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August 29-September 4, 2012

THE ANNUAL BACK-TO-SCHOOL ISSUE



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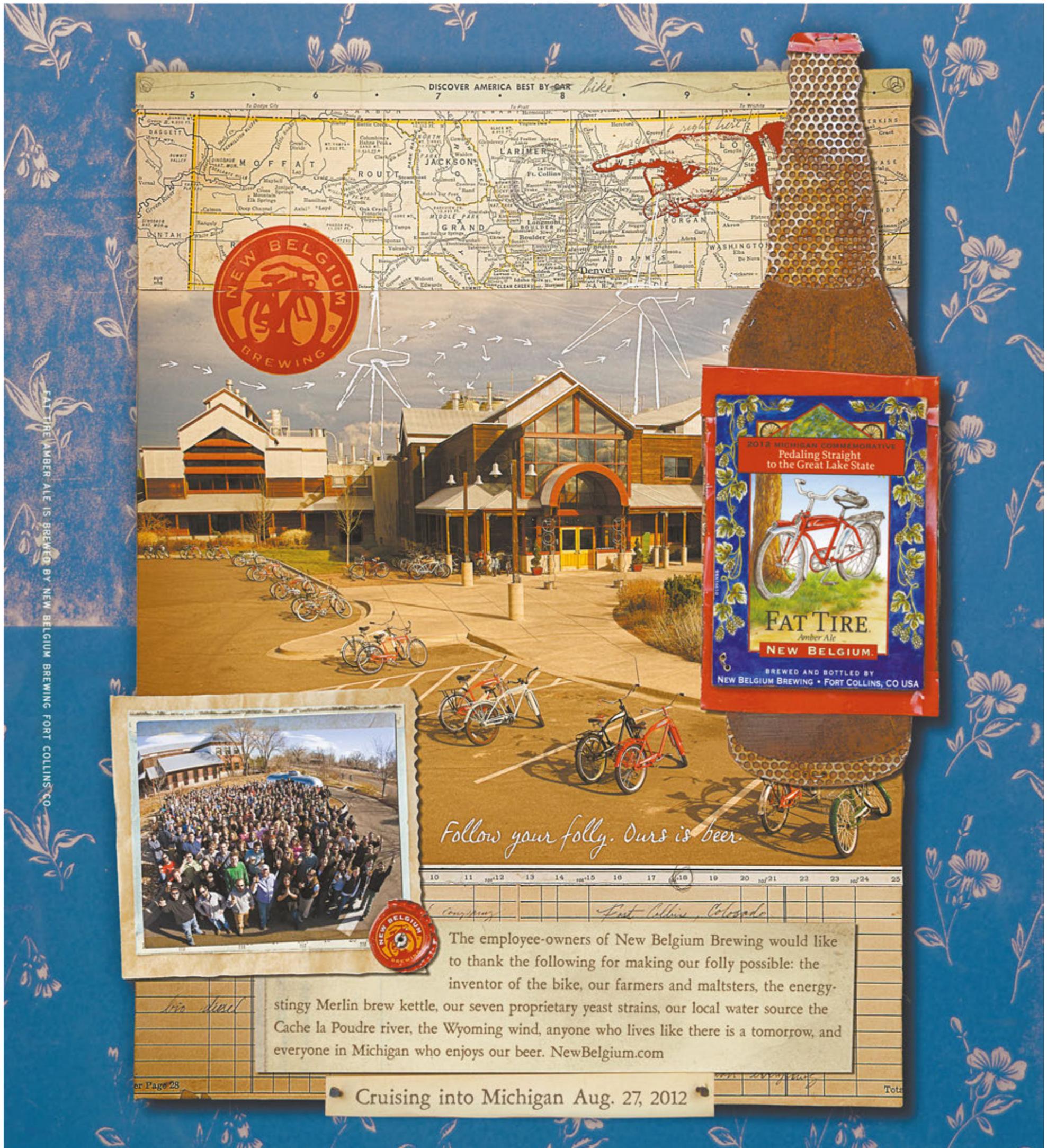
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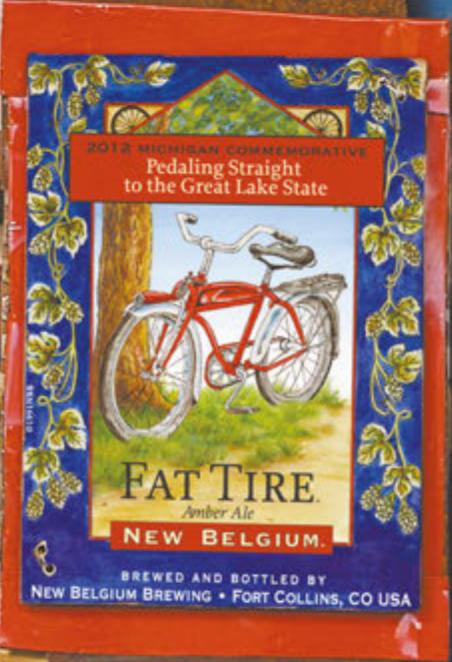
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Feedback

Savage support

I was surprised to see the backlash in this issue's letters against the switch from Advice Goddess to Savage Love. I'm pleased that you have dropped Amy Alkon. Dan Savage's subject matter may be more explicitly sexual, but I feel like his column is more "appropriate" for CityPulse's wide range of readers because he treats the people who solicit his advice with respect instead of taking cheap shots at their problems (and making bad puns.) Please keep Savage in the paper.

— Kate Brattin
Lansing

Words cannot describe my reaction to the news that the so-called "Advice Goddess" had been replaced by Dan Savage ... But I will try anyway. As an avid City Pulse enthusiast and as a "This American Life" devotee, I was over-overjoyed to discover that one of my favorite NPR contributors had joined your ranks. His frankness, open-mindedness, and wit has always delighted me to no end, and the fact that is refreshing perspectives will be featured in your already delightful publication — right about my favorite crossword, no less — is almost too much to bear. I would keep rambling about how happy this advice column switcheroo of yours has made me, but my allotted 15 minutes for break (I'm at work right now) is, alas, almost up.

So ... thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you ...

— Elizabeth Scheffel
Lansing

'What about young readers?' and bring back Amy

Recently I opened the City Pulse and — as has been the custom for years — turned to Amy Alkon's column. In its place was "Savage Love," which counseled one reader seeking advice to "go ahead and feel the shit out of your pissed-and-hurt feelings." Mr. Savage then enjoined the fellow not to "go to war with your exes," "trash them on Facebook," or reveal himself to be "an angry and vindictive psycho" to mutual friends. I read the letter prompting this advice several times; there was absolutely nothing to indicate that the fellow seeking help was contemplating going "to war" or was vindictive, let alone "psycho."

One hopes an advice columnist would possess a couple of key attributes; insight and style (see Amy Alkon's column). Mr. Savage may be a great friend and full of good advice on a personal level, but solving non-problems and expressing himself with the style and class of an 8th grader trying to impress friends with "colorful

language" won't cut it for most readers.

And what's wrong with the editorial board of the City Pulse? You are publishing in a city with a major university right next door. What about your younger readers? Is this the image of Lansing you want to project? I hope that the City Pulse is not taking a nose-dive in quality. If so, I will have no choice but to feel the shit out my feelings of disappointment and find something else to read.

— William Rowan
Lansing

When my wife told me she wrote to the City Pulse to complain about the replacement of Amy Alkon with columnist Dan Savage, I rolled my eyes and wondered why she was making a big deal. I knew the Advice Goddess is the first thing she reads each week, and I enjoy it myself, but I also know Savage is a popular columnist. I pointed out that the City Pulse suggested Amy's column could still be accessed on her website. After reading the first Lansing installment of Savage Love, though, I have to throw my full support behind my wife. I don't consider myself a prude, but the questions posed and Savage's responses are practically pornographic. No, not practically, they WERE pornographic. I like to leave the City Pulse out so guests might pick it up and look through it, but if the rest of his columns are like this, I'll probably be hiding it. Seems to me like that sort of content is what should be left to internet, and give us Amy back to spark conversation about relationships.

— Hedlun Walton
Lansing

CORRECTION

Last week's issue included an outdated promotional photo of Stringtown Trio as part of a story on the Sun Dried Music Festival. The photo included former band member/musician David M. Ross, who was born Dec. 30, 1952, and passed away on March 14. We regret the error.

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

Now you have two ways to sound off:

- 1.) Write a letter to the editor:
• E-mail: letters@lansingcitypulse.com
• Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
• Fax: (517) 371-5800

- 2.) Write a guest column:
Contact Berl Schwartz for more information:
publisher@lansingcitypulse.com
or (517) 999-5061

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

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Niowave officials absent from another community meeting



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An old convent on the East Side comes down as a cost-cutting move for the Catholic Diocese of Lansing



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Lansing artist conjures up the top-secret Haunted Art Exhibition inside an abandoned schoolhouse



COVER
ART

BACK TO SCHOOL by RACHEL HARPER

CITY PULSE ON THE AIR

THIS WEEK

Author Jack Ebling
Lansing Parks Board President Rick Kibbey
Bill and Cecile Fehsenfeld, founders of Schuler Books & Music



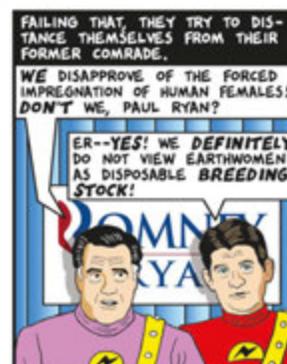
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Berl Schwartz

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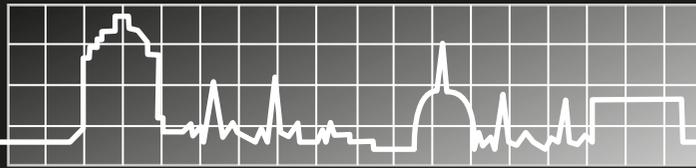
THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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PULSE



news & opinion

Delhi blame game

Is a new era of politics dawning in Delhi Township?

Following strong showings in the Aug. 7 primary, it's obvious a new breed of Republican politicians are gaining support in Delhi Township — and at least two township officials say the shift is contributing to a new era of divisive politics.

The race for township supervisor is particularly nasty. Outgoing Supervisor Stuart Goodrich, who has served for 10 years, was clobbered earlier this month by his primary opponent, Jeff Hall, a conservative minister and former president of Right to Life of Ingham County. Hall picked up 1,384 votes Aug. 7, or 70 percent of Republican voters, which was more than the two Democratic candidates earned combined.

Hall is also running as part of a slate with incumbent township Trustee Derek Bajema and Ingham County Commissioner Steve Dougan, who is running for township treasurer.

The surge of Tea Party support here is contributing to a divisive political climate that has never existed in Delhi, said Goodrich, who identifies himself as a moderate Republican.

“Partisan-based politics have no place in township government,” Goodrich said. He added that this election season, unlike any others in the past, has become rampant with party rhetoric.

“That’s the way politics is at the national level. But we’ve never had it in the township. It’s very unfortunate. There shouldn’t even be parties at the township level,” he said. “Forget the Republicans and Democrats, that sort of thing, you work with who you feel is the best person. I was accused of appointing ‘my people’ and making ‘backroom deals.’ I have never made a backroom deal in my life.”

When asked about the apparent divisiveness, Hall’s response was: “The divisive atmosphere is due to the people making their voice clear that their leaders are not willing to listen. Divisiveness comes when people start to push back because these people forgot who they work for.”

The other members of the spendless, cut-more team pulled in substantial support as well. Bajema, a trustee

in his first term, ran against four other Republican trustee candidates and came out with 30 percent of the vote. Dougan, a four-term Ingham County commissioner, ran unopposed and tallied just over 200 more votes than the Democratic incumbent, Roy Sweet, who was a Goodrich appointee.

Hall’s campaign strategy rang with a Tea Party tone: “We are the grassroots,” he said, going door-to-door throughout the township hearing what people have on their minds. Hall claims that between the three of them, they have knocked on 4,000 doors throughout the township.

Hall denies he’s a Tea Party member and says that his positions on fiscal



issues simply align with the traditional Republican Party. He is against virtually any new spending. He opposed separate fire and police millages in August 2010 that voters approved by 52 percent and 53 percent, respectively. Hall believes the township board should have looked to cut spending elsewhere.

“When the millage came into Delhi, it was proposed as: If this didn’t happen, you were going to have cuts to fire and police. But the truth is, if it didn’t happen, then the board was going to have to decide where they were going to have to cut the budget,” Hall said. “That’s why you have a balanced budget. Not because people worked hard to make sure it was more balanced. They just went and got more money.”

Delhi Township is roughly bordered by Interstate 96 to the north; College Road to the east; Nichols Road to the south; and Waverly Road to the west. It’s population, which has grown steadily since the 1990 Census, is over 25,000.

Hall believes that if the township taxes were lower, even more people

would be moving there.

Two issues Hall hammers on are proposed roundabouts in downtown Holt, an unincorporated community that makes up the main hub of the township, and a supposed “rain tax” that he says is “on the horizon.” Goodrich said the supposed tax has never been on the books and that the township has little control if the county decides to put in roundabouts if it has the funding.

More on the Tea Party

Kyle Melinn says the Tea Party lacks statewide support. See P. 6.

Hall said he and the Bajema/Dougan team are running to unseat the “Good Old Boys’ Club” that he said has plagued Delhi politics for over a decade through appointments and “backroom deals.”

While denying Hall’s accusations of his own Good Old Boys’ Club, Goodrich said Hall, Bajema and Dougan are attempting to form their own in a single election cycle.

“When you have three that are running together, that ‘club’ is formed a whole lot quicker than when you have them running one at a time,” he said.

To say the least, Goodrich is ticked off, not with the fact that he lost, but because of how he was beat — with what he called negative and partisan politics. He said that there is a lot of “misinformation” and “untruths” related to past and present political issues like the sludge dryer (an alternative energy project that voters denied in May), the rain tax and the roundabouts. Moreover, Goodrich said he’s going to endorse Democrat C.J. Davis against Hall because they have similar views on township issues and the role of township government.

Evan Hope, the Delhi Township clerk of 14 years, said in recent years and leading up to this election season there’s been a shadow of “divisive” and “partisan” politics in the township — which is entirely new.

And Davis, the Democrat who narrowly won the primary by three votes against Tim Currin, thinks the campaigns have focused on negative, partisan politics. That will ultimately reflect poorly on the community and create a haze of uncertainty for potential businesses to move in, he said.

“If an atmosphere of strife is seen by outside businesses, they’re not going to come near us,” he said.

— Sam Inglot

Eyesore of the week



Property: 11280 S. U.S. 27, Dewitt Township
 Owner: Eagle Ocean Properties, LLC
 Owner address: 26492 Blue Water Road, Helendale, Calif.
 Assessed value: \$21,300
 Owner says: Could not be reached for comment
 Architecture critic Amanda Harrell-Seyburn says: Great outdoor places, particularly outdoor rooms, are as invaluable to a community as great buildings. An outdoor room is an open-air place defined by edges, hedges and a tree canopy or garden walls — or it could be the outdoor space beneath the canopy of a filling station from an earlier era. Where cars once lingered for service, today is an opportunity to create a place for people to gather, whether it’s a restaurant like Artie’s Filling Station or a courtyard at Tallulah’s Folly in Lansing’s Old Town. At the southwest corner of West Round Lake Road and South Old U.S. 27 in Dewitt Township is an opportunity to join a growing practice — some of the best outdoor rooms in the Lansing area occur in the most unexpected places.

Is it a gas station? Is it a house? One thing is for sure: It looks terrible. The dark blue, weed-overtaken structure here might not be as rough as the collapsed barn across the street, but it has a decrepit style all its own. If it was a gas station, it was operated during a time when wood and brick pump canopies were the norm. There may have been two driveway entrances at one time, but you’d have to hack away at the bushes and flowers that have pushed up and broken the concrete before you could really tell. A quick peek inside reveals that a For Sale sign is being used as a barrier to board up a window.

— Sam Inglot

“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.

Tea Party not connecting with mainstream

POLITICS



KYLE MELINN

For all the noise Tea Party activists are making within the Republican Party these days, you'd think this hodge-podge collection of conservatism imaginable would be kicking butt at the bal-

lot box.

It may be true in more Republican strongholds like Indiana and Texas and in smaller communities like Delhi Township, but it's not happening in Michigan's larger races.

Outside of the Republican Party apparatus itself and some local races, Tea Party candidates flopped spectacularly in the August primary.

Let's start in the U.S. Senate race, where

anti-gay activist Gary Glenn won the hearts of a band of 200-some Tea Party folks back in February, but ended up dropping out of the Republican primary a few weeks before Election Day when he couldn't crack double digits in the polls.

Glenn asked his supporters to flock to the only other candidate with a ghost of a chance of defeating "establishment" candidate Pete Hoekstra — Clark Durant — who was promptly crushed.

In Southwest Michigan, Jack Hoogendyk, named Michigan's most conservative state lawmaker one year, thought he'd give try again against U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, with the help of Tea Party activists.

Hoogendyk hoped that the same sentiment that swept Richard Murdock past U.S. Sen. Dick Lugar in Indiana would spill over. He even spent a few days south of the border in hopes the Tea Party brotherhood would return the favor.

It didn't happen. Instead, Hoogendyk rallied the same batch of tin-hatters and got smacked by almost a 2-to-1 margin. The whooping was markedly worse than the one he received in his '10 primary against Upton when he allegedly didn't have as much Tea Party support.

In the state legislature, the big talk about taking out the "RINOs," "Republicans in Name Only," yielded only one real credible challenge to an arguably moderate Republican incumbent — Rep. Wayne Schmidt in Traverse City.

The Tea Party candidate was Jason Gillman, author of the blog "Michigan Taxes Too Much."

Gillman, despite being an elected Traverse City county commissioner, barely managed 35 percent against Schmidt.

So why is the Michigan Republican establishment so petrified of the Tea Party activists?

Why is Ron Weiser, the former ambassador and chairman of the Michigan Republican Party, at risk of not winning his own party's nomination for the University of Michigan Board of Regents?

It's because Tea Party activists have nearly completely taken over the Michigan Republican Party.

Most other Michiganders spend their nights and weekends working on their lawn, taking the kids to soccer or dance

or catching up on life. Lathered-up Tea Party folks are flooding local and state Republican meetings and getting their people elected to key leadership posts.

Former Michigan Republican Party Chairman Saul Anuzis, potentially the most accessible GOP activist of all time, didn't stand a chance against super-conservative Dave Agema in this past May's Republican National Committeeman race.

Two years prior, solidly conservative Republican Bill Schuette nearly didn't win the nomination for attorney general and former Michigan State University Trustee Don Nugent failed to win his party's nomination for re-election.

Their crimes? They were "establishment" and just not right enough.

The Tea Party spectrum is so diverse that's it's impossible to brand these folks with one specific ideology. Some are strictly focused on fiscal policy. Some rope national defense into the mix. Others blend in some social issues. Still others focus on fringe conspiratorial issues like Barack Obama's birth certificate.

Supporters of former presidential candidate Ron Paul are finding a home under this banner. This crew didn't call it quits even though Mitt Romney rapped up the nomination in March.

They embroiled themselves into Republican Party minutia and managed six of Michigan's 30 voting delegates to the Republican National Convention in Tampa. Of the 115 GOP delegates and alternates in Tampa this week, 21 are Paul supporters.

And the head of the Paul's operations in Michigan, Adam de Angeli, told me the number of Paul supporters are growing, not shrinking.

Paul and Tea Party activists are taking advantage of this polarizing political atmosphere where the space for middle ground seems to be shrinking.

The people who feel strong enough to spend any free time on politics are loudly espousing fringe positions that, in the long term, does damage to public policy.

Take Gov. Rick Snyder's recent decision to abandon a bill to develop a state-run health care exchange.

With the Republican-led House paralyzed by the fear of Tea Party repercussions for even touching "Obamacare," Snyder is forced to give up a \$9.8 million planning

grant and surrender Michigan's health care exchange to the federal government.

So much for helping Michigan's own insurance industry, which benefits more from a local exchange.

The dynamic is putting rational Republicans in danger. Not only is it chasing them to the irrational right, the Tea Party is pushing the party further into the land of unelectability.

(Kyle Melinn is the editor of the MIRS Newsletter. He's at melinn@lansingcitypulse.com.)



Where's Niowave?

Company sends a representative to a community meeting with little knowledge of the pole barn controversy

Residents of the Walnut Neighborhood want to move beyond airing their complaints about a 14,000-square-foot pole barn in the neighborhood. Problem is, their corporate neighbor is not showing up to community meetings to discuss solutions.

At a community meeting last week — which included three City Council members, Mayor Virg Bernero, members of his cabinet and about 25 neighbors — one party was curiously absent: Niowave. While the company has retained local landscape architect Bob Ford — who attended — to plan a redesign of the exterior of Niowave's new building, Ford said he was "naïve" about the controversy at hand. He was on a fact-finding mission and took notes to share with Niowave officials.

Neighbors are clearly frustrated that for nearly two months of vocalizing their issues, very little has been accomplished.

"There's a lot of high tensions because they have been unable to meet with us," Walnut Neighborhood Organization President Rina Risper said during the meeting. Several neighbors have said Niowave did not show up to a meeting last month after company officials were invited. The neighbors, who

See Niowave, Page 7

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Niowave

from page 6

have been meeting with each other on and off since early July, have two desires: An exterior that would make Niowave's addition look like the adjacent Walnut School and processes in place at the administration or City Council level so that something like this can't happen again. "Our requests have always been the same. I'm not really pleased Niowave is not here. ... We really want to hear from Niowave," Risper said.

As for the look of the building: "Other than tearing this down, the closest thing we want is to have it appear as if it disappeared," said Tom Cathey, who serves on the board of directors of the Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art in Old Town.

Niowave's spokesman on the issue, chief financial officer Mark Sinila, could not be reached for comment.

A ceremony in early July celebrated Niowave's \$10 million expansion at its headquarters at the intersection of Walnut and Kilborn streets. The company specializes in manufacturing particle accelerators. It is also seeking a personal property tax exemption from the city worth more than \$200,000 as part of the expansion, although it suspended that effort as a result of the controversy.

Bertero asked residents to consider that Niowave "has a job to do" and that sending Ford as an intermediary will help accomplish everyone's goals. "I hope you won't take that as a sign that they don't care," he said.

Ford, who has worked on five of the city's parks master plans and has been in landscape architecture for 35 years, said, "I would have wished a representative would have been here tonight. I did think someone would be here tonight." He would not discuss the details of the contract between his firm, Landscape Architects & Planners Inc., and Niowave and said it would be "premature" to show design concepts he has for the building — "not that I don't have ideas."

Also, a timeline for finishing the project is undetermined. Bertero said he would like to meet again with neighbors in the next few weeks. On Wednesday, it appeared residents

simply want to speak directly with Niowave. One Walnut Neighborhood resident named Paul, who declined to give his last name, said Niowave's absence at a neighborhood meeting in July "spoke volumes to me."

"It's like we're on the first story of a two-story outhouse," he added, "with Niowave being on top."

— Andy Balaskovitz



Convent down

A Church of the Resurrection building on the East Side comes down as a cost-cutting move for the Catholic Diocese of Lansing

There will be no resurrecting a convent that stood for over 50 years on the campus of a historic church on the East Side.

An official with the Catholic Diocese of Lansing confirmed Monday that the old convent, which was one of six buildings at the Church of the Resurrection in the Eastfield Neighborhood, was demolished because it was rarely used and too expensive to maintain.

It met the same fate as a westside diocesan property last fall for the same reason. A portion of the Holy Cross church and school complex was torn down to the dismay of some neighbors and city officials. "It was just an expense that was too much for the parish to bear," said Diocese spokesman Michael Diebold. The St. Andrew Dung Lac Vietnamese parish is using a portion of the Holy Cross complex.

While a few local groups used the otherwise vacant Resurrection building once a month, "the rest of the building through the

years of disuse had fallen into terrible disrepair," Diebold said. He added that it cost the church \$30,000 a year in utilities and maintenance. "It was nothing the parish was going to rehab into anything else. ... It was a total drain on parish finances, a terrible expense for the parish to have to bear for no good reason."

Diebold said beyond planting grass, no plans are in place for reusing the land where the 3 1/2-story building stood. The campus sits on 3.24 acres along East Michigan Avenue, bounded by Custer and Rumsey avenues and Jerome Street. The former convent was on the north side of the property facing Jerome. The church is the only building on the property designated as a state historic site.

Diebold said sisters of the parish hadn't lived in the convent for at least 25 years. He said there was little historical significance seen in the building, as it was built "well after" the main church: "It didn't have any particularly striking architectural features."

A "Silver Jubilee Booklet" from 1947 provided by the Capital Area District Library says that the first Resurrection Mass was held in 1922 at the site. Classrooms and additions to the church came later in the '20s; a high school was built in 1939 for \$75,000. Architectural plans were underway for the building that came down on Friday when the booklet was published in 1947. Cost estimates for the convent at the time were for \$200,000.

Wayne Wood has lived across Jerome Street from the Resurrection complex for 60 years and has been a member ever since. He remembers when a group of Dominican Sisters lived in the convent. "We miss them more than we miss the building," he said on Monday night.

Aside from the dust that was kicked up Friday from the demolition, he's not too upset. "It was kinda sad to see the building deteriorate in that fashion. But when it's cleaned up, no, I won't miss it."

— Andy Balaskovitz



Andy Balaskovitz/City Pulse

All that's left of a former convent at the Church of the Resurrection on Lansing's East Side. A spokesman for the Catholic Diocese of Lansing said the vacant building was too expensive to maintain.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF LANSING SUMMARY OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE #1180

LANSING CITY COUNCIL ADOPTED AN ORDINANCE ON MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 2012, TO AMEND THE POLICEMEN'S AND FIREMEN'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 294, SECTIONS 294.01 THROUGH 294.99 OF THE LANSING CODIFIED ORDINANCES, TO MAKE IT GENDER NEUTRAL AND TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH CURRENT COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS BY ADDING DEFINITIONS FOR CREDITED SERVICE, DEPENDENT AND RETIREMENT SYSTEM; AMENDING THE DEFINITION OF FINAL AVERAGE COMPENSATION; CLARIFYING RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE MULTIPLIERS, MEMBER'S PENSION OPTIONS AND SURVIVING SPOUSE RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE; CODIFYING A PROCEDURE FOR THE REPAYMENT OF WITHDRAWN ACCUMULATED CONTRIBUTIONS; AND PROVIDING A SECTION FOR HISTORICAL PROVISIONS.

EFFECTIVE DATE: UPON PUBLICATION

NOTICE: THE FULL TEXT OF THIS ORDINANCE IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, 9TH FLOOR, CITY HALL, LANSING, MICHIGAN. A COPY OF THE FULL TEXT OF THIS ORDINANCE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CITY CLERK, 9TH FLOOR, CITY HALL, LANSING MICHIGAN AT A FEE DETERMINED BY CITY COUNCIL.

CHRIS SWOPE, LANSING CITY CLERK

RFQP/13/013 REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR UNIFORM RENTAL SERVICES as per the instructions for responses provided by the City of Lansing.

The City of Lansing will accept responses at the FINANCE DEPARTMENT, PURCHASING OFFICE, 8TH FLOOR CITY HALL, 124 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48933 until 3:00 PM local time in effect on SEPTEMBER 11, 2012.

Complete RFQP/13/013 document is available by calling Stephanie Robinson, CPPB at (517) 483-4128, email: srobinso@lansingmi.gov.

City of Lansing encourages responses from all vendors including MBE/WBE/DBE/VET vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

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Arts & Culture

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Holly Johnson/City Pulse

Artist Geoph Aldora Espen is transforming an abandoned Lansing-area school building into the Haunted Art Exhibition, a free-roam haunted house/guerilla art show mash-up. Espen is keeping the event location a secret, but is promoting it through Facebook.

Enlightened darkness

Lansing artist conjures up top-secret Haunted Art Exhibition inside an abandoned schoolhouse

By **HOLLY JOHNSON**

With shattered windows, boarded-up doors, and white paint plastered over graffiti, this massive brick building — once a Lansing schoolhouse — satisfies all the visual qualities of a haunted house. It appears as if some demonic force, filled

with equal parts splendor and spook, shot the building onto the property with a lightning bolt.

Geoph Aldora Espen, 20, greets me, clad in tight red

pants and sporting an electrifying Edward Scissorhands-looking 'do. He takes me around back, where he removes a large wooden board from a hole in the brick,

climbs over heaped shards of broken glass and then disappears into the basement. I take one glance back. I feel as if I am leaving the natural world and pole-vaulting into an alternate reality.

On Wednesday, Sept. 5, at 9 p.m., the space I am being led through will be transformed into a combination urban art exhibition/free-roam haunted house. Espen will unveil his unique vision in an utterly illegal, mostly underground performance that will throw safety and regard for no-trespassing laws to the wind. He has a Facebook page set up and flyers with the address on it, but asks me not to mention it in this story.

"If they're smart, they'll know how to find it," he says. Espen is largely self-trained, and quick to point out that he's no art student. ("I dropped out of art school after three weeks.") He says he was inspired to seek out this unconventional

location after being rebuffed by several local galleries. He says his approach to art is more traditional, and believes he was turned away because gallery owners thought the juxtaposition of his abstract expressionistic style with their art would be "ridiculous."

"I feel very strongly that art is objective — that there are rules and principles that determine a successful piece," he says. "A lot of people get caught up with what feels good, but true artistic merit comes from technical ability. These rules are as calculable as those that keep the earth in orbit. It's about achieving truth through expression."

Frustrated, he began experimenting with live art, bringing his easel and paints (he prefers acrylics) with him to local bars and creating pieces in public. He says he's sold a few paintings that way and been commissioned to do some work, but a true exhibition always eluded him.

"Then one day, one of my friends told me about this place, how she started hearing voices from the attic," he says. "I asked her to take me, and as soon as I saw it, I just knew. The size, the grandeur, the brick

façade. It's completely cleared, like a big empty canvas. That's when I got the idea for the Haunted Art Exhibition. I had an urge to create a different realm of horror."

We wander on as he explains what will happen in each room at the event. Espen's personal work will be on display, along with works from other local artists, mixed with live horror performances involving staged violence, torture and murder. He walks from musty room to musty room with a slither in his step, revealing absolutely no fear as he opens each door. We continue further away from the light and as we do so, I start to hear the sound of glass clinking on metal. I give Espen a startled look, but he refuses to acknowledge my terror. "It's an old building," he says with a grin. Right. As steps follow steps, the noise gets louder and I can only hope for the pigeon lady from "Home Alone" and not some disgruntled, bloodthirsty squatter.

As we turn into one of the larger rooms, a wolf-faced creature leaps around the corner, shining a light in my face and screaming at me. He is one of the performers in the show, doing a week-early dress rehearsal at Espen's request to give me a preview. (Thanks a lot.) He joins our tour, an inclusion I am utterly pleased with because at least we now have a flashlight.

We venture up the stairs to explore dozens of classrooms, each with its own unique fragments of decay. Instead of broken glass, I am now stepping across fallen bits of drywall and ceiling, old mattresses and mangled wires. He has a vision for every room on each of the four floors. Some will be filled with art, others with performers, many with nothing at all.

"It's the element of surprise that is the most exciting part," Espen said. "You will never know what's waiting for you."

When asked about potential law enforcement interference, Espen doesn't appear concerned, saying he would greet them with a smile and obey their commands, if needed.

"I've been trying to contact the city to see if I can do this legally, but no one seems to know anything," he says. "Almost every day for the last month I've put in work trying to figure out who owns the building. Oh well."

As he wraps up the tour, Espen hints at a planned piece at the Capitol that could very well get him arrested for vandalism (albeit of the non-permanent variety, but you know cops). We step back outside into the light, and all apprehension leaves me. That really wasn't so bad now, was it? But then Espen quickly ducks back inside for something, and I stay firmly planted.

No more for me, thanks. I need to sleep tonight.

1st Sunday gallery walk & other exhibitions

New Exhibits

Gallery Walk September 2

Great Lakes Artworks
Featuring photography by Richard Loft. Reception: Noon-4 p.m. September 2. Hours: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 1-4 p.m. Sunday. 306 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-4293. greatlakesartworks.com

LookOut! Gallery

"Weavings of War" features fabric arts from the collections of the MSU Museum, Ariel Zeitlin Cooke of Montclair, NJ, and Chris Worland of East Lansing. Open Sunday, September 2, from 1-3 p.m. Regular hours: Mon.-Fri., 12-2 p.m. Second floor of Snyder-Phillips Hall, MSU Campus. (517) 884-6290. rcch.msu.edu.

MSU Museum

"The Unauthorized Audubon" features work by two MSU faculty members, poet Anita Skeen and print-maker Laura B. DeLind, starting September 9. Reception: 2 p.m. September 9. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, 1-5 p.m. Sunday. (517) 355-2370. museum.msu.edu

The Mustang Building

REACH Teen Open Studio and Lansing Pop-Up Art partnered to convert the Mustang Building into a pop-up art gallery, featuring photographer Anna Wagner, a Waverly High School student, August 30. Reception: 1-4 p.m., September 2. 1213 Turner St., Lansing.

Saper Galleries

The Hebron Glass Collection will showcase 51 hand-blown glass vases, made in Hebron, the largest city in the Palestinian West Bank. Reception: 1-4 p.m. September 2. Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Thursday. 433 Albert Ave., Lansing. (517) 351-0815. saper-galleries.com.

Gallery Walk September 9

By The Riverside
Continuing a music theme with artist Kurt Meister and Julian Van Dyke. Hours: 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 1-6 p.m. Wednesday,

day, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, special showings by appointment. 1209 Turner St., Old Town, Lansing. (517) 484-6534.

Creole Gallery

Featuring "The Vagina Show," September 9. Reception: Noon-5, September 9. Hours: 1-5 p.m. Saturday & Sunday. 1218 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-2736.

East Lansing Public Art Gallery

Michigan artist Nick Stump exhibits "Capturing Moments," a collection of original artwork, starts September 9. Reception: 1-2 p.m. September 9. Hours: 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday and Noon-8 p.m. Sunday. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 894-2166.

Lansing Art Gallery

"Painted Visions" will feature Mark E. Mehaffy's paintings starting Sept. 4. Reception: 7-9 p.m., Sept. 7. Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 1 p.m.-4 p.m. Saturday. 119 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 374-6400. lansingartgallery.com.

Ledge Craft Lane

A showcase of Carol Heath's watercolors, starts September 6. Reception TBA. Hours: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. 120 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. (517) 627-9843. ledge-craftlane.com.

Okemos Library

Okemos artist Barb Stevens showcases watercolor paintings in her show "Color Celebration." Reception: 2-4 September 9. Hours: 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 1-7 p.m. Sunday. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 349-0250.

Turner-Dodge House

Gallery 1212 FINE ART STUDIOS

Gallery 1212 in Old Town presents a three person show, starting September 2nd, featuring the love, loss and emotion in the struggle that is Alzheimer's disease. Geraldine Ossman has a poignant book "The Slip of the Moon" in memory of her mother. K.W. Bell's paintings display a full range of emotion that caregivers experience. Singer/songwriter Cindy McElroy illuminates the tragedy and love in "Alzheimer's . . . Feel the Love" a collection of songs, stories and photographs.

1212 Turner St. Old Town Lansing



The Gallery 1212 Partners: Donna Randall, Patricia Singer and Mike Scieszka will also have a "Trunk Show" of many of their fun and representational works.



Courtesy Photos
Lansing Art Gallery presents "Painted Visions," an exhibition of Mark E. Mehaffey's paintings. Mehaffey graduated from MiSU and taught art in the Lansing school district from 1974 to 2002.

Featuring multi-media art of Mohammed "MOBE" Elramly. September 9, Noon-5 p.m. The show is one day only. Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. 100 E. North St., Lansing. (517) 483-4220.

North Foyer Gallery at East Lansing Public Library

The Deckled Edge Art Group presents "Artistic Expressions 2012," an exhibit with 14 professional artists presenting an array of paintings produced in varied media, starts September 1. Hours: 10 a.m.- p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

Ongoing Empowerment Center

Neighborhood Empowerment Center Semi-Annual show features six artists with a variety of mediums, including photography and mixed media. Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980.

Mackerel Sky Gallery

"Two Views: Journeys in Encaustic" features the work of Bobbi Kilty of Williamston and Barb Hranilovich of Lansing and the ancient technique of using melted beeswax to create distinctive visions. Also featuring the pottery of

Debra Oliva through Sept. 8. Hours: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday & Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and Noon-5 p.m. Sunday. (517) 351-2211 mackerelsky.com.

MICA Gallery

"40 Festival Artworks" presents a show of MICA's festival posters throughout history, featuring a variety of fine art. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. 1210 Turner St., Lansing (517) 371-4600. oldtownarts.org.

Riverwalk Theatre

The Lobby Art Show is featuring artist Dixie O'Connor, member of the Mid-Michigan Art Guild, Working Women Artists, Ledge Craft Lane and Shiawassee Arts Council. Hours: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 6-11 p.m. Saturdays; Noon-5 p.m. Sundays. 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700.

The Hebron Glass Collection

Open Sunday, September 2, 1-4pm

Mon-Sat 10-6 Th 10-9 First Sundays 1-4

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Where can you find
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Fierce creatures

Local facial hair enthusiasts take it on the chin in weekend competition

By TRACY KEY

Whether you're sporting a daring Donegal, manly muttons or rocking a royale, fame, glory and prizes could be yours this Saturday when "beardos" from across the nation will their facial hair against each other. It's all part of the first Great Lakes Regional Beard and Moustache Championship, a growing new concept in competition. "We love the camaraderie behind facial hair," said John Buckler, organizer of the competition and president of the Great American Fierce Beard Organization.

"We're a bunch of facial hair enthusiasts that use our beards and mustaches as a vehicle for making Lansing a better place." GAFBO has been making the

The Great Lakes Regional Beard and Moustache Championship

Sept. 1 6:30 -11 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
\$10 per ticket, entry into competitions is FREE
facebook.com/GAFBO/events

world hairier since 2002, when it was born from a "drunken college bet" between Buckler and several friends. Since then, it has "literally and metaphorically grown into the charity group it

is now."

Proceeds from ticket and raffle sales at this regional championship will be donated to Haven House, a Lansing-based organization that provides emergency shelter and support to families

in need, and to the Lansing Cultural Exchange program, which seeks funding to help send middle school student leaders to Otsu, Japan.

"We try to support local charities, something that we can dedicate more of our resources to," Buckler said. "It's a lot more personal than just donating money to a national charity. Plus it gives our mothers a chance to not hate our beards."

The Great Lakes Regional Beard and Moustache Championship invites facial hair enthusiasts to see if their face forests can survive the scrutiny of a panel of experts in front of a live audience as it is judged on "fierceness," an intentionally vague term meant to spark imagination and creativity.

Categories include natural mustache, business beard, styled goatee and sideburns/muttonchops. There will also be a novelty group called the "Michigan Miletus," named after Miletus Callahan-Barile, a Texas celebrity in the facial hair circuit who will help judge. We already know the follicles must be fierce, but what other characteristics separate the Groucho Marxes and the Abraham Lincolns from the sissy patchy peach fuzzies?

"I'll be looking for awesomeness definitely, and how the beard fits the personality of the person," said Callahan-Barile. With experience starring on the reality television show "Whisker Wars," he has learned a thing or two about what it takes to boast a bold beard.



Courtesy Photo

John Buckler (center) with Hans-Peter Weis (left) and Gerhard Knapp at the German National Beard and Moustache Championship in Bad Schussenried, Germany.

"Of course everyone goes for big beards, but sometimes there's more to it than bigness," he said. "I'll be looking for an internal beard — the beard that is the soul of that person."

The fiercest beard or most magnificent mustache isn't always found on the face of a gentleman. Despite the obvious gender expectations, ladies too are encouraged to compete in the festivities. Three categories will allow the use of artificial facial hair, including two woman-only sections.

"The biggest thing girls should do is to just let loose, go nuts and make a beard," said Tess Jeffries, a champion competitor from Ohio coming to the event. This bearded woman is far from

the sideshow freaks found at cheap carnivals. She has placed in seven beard and mustache championships in the creative category, which challenges women to craft wacky, wild beards from all types of materials. Her first entry was a Poseidon beard and mustache, complete with fake bubbles and fish. She has also been seen sporting a Batman-themed Gotham city beard, proving that "anything and everything can be turned into a beard."

"People are coming in from all over the country, including Texas, Virginia, and California," Buckler said. "It's going to be really wild great time. If you've never seen a beard and mustache competition, you'll have a lot of fun."



Courtesy Photo

Delilah DeWylde and the Lost Boys bring their modern rockabilly sound to the 2012 Michigan Mosaic Music Festival this weekend at Adado Riverfront Park in Lansing.

Diversity now

Mosaic festival offers multi-cultural mash-up

By TRACY KEY

Scales rub against skin as a 6-foot-long boa constrictor slithers down the curves of a woman's body. The woman twists and undulates on stage in front of hundreds of staring eyes. Suddenly you realize you forgot to put on your pants. Just kidding about the pants — this isn't really a nightmare (well, maybe for some people). But the snake is real, and his name is Amon Ra.

"You could get bitten, you could get strangled — just your usual snake dangers," said Garnett Kepler, artistic director, dancer and instructor for the Habibi Dancers. The performance group is one of 14 multi-cultural acts that will entertain and enlighten guests this weekend at the third annual Michigan Mosaic Music Festival at Riverfront Park.

But Kepler — who has the stage name Yasmina Amal — isn't worried about flirting with an apex

predator that could swallow her if it caught its fancy. In fact, she loves spending time on stage with Amon Ra, and she says he enjoys it too.

"He seems to really like dancing," she said. "He's just my favorite little star. I imagine he just thinks of me like a great big warm tree on stage." The Habibi Dancers seek to educate and entertain the public about Middle Eastern and Northern African culture and customs through their unique traditional dance performances.

"There are a lot of people who have just one image or stigma about the Middle East because of all the crises we've had, and it's nice to be able to show them that there is beauty that comes out of the Middle East and Africa, and how their cultures and customs have evolved," Kepler said.

"I think people will find that we have much more in common than they originally thought." And that kind of mentality is one of the driving forces behind the Mosaic Festival. "For the ethnic performances, we were looking for high quality artists, ones that represented the diverse people of the mid-Michigan area," said Mike Skory, communications director for the Michigan Institute of Contemporary Art. Skory handpicked each of the performers.

The Zoobie's sessions

'Gypsy-jazz' band records album inside abandoned Old Town bar

By RICH TUPICA

Dylan Rogers unlocks the back door of the dilapidated, vacant bar on the outskirts of Old Town, and slowly pushes it open.

"Hello! Anybody here?" he shouts, carefully entering, crowbar in one hand, flashlight in the other. Then the stench hits—the kind of unpleasant odor only found in a building after years of neglect and vandalism. Thanks to Rogers and his wife, however, that odor is now ever so faintly covered up with the aroma of household cleansers.

We're inside the former Zoobie's Old Town Tavern, 611 E. Grand River Ave., which closed in 2009 following the death of owner Paul Czubek. The broken windows may be boarded up, but you never know who or what may be lurking in the distance (hence the crowbar.) Rogers and his band, The Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle, are taking their chances with a possible squatter/family of raccoons to record their new album, utilizing the empty building's unique sound qualities.

"The acoustics are great," Dylan said. "We had the option of working the Temple Club, but we picked Zoobie's even though it was smaller and required some work. There's this big old wooden bar that absorbs sound nicely, and is just what you want in a recording studio. Having the original bar still in there and a bunch of surfaces that weren't just parallel walls really helped the sound. Something that fits the whole kind of rust belt, vacant building, and drinking



Photo courtesy of Jeana-Dee Allen Rogers

The Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle, at work on their latest album inside the former Zoobie's Old Town Tavern, 611 E. Grand River Ave. Zoobie's had sat empty for over three years before the band transformed it into a de facto recording studio.

establishment-vibe. It shows the pride we take in coming from Lansing." In that vein, it's perfect.

Zoobie's was built back in the '20s by Czubek's father, Ed, who operated it as Ed's Bar until 1973. After 73 years of keeping it in the family, however, the Czubek family decided to sell to Old Town developer Alan Hooper, who also owns the Temple Club. (Hooper, who gave the band his blessing to use Zoobie's, hasn't yet announced what his plans are for the building.) Rogers said it took some elbow grease to get it up to par before his theatrical 12-piece band—which he calls a blend of "Americana, gypsy-jazz, blues and vaudeville"—could lug their equipment inside. Rogers, the band's songwriter, is working with indie producer John Krohn to produce this, the band's second album.

"We wanted to record the whole thing

essentially live," he says. "When we perform live, we mix in some theatrical gimmicks. We do this whole shtick with a back-and-forth between the chorus girls and me, and although we can't really capture that on our recording, we wanted to keep that energy."

The band's old-fashioned sound is inspired from long-gone legendary performers.

"I take a lot of inspiration from Cab Calloway," Rogers said. "Really, it goes all the way up to guys like Screamin' Jay Hawkins and all that."

If recording an album at Zoobie's will accomplish anything, it should be some raw recordings. A few minutes into the interview, Rogers began swatting at his shoes—a swarm of fleas had begun attacking his ankles. Apparently, the place had become infested since the sessions wrapped last week. The interview was quickly moved

back outdoors into the grimy, deserted parking lot out back.

"It was just like years of piss and decay in there," Rogers said of the interior of Zoobie's before the exhaustive cleaning process took place. "People had broken in and just totally used it. My wife, Jeana, and I rolled up with crowbars and respirators. We ripped the carpet out and used a gallon of bleach on all these surfaces—we turned the place from rancid stench to what it is now. We even polished the bar."

Now that the band's sessions at Zoobie's are over, Rogers said it was worth the hard work.

"We had recorded that first EP in a little bit more sterile, studio kind of setting," Rogers said. "We put that out, and that was pretty good, but we felt like some of that energy was lost in a studio. I think we captured it at Zoobie's."

Mosaic

from page 10

"I was born and raised here, but my family came from Lebanon, and I think this idea of an ethnic heritage is really a part of the Michigan culture," Skory said. "When people see the exceptional the lineup this year, everyone is going to love it." Aside from belly dancers and snakes, guests will also be serenaded with music from Latin America, India, Africa and—new for this year—American country music.

"The addition of some great country bands will distinguish this year from the past festivals," said Terry Terry, president of MICA, organizers

of JazzFest and BluesFest in Old Town. "There hasn't really been a festival showcasing that sort of music before." Whether you're into a true blue hillbilly beat, Garth Brooks-style country rock or something a bit more rough-and-tumble, you'll get your fix of dueling banjos and gritty guitar riffs at Mosaic.

"It seems like some festivals have a lot of jazz or a lot of blues, but the Mosaic lineup has something for everyone," said Delilah DeWylde, lead singer and bassist of music group Delilah DeWylde and the Lost Boys. "Last year I had a chance to see other styles of music that I normally don't see or listen to. Other festivals don't seem to have as much diversity as Mosaic." DeWylde describes their style as edgy, upbeat rockabilly rhythms with a "hill-

billy country music-meets-blues vibe."

"We were very well received last year," she said. "It was a good diverse crowd. This year we'll be playing songs from (our new album) along with our old ones. It's always fun to play to a new crowd."

Mosaic will also offer a diverse selection of food.

"There will be a selection of different ethnic cuisine, including healthy choices," Skory said. Exotic eats will include Mexican, Asian and soul food selections. Another layer of entertainment will be added by the second annual Capitol City Dragon Boat Race (see story on p. 12) held concurrently.

"In the past, not much went on in Lansing on Labor Day weekend, and a lot of people went out of town to have

a good time," Terry said. "But we're bringing people back into Lansing to have a great time this year. We're hoping this will be one of the biggest entertainment weekends in the city."



How to race your dragon

Second annual Capitol City Dragon Boat Race sets weekend on fire

By TRACY KEY

Time to start thinking about what you're doing this Labor Day weekend. Stuff your face with hot dogs and fruit salad? Look through granny's photo album for the umpteenth time at a family reunion? Or maybe dangle precariously from the horns of a Chinese dragon boat racing perilously down the Grand River? I think we know which of these options sounds most exciting.

Capitol City Dragon Boat Race

Sept. 1-2 Saturday: Practice begins at 10 a.m., Ceremony at Mosaic festival 8-8:30 p.m. Sunday: Races begin at 8:30 a.m. Race runs from the Lansing City Market to the Adado Riverfront Park
Admission: FREE
capitalcitydragonboat.com

This Saturday and Sunday, the second annual Capitol City Dragon Boat Race will pit teams of 23 hopefuls against one another in a series of three timed races that test the boaters' strength, endurance and teamwork.

"It's great," said Rob Flanders, captain and flag catcher of DragonHeart, last year's winning racing team that finished in 1 minute 40 seconds. "I hook my ankles in the dragon's horns and lean out of the boat to pull the flag from the water. It's

thrilling." And you thought your spinning classes were a workout.

Last year's victory set Flanders on fire. He went from a first-time racer to buying his own personal Taiwan-style dragon boat and traveling across the Midwest to hone his racing skill and technique, which he believes will give his team an edge in this year's competition.

"You have to give yourself over to everyone else in the boat and it becomes transformative," Flanders said. "Getting into a Chinese dragon boat and getting all these people to paddle the same way at the same time is an opportunity to be a part of something bigger than just yourself. I fell in love with the sport."

However, Flanders won't win the paddle-shaped trophy without opposition. The Lansing Derby Vixens, a team of fiery female skaters, won third place in the race last year, and are returning with double the force and vigor.

"We loved it so much last year we decided to do two teams," said Tashmica "Mina Firecracker" Torok. "The uniqueness of the event drew us to it, something that was completely outside our comfort zones. And since we were the only all-



Courtesy Photo

Rob Flanders (front) keeps his eye on the flag during the 2011 Capitol City Dragon Boat Race. His team, DragonHeart, finished last year's race with the fastest overall time.

women boat competing last year, we can bring back that kind of distinction this year."

Of course, you don't have to be part of a team to have fun — the event will be a sight for unsuspecting eyes.

"We don't know what to expect," said Walt Sorg, media coordinator for the race. "One team is dressing as pirates, but that's about all we know." Sorg said

there be collection jars for each team to collect money from onlookers for the best theme.

The money will then be used for a foundation that will improve the downtown riverfront area. "It makes for a great 'staycation,'" Flanders said. "It's a wonderful family event, and something you really have to experience."

Laugh track

Lansing student standup comedians polish their acts

By RICH TUPICA

The notorious "Bill Hicks Hates Hecklers" video on YouTube is as good a crash course in standup comedy etiquette as you can get. In the grainy reel from the '80s, a drunken female heckler shouts, "You suck!" at Hicks, unleashing a string of primal screams from the comedian in which he calls her everything from a "drunk bitch" to an "idiot piece of shit." Lesson: do not call Bill Hicks names.

Dealing with hecklers comes along with the territory, and local comedian Dan Currie, a recent Lansing Community College graduate, said Mac's Monday Comedy Night is an ideal showcase for rookie comedians. Currie hosts the weekly show and hopes a few aspiring comedians are among the new college students rolling into East Lansing.

"It's about conquering fear," Currie said. "If you've been thinking about doing it for a long time, the first step is just to do it. And whether you get laughs or not, you did it. Conquering that fear is the best feeling in the world when you're on stage."



Photos and Illustration by Rachel Harper/City Pulse

Dan Currie (left) and Nicholas Dressel are student-age performers making a name for themselves in the local comedy world. They perform every Monday at Mac's Bar.

Currie, 22, and many of the other emerging local funny men also take the stage occasionally at Connxtions Comedy Club in Lansing, but treasure Mac's crowd because they're more forgiving. It allows them to be more experimental and try out fresh material.

"We love Mac's because it's a place where we can do whatever we want," Currie said. "It's all us. There are no bookers there, there's no pressure. It's a lot of fun and a great place for comics to come and hang out. We see each other once a week. You know every Monday you're going to see

your buddies, work on new material, and have a lot of fun."

And he's in good company. Nicholas Dressel, 26, a theater major at Michigan State University, recently won the Funniest Mouth of the South down in Chattanooga, Tenn., taking home a \$1,000 cash prize. He said aside from Mac's, there are plenty of springboards for hopeful comedians, including the annual Last Spartan Standing competition that is reserved just for MSU students. MSU also offers an accredited theater class that is specifically designed for potential standups looking for serious direction. Of course, Dressel is taking it.

"It's taught by Rob Roznowski, who won the Michigan Professor of the Year award this year," Dressel said. "It's an acting and comedy class culminating in a final where you do a set at Connxtions."

As with many professions in the entertainment industry, standup isn't a huge moneymaker for those just starting, but Dressel said it's not about that. It's about the feeling of being on the stage.

"There is an addictive feeling to controlling a crowd that way," Dressel said. "If you're really rocking a room, you can almost feel like a puppet master in a sense. It's like, 'You will laugh ... now.' There's something insanely addictive about that high. I don't have a drug problem, but I can see why other people do. It's amazing."

THE WORLD IS YOUR STUDY HALL

By **ALLAN I. ROSS**

Study hall used to be either a punishment or a blow off, depending on which side of the C-level you and your GPA lived. It was just you and several other highly motivated crammers — or professional nappers — packed into a quiet room, with anything above a whisper earning a sharp “shh!”

But Wi-Fi has changed all that. Hell, you can probably crank out a well-researched exploration on women’s portrayal in the media on a fairly busy night at the bar. Swinging from hotspot to hotspot is now as easy as Tarzan swinging through the jungle. Is your double mocha cappuccino getting you too jacked up to finish your instant message session with that cute guy helping you with statistics? No problem. Just walk to the bar next door and switch to red wine — and maybe invite him out to continue the seduction process.

In fact, wireless Internet has become so prevalent, it’s basically second nature. “What do you mean I can’t get a signal?” is the new “What do you mean you don’t

have a bathroom?” Coffee houses and apartment courtyards have replaced computer labs as the place to GSD (get shit done). That sound you hear is the drone of empty basement level rooms, PCs firmly plugged into the World Wide Web with old-fashioned Ethernet cables, bare keyboards and barren monitors flashing lonely cursors.

Thanks to Wi-Fi, you can now cruise through the latest viral videos or catch up on old episodes of “Arrested Development” at halftime of the game or while your friend hits the bathroom at the bar. Of course, you can probably also use it to get work done, but that’s not really what the Internet is there for. Where do you think you are, Russia?

Take a step back and you see that Wi-Fi has changed the face of communication itself. Skype has become a verb. Sitting in front of your desktop to have a face-to-face with your girlfriend is as outdated as stretching the cord on your landline around the corner so your folks don’t hear

you. Wi-Fi has enabled almost instant visual communication with every single corner of the globe.

So thank you, wireless Internet, for allowing us to keep in touch with each other every second of every day, to enjoy videos of cats falling into bathtubs while we’re on the bus, to keep track of how the game is going at Aunt Mitzie’s funeral and for helping us slog through our Humanities 101 homework at 4 a.m. in a coney island. Oh yeah, and for learning and stuff.

I’ve lived in the area for 11 years, since before Wi-Fi was even a thing, and let me tell you, it’s improved my life immeasurably. I’ve gone from driving around with a phone book under my seat in case I needed to call a tow truck to using an app on my Android to find all the good carryout places within a three-block radius on my way home from the bar. Christ, if you would have told me then I would even have an Android in 2012, I would have told you to shut your Philip K. Dick.



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Leo's Spirits & Grub (2085 W. Grand River, Okemos): \$3.50 build-your-own Bloody Mary, buy-one-get-one pizza.

MONDAY

Mitchell's Fish Market (2975 Preyde Drive, Lansing Township): Oyster Night – east coast oysters for \$6.99 per half dozen all day.

Paul Revere's Tavern (2703 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing): 34 oz. schooners for \$3.50 (also on Thursdays).

TUESDAY

Stober's Bar (812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing): Tuesday Jazz Night. No drink or food specials, just good music. Buffalo Wild Wings (360 Albert Ave., East Lansing): 50-cent wings.

Mac's Bar (2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing): Neon Tuesdays (18+ techno).

Buddies—East Lansing (3048 E. Lake Lansing Road): \$1.50 beef and chicken tacos.

WEDNESDAY

Beggar's Banquet (218 Abbot Road, East Lansing): Half-off wine night starting at 8 p.m.

Harpers Restaurant and Brewpub (131 Albert Ave., East Lansing): Half-off everything

The Whiskey Barrel (410 S. Clippert St., Lansing Township): 18+ night, with line dance lessons and free mechanical bull rides.

THURSDAY

The Riv (231 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing): Burgerama from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. – \$1.50 hamburgers, extra toppings \$.25, fries for \$.50. Pitchers for \$3.50, Frog Tanks (big pitcher of mixed drinks) for \$5.

The Exchange (314 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing): Tryst Thursdays, with half-off wine on a rotating list, with Spanish-style small plates.

FRIDAY

First Fridays (Lansing and East Lansing): On the first Friday of each month, restaurants and bars throughout the area feature a variety of unique specials. CATA provides free transportation and the Entertainment Express trolley departs every 15 minutes, schlepping bar-goers between Lansing and East Lansing. More info at lansingfirstfridays.com.

SATURDAY

Art's Bar (809 E. Kalamazoo, Lansing): 32 oz. "schoope"r of beer for \$3 on game days.

Crunchy's (254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing): \$35 for two buckets of food and a bucket of beer. (Served in an actual mop bucket, equates to about a case of beer. Minimum four people per bucket.)

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WELCOME WEEK A HIGH TIME FOR DEALERS

By SAM INGLOT

With a new school year comes Welcome Week. With Welcome Week come parties. And with parties, more often than not, comes pot.

To get a sense of what this time of year means for all those illegal dealers out there, City Pulse sat down with two of them who used to do it. We will call them Joe, who is 26, and Garth, who is 23. Both recently

graduated from MSU and both have also gotten out of the pot-dealing game. And both agree that when the students come back, so does business.

"With MSU, in general, the business fluctuates with the school year," Joe said. "When the students come back, there is a huge influx.

"People are passing J's around during Welcome Week parties and you drop your

pitch. You tell them you can get them better stuff for cheaper."

Joe and Garth both ran similar operations in the sativa-slinging industry, sticking to small amounts and a small cohort of clients.

Garth started selling quarter pounds of cannabis out of the dorms as a freshman in the Brody Complex. Later in his career, he was averaging an ounce a week. He said he procured his supply from someone who was buying directly from local growers.

He said his concerns about law enforcement shrank as he grew wiser to the game. He has never had any drug-related run-ins with the law. As to how he avoided getting caught for four years, he

was fairly ... blunt.

"I know this sounds a little vague, but I didn't sell any to fucking idiots," he said. "I didn't sell to stupid people, basically. I had friends that needed it and I liked to provide a good service to my friends. It paid for my drinking to a degree."

Garth said he knew of at least 20 people on campus who were selling at or just above his level. But for Garth, with graduation, comes retirement.

"I'm done — college is over," he said. "I got through it all clean, there were no run-ins with the law and fuck it, I am hanging up my coat while I'm ahead and I'm done."

Whether Garth knew Joe as one of the campus pot dealers is a mystery. Joe, who has never been caught, sold weed from the age of 14 to the time he graduated. Before enrolling at MSU, he would sell up to 10 pounds a week, which dropped to a quarter pound once he started classes. Even though he wasn't a student for most of his selling days, he said his "primary market" was always MSU.

But while getting high, and maybe selling a little on the side, is part of many a student's college career, you can't ignore the underbelly of cannabis. Unfortunately, it's still a Schedule I drug, according to the Drug Enforcement Administration (even though several states, including Michigan, have laws allowing for its medicinal use). And who knows where that cheap, brown shwag came from? A Mexican drug cartel?

Being a student and getting caught with cannabis can have serious consequences — not only for your wallet and time, but for your education. If you're a student, the likely possession misdemeanor you'll get slapped with should be the least of your worries. Federal law says that a student convicted of an offense under any state or federal law regarding the possession of marijuana will be ineligible to receive any grant, loan or work assistance. The first time you're caught it's a year of ineligibility; second offense is two years; and if you're caught a third time, you can say goodbye to any financial help forever. The penalties are even stiffer for selling pot, with a two-year ineligibility for the first offense and indefinite ineligibility for a second time.

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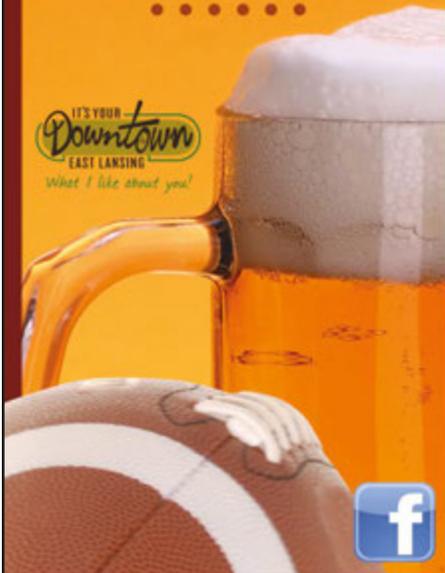
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BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO THE LANSING MUSIC SCENE

By **RICH TUPICA**

If moving into your new digs at Michigan State University included lugging heavy boxes of vinyl LPs and guitars up seemingly endless flights of stairs, getting hip to Lansing's music venues should be at the top of your list of things to do instead of homework. While mid-Michigan doesn't have a St. Andrew's Hall or Majestic Theatre, there are some great spots to check out left-of-the-dial tunes and some national touring groups. You may find there's no need to make that hour-and-a-half trek to Detroit Rock City. Here are just three must-visit places, and I'll tell you why:

One of the go-to venues is **MAC'S BAR**. This is Lansing's classic dive bar/music venue. While the floor at this place has seen better days and the black walls — plastered with gig posters — make the darkest of metal heads feel at home, Mac's

is actually host to all genres of under-the-radar music. This place is great because of its busy and diverse roster of shows. From its annual indie folk festival, to hardcore punk, hip-hop, electronic and Monday night comedy shows, Mac's really covers all bases. One night could be a nationally touring act, the next a roster of locals cutting their teeth. Take note: Detroit techno legend Terrance Parker spins a set at Mac's on Oct. 20. **MACSBAR.COM**

After ascending the huge flight of stairs leading up to **THE LOFT**, a first-timer may be surprised at the size of the club. The venue, located in the Stadium District, opened in April 2010. This place's opening was a breath of fresh air for Lansing music because it quickly began booking national indie rock (Otep recently packed the house; The Wombats headline Sept. 8) and hip-hop acts while still supporting the local bands. Free parking for The Loft is in the lot behind Omar's Show Bar and The

Exchange. **THELOFTLANSING.COM**

[SCENE] METROSPACE is a low-key gallery/venue in downtown East Lansing that opened in 2004. It has since become a fixture in the Americana singer/songwriter and indie music scene. It's also a great place to meet other locals steeped in the arts. It's an art gallery (no bar), but this city-funded space isn't intended for mosh pits and getting plowed on PBRs — it's about experiencing artsy creativeness in a mellow atmosphere. Aside from music events and art exhibits, (Scene) also features theatrical productions, independent film screenings, dance and poetry. For those who don't get into the bar scene, but still want to be involved in the arts, (SCENE) is worth a visit. **SCENEMETROSPACE.COM**

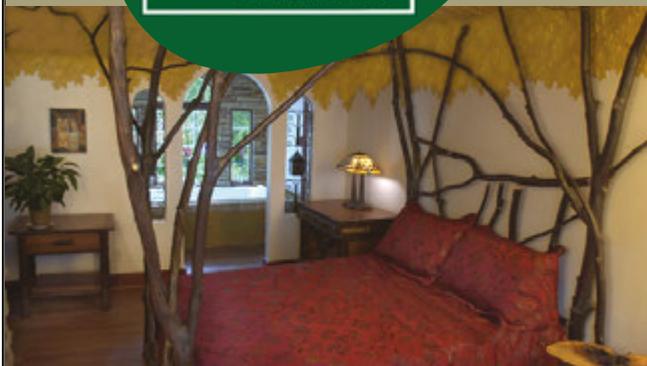
Seems like ever since Jack White covered a couple Son House blues tunes and the Black Keys revitalized the genre, it's been hip for students to dig on some Delta blues. **THE GREEN DOOR BLUES BAR** is a go-to blues joint, for sure. It has accomplished guitar slingers on stage nearly every night of the week, so rookie bluesman new to the area should stop by this blue-collar-type bar — especially those who want to live the life they sing about in their songs. Also, each Monday night, Steppin' In It — a veteran Lansing roots band — performs hours of classic country, folk and blues. Aside from the basics, the band also incorporates an array of instruments, including a trombone, trumpet, Cajun accordion, dobro, slide guitar, Cajun fiddle and claw-hammer banjo. **GREENDOORLIVE.COM**

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Turn the page

Schuler Books & Music hits the big 3-0

By **BILL CASTANIER**

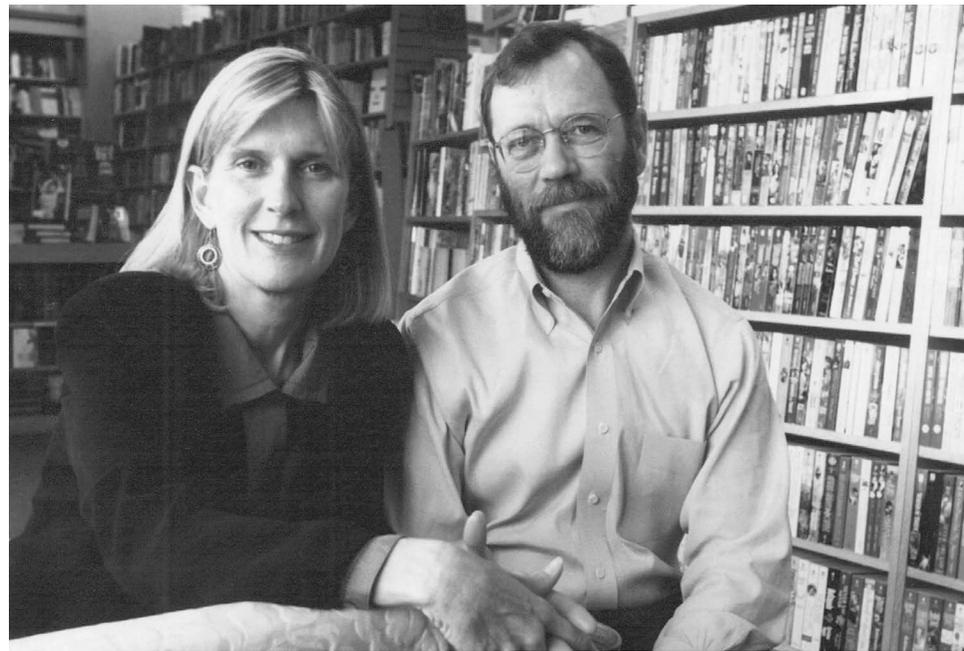
Bill and Cecile Fehsenfeld have seen a lot when it comes to the life of the modern bookstore. They were there for its conception, its first clumsy steps, its ugly teenage years and its bloated post-adolescence. But now their baby, Schuler Books & Music — the state's largest independent regional bookstore, with three locations in Grand Rapids and two in the Lansing area — is celebrating its 30th anniversary, just as the entire industry is entering a turbulent middle age. No one said being a parent was easy.

"We were young and foolish," says Cecile.

Ah, but as the Bard once said, a wise man knows himself to be a fool. In 1973, Bill and Cecile met while working in Ann Arbor's Ulrich's Bookstore. Bill went on to work for Tom and Louis Borders, the founders of what would become the mega-chain Borders, which eventually spawned 700 stores before being liquidated last year. When an opportunity arose in 1981 for them to open their own store in Grand Rapids, they moved quickly.

Bill's experience at Borders showed him that the bookstore industry was about to shift from cramped, dusty shops run by book snobs to the all-encompassing, full-featured store we know today. The Fehsenfelds still remember the first book they sold when they opened in late September of 1982.

"It was a book on ballooning," Bill said. Since that first sale, Schuler Books itself has ballooned — in size, in number (up to five locations now) and even in name itself (the "& Music" was added in the mid-'90s). The first Schuler in Lansing arrived in 1990 as a freestanding store



Courtesy Photo

Schuler Books & Music founders Bill and Cecile Fehsenfeld in an undated photo from the mid-'90s. Schuler celebrates its 30th anniversary this year.

of about 10,000 square feet in the parking lot of Meijer across the street from its current location in Meridian Mall. In 2002, when Eastwood Towne Center offered a new market, Lansing's second Schuler was born.

In the mid-'90s, the CEO of Borders proudly confirmed that it was a gentleman's agreement not to open stores in Grand Rapids or the Lansing area to compete with their former employee, but Bill said it is more likely that Borders did not want to cannibalize its own attempt at selling books wholesale to other bookstores. Whatever the reason, it gave Schuler breathing room and the energy to keep up with the massive changes that were to come their way.

Yet to come were the really big box stores, Amazon, market consolidation and perhaps the most formidable opponent yet: e-books. Always in touch with national trends, Schuler was one of the first to offer e-book purchases through the store, including a self-publishing program in the Grand Rapids store.

"The experience between e-books and

paper is different," he said. "People buying e-books are still buying paper. Books are not going away."

Schuler Books & Music had already seen what could happen when DVD and CD sales plummeted with the advent of file sharing, and national competitors like Netflix.

"Music and movies was a pretty good business to be in," Bill said. Schuler also was among the first to install the now-ubiquitous cafés in their bookstores in 1995. The downtown Grand Rapids location also sells beer and wine in the café.

The stores have also been offering more unusual gift items and fair trade items which Cecile says "drives traffic." The owners say a major portion of their success is due to the booksellers who work for them, citing numerous employ-

ees who have worked for them more than 20 years.

Cecile Fehsenfeld feels this is a very competitive advantage for independent bookstores and list other strong independent Michigan bookstores such as Mclean & Eakin Booksellers in Petoskey and Nicola's in Ann Arbor as examples of stores with great sales staff.

"We have a different group of people than the national chains — they like to talk to customers about books," she said, adding that a recent visit to Mclean & Eakin felt like "going home."

But the Fehsenfelds aren't just merchants — they take their relationship with the written word seriously. Cecile spent many years working at the national level on anti-censorship and freedom of expression issues. She said that bookstores in many ways have become the "public square" where ideas are exchanged.

"If independent bookstores don't survive we will be more culturally bereft as a consequence," she says. "I hope the public will understand that."

As far as finding someone to carry on the Schuler name, Cecile says she and Bill have given it "a lot of thought," with their children (the store's siblings?) showing an interest. The bottom line: would they do it over again?

"Yes," they both say in unison.

After 30 years, still the proud parents.

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Q: Not sure that even you can help with this one, but I'll give it a shot...

My husband and I enjoy a solid, trusting BDSM relationship, and we're both quite happy with not only our sex lives but our

lives together in general. There is one issue that concerns me. Roughly twice a month, in the middle of the night, my husband will "attack" me sexually in his sleep. I use the term "attack" lightly because the moment lasts for about 30 seconds, and generally I am able to ignore it and go back to sleep. However, there are times when I become frightened by these incidents and can't seem to "get over it" by morning. Generally, the attacks amount to my husband groping my breast painfully and aggressively, violently digitally penetrating me, attempting to penetrate me with his penis (vaginally or orally), and/or shoving me. He doesn't ejaculate or anything, as it is a very short incident.

He is completely unaware of what he is doing when he does it, and I have been able to wake him up (when I have been lucid enough) as it is happening (if it lasts that long). He does masturbate in his sleep every so often (never to ejaculation), and so I'm figuring this is connected somehow. We have an active sex life, and he has assured me that he is not sexually dissatisfied, and I do believe him.

I have spoken to him about these incidents, and even though I try to laugh them off to hide my fear, he feels terrible about what he's done. He is fully asleep when these incidents occur, so it's not as if he can do anything about them. I have stopped telling him when the incidents happen because I don't want him to feel so bad about something he can't control. I have tried seeking advice from other places, but I am usually told to "just ignore it" or "just enjoy it." I don't enjoy it. I can't ignore it. It hurts and it scares me.

Should I just ignore it and enjoy it? Is this a common problem? Is there even an answer? Am I being too sensitive?

— Scared Of Stiffy

A: "SOS's husband has semiregular sex-somnia, a subtype of sleepwalking," says Jesse Bering, a psychological scientist and a regular contributor to Scientific American and Slate, "and SOS is not being too sensitive."

Bering devotes a chapter of his terrific new book—Why Is the Penis Shaped Like That? And Other Reflections on Being Human—to the phenomenon of sexsomnia.

"Involuntary sexual 'automatizations' occur within two hours of sleep onset, during non-REM sleep," says Bering. "In most cases, these are harmless enough—gyrating against a pillow, vacuous masturbation. But there are also more violent and worrisome automatizations, such as those making SOS so understandably uncomfortable. In fact, there have been several high-profile rape and child-abuse cases involving sexsomnia."

Luckily, there is an answer, SOS, something your husband can do about his problem.

"The good news is that sexsomnia responds well to pharmaceuticals, so SOS's husband should find a knowledgeable doctor who is willing to prescribe a low dose of one of the benzodiazepines (such as clonazepam) to take before bedtime," says Bering.

But your husband is unlikely to get the help he needs if you continue to minimize the problem for fear of making him feel bad. Stop laughing these violent episodes off, SOS, and start telling him about every one. Explain to your husband that all this violent sleepfucking has left you feeling traumatized and that he has to see a doctor as soon as possible. Hearing that might make your husband feel terrible, SOS, but these episodes are making you feel terrible. Why shouldn't he feel terrible about them, too?

Q: I accidentally raped my boyfriend. What happened was I awoke to find my boyfriend rubbing up against me. After a little while, he pulled my hand, motioning for me to get on top of him to have sex, as he has done many times before. I obliged, and all was well, until he apparently woke up and pushed me off of

him. I did not have any indication that he was asleep, since he was an active participant the entire time and was NOT lying there like a dead fish. In the morning, he expressed his displeasure about being woken up with sex. He said that he felt really violated. I apologized and explained my understanding of the situation. Now he says he feels really weird about what happened and he can't stomach me touching him. What should I do?

— Reeling After Problematic Intimate Sex Transgression

A: You did not rape your boyfriend. You didn't ask me to weigh in on whether or not you raped your boyfriend, RAPIST, but I felt obligated to toss that out there. Your boyfriend may or may not be a sexsomnia—this is just one incident—but he initiated routine (for you guys) sexual activity in his sleep, and you reciprocated. Once he woke up and you both realized what was going on, you

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immediately stopped. Mistakes were made, RAPIST, but no one was raped.

As for what you should do, well, I think you should dump the guilt-tripping, blame-shifting motherfucker. But if you want to keep seeing this guy, RAPIST, you need a simple way to determine whether he's fully awake when he seems to be initiating sex in the middle of the night. Two or three hard slaps across the face might do the trick.

Find the Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at thestranger.com/savage.

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

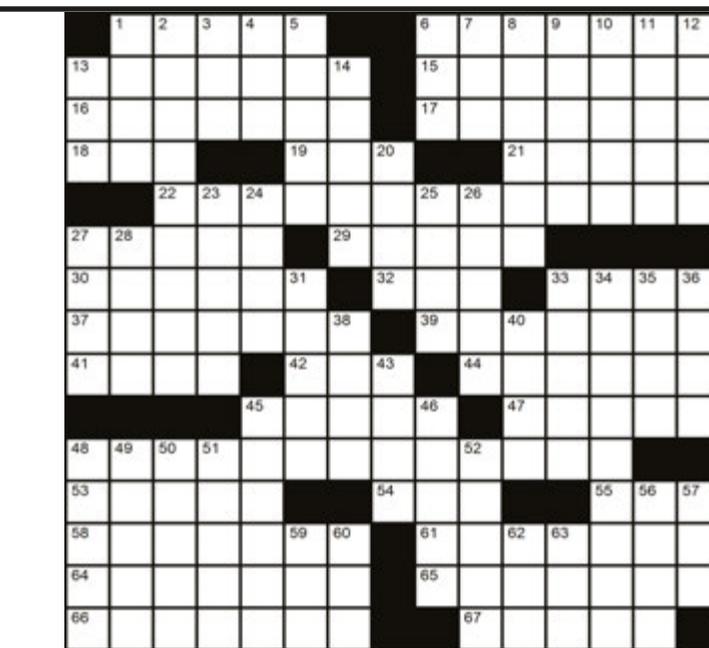
"That Show Is So Corny"—as is this crossword.
Matt Jones

Across

- 1 ___-stealer
6 Fridge stickers
13 1992 Madonna album
15 Arctic herd
16 Corny game show set on city streets?
17 Carbon-14, for one
18 East, in Germany
19 Drag (around)
21 Extremely cold
22 Corny reality show set all over the world, with "The"?
27 Legendary king of Crete
29 Deschanel of "New Girl"

- 30 More slippery and gooey
32 ___-cone
33 Typical guy on romance novel covers
37 With 39-across, corny buddy cop show?
39 See 37-across
41 "Andre the Giant ___ Posse"

- 42 Get some grub
44 Little party
45 Magazine that popularized the term "crowd-sourcing"
47 Name of three Shakespearean title kings
48 Corny coming-of-age dramedy?
53 Label for Arab meat dealers
54 Obedience school lesson
55 Kaczynski or Koppel
58 Home perm brand



- 61 And all these corny TV shows are brought to you by...
64 Plants the grass after it dries out, say
65 Slowly slide into chaos
66 The O in Jackie O
67 Actress Chabert

Down

- 1 Mrs.'s counterparts, in Mexico
2 Family played by Alexander, Stiller and Harris
3 Biblical verb ending
4 CNN's ___ Robertson
5 2011 outbreak cause
6 Sprint competitor, once
7 Some batteries
8 Just barely awake and functioning
9 Fertilizer component

- 10 Virus named for a Congolese river
11 Subject of debate
12 Rain-unfriendly material
13 Earth Day prefix
14 Rife with conversation
20 Cheap cars of the 1990s
23 "Chaplin" actress Kelly
24 "Hey, wait ___!"
25 New Rochelle, N.Y. college
26 Some Chryslers
27 ___ pit
28 Letter after theta
31 Major German river, in German
33 More bashful
34 Subway barrier
35 Rehab participant
36 Between S and F on a laptop
38 36 inches

- 40 Qatar's capital
43 Concert concession stand buys
45 Howling beasts
46 Like jerky
48 Top-to-bottom, informally
49 Tony-winning actress Uta ___
50 Actress Donovan of "Clueless"
51 Cardiff is there
52 Lucy's friend, on "I Love Lucy"
56 One of the deadly sins
57 Turn green, perhaps
59 First name in "The Last King of Scotland"
60 Season opener?
62 Eggs, to a biologist
63 Leather shoe, for short

City Pulse Classifieds

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

Research: Assistant Professor (Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI). Perform experiments, analyze and interpret data in relationship to research being completed in the field of Stem Cell Biology. Work on research grants towards derivation of Xenofree human embryonic stem cell lines from minority populations. Demonstrate experience in the maintenance and characterization of human embryonic stem cells (hESCs) and will differentiate hESCs into lineage specific cell types. Qualified candidates will possess a Ph.D. in Biology, Clinical Pathology or a related field + 3 years exp. as postdoctoral researcher or related research position in stem cell biology. Must have exp. in pluripotent stem cell research; exp. with GLP (good laboratory practice) measures. Michigan State University, Attn: Pamela Brock, Department of Physiology, B270 Anthony Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824. To apply for this posting, please go to www.jobs.msu.edu and search for posting number 6619. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The university actively encourages applications and/or nominations from women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities. MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

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City Pulse is seeking candidates to join its sales team. Full time and part time positions available. Sales experience required, preferably in advertising/marketing. Opportunity to grow. EEO. Submit resume to monique@lansingcitypulse.com.

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OUT on the TOWN

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

AUG. 29



Courtesy Photo

Gracie's Art

"Cupcakes, Figs & Heartfelt Whimsies," a new show from the Second Monday Artists, features the work of Jessica Kovan and Kirsten Barton. Second Monday Artists was founded in 2005 to promote the appreciation and creation of fine art and is open to anyone ages 16 and up. The philosophy of Second Monday Artists is that art should be accessible to all. Local experts are brought in to speak to artists about a variety of topics covering both technique and the business of art. An artist's reception will be held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sept. 22. The show runs from Wednesday through Oct. 10 during the hours of 11 a.m.-10 p.m. FREE. 151 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-1100.

AUG. 29

Music gives hand to Habitat for Humanity

Tonight, the Habi Hour on the River Series will feature Dr. Fab and the Off the Couch Band on the patio of the Waterfront Bar & Grill. Guests will also have the opportunity to help Habitat for Humanity Lansing raise money to rehabilitate and build homes in the Greater Lansing area. This family-friendly event will have two 50/50 drawings at 7 and 8:30 p.m., with money from the drawings and \$5 from each meal going directly to Habitat Lansing. 5:30-9:30 p.m. FREE, meals \$10. Waterfront Bar & Grill. 325 City Market Dr., Lansing. (517) 267-3800.

AUG. 31



Courtesy Photo

Price is Right comes to Wharton

Ever wanted to hear your name called to "come on down?" Now's your chance. This Friday, tickets go on sale for The Price is Right Live, which will be held on Oct. 13 at the Wharton Center. Contestants can get pulled right from the audience to play classic games such as Plinko and Cliffhanger, and get their chance to spin the Big Wheel. They'll have to navigate through a sea of appliances, vacations and new cars in order to get a chance to bet at the Showcase Showdown. Even if your name is not called to play, attendees will still have a chance to win as names will be called out throughout the show to win prizes just for being there. Registration to be a contestant takes place three hours prior to show time in the Wharton Center lobby, with ticket purchase not required to register to be a contestant. Wharton Center box office, MSU campus \$25, \$35. whartoncenter.com. (800) WHARTON or (517) 432-2000.

SINGLE TICKETS FOR WHARTON CENTER'S 2012-13 SEASON NOW ON SALE

Most of Wharton Center's 30th anniversary season went on sale Monday to the general public. Tickets are now available for "Anything Goes," "War Horse," "Billy Elliot," "Sister Act," "Catch Me If You Can," and the Green Day punk-rock opera "American Idiot." Also available are tickets for the Blue Man Group, jazz icon Sonny Rollins, the Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain, Mannheim Steamroller, Sir James Galway's Legacy Tour, and the entire Act One Family Series. Wharton Center tickets are available for purchase online at whartoncenter.com and at the Wharton Center box office on the MSU Campus in East Lansing. For more information, call (800) WHARTON or (517) 432-2000.

Wednesday, August 29

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.
- Coupon Swap.** Meet other coupon enthusiasts, exchange coupons, and discuss deals and strategies. 6-7:45 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Dr., Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.
- Fair Housing Center.** The August read is "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee. Noon. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (877) 979-3247.
- Making the Most of Your Gmail Account.** Explore the features of your email. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 708-4392.
- Drawing Class.** All levels welcome, with Dennis O'Meara. 1-3:30 p.m. \$50 for 4 weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing.
- Basic Economics—No Math.** Learn about the 2008 financial crisis and investing back in local economics. 5:30-6:30 p.m. FREE. Faith Fellowship Baptist Church, 1001 Dakin St., Lansing. (517) 618-1855.

EVENTS

Practice Your English. Speaking and listening to

English in a friendly, relaxing atmosphere. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Allen Street Farmers Market. Fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, crafts, activities and more. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 485-4279. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

Kids Time: Ages 5-11. Eastside youth can grow food and develop leadership skills. 10-11 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910.

Colonial Village Walking Group. Meet neighbors and get some exercise. Walks are 30-45 minutes. 10 a.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 580-8560.

Spirituality. Discuss the spirituality of other faith traditions & cultures. 6 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim

Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434. pilgrimucc.com.

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

MSU Choral Union auditions. Auditions for the 2012-2013 season will be in Room 147. Come prepared to vocalize and sing the first verse of The Star Spangled Banner. The first rehearsal will follow. 6 p.m. FREE. MSU Communications Arts & Sciences Building, 404 Wilson Road, East Lansing (517) 353-9122.

MUSIC

Jazz Wednesdays. Featuring the Jeff Shoup

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See Out on the Town, Page 25

TURNIT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

CITY PULSE HOSTS:

TEENAGE SLUMBER PARTY AT MAC'S

The first in a series of upcoming City Pulse-hosted events happens Wednesday at Mac's Bar when Teenage Slumber Party and Catalina Wine Mixer play an early, all-ages show. Headlining is Teenage Slumber Party, a Grand Ledge-based punk-rock duo made up of Dylan Sowle (guitar/vocals) and Ariel Rogers (drums). The minimal sound is sloppy and poppy, sounding somewhat like a confused mix between The Oblivians, The Gories, Mudhoney and the Moldy Peaches. Opening the show is Catalina Wine Mixer, a local pop-punk band featuring John Bradford (vocals/guitar), David Robb (guitar), Jonathan Andrews (bass), and Mike Bologna (drums).

Wednesday, Sept. 5 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, all ages. \$6, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

FETUS OMELET AT BLACKENED MOON

Yup, you read that right — Fetus Omelet plays Saturday at the Blackened Moon Concert Hall. Not surprisingly, Blood of the Unborn and Desiring Dead Flesh are sharing this brutally heavy bill. Also taking the stage is SNDR, Ouchy, and Hillside Barrier. Fans of Pantera, Cannibal Corpse and Hatebreed may want to check out Hillside Barrier, a busy Lansing-based group of metal



Stan Budzynski at Blues for Dystrophy

Courtesy Photo

heads. The band features vocalist Scott Whittum, drummer Mike Waller, bassist Kyle Lance, and guitarists Jason Hillside and Josh Knechtges.

Saturday, Sept. 1 @ Blackened Moon Concert Hall, 3208 S. Martin Luther King Blvd., Lansing. \$10, 7:30 p.m. doors, show at 9 p.m.

23RD ANNUAL "BLUES FOR DYSTROPHY" AT GREEN DOOR

For nearly a quarter century, the Green Door has hosted "Blues for Dystrophy," which brings in a long list of local blues-rockers to benefit a Muscular Dystrophy charity. The all-day show, happening this Sunday, features Stan Budzynski & Third Degree, Smooth Daddy, Frog & the Beeftones, the Burnsides, the Hooties, Big Willy, Krosby's Conspiracy, Mike Espy & Yakity Yak, From Big Sur, and more. This is a family-friendly show before 9 p.m., but its 21 and over after that. unday at the Green Door.

Sunday, Sept. 2 @ Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave,



City Pulse presents: Teenage Slumber Party at Mac's

Courtesy Photo

Lansing, 21 and over, \$10 donation charge.

ELECTRO-PUNKS RETURN TO MAC'S WITH HUNKY-PUNKS

The Mindguards mix obnoxious electro beats with wild punk melodies. The local duo features Richard Keyes (vocals/guitar), formerly of Gaytar, and Jerimiah Gager (bass/vocals). Keyes calls the band "a punk-rock homage to both Mike Watt and Nicki Minaj," taking influence from the likes of Sonic Youth and Meshuggah. The Mindguards headline Mac's Bar this Thursday, along with opens Lord Vapid (local one-man-band) and The Hunky Newcomers (local punk rock). Fans of The Replacements and The Ramones might want to check out the Hunky Newcomers' debut disc, "Hard Dude Stuff" on GTG Records.

Thursday, Aug. 30 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan

Ave., Lansing. 18 and over. \$5, 9 p.m.

YEAH, SURE, "WHATEVER"

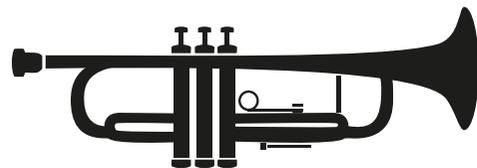
Every Wednesday at Club X-Cel is "Whatever Wednesdays" featuring DJ Duke (a.k.a. Patrick Duke). The event is also broadcast live on 97.5-FM with on-air personality Alabama. Along with giveaways and swag, there are drink specials and free cover for ladies 21 and over (\$5 for ladies under 21) all night long.

Wednesday, Aug. 29 @ Club X-Cel, 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. 18 and over, cover charges vary. xcelloungedancebar.com.

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

621 The Spot, 621 E. Michigan Ave.	DJ Radd1, 10 p.m.	Various DJs, 10 p.m.	Various DJs, 10 p.m.
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.		Velocity Shift, 9 p.m.	Velocity Shift, 9 p.m.
Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St.	Dave Landau, 8 p.m.	Dave Landau, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.	Dave Landau, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Cloud Magic, 10 p.m.	The Circuit Tree, Midnight	
The Firm, 227 S. Washington Square	Tryst Thursdays, 8:30 p.m.	Various DJs, 9 p.m.	DJ Donnie D, 9 p.m.
Grand Café/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.	DnW Sound DJs, 9 p.m.	Karaoke with Joanie Daniels, 7 p.m.	
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Kathy Ford Band, 7:30 p.m.	Still Rain, 9:30 p.m.	
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.	Gadget 2013, 9:30 p.m.	DT4, 8 p.m.	Beard & Mustache Championship, 6 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Yosemigh, 9 p.m.	Broccoli Samurai, 9 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	The Peoples Temple, 8 p.m.	Big Willy, 10 p.m.	Big Willy, 10 p.m.
Rick's American Cafe, 224 Abbott Road	Mindguards, 9 p.m.	ICE DJ's, 9 p.m.	ICE DJ's, 9 p.m.
Rookies, 16460 S. US 27	Open Mic Night, 9:30 p.m.	ICE DJ's, 5 p.m.	Live Bands with DJs & DJ Klimaxx, 9 p.m.
Rum Runners, 601 East Michigan Ave.	Sammy Gold, 7-10 p.m.	Water Pong DJ, 9 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.	Open Mic Night, 9 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 9 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m.
Uli's Haus of Rock, 419 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.		Frog & the Beeftones, 10 p.m.	Dr. Gun, 9 p.m.
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive		Various Bands, 9 p.m.	Jamboozle Rocks, 9 p.m.
Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert St.	DJ, 9 p.m.	Mike Eyia Quartet, 7 p.m.	
		DJ, 9 p.m.	
		Kris Hitchcock, 9 p.m.	Kris Hitchcock, 9 p.m.

Sunday Open Jam with Bad Gravy, 9:30 p.m., Green Door; Karaoke, 9 p.m. Drag Queens Gone Wild, 11 p.m., Spiral Dance Bar; DJ Mike, 9:30 p.m., LeRoy's Bar & Grill; Open Mic, 5 p.m., 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.

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 23

Trio. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Gracie's Place, 151 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-1100.

Concert in the Park. Summer music series, with exciting new performers, lawn seating. 7 p.m. FREE. St. Johns City Park, located off Morton and Park streets, St. Johns. (989) 224-8944.

Sistrum Welcomes New Members. Lansing Women's Chorus will hold an orientation to welcome prospective members. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave. Lansing. (517) 256-2691. sistrum.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

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

Lansing Area Science Fiction Association Meeting. New location. Informal dinner and conversation every week. 7 p.m. FREE. Buddies Grill, 2040 Aurelius Road, #13, Holt. (517) 402-4481.

Tween Book Club. Ages 9-12. Read and discuss Tricia Springstubb's "What Happened on Fox Street." 1-2 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3.

Thursday, August 30

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Yoga 2XL. Learn to move with confidence. 7:15-8:15 p.m. \$8 suggested donation. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

QiGong & Tai Chi. 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.

Eating Disorders Anonymous Meeting. 7-7:45 p.m. FREE. CADL Mason Library, 145 W. Ash St. Mason. (517) 899-3515. cadl.org.

Codependent Anonymous Meeting. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Community Mental Health Building, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 672-4072.

LinkedIn 101. Designed for the beginner computer user looking to professionally network on the

See Out on the Town, Page 26

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www.westsidesummerfest.com

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lansingurbanfarmproject.wordpress.com

Lansing City Market

325 City Market Dr.

Open Year Round

Tuesday - Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm, Saturday 9:00am - 5:00pm

www.lansingcitymarket.com

Old Town Farmers Market

Corner of Turner & E. Grand River

First Sunday May - October, 10:00am - 3:00pm

www.iloveoldtown.org

Allen Street Farmers Market

Corner of Allen & E. Kalamazoo St.

Every Wednesday May - October, 2:30pm - 7:00pm

www.allenneighborhoodcenter.org

South Lansing Community Farmers Market

Corner of Boston Blvd, & Mt. Hope

Every Thursday June - September, 3:00pm - 7:00pm

www.southlansing.org



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BAR 30 & SPARE TIME ENTERTAINMENT CENTER



By ALLANI ROSS

The number 30 has inspired generations of navel-gazers to contemplate their unproductive lives and try to figure out where all the time went. In fact, card companies and party supply stores have made a good living selling dour 30th birthday paraphernalia, goading guests of honor into feeling prematurely over the hill. It's funny, then, that **Bar 30** chose to slap that number right there in their name, numerophobes be damned.

"Originally we were going to have 30 draft brands, and the name just grew out of that," says Bar 30's managing partner Dan Zopf. "We switched concepts, but the name stuck. It just sounded cool."

Zopf is also part of the team that runs **Tony Sacco's Coal Oven Pizza** next door, in the back of the **Eastwood Towne Center**. At 7,900 square feet, it dwarfs its baby brother next door (Sacco's is only 4,500 square feet), and its staff is more than double that of its neighbor. Zopf said that when Bar 30 opened this week, there were 110 employees officially working there.

The concept of Bar 30 is "affordable American eclectic," and — contrary to the "bar" part of its name — is actually a full restaurant, featuring sandwiches, burgers, appetizers and steaks.

"There is not one thing on the menu over \$19, including our 8 oz. filet that we cut here ourselves," says Zopf.



Sam Inglot/City Pulse

Dan Zopf, managing partner of Bar 30.

"We want to draw people here, so we've made our prices beyond reasonable."

And then every night, a neat trick occurs: Bar 30 transforms from a casual-ish restaurant to an upscale nightclub and martini lounge, with either live music or DJ every single night of the week. It's a risk, walking such a fine line.

"Yeah, you can't really nail it down to one type of place," says Zopf. "But we're really pulling out all the stops here. Basically, it's Miami Beach in Lansing, Michigan."

Rolling with the times

After more than six months of upgrades, The **Spare Time Entertainment Center** — formerly the **Holiday Lanes** bowling alley — is finally reopening as a more contemporary amusement complex. Gone are the eight lanes at the west end of the building — they are now a two-story laser tag labyrinth (kids and their lasers these days.) The eight lanes at the opposite end, meanwhile, have become a "boutique

bowling" area — basically a VIP section with its own bar. An arcade has also been added, for those who are better with a joystick than a 10-lb. bowling ball.

Additionally, the bowling alley's lounge has been upgraded from its '50s-era glory (or lack thereof) into a full-service restaurant called the Grand River Bar and Grill. Most noticeably, however, owners Michael and Nancy MacColeman have given the front a colorful facelift, making the building a lot more eye grabbing as you're navigating that awkward West Saginaw/Grand River/U.S.-127 cluster. As that famous fictional bowler might say, it really ties the area together.

Bar 30

2324 Showtime Drive (inside Eastwood Towne Center), Lansing
Mon.-Wed. 11 a.m. to midnight
Thurs.-Sat. 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.
www.bar30.com

Spare Time Entertainment Center

3101 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing
Mon.-Sun. 10 a.m.-11 p.m.
517-337-2695
sparetimeentertainment.com

Out on the town

from page 25

internet. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave. Lansing. (517) 708-4392. iteclansing.org/programs/itec-upgrades.

Water media. All levels welcome, with Donna Randall. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$50 for 4 weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing.

Experience One Spirit Open House. Learn about the emerging interspiritual age. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Heartdance Studio, 1806 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 203-4918.

EVENTS

Lowe's South Side Cruise-In. Classic cars, trucks, hotrods and motorcycles. 6-11 p.m. FREE. Lowe's, S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 699-2940.

Youth Service Corps. Eastside youth can grow food and develop leadership skills. Ages 11-17. 10-11 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community Garden House, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910.

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

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

Spanish Conversation Group. Both English and Spanish will be spoken. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

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

Colonial Village Walking Group. 7 p.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 29)

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

Kids Time: Ages 5-11. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 29)

South Lansing Farmers Market. Locally produced food, youth activities and educational opportunities. 3-7 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd. Lansing. (517) 482-5750.

Passport to Adventure. Local children recognized for summer learning. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. LCC University Center, 210 W. Shiawassee St., Lansing. 517-290-2767.

MUSIC

Jazz Thursdays. Various artists. 6:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. Mumbai Cuisine, 340 Albert St., East Lansing. (517) 336-3150.

The Williamston Summer Concert Series. Music every Thursday through August 30. Featuring a variety of different genres. 7 p.m. FREE. McCormick Park, located at N. Putnam and High Streets, Williamston.

Concerts at the Shell. Featuring a different music act each week, 7-9 p.m. FREE. McCormick Park, located at N. Putnam and High Streets, Williamston. (517) 655-4973.

Sunny Wilkinson Jazz Group. Live music. 6 p.m. FREE. Waterfront Bar and Grille, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 267-3800. lansingwaterfront.com.

MSU Professors of Jazz. Featuring "Better Than Alright," a new CD by the Professors of Jazz. 7:30 p.m. \$10, seniors \$8, FREE students & under 18. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON. whartoncenter.com.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Storytime With Ms. Deb. Ms. Deb will read three books on the topic of the week and do a craft. 10 a.m. FREE. Barnes and Noble, 5132 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing. (517) 327-0437. bn.com.

Friday, August 31

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Oil Painting Class. Must register and pay in advance. \$50 for 4 weeks. 10 a.m.-noon. Gallery 1212, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 999-1212. gallery1212.com

Relics of the Big Bang. Emphasizes research currently underway at CERN. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4676.

EVENTS

Alcoholics Anonymous. With ASL interpretation. 8 p.m. FREE. Alano Club East, 220 S. Howard St., Lansing. (517) 482-8957.

Kids Time: Ages 5-11. Eastside youth grow food, develop leadership and life skills. 10-11 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910.

Storytime. Stories, rhymes, songs and a craft for ages 2-5. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Alcoholics Anonymous. A closed women's meeting. 7:30 p.m. FREE. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Drive, Lansing. (517) 882-9733.

Colonial Village Walking Group. 7 p.m. FREE. (Please see details Aug. 29)

Friday Noon Stroll. Bring friends, dogs, children or stories. Noon. FREE. Hunter Park, 400 S. Holmes St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468.

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.

MUSIC

The MoonLight Jazz Series. Featuring Introducing Jazz & Jokes. 8 p.m. \$15. Best Western Plus Lansing Hotel, 6820 South Cedar St., Lansing. www.brownpapertickets.com.

See Out on the Town, Page 27

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Out on the town

from page 26

Grand River Radio Diner. Concert featuring Twyla Birdsong. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River, Lansing. (517) 483-1710. www.lcc.edu/radio.

Jazz Festival. Live music, food and drink. Terance Blanchard Quintet, 7 p.m. & Sonny Rollins, 8:45 p.m. 4-11 p.m. FREE. Downtown Detroit. www.detroitjazzfest.com.

Michigan Mosaic Music Festival. Enjoy live bands, multicultural performers, ethnic cuisine and kids activities. 4-10 p.m. FREE. Adado Riverfront Park, 531 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. michiganmosaic.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

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

Saturday, September 1

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

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

Relics of the Big Bang. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students/seniors, \$2 kids. (Please see Aug. 31 for details)

Parenting Group. Lecture and group discussion each week. 10-11 a.m. Call to Register. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163. womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org.

Occupy Lansing. General assembly meeting. 1 p.m. FREE. Reutter Park, Corner of Kalamazoo & Townsend St., Lansing.

EVENTS

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

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

Urbandale Farm Stand. Purchase fresh, local produce, tour the farm, or volunteer. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

FREE. 700 block of S. Hayford Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3916.

Capital City Dragon Boat Race Valet Bicycle Parking. Enjoy the festival and not have to worry about finding a parking spot. FREE. Downtown Lansing, Washington Square between Michigan and Washtenaw avenues, Lansing. midmeac.org.

First Sunday of the Month. Enjoy crafts, creating a game table for children, putting together a picnic table and gardening. 9 a.m.- Noon. FREE. Prospect Place, corner of Clifford and Prospect streets, Lansing.

Bird Walk. Join the Capital Area Audubon Society as they lead an informative bird identification hike. 9-11 a.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-3224. www.mynaturecenter.org.

MUSIC

Michigan Mosaic Music Festival. Live bands, multicultural performers, ethnic cuisine and kids activities. Noon-10 p.m. FREE. Adado Riverfront Park, 531 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. michiganmosaic.org.

Stan Budzynski & 3rd Degree. Live music. 8-11 p.m. FREE. Zarzuela, 301 E. Michigan Ave., Marshall. (269) 789-9180.

Sunday, September 2

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Relics of the Big Bang. 4 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students&seniors, \$2 kids. (Please see Aug. 31 for details)

The Family Show. "Space Chase," for children from preschool through grade 3 and their families. 2:30 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students & seniors, \$2 kids. Abrams Planetarium, East Lansing. (517) 355-4672. pa.msu.edu/abrams.

First Sunday Gallery Walk. Richard Lott will be showing off new creations. Noon-4 p.m. FREE. Great Lakes Art Works, 306 E. Grand River Ave. Lansing. (517) 372-4293. greatlakesartworks.com.

EVENTS

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

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

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.

See Out on the Town, Page 28

East Lansing Farmers Market. Fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, crafts, activities and more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Ct., East Lansing.

Old Town Farmers Market. Featuring both produce and artisan vendors selling produce, herbs, baked goods, hand-dyed fibers and more. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Old Town, Grand River Avenue and Turner Street, Lansing. (517) 485-4283. iloveoldtown.org.

Stewardship Work Days. Families with children and community members can volunteer for a couple

hours helping keep Fenner beautiful. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. fofnc.org.

East Lansing Farmer's Market. Fresh produce and more. 10 a.m.-2p.m. FREE. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Ct., East Lansing.

Lansing City Market Presents: Summer Sundays. All businesses will be open and fully stocked to meet all of your shopping needs. Noon-4 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460. lansingcitymarket.com.

September 20 - October 21, 2012

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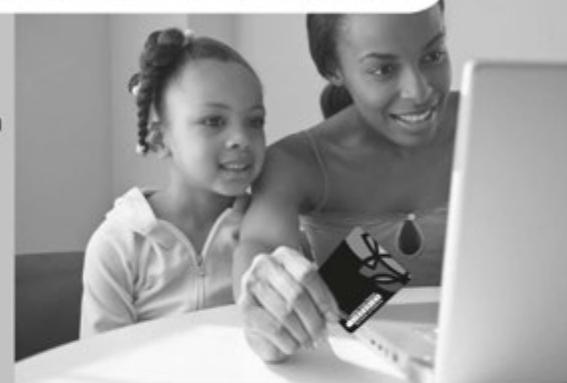


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HARD

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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 28

Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsny

August 29-September 4

ARIES (March 21-April 19): I'm afraid your vibes are slightly out of tune. Can you do something about that, please? Meanwhile, your invisible friend could really use a Tarot reading, and your houseplants would benefit from a dose of Mozart. Plus — and I hope I'm not being too forward here — your charmingly cluttered spots are spiraling into chaotic sprawl, and your slight tendency to overreact is threatening to devolve into a major proclivity. As for that rather shabby emotional baggage of yours: Would you consider hauling it to the dump? In conclusion, my dear Ram, you're due for a few adjustments.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Is happiness mostly just an absence of pain? If so, I bet you've been pretty content lately. But what if a more enchanting and exciting kind of bliss were available? Would you have the courage to go after it? Could you summon the chutzpah and the zeal and the visionary confidence to head out in the direction of a new frontier of joy? I completely understand if you feel shy about asking for more. You might worry that to do so would be greedy, or put you at risk of losing what you have already scored. But I feel it's my duty to cheer you on. The potential rewards looming just over the hump are magnificent.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): I've got some medicine for you to try, Gemini. It's advice from the writer Thomas Merton. "To allow oneself to be carried away by a multitude of conflicting concerns," he wrote, "to surrender to too many demands, to commit oneself to too many projects, to want to help everyone in everything, is to succumb to the violence of our times." It's always a good idea to heed that warning, of course. But it's especially crucial for you right now. The best healing work you can do is to shield your attention from the din of the outside world and tune in reverently to the glimmers of the inside world.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): I dreamed you were a magnanimous taskmaster nudging the people you care about to treat themselves with more conscientious tenderness. You were pestering them to raise their expectations and hew to higher standards of excellence. Your persistence was admirable! You coaxed them to waste less time and make long-range educational plans and express themselves with more confidence and precision. You encouraged them to give themselves a gift now and then and take regular walks by bodies of water. They were suspicious of your efforts to make them feel good, at least in the early going. But eventually they gave in and let you help them.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In the spirit of Sesame Street, I'm happy to announce that this week is brought to you by the letter T, the number 2, and the color blue. Here are some of the "T" words you should put extra emphasis on: togetherness, trade-offs, tact, timeliness, tapestry, testability, thoroughness, teamwork, and Themis (goddess of order and justice). To bolster your mastery of the number 2, meditate on interdependence, balance, and collaboration. As for blue, remember that its presence tends to bring stability and depth.

VRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In the creation myths of Easter Island's native inhabitants, the god who made humanity was named Makemake. He was also their fertility deity. Today the name Makemake also belongs to a dwarf planet that was discovered beyond the orbit of Neptune in 2005. It's currently traveling through the sign of Virgo. I regard it as being the heavenly body that best symbolizes your own destiny in the coming months. In the spirit of the original Makemake, you will have the potential to be a powerful maker. In a sense you could even be the architect and founder of your own new world. Here's a suggestion: Look up the word "creator" in a thesaurus, write the words you find there on the back of your business card, and keep the card in a special place until May 2013.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): When novelist James

Joyce began to suspect that his adult daughter Lucia was mentally ill, he sought advice from psychologist Carl Jung. After a few sessions with her, Jung told her father that she was schizophrenic. How did he know? A telltale sign was her obsessive tendency to make puns, many of which were quite clever. Joyce reported that he, too, enjoyed the art of punning. "You are a deep-sea diver," Jung replied. "She is drowning." I'm going to apply a comparable distinction to you, Libra. These days you may sometimes worry that you're in over your head in the bottomless abyss. But I'm here to tell you that in all the important ways, you're like a deep-sea diver. (The Joyce-Jung story comes from Edward Hoagland's *Learning to Eat Soup*.)

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): No false advertising this week, Scorpio. Don't pretend to be a purebred if you're actually a mutt, and don't act like you know it all when you really don't. For that matter, you shouldn't portray yourself as an unambitious amateur if you're actually an aggressive pro, and you should avoid giving the impression that you want very little when in fact you're a burning churning throb of longing. I realize it may be tempting to believe that a bit of creative deceit would serve a holy cause, but it won't. As much as you possibly can, make outer appearances reflect inner truths.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): In Christian lore, the serpent is the bad guy that's the cause of all humanity's problems. He coaxes Adam and Eve to disobey God, which gets them expelled from Paradise. But in Hindu and Buddhist mythology, there are snake gods that sometimes do good deeds and perform epic services. They're called Nagas. In one Hindu myth, a Naga prince carries the world on his head. And in a Buddhist tale, the Naga king uses his seven heads to give the Buddha shelter from a storm just after the great one has achieved enlightenment. In regards to your immediate future, Sagittarius, I foresee you having a relationship to the serpent power that's more like the Hindu and Buddhist version than the Christian. Expect vitality, fertility, and healing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In Lewis Carroll's book *Through the Looking Glass*, the Red Queen tells Alice that she is an expert at believing in impossible things. She brags that there was one morning when she managed to embrace six improbable ideas before she even ate breakfast. I encourage you to experiment with this approach, Capricorn. Have fun entertaining all sorts of crazy notions and unruly fantasies. Please note that I am not urging you to actually put those beliefs into action. The point is to give your imagination a good work-out.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I'm not necessarily advising you to become best friends with the dark side of your psyche. I'm merely requesting that the two of you cultivate a more open connection. The fact of the matter is that if you can keep a dialogue going with this shadowy character, it's far less likely to trip you up or kick your ass at inopportune moments. In time you might even come to think of its chaos as being more invigorating than disorienting. You may regard it as a worthy adversary and even an interesting teacher.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You need more magic in your life, Pisces. You're suffering from a lack of sublimely irrational adventures and eccentrically miraculous epiphanies and inexplicably delightful interventions. At the same time, I think it's important that the magic you attract into your life is not pure fluff. It needs some grit. It's got to have a kick that keeps you honest. That's why I suggest that you consider getting the process started by baking some unicorn poop cookies. They're sparkly, enchanting, rainbow-colored sweets, but with an edge. Ingredients include sparkle gel, disco dust, star sprinkles — and a distinctly roughish attitude. Recipe is here: tinyurl.com/UnicornPoopCookies.

Out on the town

from page 27

When Everyone Shopped Downtown. The Historical Society of Greater Lansing's latest exhibit. 1-4 p.m. FREE. Creyts Building, 831 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. lansinghistory.org/wp1.

MUSIC

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

Michigan Mosaic Music Festival. Capital City Dragon Boat race begins at 8:30 a.m. Enjoy live music, multicultural performers, ethnic cuisine and kids activities. 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. FREE. Adado Riverfront Park, 531 N. Grand Ave. Lansing. michiganmosaic.org.

Blues for Dystrophy. Live music, money donated to charity. 2 p.m.-1:30 a.m. \$10. Green Door Blues Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-482-6376. greendoorlive.com.

Monday, September 3

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

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

Chronic Pain Support Group. An educational and proactive support group designed 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 and euchre. No partner needed. Bridge 1-4 p.m.; euchre: 6-9 p.m., \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

Westside Farmers Market. Get fresh produce and more. 4-7 p.m. FREE. 743 N. MLK Blvd., Lansing.

Trek the Trestle. Join the 5th annual 5 mile walk to support "Getting Michigan Moving." 9 a.m. FREE. Wadhams to Avoca Trail, Avoca. stclaircounty.org/offices/parks.

MUSIC

Open-Mic Mondays. Sign up to play solo, duo,

with your band. Spoken-word acts welcome. 6:30-10:30 p.m. FREE. MBC, 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 977-1349.

THEATRE

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

Tuesday, September 4

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Schizophrenics Anonymous. 5:30 p.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-3775.

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

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

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

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

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

On the Way To Wellness. Barb Geske, The Mind-full Motivator, provides nutrition and wellness coaching in a positive, informative, and motivational format. 9:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. \$10. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 349-9536.

QiGong & Tai Chi classes. Light exercises for those who have 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.

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. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Bldg. 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. 1926. toastmastersclubs.org

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

EVENTS

Compassionate Friends. For grieving parents who have lost a child of any age. 7:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. Salvation Army South Community Center, 701 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 339-3553.

Mid-day Movies. Watch recent releases on the big

See Out on the Town, Page 29

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 27

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

From Pg. 22

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Out on the town

from page 28

screen. 2 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363. cadl.org.
Introduction to Computers. Professionals from Career Quest instruct attendees in the basics everyone needs to be comfortable with computers. 2:30-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area Michigan Works, 2110 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 492-5500.
Game On! Play a variety of board and video games. 3-5 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 x3.
Morning Storytime. All ages welcome for stories, songs, rhymes, and fun. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014.
Storytime. Stories, rhymes, songs and 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.

MUSIC

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

Auditorium, MSU Campus, East Lansing.
Drawing Class. All levels welcome, with Dennis O'Meara. 1-3:30 p.m. \$50 for 4 weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing.
Religious Freedom & Health Care. How the Affordable Care Act requires coverage of birth control even for religious institutions. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434. pilgrimucc.com.

EVENTS

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. Grand Ledge Baptist Church, 1120 W. Willow Hwy., Grand Ledge. (517) 256-6954.
Practice Your English. Allows community members to join conversations and practice speaking and listening to English in a friendly, relaxing atmosphere. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.
Allen Street Farmers Market. Fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, crafts, activities and more. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 485-4279.
Teen Night at Spiral. With DJ Alabama from 97.5.

Ages 14-18 can dance in a safe and fun environment. 7 p.m.-Midnight. \$10. Spiral Dance Bar, 1247 Center St., Lansing. (517) 371-3221. clubspiral@aol.com.

MUSIC

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

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Baby Time. Books and songs for ages 2 years and

younger, with a parent/caregiver. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 x3.

Lansing Area Science Fiction Association Meeting. New location. Informal dinner and lively conversation every week. 7 p.m., FREE. Buddies Grill, 2040 Aurelius Road, #13, Holt. (517) 402-4481.

Meet Peadar O'Guilin. Join the author of "The Inferior" and "The Deserter" for a pizza party. 6 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495. schulerbooks.com.

Wednesday, September 5

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. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.
Our Daily Work/Lives. "Coney Detroit: Immigration, Work and Hot Dogs in the Motor City" -Joe Grimm. 12:15-1:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum



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\$3 White Sangria

\$2 Drafts
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Channel 16 — Sunday, September 2
Lansing — 11 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Candidates for the state House of Representatives, 67th district



Tom Cochran
 Democrat



Jeff Oesterle
 Republican

Channel 30
Sunday, September 2
Meridian Township — 11:30 a.m.

Sports writer **Jack Ebling**
 Author of "Heart of a Spartan"



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foodfinder

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

FINE DINING / FULL SERVICE

CHRISTIE'S BISTRO — Upscale dining with beef and seafood offerings, as well as pasta and salads. Inside the Lexington Hotel at 925 S. Creyts Road, Lansing. (517) 323-4190. sheratonlansing.com. Breakfast 6:30 a.m.-11 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Dinner 5 p.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday, Breakfast 7 a.m.-11 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Dinner 5 p.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, Breakfast 7 a.m.-10 a.m., Brunch 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday. Room service available 6:30 a.m.-midnight Monday-Friday and 7 a.m.-midnight Saturday & Sunday. FB, TO, RES, \$\$\$.

DUSTY'S CELLAR — An intimate gourmet restaurant with an excellent wine list and a well-trained, friendly waitstaff. 1839 Grand River Ave., Okemos. Brunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Lunch 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, Dinner 3:30 p.m.-9 p.m. Sunday, 4 p.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 4 p.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday. (517) 349-5150. dustyscellar.com, OM, TO, FB, P, RES, \$\$\$

ENGLISH INN — Beautiful scenery and savory seafood dishes.

Offerings include grilled salmon with dill sauce as a seasonal special. 677 S. Michigan Road, Eaton Rapids. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. & 5 p.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. & 5 p.m.-10 p.m. Friday, 5 p.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m.-7 p.m. Sunday. (517) 663-2500. englishinn.com, FB, RES, P, OM, WiFi \$-\$-\$

GILBERT AND BLAKE'S — A wide range of the "best in town" seafood, sizzling steaks and pasta dishes. 3554 Okemos Road, Okemos. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday & Saturday, noon-10 p.m. on Sunday. (517) 349-1300. gilbertandblakes.com, FB, TO, RES, OM, P, WiFi, \$\$\$

HUMMINGBIRDS — Appetizers range from simple fried fare to spinach dip. Entrees include a variety of charbroiled steaks and seafood dishes and weekly specials. The menu also includes burgers, sandwiches, soups and salads. Also features a full breakfast menu, including omelets, skillet and cold breakfasts. Inside the Causeway Bay Hotel, 6820 S. Cedar St., Lansing. 6:30 a.m.-2 p.m., 5:30 p.m.-10 p.m. daily. (517) 694-8123. FB, TO, RES, P, \$\$\$

KNIGHT CAP — Featuring signature steaks and seasonal seafood specialties, this restaurant's been serving downtown Lansing for 40 years. 320 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. Dining room hours: 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-Midnight Friday & Saturday. Bar is open until midnight all six days. (517) 484-7676 theknightcap.com. FB, TO, RES, OM, P, \$\$\$

STILLWATER GRILL — Featuring favorites such as Cajun tenderloin steak tips and half-off wine on Sundays, Monday and Tuesdays, Stillwater is sure to be a summer hot spot. 3544 Meridian Crossings Drive, Okemos. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Friday, 3 p.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m.-9 p.m. Sunday. (517) 349-1500. stillwatergrill.com, FB, WB, TO, RES, P, OM, WiFi, \$\$\$

SOUP SPOON CAFE — Offering gourmet meals for lunch, this cafe keeps customers coming for dishes like pan-seared Atlantic salmon drizzled with garlic-dill or honey soy sauce. 1419 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday, 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, 7 a.m.-mid-

night Friday, 8 a.m.-midnight Saturday, closed Sunday. (517) 316-2377. soupspooncafe.com. OM, D, TO, WiFi, \$

TAVERN ON THE SQUARE — Specializing in tapas fare. 206 S. Washington Sq., Lansing. 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Monday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. Dinner served beginning at 4 p.m. each day. Closed Sundays. (517) 374-5555 tavernonthesq.com. FB, TO, RES, P, OM, Wi-Fi, \$\$\$

TROPPO — It's Social Hour every day from 3-6 p.m. at this American bistro, dinner selections include veal picatta, lamb chops and papardelle bolognese, featuring Italian sausage and homemade meatballs in meat gravy. 120 N. Washington Square, Lansing. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. Dinner served beginning at 4 p.m. each day. Closed Sundays. (517) 371-4000. troppo.org. FB, TO, RES, P, OM, Wi-Fi, \$\$\$

CASUAL DINING

ALTU'S — Traditional Ethiopian food served with specials, includ-

See Food Finder, Page 31

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Food Finder

from page 30

ing the Friday special of spicy shredded beef with jalapenos and ginger served with Ethiopian bread, yellow cabbage and a house salad. 1312 Michigan Ave., East Lansing. 11 a.m.–9 p.m. Tuesday–Saturday, closed Sunday & Monday. (517) 333-6295. eatatallus.com, OM, TO, P \$

BAJA GRILLE — This family-owned restaurant in downtown Mason offers a wide range of options, from fresh seafood and hamburgers to homemade soups and chili. 402 S. Jefferson St., Mason. 8 a.m.–8 p.m. Monday–Saturday, Closed Sunday. (517) 244-1181. bajagrille.net. TO, \$

BENSON'S VINAIGRETTES — In the mood for some home-style cooking? Benson's makes all of its "Michigan Farmhouse" cuisine from scratch and rotates the menu daily and seasonally. For lighter appetites, try one of the restaurant's many sides and salads. 940

Elmwood St., Lansing. 11 a.m.–8 p.m. Monday–Thursday, 11 a.m.–9 p.m. Friday & Saturday, closed Sunday. (517) 703-9616. OM, TO, D (for orders more than \$20), P, \$\$.

BEST STEAK HOUSE — Low-cost dining for meat lovers, serving steaks and sandwiches, including a modified Philly cheesesteak. 3020 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing Twp. 11 a.m.–9 p.m. Monday–Saturday, 11 a.m.–6 p.m. Sunday. (517) 337-2210. TO, RES, OM \$\$.

BLUE GILL GRILL — This eclectic restaurant features a variety of fresh fish, including grouper, salmon, wall-eye, cod and bluegill made with a unique blend of spices in a secret family recipe. 1591 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett. 11 a.m.–2 a.m. Monday–Saturday, 12 p.m.–2 a.m. Sunday. (517) 339-4900. bluegillgrill.com. FB, TO, RES (eight or more), OM, WiFi, \$\$

BRUNCH HOUSE — Walking out of a diner, you don't often find yourself thinking, "That was one fantastic Lebanese salad." You might think that, however, after eating at The Brunch House, since owner Leo Farhat has peppered his traditional breakfast menu with dishes rooted in his Lebanese heritage. Try "Leo's house special," which begins with seasoned beef, onions and pine nuts sauteed in a frying pan, then combined with a couple of eggs. 1040 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 7 a.m.–3 p.m. Monday–Friday, and 8 a.m.–3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday (517) 484-1567 TO, WiFi, \$

CLARA'S LANSING STATION — Fun dining is the motto at this onetime railroad station with impressive decor. A massive menu offers popular dishes like the chicken Hawaiian and dozens of sandwiches. 637 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 11 a.m.–10 p.m. Monday–Thursday, 11 a.m.–11 p.m. Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m.–10 p.m. Sunday. (517) 372-7120. claras.com, OM, TO, FB, WiFi, P, RES \$\$–\$\$\$

COLONIAL BAR & GRILL — This 45-year-old Lansing institution features an upgraded menu, including deluxe burgers, grilled pizzas and daily specials. 3425 S. Martin Luther King Blvd., Lansing. 9 a.m.–2 a.m. Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–2 a.m. Saturday, noon–2 a.m. Sunday. (517) 882-6132. TO, FB, \$–\$.

CONRAD'S COLLEGE TOWN GRILL — Featuring creative sandwiches such as the J.F.K. (with chicken, jalapenos, mozzarella and honey mustard) and a full slew of breakfast items, burgers and (we swear, this is what the menu calls them) "Magical Munchies." 101 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 11 a.m.–3 a.m. Monday–Friday, noon–3 a.m. Saturday–Sunday. (517) 333-2723. conradsg grill.com. D, OM, \$.

CORAL GABLES — Serving meals for generations, this family-style restaurant offers hand-made desserts, home-made soups and a small menu of homemade Greek specialties. 2838 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 11 a.m.–10 p.m. Monday, 7 a.m.–10 p.m. Tuesday–Thursday,

7 a.m.–11 p.m. Friday, 8 a.m.–11 p.m. Saturday, 8 a.m.–9 p.m. Sunday. (517) 337-1311. coralgabesrestaurant.com, WB, WiFi, FB, TO, OM, \$\$

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

EDEN ROCK — Paying tribute to the coastal lifestyle that was popularized in the 1940s and 1950s in the Isles of the Caribbean. 205 S. Washington Sq., Lansing. 11 a.m.–2 a.m. Monday–Saturday, Closed Sunday (517) 374-1300. edenrocklansing.com FB, OM, \$ – \$.

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

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

GRACIE'S PLACE — A classy, cozy restaurant in downtown Williamston offering customer favorites like the Dancing Zorba vegetarian sand-

wich with grilled veggies, roasted eggplant, zucchini, portabella mushrooms and baby tomatoes on a whole wheat tortilla with roasted red pepper hummus. Now open for dinner Thursday–Saturday. 151 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Monday, 11 a.m.–9 p.m. Tuesday–Wednesday, 11 a.m.–10 p.m. Thursday–Saturday, closed Sunday. (517) 655-1100. graciesplacebistro.com BW, TO, RES, P, WiFi, \$\$

HARRY'S PLACE — A bar and grill with Greek roots. Try the Greek chicken—a half chicken roasted in lemon oil sauce and doused with Mediterranean herbs. The all you can eat Friday fish fry is popular, too. 404 N. Verlinden Ave., Lansing. 9:30 a.m.–11:30 p.m. Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–11:30 p.m. Saturday, closed Sunday. (517) 484-9661. TO, FB, \$.

JUICE NATION — Fast food that's not fast food.

All drinks are naturally low in calories, and are friendly to vegans and the lactose- and gluten-intolerant. It's just fruit, ice and vitamins and minerals. 111 S. Washington Sq., Lansing. 8 a.m.–7 p.m. Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–7 p.m. Saturday, Closed Sundays. (517) 372-7700. TO, OM, \$.

LOGAN'S ROADHOUSE — This national chain specializes in ribs, steaks and burgers, but the menu is large enough, with salads, lots of sides and a kid's menu, for even finicky eaters to find a meal. Monday–Wednesday: two meals for \$14.99. 5800 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. 11 a.m.–10 p.m. Monday–Thursday, 11 a.m.–11 p.m. Friday & Saturday, 11 a.m.–10 p.m. Sunday. (517) 327-4751. logansroadhouse.com WB, TO, FB, OM, \$\$.

Average price per person, not including drinks:

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