity Service in the Child, Youth and Family Program at CAMH, and is also a professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto. Since 2002, he has been the editor of archives of sexual behavior and is past president of the International Academy of Sex Research.

What general themes will your lecture cover?

My lecture will focus on psychosexual differentiation from a developmental perspective. In my speech, I will characterize the temporal sequence of three key phenomena: gender identity (the emergence of a child’s sense of self as a boy, a girl or some alternative gender),



Ken Zucker

gender role (the behavioral expressions that mark the constructs of “masculinity” and “femininity”) and sexual orientation (one’s erotic attraction to males, to females or to both, and the corresponding self-labels that a person uses to characterize their own sexual identity, which include gay, bisexual, heterosexual and asexual).

I will then discuss what we know about the developmental predictors of both gender identity and sexual orientation in adolescence and adulthood. These parameters include within-sex variation in childhood sex-typed behavior, biodemographic variables (such as birth

order) and social class.

What inspired you to pursue this field of research?

My clinical research career has focused mostly on children and adolescents with gender dysphoria —commonly known as gender identity disorder —and children born with what are now termed disorders of sex development (such as physical intersex conditions).

In 1974, while I was a graduate student in Chicago, I stumbled across Richard Green’s book “Sexual Identity Conflict in Children and Adults,” which actually coined the term “gender identity disorder.”

When I moved to Toronto in 1975, I met a child psychiatrist, Susan Bradley, who had just established a gender identity clinic for children and adolescents at the

See Whom You Love, Page 9

Studio C!

from page 8

Michigan State University's Wells Hall showing classics films.

"But that bombed," she says. "Then I started showing independent and foreign movies and that's when it really took off."

A lifelong fan of film, Woods created the ELFF and ELFS to fill what she saw as a void in the artistic landscape. After successfully nurturing them for 15 years, she says she was "elated" when Van Timmeren & Co. contacted her about programming.

"If you'd asked me in my 30s what my dream job was, I'd have said programming

films," Woods says. "Now I'm doing it. How many people can say that?"

Woods doesn't have an official title yet, but she starts on Jan. 15 — the heart of Oscar season. And what's one of the first things she's bringing?

"I can't wait to make 'Intouchables' available to everyone, whenever they want to see it," she says. "That's the only problem with the film festival — the rigid schedule."

Both Woods and Van Timmeren say the roster will also probably include locally produced shorts and features, which will play before the main attraction.

"This isn't meant to be competitive with the multiplexes in town — it's a viable alternative," Van Timmeren says. "We want to attract the people who want that alternative experience."

Whom You Love

from page 8

Clarke Institute of Psychiatry (now the CAMH). The rest is history.

What do you think this lecture series could do for the social views of homosexuality?

Social scientists and clinicians have, in my view, an obligation to share with the public what they have learned about

the phenomena they study. Matters of sex and gender are topics that the public finds extremely absorbing and interesting, as such matters touch upon all of our lives. The more information we have, the better.

Science and (social) politics can, however, make for strange bedfellows. Scientific knowledge can be used or it can be abused. A responsible scientist will work hard to make sure that what we know is understood and will correct misunderstandings.

For more information on this series, go to whomyoulove.com.



Photo by Luke Anthony Photography

Bob Murrell as Mr. Piscatchio and Kaleel Van Voorhees as Axel the Elf in Riverwalk Theatre's "The No-Hole Holiday."

Hole for the holidays

By DANA CASADEI

This month, you might find a holiday show that has fake snow, Santa and maybe a few elves, but the one playing at Riverwalk Theatre certainly has something that makes it stick out from the crowd: goblins.

"That would be the Grump Sisters," said director Jane Zussman. "But they're not scary evil — they're more funny evil."

In Riverwalk's "The No Hole Holiday," there will be a few twists on holiday classics, and that includes these two characters that are often associated with Halloween. Zussman says the show will be anything but ordinary.

"It's not a fairy tale script," Zussman said. "Everyone knows 'Cinderella' and 'Jack and the Beanstalk,' but 'The No Hole Holiday' —

what the heck is that?"

It's the story of Axel the Elf, who is promoted to Santa's chief buyer of holes. After some disappointment in his new role, he is introduced to the Grump Sisters and a magical hole-making machine, which Zussman described as a character itself. What follows includes sabotage, songs (including one about the importance of holes) and audience participation.

That's right — three audience members in each show will be pulled on-stage and get to be a part of the action.

"That's one of those things you can't really rehearse," she said.

"The No Hole Holiday"

Nov. 23-Dec. 2
Riverwalk Theatre
228 Museum Drive,
Lansing
7 p.m. Fridays, 2 &
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THE SCREENING ROOM

by ALLAN I. ROSS

Day-Lewis brings 16th prez to life in 'Lincoln'

By ALLAN I. ROSS

Biopics, lately, have been wasted on the eccentric. But if ever there was a man who deserved one, it's the 16th president of the United States — and who better to deliver than the one-two punch of über-

auteur Steven Spielberg and method actor extraordinaire Daniel Day-Lewis? It's a match made in celluloid heaven.

But the most intriguing aspect of "Lincoln" is its breadth — or, notably, its lack thereof. With a lifetime of material that could have been plumbed on Abraham Lincoln — his humble birth in a one-room log cabin, his hardscrabble rise up the political ladder — the obvious problem becomes one of finding out how best to sum up a man who single-handedly kept the nation from crumbling. This is solved by a screenplay that focuses on a single month at the beginning of Lincoln's second term, quite possibly the toughest month in the history of the American presidency. Writer Tony Kushner ("Angels in America") is able to strip away the mythology and instead train in on Lincoln's second greatest legacy (after winning the Civil War, that is): the passage of the 13th Amendment.

It's heady stuff, no doubt about that. Old white guys with funny facial hair talking and arguing (and talking some more) may not be everyone's cup of tea, but with Spielberg's deft camera work and Day-Lewis' spot-on performance, the material becomes absolutely riveting. The greatest victory is Day-Lewis' acting, which will certainly become the definitive version of Honest Abe. The beard, the top hat and the folksy, storytelling charm



Courtesy Photo
Daniel Day-Lewis as the titular president in Steven Spielberg's "Lincoln." The film relies mostly on natural lighting to tell the story of how the 16th president fought to pass the 13th Amendment before the end of the Civil War.

survive in this depiction; the booming voice common in most portrayals does not. Day-Lewis accurately (according to historians, at least) speaks with Lincoln's nasally, relatively high-pitched voice that quickly becomes endearing, especially to our Midwestern ears. He embodies Lincoln so well you can practically feel his joints creaking every time he rises from his chair. But when he slams his hand down in frustration and lets his anger show, boy howdy, do you see the lion under the surface.

Spielberg utilizes mostly natural light throughout the film, plunging entire scenes into shadows or throwing them under direct harsh sunlight. Sometimes he does both simultaneously, as in the scene that introduces Lincoln's foil, Thaddeus Stevens (Tommy Lee Jones), which takes place in a sunbeam-stabbed darkened room. Jones — who stays in his comfort zone, playing Stevens as an Old Crank with a Heart of Gold — leads a phalanx of strong supporting characters, including big-name stars (Sally Field as Mary Todd Lincoln; David Strathairn as Secretary of State William Seward; James Spader as a slimy "Democratic operative") and talented under-the-radar character actors ("Mad Men"'s Jared Harris as Gen. Ulysses S. Grant; "Breaking Bad"'s David Costabile as Congressman James Ashley). It's hard to tell if it's the richness of the script, the thrill of

working for an actor's director like Spielberg or the buzz that comes from working on a set with a man who looks, acts and talks exactly like Abraham freaking Lincoln that brings out the best in these performers, but something sure does.

Much as he did with the brutal D-Day sequence in "Saving Private Ryan," Spielberg opens the film in the middle of a vicious, rain-soaked Civil War battlefield, with factions on both sides stabbing, punching and grinding each other's faces into the mud. It's mercifully short, and it segues into a recitation of the Gettysburg Address by a couple of black recruits. It's a powerful way to start the movie, and it sets the tone of how high the stakes are to get that amendment through.

Kushner wisely avoids playing Lincoln as a saint, showing us that, yes, he did argue with his wife — and perhaps the president did play lawyers' games with the language in order to make things happen. But there's a love for Lincoln that shines through in almost every scene, especially in the repeated use of Lincoln's parable-like jokes and yarns that are seemingly apropos of nothing.

"Oh no, I feel a story coming on," moans Secretary of War Edwin Stanton (Bruce McGill) as he hurries from the room as Abe warms up a doozy; the rest of us settle in for what's sure to be a treat.

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2012 GIFT GUIDE

OUR LIST OF #LOVELANSING GIFT IDEAS

By **ALLAN I. ROSS**

Despite those doomsday prognosticators who've been trying to scare us into thinking we're one minor calamity away from being a third world country, things really aren't that bad, fiscally speaking.

Need proof? Years ago, economics guru Alan Greenspan posited that a strong economy could be linked to the sales of men's underwear, which can be tracked via the imaginatively titled Men's Underwear Index. And get this: The Washington Post recently ran a report by a prominent market research company that, indeed, the MUI is up 6 percent since 2011. That's right — buying boxers or briefs for that

guy on your holiday list is good for America. U-S-A! U-S-A!

In addition to the MUT's bounce back, the economy has also seen upticks in haircuts and hair coloring (up more than 5 percent since 2009) and eating out (up nearly 9 percent this year). And wouldn't you know it: Lansing is just chock-a-block with retail clothing centers, hair salons and restaurants.

So as you begin your holiday gift buying, here are some places with out-of-the-ordinary (or ordinary-with-a-local-twist) items for everyone on your list:

Compiled by **SAM INGLOT, ANDREA RABY and HÉLÈNE DRYDEN**



THE CRAFTY AUNT

Polka Dots in Old Town features handmade jewelry and headbands (\$16), beaded wine stoppers (\$16), collectable ornaments and figurines, Embellish Your Story magnets and Curly Girl Design home décor.

And get a load of what Mackerel Sky has under its roof: happy clay monsters, cast concrete garden sculptures, folding wooden salad servers, etched frosted colored glass, woven kitchen towels and — get this — the only traditionally embossed alphabet blocks still made in this country. There are also hundreds of pieces of jewelry by 40 different artists with prices starting at \$10.

Polka Dots, 1207 Turner St., Old Town Lansing. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; noon- 4 p.m. Sunday; closed Monday. (517) 267-1479.

Mackerel Sky, 211 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. Holiday hours start Sunday, Dec. 9. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday; noon-4 p.m. Sunday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 24. (517) 351-2211.

CO-WORKER WHO LOVES LIVING IN LANSING

Lori Lanspeary has the fun title of “leisure marketing manager” at **Greater Lansing Convention & Visitors Bureau** in downtown Lansing's stadium district (the organization recently opened a second location in downtown East Lansing across from the new Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum). In addition to dispensing maps and advice on where to go and what to do around the area, the GLCVB also sells Lansing-themed gear, such as black ceramic travel mugs (\$10.50) and t-shirts by local company 517, featuring the distinctive BWL towers (\$20 for short sleeve, \$25 for long sleeve). Or if you want to capture the king daddy of Lansing skyline sights, you can get that person a snow globe featuring the Capitol dome (\$16.50).

Smith Floral, meanwhile, carries table coasters by local photographer Roger Boettcher (\$40 for a set of four, or \$10 each) that add local splendor to anyone's coffee table.

Greater Lansing Convention & Visitors Bureau. 500 E. Michigan Ave., Suite 180, Lansing. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday; closed Saturday-Sunday. (517) 487-6800.

Smith Floral, 1124 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday; 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday. (517) 484-5327.



See Gift Guide, Page 12

A Soothing Solace

Ever wonder if there was a place you could go to feel peace? A place to escape constant chatter, hustle and horns, or a pain that just won't go away. That place is Creative Wellness.

Whether the peace you seek is from an old pain you know well or a newly found problem, we have practitioners to help you on your quest. We offer a dozen types of massage, varying techniques in chiropractic, the age-old art of acupuncture and wellness classes.

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Gift Guide

from page 11

YOUR RELIABLE MOM

You know better than anyone how much grief your poor mom endures (after all, it is all your fault). So what a great way to tell her how much you love her than a trip to **Creative Wellness** or **Massage and Wellness**, both in East Lansing. Creative Wellness offers different packages, such as Wellness (\$120), Serenity (\$177) and Peak Performance (\$329), which include different levels of massage, professional consultation and classroom instruction. Not to be confused with Massage and Wellness, which features massage therapy, facials and body wraps.

To tie it all together, why not make her look as good as she feels? The recently opened Salon 1131 features waxing and full nail and hair care.

Creative Wellness. 2045 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 8:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday. (517) 351-9240

Massage and Wellness. 201 1/2 E. Grand River Ave. Suite 19, East Lansing. Open seven days, flexible hours. (517) 203-1113

Salon 1131. 1131 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. 10 a.m.- 8 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat.; closed Sunday. (517) 367-2060



THE NIECE OR NEPHEW WHO NEEDS TO BE INTRODUCED TO NATURE:

With a Jr. Ponics Fish Garden or Bubble Garden (starter kits begin at \$40), you can encourage that elementary school kid on your list to unplug from Halo 4 and start a worthwhile hobby that could also result in the Holy Grail of pre-adolescent achievements: a blue ribbon at the science fair. Hydroponics experts **Superior Growers Supply** sell the kits that allow your budding farmers to grow plants in cups that nestle on top of the 3/4-gallon fish tank. The fish swims through the plant's roots, creating a miniature ecosystem that's sure to teach that kid a thing or two about ecology — and take a much-needed break from the boob tube.

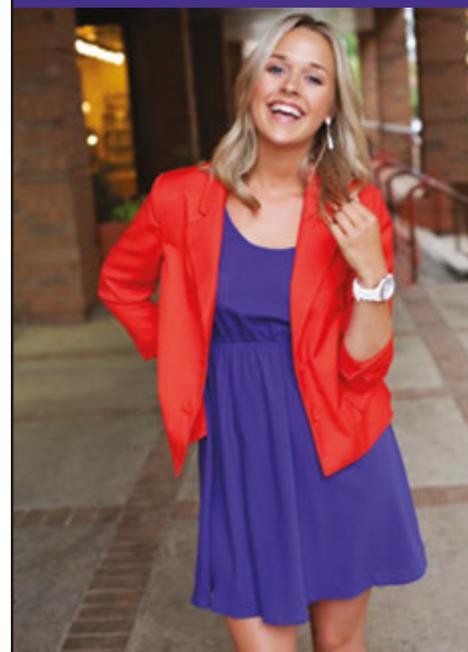
Or if you're looking for something bigger, **Preuss Pets** carries the 6-gallon Fluval Edge desktop aquarium (\$150) featuring LED lighting with moonlights, an ambitious filtration system in a modern encasement.

Superior Growers Supply, three locations: 4870 Dawn Ave., East Lansing. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; closed Saturday-Sunday. (517) 332-2663. 3928 W. Saginaw Hwy, Lansing. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday; 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday. (517) 327-1900. 5716 S. Pennsylvania Ave., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday. (517) 393-1600.

Preuss Pets, 1127 N. Cedar St., Lansing. 10 a.m.- 9 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. (517) 339-1762.



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See Gift Guide, Page 13

Gift Guide

from page 12

THE ARTSY SISTER



Sure, she's still honing her taste, and with a wide variety of styles and media to choose from, **Lansing Art Gallery** is a convenient place to help her find it. It just kicked off its Holiday Art Market (running through Dec. 22) that features over 100 Michigan artists, with a wide selection of paintings, pottery and wearable art ranging from the traditional to the decidedly non-traditional.

Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Lansing.

10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Tuesday -

Thursday; 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday; 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday; Closed Sunday-

Monday. (517) 374-6400.

THE BOOKWORM UNCLE

Sometimes it's best to just throw him a book so he doesn't bug you. "The Lands of Ice and Fire (Game of Thrones)" map book (\$40) should keep him busy through the New Year. For the MSU fan, "The Heart of a Spartan: The Story of a Michigan State University Football Renaissance," (\$50) is a good resource packed with impressive photos. Or if he's the family clown, try "The Onion: Book of Known Knowledge," (\$30) which is simultaneously one of the funniest and most cynical things you'll ever come across.

Schuler Books & Music. Two locations: 1982 Grand River Ave., Okemos. (517) 349-8840. 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing Township, (517) 316-7495. 6 a.m.-10p.m. Black Friday; 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24; 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 25. December hours vary.

See Gift Guide, Page 16

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Downtown East Lansing Holiday Shopping, November 23rd - December 24th

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WLNS TV-6 along with several media partners are dedicating Thursday, December 13, 2012 as a **DAY OF GIVING** to those in need here in Mid-Michigan.

Rally your friends, co-workers and classmates to help support the less fortunate. Hold a clothing drive, a food drive or collect donations at your school or workplace.

Volunteers from our participating non-profit agencies will accept donations at the WLNS TV-6 studios, 2820 East Saginaw, Lansing and Allegiance Health, 205 North East Avenue in Jackson from 12 to 8pm.

A phone bank will accept cash donations between 12 and 8pm at 517-485-0100. Online donations can be made at www.wlns.com.

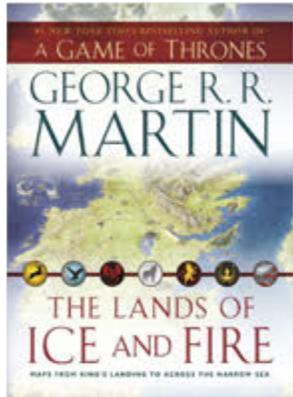
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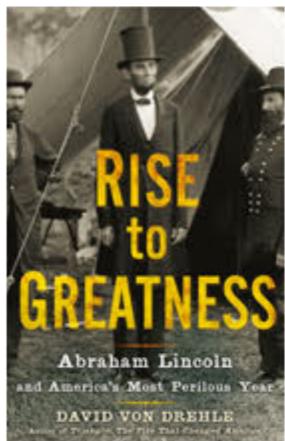


THE LANDS OF FIRE AND ICE by George R. R. Martin

George R. R. Martin's beloved *Song of Ice and Fire* series, which started with *A Game of Thrones*, is bursting with a variety and richness of landscapes—from bitter tundra to arid wasteland and everything in between—that provide a sense of scale unrivaled in contemporary fantasy. Now this dazzling set of maps, featuring original artwork from illustrator and cartographer Jonathan Roberts, transforms Martin's epic saga into a world as fully realized as the one around us. Never before has the entire scope of Martin's universe been so exhaustively and fascinatingly depicted. The maps in this beautiful, one-of-a-kind atlas will enrich your reading or viewing experience, provide another view of your favorite characters' epic journeys, and open up captivating new worlds—plus, they'll look great on any castle wall.

THE ONION BOOK OF KNOWN KNOWLEDGE

Replete with an astonishing assemblage of facts, illustrations, maps, charts, threats, blood, and additional fees to edify even the most simple-minded book-buyer, *The Onion Book of Known Knowledge* is packed with valuable information—such as the life stages of an Aunt; places to kill one's self in Utica, New York; and the dimensions of a female bucket, or "pail." With hundreds of entries for all 27 letters of the alphabet, this book must be purchased immediately to avoid the sting of eternal ignorance.



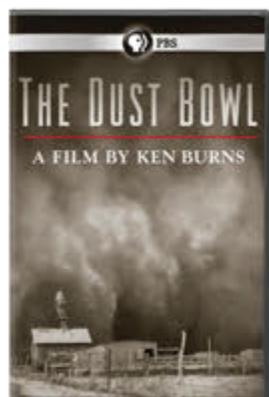
RISE TO GREATNESS by David Von Drehle

The electrifying story of Abraham Lincoln's rise to greatness during the most perilous year in our nation's history. As 1862 dawned, the American republic was at death's door. To a remarkable extent, the survival of the country depended on the judgment, cunning, and resilience of the unschooled frontier lawyer who had recently been elected president. Twelve months later, the Civil War had become a cataclysm but the tide had turned. And the man who brought the nation through its darkest hour, Abraham Lincoln, had been forged into a singular leader. In *Rise to Greatness*, acclaimed author David Von Drehle has created both a deeply human portrait of America's greatest president and a rich, dramatic narrative about our most fateful year.



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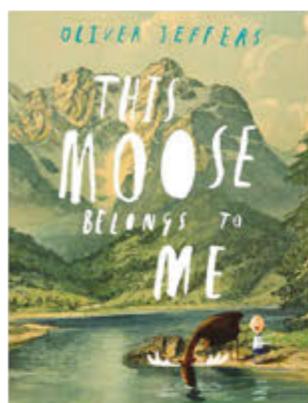


DUST BOWL by Ken Burns

The Dust Bowl chronicles the worst man-made ecological disaster in American history, in which the frenzied wheat boom of the “Great Plow-Up,” followed by a decade-long drought during the 1930s nearly swept away the breadbasket of the nation. Vivid interviews with twenty-six survivors of those hard times, combined with dramatic photographs and seldom seen movie footage, bring to life stories of incredible human suffering and equally incredible human perseverance. It is also a morality tale about our relationship to the land that sustains us – a lesson we ignore at our peril.

GRRR! by The Rolling Stones

The Rolling Stones celebrate their 50th anniversary with *GRRR!*, a compilation available in several different formats. The simplest set is a triple-disc compilation containing 50 tracks; there is also a Deluxe Edition containing the same three CDs, along with a hardcover book and five postcards. These 50 tracks also form the basis of a bound vinyl box set, but the Super Deluxe Edition box set is an 80-track, four-disc set with a different track sequencing, a bonus 7” single, a hardcover book, and a poster. In each incarnation, *GRRR!* traces the rich history of the Rolling Stones from their first single, “Not Fade Away,” to a pair of new songs (“Gloom and Doom,” “One Last Shot”) recently recorded with Don Was.



THIS MOOSE BELONGS TO ME by Oliver Jeffers

Oliver Jeffers, the bestselling creator of *Stuck* and *The Incredible Book Eating Boy*, delivers another deceptively simple book sure to make kids giggle. Wilfred is a boy with rules. He lives a very orderly life. It's fortunate, then, that he has a pet who abides by rules, such as not making noise while Wilfred educates him on his record collection. There is, however, one rule that Wilfred's pet has difficulty following: Going whichever way Wilfred wants to go. Perhaps this is because Wilfred's pet doesn't quite realize that he belongs to anyone. A moose can be obstinate in such ways. Fortunately, the two manage to work out a compromise. Let's just say it involves apples.

REACHED by Ally Condie

The conclusion to the #1 NYT-Bestselling trilogy has arrived! Cassia's journey began with an error, a momentary glitch in the otherwise perfect façade of the Society. After crossing canyons to break free, she waits, silk and paper smuggled against her skin, ready for the final chapter. The wait is over. With exquisite prose, the emotionally gripping conclusion to the international-bestselling *Matched* trilogy returns Cassia, Ky, and Xander to the Society to save the one thing they have been denied for so long, the power to choose.



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Gift Guide

from page 13

YOUR INDUSTRIOUS DAD



You know the wet bar that dad keeps promising to build in the basement? The one he keeps arguing will add so much value to the house (wink wink)? Well, here's your chance to get him going in the right direction. **Elliott Food Equipment** sells a full line of commercial-grade kitchen and bar equipment that will help transform your basement into Cocktails & Dreams (neon sign not included).

"We sell everything that goes into a restaurant but the food," says salesperson Mike Theisen. That includes the heavy equipment like sinks, ice machines and beer taps as well as the little gear like glassware, utensils and ice buckets. So practice your bottle flipping now — it's just a matter of time before you'll be entertaining your friends when the folks take off for the weekend. And if they catch you, just tell them bartending is a marketable skill.

Elliott Food Equipment. 2224 W. Willow St., Lansing. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. (517) 482-4395.



The Holidays are coming.

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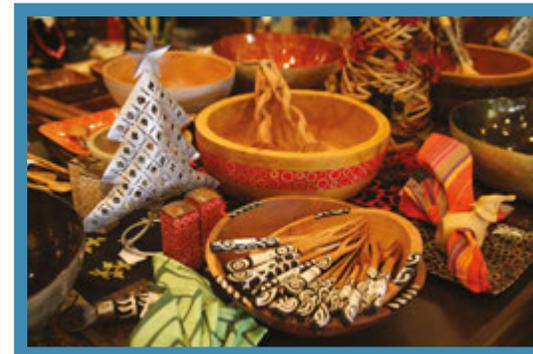
YOUR ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS PARTNER

Never again will you feel guilty at the words of a seasonal John Lennon song. War may not be over, but you can spread a little happy X-mas by shopping at fair trade store **Kirabo** in East Lansing.

"When you spend money at our store you are helping fight world poverty," says owner Gail Catron. "Up to 38 percent of the profit goes directly to the artisan. The items are all handmade and are very unique."

Kirabo carries birdhouses made of naturally water resistant sheep's wool (\$29), clam shell serving bowls from Bali (\$49) and knitted, crocheted, and beaded hair bows (\$4.50-\$8.)

Kirabo. 225 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday & Saturday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday. (517) 337-8000.



See Gift Guide, Page 17



SU CASA BOUTIQUE

NOW TAKING **CUSTOM ORDERS**

20% OFF ENTIRE PURCHASE INCLUDING LAYAWAY **MUST PRESENT COUPON WITH PURCHASE EXPIRES 12/5/2012**

SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY NOVEMBER 24TH!

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Serenity for them means serenity for you!
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(517) 203-1113

201 E. Grand River, Suite 19, East Lansing
www.massageandwellnessonline.com

This Year Give Them Time Away from Everything... At an Affordable Price!

From \$49/hr for Students/Seniors/Military And \$59/hr for General Public!

Gift Guide

from page 16

YOUR BREWING BUDDY

Some folks prefer to do their drinking at home, and chances are you've got at least one person on your list joining the growing ranks of home brewers. That's How We Brew in Frandor sells a brewing equipment kit that includes everything a beginner needs to start home brewing (\$104.99); beer ingredient kits for those who already know what they're doing (\$16-\$46); how-to books (\$15-\$20); pint glasses (\$15); and wine-making kits (\$70). Home brewing: the gift that keeps on giving.

Vine and Brew's gift baskets include the big hop six-pack (\$38), the holiday party pack with a six-pack of wine (\$44) and the elegant holiday pack (\$93.61).

That's How We Brew, 3000 Vine St. Lansing. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday. (517)708-7548.

Vine and Brew, 2311 Jolly Road, Okemos. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-8 a.m. Friday-Saturday. (517) 708-2030.



THE GRANDMA WHO STILL LOOKS HOT IN JEANS

Just because she's your grandmother doesn't mean she's not fashion-conscious. **Retail Therapy** in Okemos specializes in gear that "you would wear and your mom would want to steal," according to owner Celeste Saltzman. There is a wide range of dresses, jackets, jeans (such as DL Jeans, from \$138) and accessories — including necklaces (from \$58) and locally made scarves (\$98) — to choose from, all hand-picked by Saltzman herself in styles she thinks best represents the modern mid-Michigan woman.

Retail Therapy also has candles (\$32), soaps (\$8.50) and perfumes (\$35) by Elizabeth W and wallets by Sorial (\$25).

Retail Therapy, 5100 Marsh Road, Okemos. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday. Open at 8 a.m. on Nov. 23. (517) 574-4427. See Gift Guide, Page 18



101 South Washington Square

Pancake House

EVERY WEEK-END @ Edmund's

BUY ONE BREAKFAST, GET 2ND 1/2 OFF!

With this Coupon. One Coupon per table only please. Saturday and Sunday only. Does not include tax, or gratuity. Expires 12-31-12. Maximum Value \$7.00.

OPEN FOR LUNCH DAILY!

BUY 1 SALAD, OR SANDWICH, GET 2ND 1/2 OFF!

With this Coupon. One Coupon per table only please. Does not include tax, or gratuity. Expires 12-31-12. Maximum Value \$7.00. VALID BEFORE 4PM.

DOOR BUSTERS

\$5 BREAKFASTS

FRIDAY, NOV 23

8AM TO 10AM

HAPPY HOUR

3pm to 6pm

1/2 OFF All PINTS

\$3 House Wines

\$3 Well Drinks

\$3 Small Plate Specials

EARLY DINER SPECIAL

Buy any 2 of our Plates, Get one Free!

Offer good before 6pm. Expires 12-31-2012 One Coupon Per Table. Please. Maximum Value \$7.00. Not Valid with any Specials or Discounts.

Book Your Holiday Party Today!

Celebrate the Season with Family, Friends, Or Coworkers!

THE FRIENDS OF
Turner Dodge House
PRESENT

AN OLD TOWN

Festival of Trees

MONDAY DEC 10 to SUNDAY DEC 23

i love old town

TICKETS AT THE DOOR

\$5.00 per person

\$10.00 per family

please call 483-4220 for admission times

<http://parks.cityoflansingmi.com/tdodge>

BLACK FRIDAY

Avoid department store disaster this Black Friday and join us at Retail Therapy as we host a weekend of savings. Grab your girlfriends and share the holiday cheer with a splash of festive punch, glass of bubbly and tasty seasonal treats. Santa's little helpers will offer complimentary gift wrapping and super savings including:

10% OFF your receipt when you buy any one item
20% OFF your receipt when you buy any two items
30% OFF your receipt when you buy any 3 or more items

Excludes sale items

**Friday November 23rd 8am-6pm &
 Saturday November 24th 10am-6pm**

Retail Therapy - 5100 Marsh Suite B-1 - Okemos, MI 48864 - 517.574.4427

SALON
11 31



1131 N. Washington
 Old Town, Lansing
 (517) 367-2060

Mention this ad and receive 15% off any service (expires 11/30/12)

A big-city salon feel right in Old Town



MACKEREL SKY

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE 2012 BIEDERMANN ORNAMENT SIGNING

ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24 FROM 10-3 AND ENJOY CIDER AND REFRESHMENTS

Martin Biedermann will be on hand and the master cutter. From Germany, Georg Neumeier, will be demonstrating the technique of hand cutting the brass ornaments.

Enjoy our new collection of ornaments of all kinds, Christmas wraps, ribbons, holiday cards, and all manner of choice gift ideas.

211 M.A.C. Avenue, East Lansing | 517.351.2211 | mackerelsky.com

LANSING ART GALLERY
 lansingartgallery.org

**Real Art
 Real Affordable**
 at the Holiday Art Market

November 16 - December 22



Gift Guide

from page 17

THE GUY WHO NEEDS UNDERWEAR



Bob Reid, co-owner of **Holden-Reid Clothiers** in the Frandor Shopping Center, says that business is indeed up this period versus last year.

"I can definitely say I've seen a spike in higher-end clothing," Reid said. "And yes, I've also noticed that underwear sales are on the rise, no pun intended."

Holden-Reid stocks Jockey briefs (\$25 for three-pack) and boxers (\$19 for two-pack), and Reid says there's a large sale in honor

of the retirement of founding owner Wayne Holden, who opened the store in 1951.

Elsewhere in menswear, **Kositchek's** in downtown Lansing also stocks Jockey as well as Hugo Boss boxer briefs (three-pack for \$35). The men's clothier also does a lot of business in shirts, tailored suits and neckwear.

Holden-Reid Clothiers, 444 Frandor Ave., Lansing Township, 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; 1 p.m.-5 p.m. (517) 351-6969.

Kositchek's, 113 N. Washington Square, Lansing, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday (Nov. 29 open until 8 p.m.); 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; noon-4 p.m. Sunday (December only). (517) 482-1171.

Elliott
 Food Equipment, L.L.C.

Business and residential customers welcome

BRING THIS ADD FOR 10% OFF STOCK SMALL WARES THROUGH 11/30/12

Open Mon-Fri, 8 am-5pm

YOUR SOURCE FOR NEW & USED FOOD EQUIPMENT
 SMALL WARE & CHEF SUPPLIES

2224 West Willow St., Lansing, MI 48917 - (517)482-4395
 elliotffoodequipment.com

So there you have it. Another holiday season upon us, another **City Pulse Gift Guide** to help you get the best stuff for your friends and family using all local retailers. And if you still can't make up your mind, there's always the **Last-Minute Gift Guide (Dec. 12)** to look forward to.



ANNUAL HOLIDAY ART SALE!
 FEATURING THE WORKS OF GROVE GALLERY MEMBERS + 20 GUEST ARTISTS

NOVEMBER 11TH-DECEMBER 31ST

COME SEE US FOR A UNIQUE, ONE-OF-A-KIND GIFT OR HOLIDAY ORNAMENT

GROVE GALLERY MEMBERS:
 Martha Brownscombe, Deb Cholewicki, Margabeth Cibulka, Sharan Egan, Candy Farmer, Gretel Geist Rutledge, Dace Koenigskecht, Jenny Schu, Francia Trosty

Downtown East Lansing Holiday Shopping, November 23rd - December 24th
 (517) 333-7180 325 Grove St., Suite A., East Lansing www.grovegallerycoop.com

OUT on the TOWN

Wednesday, November 21

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

Drawing Class. All levels welcome, with Dennis O'Meara. Preregistration required. 1-3:30 p.m. \$50 for 4 weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing.

After-School Youth Gardening Programming. Ages 11-17. 3:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

Swing Guitar Christmas. Guitar instruction by Ray Kamalay. Course Number- 43335. 6-7:30 p.m. \$139. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 483-1860.

U.S. Citizenship Class. Learn steps to apply for citizenship & get ready for interview. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300. cadl.org.

T'ai Chi Ch'uan & Qigong. With instructor Bruce Ching. 5:45-7 p.m. Drop-ins welcome. \$60. ACC Natural Healing & Wellness, 617 Ionia, Lansing. (517) 708-8510. massageandwellnesslansing.com.

Escape & Rejuvenate. Meditative movement & guided meditation. 12:15 p.m. FREE. ACC Natural Healing and Wellness, 617 Ionia, Lansing. massageandwellnesslansing.com, meetup.com/lansingbodymindspirit.

Colonial Village Neighborhood Meeting. 7 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 487-1713. cvnnews.com.

Figure Drawing. Easels & drawing boards provided. 7:30-10 p.m. \$5, \$3 students. Kresge Art Center, located at Physics & Auditorium roads, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 337-1170.

KRP Open Work Shop. Work on your bike or practice on others'. 6-9 p.m. FREE. Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. (517) 755-4174.

"Remember When" Reminiscers. Presentation, "Forgotten Stories of Ingham County." 10 a.m. CADL Leslie Library, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400. cadl.org.

Movers & Readers Playtime. Ages 1-3. Stories. 10:30 a.m. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S.

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 Dana at (517) 999-5069. Email information to calendar@lansingcitypulse.com.

NOV. 23-25

Babes in Toyland

The first production of "The Nutcracker" took place on Dec. 18, 1892, in St. Petersburg, Russia. It was a flop. Criticism ranged from the dancers themselves to some deeming that children were featured too prominently in the ballet — oh, the irony. One thing was agreed on: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky had written a lovely score. The show would go through many alterations before becoming a sure-fire hit in the U.S. in the '60s. This weekend, the Children's Ballet Theatre of Michigan will perform the Christmas classic for the 32nd year. This cast, which includes dancers all under 18, will feature 12 guest dancers from the Children's Miracle Network. 7:30 p.m. Friday & Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. \$13-\$26. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000. cbtdance.org.

NOV. 24

The Blues Brothers

Thanksgiving is a time for being with loved ones, eating too much food and yelling at the TV as the Lions play. This Saturday, it will also be about listening to quality music. "So Thankful for the Blues" will bring together Lansing blues queen Twyla Birdsong and Chicago guitarist Mike Wheeler. The dynamic duo will be accompanied by the T-Bird Blues Co., which features Mike Skory (keys), Clarence "Boonie" Dottery (drums), Louis Rudner (bass) and Big Willy (guitar). Before the booming sounds envelop you, Birdsong will tell her story of what's she's thankful for. 8 p.m.-Midnight. \$12 advance, \$15 door. Gregory's Ice & Smoke, 2510 N. MLK Blvd., Lansing. (517) 323-7122.



Courtesy Photo

NOV. 24-25

Whip It

Blocker, jammer, pack and pivot. For those that know what those words mean skip ahead, but for the rest keep reading. Those terms are used for Roller Derby players, something that the Mitten Mavens know well. This Saturday and Sunday, the Mavens will host the 2nd Annual Black n' Blue Weekend, where guests will get to see the skaters in action. The mixed bouts — games, in Roller Derby lingo — will have 19 different women's teams coming from around Michigan (including Traverse City, Grand Rapids and Port Huron) and Ohio. There will also be one coed bout and one Junior Derby bout, featuring the Cap City Wild Childs. 5 p.m. Friday; 1 p.m. Saturday. \$15 pre-sale, \$20 door, \$12 single day. Aim High Sports, 7977 Centerline Drive, Dimondale. mittenmavens.net.

NOV. 27

Christmas Vacation

Getting established in the music industry isn't easy, often taking years of struggle and hardship. University of Michigan graduate Chip Davis did it another way — he founded his own music label, American Gramophone, in order to get his music heard, and released his first CD under the pseudonym Mannheim Steamroller (which comes from an 18th-century German musical technique). Since then, his band has become one of the most popular Christmas groups around, and next Tuesday, it will perform its unique sound, fusing modern and classical techniques, and multi-media show at the Wharton, as part of its 27th tour. Mannheim Steamroller has released 16 CDs and sold 27 million records, making it one of the top 50 biggest selling artists of all time. 7:30 p.m. \$30-\$70. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000. whartoncenter.com.



Courtesy Photo

TURN IT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICHTUPICA

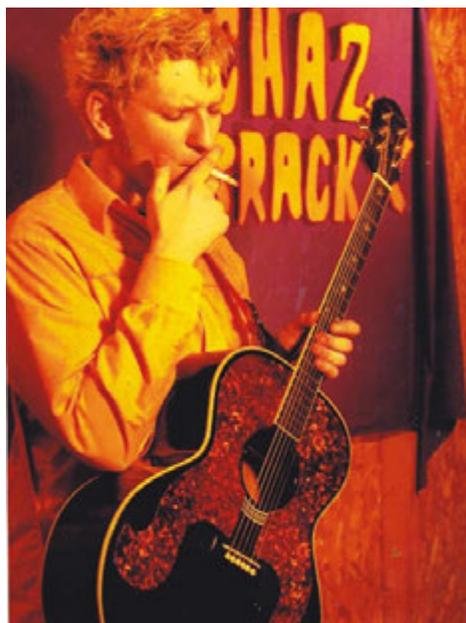
LIKE, OMIGOD... IT'S STARFARM!

For those who still dig neon clothes and poppy synthesizers, the Starfarm show tonight at the Green Door may be the pre-Turkey Day spot to be. The glitzy cover band plays a "totally awesome" collection of '80s songs, dressed in Run-D.M.C.-style Adidas tracksuits, topped off with legwarmers, headbands and British Knights shoes. The East Lansing-based band has been performing weekly since it formed 11 years ago. The group is co-led by vocalists Whitney Spotts and Dan Malnar, allowing the band to play a broader range of tubular tunes, including hits from Madonna, Prince and Duran Duran.

Wednesday, Nov. 21 @ Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 21 and over, \$5, 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

BRACKX IS BACK WITH "MUSICAL MELEE"

A random night of rock 'n' roll, rap and punk happens Friday at Mac's Bar. The show is dubbed "The Musical Melee" and is hosted by the International Ring of Grapplers (I.R.O.G.), a locally operated professional wrestling company. This early, all-ages event marks the return of the local oddball rockabilly band Chaz Brackx & the Big Bucks. Brackx's distinct sound mixes the melodies of the Everly Brothers and Dale Hawkins, with demented lyrics about baby oil and drinking blood. Opening the show are area rappers Wavie P and Milwaukee Rich & Dre Threestackz. Rounding out the roster is the sloppy-punk sounds of Teenage Slumber Party, a Grand Ledge-



Courtesy Photo

Chaz Brackx & the Big Bucks at Mac's

based duo. For more information go to facebook.com/TheIROG.

Friday, Nov. 23 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, all ages, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

OLD-SCHOOL PSYCH-METAL AT MAC'S

Blue Snaggletooth, an Ann Arbor-based four-piece band, brings its brand of psychedelic proto-metal to Mac's Bar on Saturday. The band takes heavy influence from old-school riff-masters like Black Sabbath and Hawkwind and newer revival bands like Sword. Also taking the stage are Black Valley Mass, Record of War and BerT.

Saturday, Nov. 24 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 18 and over, \$7, 9 p.m.

DAGWOOD'S HOSTS OPEN MIC

Looking to perform your music in front of a live audience? Tuesday Night Open Mic at Dagwood's might be the spot. Jen Sygit, a veteran local singer/songwriter, hosts the event, which is open to seasoned musicians as well as rookies. Depending on the night, you might hear blues, bluegrass, swing, jazz or folk-rock. Artists sign up for three songs



Courtesy Photo

Blue Snaggletooth at Mac's Bar

(or 15 minutes, whichever comes first). People are required to bring their own instruments, but a four-channel PA and two microphones are supplied. For more information, go to dagwoodstavern.com.

Tuesday, Nov. 27 @ Dagwood's Tavern & Grill 2803 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, 10 p.m.-1 a.m.

BLAKE SELBY HOSTS RAP SHOW AT ULI'S

Lansing rapper and body builder Blake Selby has been busy shooting music videos and recording tracks on his Northern Hype imprint for quite some time. In 2010, he started to amp things up and since then has added a long list of other locals to his label. On Nov. 29, Selby hosts a hip-hop show at Uli's Haus of Rock. Also taking to the mic are Lansing rappers Cesc, Ricky Rucker, D Fro, Lavish, Spinna J and True Poets. Rounding out the roster are DBlaze (from Battle Creek) and SkReW (from Waterford). For more information, go to reverbnation.com/blakeselby.

Thursday, Nov. 29 @ Uli's Haus of Rock, 4519 S. Martin Luther King Blvd., Lansing, 18 and over, \$10, 9 p.m.

PUNKS VS. POKES ON HORIZON

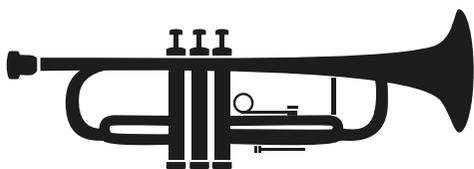
The annual Punks Vs. Pokes show at Mac's always draws a mixed crowd: punk rockers, alt-country enthusiasts and classic-country purists. The concert mixes punk and country bands on the same bill and is hosted by area Flatfoot member Aaron Bales. Flatfoot headlines the show and will release its new album, "Blue Water" at the gig. Flatfoot plays a rocking brand of alternative country that combines Flying Burrito Brothers swagger with an assortment of other roots and rock influences — even some traditional Irish tones. Also representing the country side is JJ & the BTs, a Ferndale band that tips its hat to Buck Owens, Merle Haggard and Dwight Yoakam. On the punk side are Lansing's own Hunky Newcomers and local pop-punk favorites Frank and Earnest.

Friday, Nov. 30 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 18 and over, \$7 advance, \$8 at door, 9 p.m.

UPCOMING SHOW?

POST IT AT

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TURNITDOWN



LIVE & 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

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Bar 30, 2324 Showtime Drive | D.J. Skitzo, 10 p.m. | D.J. John Beltran, 10 p.m. | D.J. John Beltran, 10 p.m. | D.J. Skitzo, 10 p.m. |
| Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Jr. Blvd. | Home Spun, 9 p.m. | | Home Spun, 9 p.m. | Home Spun, 9 p.m. |
| Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St. | Open Mic Night, 8 p.m. | | Frank Roche, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. | Frank Roche, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. |
| Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave. | Mighty Medicine, 10 p.m. | Karaoke, 9 p.m. | Karaoke, 9 p.m. | Karaoke, 9 p.m. |
| The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave. | Pork Chop Express, 9:30 p.m. | | Pork Chop Express, 9:30 p.m. | The Knockoffs, 9:30 p.m. |
| The Firm, 229 S. Washington Square | | DnW Sound DJs, 9 p.m. | Various DJs, 9 p.m. | |
| Grand Café/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave. | | | Karoke with Joanie Daniels, 7 p.m. | |
| Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave. | Starfarm, 9:30 p.m. | Big Willy, 9:30 p.m. | Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m. | Soulstice, 9:30 p.m. |
| The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave. | Whitey Morgan & The 78S, 8 p.m. | | Barron (Jungle), 9 p.m. | |
| Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave. | Family Fun Party, 9 p.m. | | | Blue Snaggletooth, 9 p.m. |
| Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave. | Open Mic Night, 9:30 p.m. | | Blastica, 10 p.m. | Blastica, 10 p.m. |
| Rookies, 16460 S. US 27 | Sammy Gold, 7-10 p.m. | Water Pong DJ, 9 p.m. | Karaoke dance party with DJ Sassy, 9 p.m. | Live Bands with DJs & DJ Sassy, 9 p.m. |
| Rum Runners, 601 East Michigan Ave. | Open Mic Night, 9 p.m. | Dueling Pianos & DJ, 9 p.m. | Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m. | Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m. |
| Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave. | Frog & the Beeftones, 9:30 p.m. | | Frog & the Beeftones, 9 p.m. | Frog & the Beeftones, 9 p.m. |
| Uli's Haus of Rock, 419 S. MLK Jr. Blvd. | Jamboozle, 9 p.m. | | Flatline, 9 p.m. | Benefit, 9 p.m. |
| Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive | | Mike Eyia Quartet, 7 p.m. | Joe Wright, 7 p.m. | |
| Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert | D.J., 9 p.m. | D.J., 9 p.m. | D.J., 9 p.m. | Brian Randell Band, 9 p.m. |

Sunday 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., Open Blues Jam, 7-11 p.m. Uli'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. Monday Funday, 9 p.m., The Firm Bar.
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 19

Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363. cadl.org.
ESOL Reading Group. Practice English reading & speaking skills. Noon. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021. cadl.org.
Baby Storytime. Stories, songs & activities. Ages up to 2. 3 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021. cadl.org.
Toddler Storytime. Stories, songs & crafts. Ages 2-3. 10:30 a.m. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021. cadl.org.

Family Storytime. Stories, songs & movement, with caregivers. Ages up to 5. 10:30 a.m. South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840. cadl.org.
Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. First Congregational United Church of Christ, 210 W. Saginaw Hwy., Grand Ledge. (517) 256-6954.

EVENTS

Practice Your English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.
Karaoke. With Atomic D. 9 p.m. LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 482-0184.

Fenner Nature Center Walking Group. 5 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. mynaturecenter.org.
Allen Street Farmers Market. Last market of the season. 2:30-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.
After School Wednesdays. Ages 6-14. Lego club. 3 p.m. CADL Haslett Library, 5670 School St., Haslett (517) 339-2324. cadl.org.

weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing.
Escape & Rejuvenate. 12:15 p.m. ACC Natural Healing and Wellness, 617 Ionia, Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 21.)
Season of Light. Holiday customs that have an astronomical connection. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 under 12. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4676.

EVENTS

Salsa Dancing. Salsa lesson, 10 p.m. Dancing, 10:30 p.m. 10 p.m. \$5. Los Tres Amigos, 1227 East Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (616) 466-9435.
Nite Ride Around Town. 8-10 mile bike ride around Lansing, stop halfway for food and drinks. 5:30 p.m. FREE. Beaumont Tower, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 347-1689.
Storytime. Stories, rhymes & crafts. Ages 2-5. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.
Kameleon JewelPop Trunk Show. FREE. H&H Jewelry Design, 8741 West Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. (517) 627-9900. kameleonjewelry.com.
Wonderland of Lights. Musical performances & more. 5-8 p.m. \$4 adults, \$3 seniors, \$2 kids 3-16, FREE under 3. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4221. potterparkzoo.org.
We Care Friday. Book signings & more. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900.

MUSIC

FatBoy & JiveTurkey. 8 p.m. \$5 donation. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 853-0550.

See Out on the Town, Page 22

Advice Goddess & Savage Love

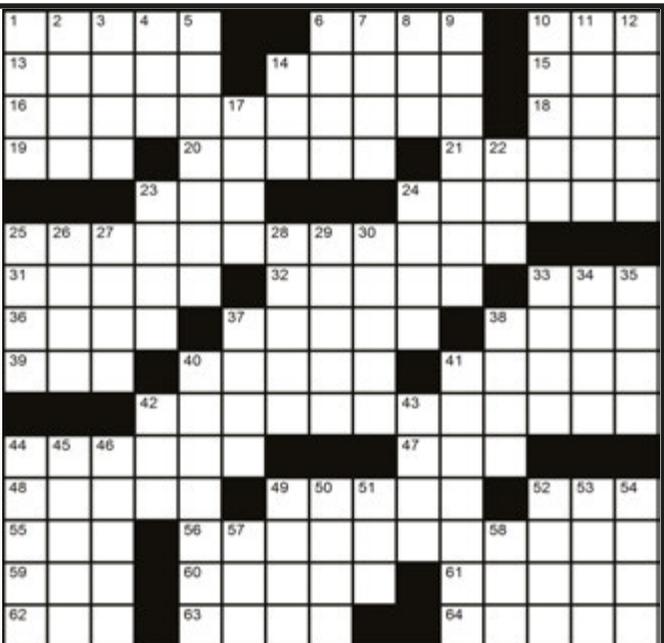
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Jonesin' Crossword By Matt Jones

"Plant a Tree"--and watch it grow.
 Matt Jones



Across
 1 Winner
 6 Fair share for one of two
 10 "___ Death" (Brad Garrett sitcom)
 13 "Raw" Crayola hue
 14 ___ Lama
 15 Vince's agent, on "Entourage"
 16 Painter best known for being tall and stringy?
 18 Penn of the "Harold & Kumar" franchise
 19 Loose-geese connection
 20 City of Circus Circus and New York-New York
 21 Spotted laughier
 23 Scribble
 24 Like hipster humor
 25 Surf that's in charge of grilling the turf?
 31 ___-baked potatoes
 32 Old saying
 33 "Paper Planes" singer
 36 Barnyard noise
 37 Food Network celeb ___ de Laurentis
 38 Sage, for one
 39 Lb. and mg, e.g.
 40 ___ belly
 41 Classical architecture style
 42 Really wants to get the stain out of a ticket?
 44 Long-running Broadway musical, to fans
 47 Dander
 48 Slack-jawed
 49 Jai alai basket
 52 Roswell visitors

55 Greek goddess of night
 56 Fast food chain run by Germany's Kohl?
 59 Dr. Zaius, for example
 60 Last-minute greeting
 61 Jazz singer Cleo
 62 "___ just what I've always wanted!"
 63 ___ mater (brain part)
 64 Family member, after tying the knot

Down
 1 Castro's home
 2 Managed care gps.
 3 "Voulez-Vous" band
 4 Sea, to Debussy
 5 Aggravate
 6 Tennis star Mandlikova
 7 Draft picks?
 8 ___ Cruces, NM
 9 Caviar, e.g.

10 Action movie with a 2012 sequel
 11 Qom resident
 12 Purple shade
 14 Like
 17 Hotels usually don't allow them
 22 "That's scalding hot!"
 23 Ten beater
 24 "Young Frankenstein" role
 25 Stick under the seat
 26 Knucklehead
 27 Drei minus zwei
 28 Sends off
 29 One side of the Snake River
 30 Big name in perfect 10s
 33 Actress Suvari
 34 Where eye color comes from
 35 The basics
 37 Disgruntled word
 38 Solo in the Olympics

40 Annoyed, like a faucet in the night
 41 Tel Avivian, for instance
 42 Blair and Brown, for short
 43 Kin's partner
 44 Porch on "The Golden Girls"
 45 One "Arab Spring" nation
 46 Marching band group
 49 Ivan the Terrible, e.g.
 50 Free verse poet Pound
 51 Heart-wrenching
 52 Gold medal runner Zatopek
 53 Skipjack, e.g.
 54 Irish ___
 57 Critical hosp. area
 58 Office computer system

Thursday, November 22
CLASSES AND SEMINARS
ThanksGiving Day Yoga. 8:30 a.m. \$15. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

Friday, November 23
CLASSES AND SEMINARS
Oil Painting. For all levels with Patricia Singer. Preregistration required. 10 a.m.-Noon, \$50 for 4

CAPITAL AREA DISTRICT LIBRARIES

2012 Dr. L. Robert McConnell Excellence Award



Eunice Borrelli

Reference Librarian,
Downtown Lansing Library

Congratulations to this year's winner,
 recognized for her exceptional service to job seekers and her outreach efforts in sharing CADL resources with our communities.



Capital Area District LIBRARIES

Your branch, our family tree.

Out on the town

from page 21

THEATER

"Ebenezer." Ebenezer Scrooge, 15 years after the Ghosts of Christmas visited. 3 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$15 & \$25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-7469. williamstontheatre.com.

"The No Hole Holiday." Musical comedy about Axel the Elf. 7 p.m. \$7, \$5 children. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com.

"The Nutcracker." Performed by the Children's Ballet Theatre of Michigan. 7:30 p.m. \$13-\$26. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000. cbtdance.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

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

Saturday, November 24

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Tai Chi in the Park. Meditation at 8:15 a.m. followed by Tai Chi at 9 a.m. 8:15 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

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

Season of Light. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 under 12. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science

Road, East Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 23.)

U.S. Citizenship Class. 10-11:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 21.)

Overeaters Anonymous. 9:30 a.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

EVENTS

Beer & Wine Tasting. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Vine and Brew, 2311 Jolly Road, Okemos.

Fenner Nature Center Walking Group. 8-9 a.m. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 21.)

Advanced Contra Dance. Thanksgiving dance. 8 p.m. \$10 public, \$8 members, \$5 students, FREE under 15. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

Small Business Saturday. Shop. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Play, 4972 Northwind Drive, East Lansing. (517) 708-8746.

Coats for Kids. Donate gently used outerwear. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Eastwood Towne Center, 3000 Preyde Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-9209.

Family Movie Matinee. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. dtdl.org.

MUSIC

So Thankful for the Blues. Featuring Twyla Birdsong & more. 8 p.m.-Midnight. \$12 advance, \$15 door. Gregory's Bar & Grille, 2510 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. (517) 894-5137.

THEATER

"The Nutcracker." 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 23.)

"Ebenezer." 3 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$22 & \$25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. (Please see details Nov. 23.)

"The No Hole Holiday." 2 p.m. & 4:30 p.m. \$7, \$5 children. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 23.)

Sunday, November 25

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Juggling. Learn how to juggle. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St., Lansing. (517) 485-9190.

Atheists & Humanists Dinner Meeting. Speaker economist Jessica Kelton. 5 p.m. FREE, \$10.50 dinner. Great Wall Buffet Restaurant, 4832 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. (517) 914-2278.

Season of Light. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 under 12. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 23.)

Family Show. For children preschool through grade 2 & their families. 2:30 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 under 12. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4676.

GriefShare Seminar. A DVD series, with small support group discussion. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 490-3218.

Overeaters Anonymous. 2-3:15 p.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Conference room F, 2nd floor, Lansing. (517) 332-0755.

Alcoholics Anonymous. With ASL interpretation. 9 a.m. FREE. Alano Club East, 220 S. Howard St., Lansing. (517) 482-8957.

Codependents Anonymous. Meets on the third floor. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 672-4072.

EVENTS

Capital Area Singles Dance. With door prizes. 6:30-10:30 p.m. \$8. Fraternal Order of Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 819-0405.

Coats for Kids. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Eastwood Towne Center, 3000 Preyde Blvd., Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 23.)

MUSIC

Music on the Patio. Featuring Brad Maitland & Dan Wixon. 6-9 p.m. FREE. Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 267-3800.

Sunday Jazz Series. Featuring Organissimo. 7:30-10:30 p.m. Bar 30, 2324 Showtime Drive, Lansing. bar30.com.

Mark Kroos. 6 p.m. FREE. Redeemer United Methodist Church, 13980 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3430. dewittredeemer.org.

Organissimo. 7:30 p.m. Bar 30, 2324 Showtime Drive, Lansing. bar30.com.

THEATER

"The Nutcracker." 2 p.m. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 23.)

"Ebenezer." 2 p.m. \$22. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. (Please see details Nov. 23.)

"The No Hole Holiday." 2 p.m. \$7, \$5 children. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 23.)

Monday, November 26

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Fall Babytime. Beginning story time for babies under 2. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Escape & Rejuvenate. 12:15 p.m. ACC Natural Healing and Wellness, 617 Ionia, Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 21.)

Learn to Meditate. Basic principles & practice. 7:45-8:30 p.m. Donations. C. Weaver Physical Therapy Exercise Studio, 1720 Abbey Lane, East Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

Divorced, Separated, Widowed Conversation Group. 7:30 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272.

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

Chronic Pain Support Group. For those experiencing any level of chronic physical pain. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

EVENTS

Social Bridge & Euchre. No partner needed. 1-4 p.m. bridge, 6-9 p.m. euchre \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

Homeschool Connect. Educational activities for homeschooling families. 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3. dtdl.org.

Shakespeare's Will Discussion. Speaker Miles Potter. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Barnes & Noble Lansing, 5132 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. (517) 327-0437.

Monday Morning Movie. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.

MUSIC

Open Mic Blues Mondays. Sign up to play. Spoken word acts welcome. 6:30-10:30 p.m. FREE. MBC Lansing, 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 977-1349.

CAPITAL AREA DISTRICT LIBRARIES

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MEDIUM

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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 24

Out on the town

from page 22

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Fanged Fiction Book Group. "Monster," Dave Zeltserman. 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music Lansing, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495. schulerbooks.com.

THEATER

Audition Workshop. "Princess and the Pea & Rapunzel." Call to register. 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$5 members, \$10 non-members. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 333-2580 ext. 0.

Tuesday, November 27

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Yoga 40. All ages welcome. 7:15 p.m. Suggested \$7. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

Intro to Computers. With professional instructors. 2:30-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area Michigan Works, 2110 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 492-5500.

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

Computer Class. Learn Excel. 7 p.m. FREE. Community of Christ, 1514 W. Miller Road, Lansing. (517) 882-3122.

Speakeasies Toastmasters. Become a better speaker. 12:05-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Bldg. 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. toastmastersclubs.org.

NaNoWriMo Write-in. 50,000 word novel, 30 days. 5-8 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. dtdl.org.

QiGong & Tai Chi classes. Light exercises for those with physical limitations, senior citizens or just need to unwind. 8 a.m. Up to \$8. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

Water media. All levels welcome, with Donna Randall. Preregistration required. 6-8:30 p.m. \$50 for 4 weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing.

After-School Youth Gardening Programming.

Kids time: activities on gardening, healthy recipes & games. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

Making the Most of your Gmail Account. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 708-4393. iteclansing.org.

Seeking Safety. For people with trauma and PTSD. 1:30-3 p.m. FREE. JIMHO, 520 Cherry St., Lansing. (517) 887-4312.

Schizophrenics Anonymous. 10 a.m. Room 215-F, Community Mental Health Building, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 485-3775.

Codependents Anonymous. 5:45-6:45 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books & Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 672-4072.

EVENTS

Fall Storytime. Features stories, rhymes & a craft for ages 2-5. 10:30-11:15 a.m. & 6:30-7:15 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Fourth Tuesday Networking Event. 6-8 p.m. Nonprofit Center at the Armory, 330 Marshall St., Suite 300, Lansing. granddriverconnection.com.

MUSIC

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

Mannheim Steamroller. Christmas group. 7:30 p.m. \$30-\$70. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

Musique 21. Conductor Kevin Sedatole. 7:30 p.m. FREE. Snyder/Phillips Hall, intersection between Grand River Ave. & Bogue St., MSU campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-1855. msu.edu.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Tuesday Morning Book Club. "I Shall Not Hate" by Izzeldin Abuellaish. 10:15-11:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. www.dtdl.org.

See Out on the Town, Page 24

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Wharton Center

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(800) WHARTON or whartoncenter.com
music.msu.edu

Out on the town

from page 23

Wednesday, November 28

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

Our Daily Work/Lives. "Reflections on the Flint sit-down strike & anti-capitalist art," Dylan Miner. 12:15-1:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum Auditorium, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

Drawing Class. All levels welcome, with Dennis O'Meara. Preregistration required. 1-3:30 p.m. \$50 for 4 weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing.

After-School Youth Gardening Programming. 3:30-5:30 p.m. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 21.)

Swing Guitar Christmas. Guitar instruction by Ray Kamalay. Course Number- 43335. 6-7:30 p.m. \$139. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 483-1860.

U.S. Citizenship Class. 6-7 p.m. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 21.)

Escape & Rejuvenate. 12:15 p.m. ACC Natural Healing and Wellness, 617 Ionia, Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 21.)

Iranian People Vs. Government. Discussion. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.

Prayer & Meditation Group. Improve practice in both. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.

Baby Storytime. Stories, songs & activities. Ages up to 2. 3 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021. cadl.org.

Toddler Storytime. Stories, songs & crafts. Ages 2-3. 10:30 a.m. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021. cadl.org.

ESOL Reading Group. Practice English reading & speaking skills. Noon. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021. cadl.org.

Figure Drawing. 7:30-10 p.m. Kresge Art Center, located at Physics and Auditorium roads, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 21.)

KRP Open Work Shop. 6-9 p.m. Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center, 5825 Waise Road, Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 21.)

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. First Congregational United Church of Christ, 210 W.

Saginaw Hwy., Grand Ledge. (517) 256-6954.

EVENTS

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

"The Invisible War." Screening & discussion. 7-9 p.m. FREE. 105 S. Kedzie Hall, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 515-5634. peacecenter.org.

Fenner Nature Center Walking Group. 5 p.m. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (Please see details Nov. 21.)

Poetry Contest. Reading of selected entries. Winners announced. 7 p.m. Scene Metrospace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832.

MUSIC

Jazz Wednesdays. Featuring new jazz artists each week. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Gracie's Place, 151 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-1100.

Marshall Music Ukulele Play Along. Instruments available or bring own. 6 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700. marshallmusic.com.

Wednesday Jam Session. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Featuring Caroline Glaeser, Samuel Winternheimer, Judson Branam IV & Jordan Vale. Hobie's, 930 Trowbridge Road, East Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Out of This World Book Club. "The Night Circus," Erin Morganstern. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

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

City Pulse Classifieds

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 22

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 21

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Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

November 21-27

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "Don't think about making art, just get it done," said Andy Warhol. "Let everyone else decide if it's good or bad, whether they love it or hate it. While they are deciding, make even more art." I encourage you to adopt that mini-manifesto for your own purposes in the coming weeks, Aries. If you're not an artist, simply substitute the appropriate phrase for "making art." It could be "creating interesting relationships," "exploring exotic lands," "changing corrupt political institutions," "fixing environmental problems," or even "making money." The main point is: Focus on doing what drives your quest for meaning, and forget about what people think of it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A Jungian writer whose name I have unfortunately misplaced made the following observations: "In a man's psyche, the unconscious is experienced as chaotic, filled with violent and irrational processes of generation and destruction. But to a woman's psyche the unconscious is a fascinating matrix of sacred images and rituals which in their wildly contradictory meanings express the secret unity of all life." After analyzing the astrological omens, I suspect that you Taurus men now have an unprecedented opportunity to experience your unconscious as women do. As for you Taurus women: You have the chance to get a vivid, visceral understanding of how true this description of the female unconscious is.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Let's talk about the Decision. I'm referring to the Choice you have been dancing around and fretting about and analyzing to death. By my estimate, there are at least 15 different solutions you could pursue. But just seven of those solutions would meet the requirements of being intelligent, responsible, and fun. Of those seven, only four would be intelligent, responsible, fun, and enduring. Of those four, only two would be intelligent, responsible, fun, enduring, and the best for all concerned. I suggest you opt for one of those two.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): I'm not necessarily asserting that you need to edit yourself, Cancerian. Only you can decide that. But I will state unequivocally that if there is in fact any editing needed, now would be a good time to do it. You will have extra insight about what aspects of your life might benefit from being condensed, corrected, and fine-tuned. It's also true that the rectifications you do in the coming weeks will be relatively smooth and painless. So look into the possibilities, please. Should you calm your blame reflex? Downsize a huffy attitude? Shed some emotional baggage?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): How many times have you been in love, Leo? Just once or twice? Or have you dived into the depths of amorous togetherness again and again over the years? Whatever the case may be, I bet you have strong ideas about the nature of passionate romance and profound intimacy. That's natural and normal. But I'm going to ask you to temporarily forget everything you think you know about all that stuff. I invite you to become innocent again, cleansed of all your mature, jaded, hopeful, and resentful thoughts about the game of love. In my astrological opinion, there's no better way for you to prepare for what will come next.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A medical research journal reported on a British woman who accidentally swallowed a felt-tip pen. It lay there in her stomach for 25 years. When surgeons finally removed it, they were surprised to find it still worked. I am not suggesting that anything remotely as exotic or bizarre will be happening to you, Virgo. I do suspect, though, that you will soon have an experience with certain metaphorical resemblances to that event. For example, you may retrieve and find use for an element of your past that has been gone or missing for a long time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "Sapiosexual" is a relatively new word that refers to a person who is erotically attracted to intelligence. UrbanDictionary.com gives an

example of how it might be used: "I want an incisive, inquisitive, insightful, irreverent mind. I want someone for whom philosophical discussion is foreplay. I want a sapiosexual." In the coming weeks, Libra, I suspect you will be closer to fitting this definition than you've ever been before. The yearning that's rising up in you is filled with the need to be stimulated by brilliance, to be influenced by wisdom, to be catalyzed by curiosity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): In 2007 the band White Stripes did a tour of Canada. One of their final gigs was outdoors in St. John's, Newfoundland. They came on stage, played one note — a C-sharp — and declared the performance over. It was the briefest rock show in history. Judging from the current astrological omens, Scorpio, I'm thinking it would be a good time for you to do some almost equally pithy things. You have the potential to be extremely concise and intense and focused in all you do. I urge you to fulfill that potential. Pack every speech, gesture, and action with a concentrated wealth of meaning.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your redesigned thrust vectoring matrix is finally operational. Love those new nozzles! Moreover, you've managed to purge all the bugs from your cellular tracking pulse, and your high-resolution flux capacitor is retooled and as sexy as a digitally-remastered simulation of your first kiss. You're almost ready for take-off, Sagittarius! The most important task left to do is to realign your future shock absorbers. No more than a week from now, I expect you to be flying high and looking very, very good.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The plot twists will be intriguing. The actors may be unpredictable, even erratic. Blossoming and decay will be happening simultaneously, and the line between wisdom and craziness could get blurry. There's not nearly enough room in this little horoscope to describe the epic sweep of the forces working behind the scenes. Are you willing to confront uncanny truths that other people might regard as too unruly? Are you brave enough to penetrate to the depths that others are too timid to look at, let alone deal with? I hope you are, Capricorn, because that will give you the power to ultimately emerge from the drama with your integrity shining and your intelligence boosted.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Psychologists have done studies that suggest we subconsciously adopt the qualities of fictional characters we read about or see in movies. That's not a problem if those characters are smart, ethical, highly motivated people whose ideals are similar to ours. But if the heroes of the stories we absorb are jerks who treat others badly and make messes wherever they go, our imitative urges may lead us astray. Right now is a crucial time for you to be extra careful about the role models you allow to seep into your imagination. You're especially susceptible to taking on their attributes. I say, be proactive: Expose yourself intensely to only the very best fictional characters who embody the heights you aspire to reach.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "The fates guide him who will; him who won't, they drag." So said the ancient Greek philosopher Seneca, and now I'm passing it on to you. It's an excellent time for you to think about the issue. Ask yourself: Have you been cooperating with fate so that it has maximum power to shepherd you? Have you been working closely with fate, giving it good reasons to consistently provide you with useful hints and timely nudges? Or have you been avoiding fate, even resisting it out of laziness or ignorance, compelling it to yank you along? Spend the next few weeks making sure your relationship with fate is strong and righteous.

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

THE FAMILY RESTAURANT



Sam Inglot/City Pulse

Just off of I-96, The Family Restaurant offers home style cooking, all day breakfast and an extensive buffet. Business has been trickling in since the opening. Owners hope more customers will come as word of the restaurant gets around town.



By **SAM INGLOT**

South Lansing diners looking for home-cooked eating that goes beyond chain restaurants and dollar menus have a new option: **The Family Restaurant.** And don't worry about that name — no one's looking over your shoulder telling you to clean your plate or no dessert.

The diner, which opened at the end of summer, sits in the shadow of the I-96 overpass at 6724 S. Cedar St. Co-owner Dennis Jasman, 57, said opening the restaurant has always "been a dream" for his two sisters, Sandra Pitchford and Linda Huett. The trio brings a lifetime of experience in the restaurant business to the fold.

Jasman said they grew up in their mom's restaurants in Cheboygan, and Huett owned restaurants in Kansas before coming to Lansing. There's plenty of room in the diner for big groups — The Family Restaurant also offers catering from small to wedding-size portions. Oh yeah — and they've also got a buffet.

The atmosphere, Jasman says, doesn't stray far from the name.

"It's a place where you

can bring the kids and no one will care if they spill a little something on the floor," he said. "It's all about family."

Jasman said for customers, the food will conjure up memories of "the food grandma used to make." The menu varies from fried chicken and liver and onions to taco salad and hamburgers. And third-shifters rejoice: Breakfast is also served all day.

Jasman said they try to accommodate any taste for any customer.

Don't see something you're craving on the menu? If you have an extra 10 minutes, Jasman said, they'll be happy to run to the store and whip you up whatever it is you're hankering for. He said they've got the "best meatloaf in town" and a belly-busting buffet to boot. I spotted macaroni and cheese, coleslaw and fried chicken on the spread, as they were getting ready for the lunch crowd.

Jasman, who was sporting a leather jacket and an unfiltered cigarette behind his ear, reminded me of the gruff-sounding-but-friendly uncle that everyone has (or wishes he did). He said the building needed a lot of work when they moved in, as we talked politics and history over a cup of coffee.

It had been a while since I'd seen one on a menu, so I jumped at the opportunity

for some country-fried steak. The steak was fried just right — it was the perfect balance of meat and breading. The mashed potatoes were just lumpy enough to let me know they didn't come from a box. The whole plate, which came with steamed cauliflower and toast, was a perfectly portioned gravy-kissed delight.

On Thanksgiving Day, the Family Restaurant is offering a buffet spread that is "hooked up just like at home," as Jasman put it. There will be turkey, ham, potatoes, stuffing, a variety of gravies and everything a person would expect from an old-fashioned Turkey Day, he said.

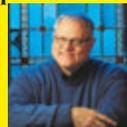
Jasman said business hasn't exactly been booming yet, but he says word-of-mouth is catching on. He said he hopes the customer flow will pick up soon as more people hear about the joint. With a full-menu, a daily buffet and the willingness to get creative for their customers, the Family Restaurant has a chance.

Now finish your peas.

The Family Restaurant
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Gabrie Cassin-Ross/City Pulse

The chili bread bowl (\$5.50) at Leo's Spirits & Grub in Okemos is a great way to shake the winter blues. It's packed with garlic, green peppers, onions and, of course, lots of meat.

Happy Thanksgiving

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Getting a little chili

By **ALLAN I. ROSS**

If it weren't for chili, there's a good chance folks would just roll down the metal shutters and call it a winter. The cold weather staple has become so prevalent in Michigan, you'd practically think we invented it (we didn't, of course — credit the 16th century Aztecs). So when the mercury started plunging and the first snowflakes started swirling last week, a Food Fight to find the best chili in town was a no-brainer.

We narrowed the list of establishments down to past winners of the City Pulse Top of the Town awards, an informal social media survey and good old-fashioned intuition. Each restaurant was graded from 1 to 10 in five sections, with those scores averaged together to get an overall rating for the restaurant. Categories included cost per portion, consistency, flavor and spiciness, with a wildcard X-factor category either adding to or taking away from a particular establishment based on that judge's overall reaction. And we're talking immediate reaction, not how warm the bed was later that night.

HARRISON ROADHOUSE: 5.7 OUT OF 10

"Too gritty," "too salty" and "too thick" were the common denominators in what brought this chili in so low in the ranking. One of our judges enjoyed the "smoky flavor," but another said "it tasted like a Slim Jim." The \$4.99 crock seemed like a slightly smaller portion than the serving sizes at the other restaurants, costing this chili some points. But the big differentiators were the lack of choices regarding portion size (one crock fits all) or toppings (none available, even if you ask). It did have a wonderful bourbon aroma, though, and it had the fastest delivery time of the night, in about 30 seconds. And with its thickness, one of

the judges had the novel idea of "serving it between two pieces of bread, sloppy joe-style." Your move, Harrison Roadhouse.

COLONIAL BAR & GRILL: 7 OUT OF 10

The owner, who was sitting in a nearby booth, told us that this was his mother's recipe, so we knew not to expect anything too spicy. That said, any amount of spice would have been nice — several judges asked "where's the kick?" Likewise, the "soupy" texture earned few fans. The worst that could be said was "this is just your basic chili recipe;" "no frills." The cost — \$3.25 per bowl, \$2.75 per cup — was the best deal of the night. But Colonial had probably the best X-factor since the invention of the category three years ago: homemade potato chips, which the owner told us aren't even on the menu — you have to know about them, and they're made fresh to order. There was something incredible about dipping the chips into that chili that became a transformative experience. Another Food Fight, another secret in town revealed.

MEAT: 7.1 OUT OF 10

This Texas-style (no beans) chili had a "sneaky spiciness" that went toe-to-toe with the "rich smoky flavor." Credit that spiciness to the poblano and red peppers. The chili was packed with bacon and brisket, but that wasn't as great as it sounds — the meat "wasn't as tender as it should have been" and occasionally you got a "golf ball-sized chunk" on the end of your spoon. This is Meat, which means you have to eat out of a Styrofoam bowl with plasticware ("not the most elegant set-up"), but it was determined that the \$5 price for the giant bowl (\$3 cup) was the best deal of the night. Overall,

Food Fight

from page 26

however, a couple of us got the feeling that they didn't put much thought into it. As one of our judges wrote, "It's like they said, 'Hey, we got meat, let's throw it all in a pot and call it chili.'"

LEO'S PUB & SPIRITS: 8.1 OUT OF 10

Let's cut right to the X-factor: bread bowl. Every self-respecting restaurant that takes pride in its chili should offer a bread bowl as a serving option. For \$5.50 at Leo's, you get just that, as well as a side of cheese (sour cream is 50 cents extra). This chili was "hot on the tongue, not on the throat," leading us to believe the kick came from Tabasco or some other hot sauce as opposed to being cooked into it (which felt like "cheating," according to one of the judges.) "Low on flavor" but "high in meat" making it very "stew-like" seemed to be the consensus, and we all agreed it was only "lukewarm." We like our chili served hot, dammit!

BEGGAR'S BANQUET: 8.5 OUT OF 10

Beggar's has consistently won chili cook-offs around town, and it was easy to see why. "The sauce had a great flavor," "the thick cuts of sirloin were cooked perfectly" and "there was just the right touch of spice." Some found the "sauce had better flavor than the meat itself," which one of us found "chalky"

and "chewy." Again, no cheese or onions were offered, but this was "a solid stand-alone chili" that didn't really need it. By the way, Beggar's also offers a vegan chili, which we didn't try but appreciated nonetheless.

BARLEY'S AMERICAN GRILL: 8.9 OUT OF 10

"A great bowl of chili — the kind I'd want to eat after snowblowing," best sums up this surprise winner. Stocked with green peppers, onion, garlic and, of course, lots of ground beef, this chili was "hearty" and "slightly sweet," but still packed "a nice chili powder punch." You get a lot for the \$4 bowl (\$2.50 cup), but no toppings. As for the X-factor, we enjoyed the big spoons we were given to eat with, but the jukebox was playing "too much Nickleback" that night (three songs in a row!), diminishing that judge's experience. But when you've got the best chili in town, I guess you think you can get away with that.

This is far from a definitive list, but several other places that we wanted to get to on the particular night of this Food Fight had either pulled their soups early (Gibby's Grinders) or didn't have chili at all that day (Hobie's, Fork in the Road, Soup Spoon Café). But in the end, chili is like sex: even when it's bad, it's still pretty damned good — and it's a great way to keep warm at night.

If you'd like to weigh in with your own choices or rip any of ours to shreds, email us at food@lansingcitypulse.com.

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

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PITA PIT — Chain restaurant offering a variety of fresh salads, soups and wrapped pita sandwiches. 219 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 10:30 a.m.–12:00 a.m. Monday–Wednesday. 10:30 a.m.–2:30 a.m. Thursday–Saturday; 10:30 a.m.–10 p.m. Sunday. (517) 332-7482.

SIR PIZZA — Pizzas, calzones, salads, pasta and subs. Two locations: 1818 S. Cedar Street, Lansing and 201 E. Grand River

Avenue, Old Town. 12 p.m.–12 a.m. Sunday; 11 a.m.–1 a.m. Monday–Thursday; 11 a.m.–2 a.m. Friday and Saturday. (517) 484-4825 or (517) 487-3733. TO, D. \$\$.

STATESIDE DELI & GRILL — Corned beef, hot pastrami Reuben and other deli sandwiches featuring a half pound of meat and a giant pickle. 3552 Meridian Crossings, Okemos; 8 a.m.–8 p.m. Monday–Friday; 8 a.m.–7 p.m. Saturday; 8 p.m.–4 p.m. Sunday. (517) 853-1100; 313 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing; 11 a.m.–10 p.m. Monday–Saturday;

noon–8 p.m. Sunday; hours may vary during the summer. (517) 853-3033; TO, D, OM, WiFi, P (Okemos only), \$\$

TACOS E MAS — Americanized Mexican food, with two locations: 801 W. Thomas L Parkway, Lansing. 11 a.m.–9 p.m. Sunday; 11 a.m.–10 p.m. Monday–Thursday; 11 a.m.–11 p.m. Friday–Saturday. (517) 699-8226; 1850 Cedar St Holt (drive-thru only) 11 a.m.–9 p.m. Sunday; 11 a.m.–10 p.m. Monday–Thursday; 11 a.m.–11 p.m. Friday–Saturday. (517) 699-8226. tacosemas.com. TO, D. \$-\$\$.

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