CityPULSE

a newspaper for the rest of us

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Jan. 31 - Feb. 6, 2018



introducing...

MSU

LATINX

FILM FISTIVAL









W H

ART

ON

NATALIE MACMASTER & DONNELL LEAHY: VISIONS FROM CAPE BRETON & BEYOND

A sizzling night of Celtic music and dance!

FEBRUARY 8, 7:30pm

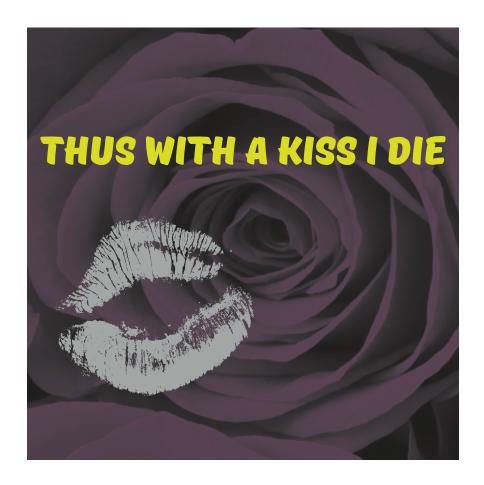
whartoncenter.com • 1-800-WHARTON

The Variety Series is sponsored by The Doctors Company. Media sponsor Michigan Radio.

W H A R T O N
C E N T E R

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

THEATRE.MSU.EDU
WHARTONCENTER.COM OR 1-800-WHARTON



FEBRUARY 16 - 25, 2018

FAIRCHILD THEATRE & MSU AUDITORIUM

Conceived & Directed by Rob Roznowski

This immersive theatre piece follows the days and hours leading up to a murder that takes place during a performance of Romeo and Juliet at a small southern university. The audience seeks clues to identify the victim and murderer as they follow the numerous characters through the nooks and crannies of the Auditorium.





FEBRUARY 1-4, 2018

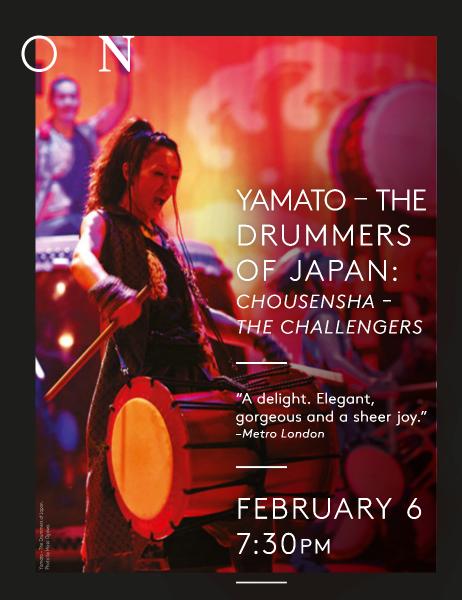


OFFICE FOR INCLUSION & INTERCULTURAL INITIATIVES,
DEPARTMENT OF ROMANCE & CLASSICAL STUDIES COLLEGE OF
ARTS & LETTERS, COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION ARTS &
SCIENCES, GLOBAL STUDIES IN THE ARTS & HUMANITIES
PROGRAM, FILM STUDIES PROGRAM, CHICANO/LATINO
STUDIES PROGRAM CITIZENS SCHOLARS PROGRAM, COUNCIL
OF GRADUATE STUDENTS, RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE IN THE ARTS
& HUMANITIES, JAMES MADISON COLLEGE, MSU LIBRARIES,
CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES,
CENTER FOR GENDER IN GLOBAL CONTEXT, HISTORY
DEPARTMENT JULIAN SAMORA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, PEACE
AND JUSTICE STUDIES

msulatinxfilmfestival.com



\mathbf{H} $\mathbf{A} \quad \mathbf{R} \quad \mathsf{T}$



whartoncenter.com 1-800-WHARTON

This performance of The Doctors Company Variety Series is sponsored by TechSmith Corporation. Media Sponsor Michigan Radio.

W H A R T O N
C E N T E R

FOR PERFORMING ARTS

Feedback

Used alternative to Schuler

Thank you for the article which provided information we needed to try to understand the woeful news that Schuler Bookstore at Eastwood is closing. This seems yet another example of a successful local business and "institution" being shoved out by developer interests. We must hope Schuler's will find the means and location to reopen.

I have a suggestion for those people who devour books, rely on used books to feed their appetites, and wonder how they can survive without Schuler's. Buy your used books at Marsha's Friendshop just inside the main entrance of the East Lansing library. Friends of the East Lansing Public Library (FOELPL) process thousands of used books yearly to keep shelves in this shop bursting with books on every topic. Trade books (fiction, romance, mystery, sci-fi) fly out the door at 25 cents each. Several bargain carts feature paperback fiction and non-fiction books for 50 cents. Recent hardback fiction and best-sellers are only \$1.00 to \$3.00. The children's section is loaded with books for babies through teens; turnover here is rapid. There is a surprising array of unusual

and special-topic books as well. All books are in excellent shape, most presentable even as gifts.

FOELPL devotes all proceeds from the shop to support programs at the library. So used book readers, at least, can manage their Schuler-withdrawal symptoms by purchasing armloads of books at East Lansing Library, at bargain prices, and contribute to a worthy cause as well.

SHEILA TAYLOR

(The writer's husband serves on the board of Friends of East Lansing Public Library.)

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

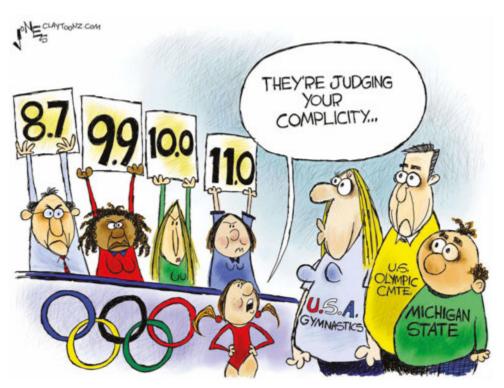
Now you have two ways to sound off:

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

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

(Please include vour 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.)

A free press is not free Send contributions to 1905 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing, Mi Help keep our PULSE strong 48912 or visit Consider a donation to City Pulse to lansingcitypulse.com/donate support our journalism to make your contribution



CityPULSE

VOL. 17

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Two local artists come together for collective show



Cardboard Classic returns and delights, even without snow



Scary Women bring their first CD to The Avenue Café



By Skyler Ashley

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by TOM TOMORROW





NEWS & OPINION PULSE

Township

Police Chief

Dave Hall said

he was unaware

of the meetings

until City Pulse

brought it to

his attention in October. The

hotel is locat-

ed in Alaiedon

Township,

just over the

boundary from

Meridian.

Hall said he

referred the

information to

Ingham County

Sheriff Scott

Wriggelsworth.

Wriggelsworth

confirmed he

was aware of

the meetings

as a result of

the notifica-

tion from Hall.

"There have

not been any

incidents tied

to those meet-

ings that we are

On Friday,

Alt-right, right in our backyard

Okemos hotel site of white nationalist meetings

The attorney who successfully sued Michigan State University to allow white supremacist Richard Spencer to speak on campus has hosted local white nationalist meetings under the radar every six months for the last two years.

The meetings have been held at the Best Western Hotel, formerly the Holiday Inn Express, in Okemos.

Approximately 35 people gathered for the session in October, organized by attorney Kyle Bristow. Supporters advance the theory that white people are discriminated against despite being superior to people of color. tied to groups that historically have perpetrated racial violence such as

the Ku Klux Klan and neo-Nazis.

Among those attending the meeting were Bristow, head of the Foundation for the Marketplace of Ideas; Matthew Heimbach, leader of the Traditionalist Youth Network; and John Mangopoulos, Okemos resident and public access television show host. A meeting held in October 2016 featured James Edwards, host of the Political Cesspool, a white nationalist radio program.

Reached by email, Bristow responded to questions about the meetings with "LOL," internet shorthand for laughing out loud. Heimbach did not respond to an email, and the only identifiable email address for Mangopoulos bounced back.

Scott Goldammer, general manag-



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Kyle Bristow, executive director of the They're closely Foundation for the Marketplace of Ideas, a white nationalist group, leaves a meeting in Okemos in October.

aware of," Wriggelsworth said.

He expressed concern that City Pulse's exposure of the meetings could lead to protests and potential violence from anti-racist advocates.

Bristow has risen in prominence among white nationalist circles since his time as a student at Michigan State University in mid-2000s. At the time he headed the student group Young Americans for Freedom. That group, under his leadership, was labeled as a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center in 2007 for a series of racist, xenophobic and homophobic events and speakers.

However, the national organization for Young Americans for Freedom is pushing back on Bristow's ties to the conserva-

er of the Best tive group, started by William F. Buckley in the 1960s. In an email to City Pulse, Western, declined to Grant Strobl, the current national chairman for YAF, said MSU's chapter was comment on the meetings. "never chartered." Meridian

But in 2007, right after the group was identified by the Southern Poverty Law Center, the national organization spent \$800 on a full-page ad in The State News to defend itself. In an interview with The State News later that year, YAF's National Chairman Eric Johnson referred to the group as a "chapter."

Nonetheless, Strobl contends the MSU organization was not officially a part of the national group. "It seems the very decentralized national office at the time may have just overlooked the details of Bristow's group and made some false assumptions when the advertisement was placed," he wrote in a follow-up email.

For his part, Bristow bristles at implications the organization he brought to national attention was not a chartered part of the national organization.

"You know damned well that National YAF supported MSU-YAF and fully approved its activities," wrote Bristow in an email. "It's fake news to think that MSU-YAF was not a chartered YAF chapter."

He notes that the original youth organization founded by Buckley was recently purchased by the Young Americans Foundation, a group he classifies as a neo-conservative group.

"It shouldn't take a rocket scientist to connect the dots and to deduce that the purchase of YAF by YAF was for fundraising purposes and that Young America's Foundation is rewriting history to make its neocon donors happy," he wrote.

Bristow now serves as the executive director of the Foundation for the Marketplace of Ideas. That group has been listed by the SPLC as a hate group as well. Spencer and radio host Edwards serve on the board of directors for the organization.

Heimbach created the White Student Union at Towson University in Maryland, causing outrage and controversy in 2013 and has been a rising star among white nationalist organizers and speakers across the country, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center. He pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct in Kentucky in 2017

See Alt-right, Page 9





Standing over 308 E. Caesar Chavez Ave. is a building constructed in 1875. But according to city property records, it's seen better days. Last year, the city declared it an "unsafe building," although records are unclear why. It stands next to a seasonal ice cream stand's parking lot. The downstairs retail windows are covered by curtains, while the remaining first floor windows are boarded up. On the second floor, at least one window is broken out, and boarded from the inside. The brick facade on the eastern side of the building is bulging in areas, with bricks that appear as though they could fall at any time.

The property, according to city property records, is owned by Angikamir 308-317 E. Grand River LLC. That business receives mail at a property located in Mason. A phone search for numbers associated with that property in Mason was answered by a woman who indicated that it was the wrong number.

- TODD HEYWOOD

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

Possible prosecution

Prosecutor Siemon could reopen MSU sexual assault cases

The multiple investigations of Michigan State University and its failures to address cases of sexual assault allegedly committed by athletes also involves actions — or inac-

tions — by the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office. The agency, which prosecutes felony cases in the county, has denied dozens of cases involving sexual assault and MSU



NOTICE OF ADOPTION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING Ingham County, Michigan

TAKE NOTICE THAT, at its regular meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2018 the Township Board of the Charter Township of Lansing adopted the ordinances referenced below, which ordinances are generally described as follows:

Ordinance No. 75 - Addition of Chapter 71A Medical Marihuana Facilities

ORDINANCE NO. 75

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, PROVIDING THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING, MICHIGAN, BE AMENDED BY ADDING CHAPTER 71A ("MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES") TO TITLE VI ("LICENSING") TO: DESIGNATE AN ORDINANCE TITLE; ESTABLISH THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES THAT MAY BE AUTHORIZED WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP; ESTABLISH AN APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR AUTHORIZING MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES; ESTABLISH GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR AUTHORIZED MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES; PROVIDE FOR AN ANNUAL MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES FEE; PROVIDE FOR PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS AND DESIGNATE VIOLATIONS OF THE ORDINANCE AS MUNICIPAL CIVIL INFRACTIONS: AND DESIGNATE VIOLATIONS OF THE ORDINANCE AS MUNICIPAL CIVIL INFRACTIONS; REPEAL ORDINANCES AND PORTIONS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT WITH THIS ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF.

Ordinance No. 76 - Addition of Chapter 18 Non-Discrimination

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, PROVIDING THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING, MICHIGAN, BE AMENDED BY ADDING CHAPTER 18 ("NON-DISCRIMINATION") TO TITLE I ("GENERAL PROVISIONS") TO: PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES; PROVIDE DEFINITIONS; ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR INVESTIGATIONS AND CONCILIATION AGREEMENTS; REQUIRE TOWNSHIP CONTRACTORS TO ABIDE BY NON-DISCRIMINATION; AUTHORIZE CERTAIN TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS TO ENFORCE THE ORDINANCE; PROVIDE FOR PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS AND DESIGNATE VIOLATIONS OF THE ORDINANCE AS MUNICIPAL CIVIL INFRACTIONS; REPEAL ORDINANCES AND PORTIONS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT WITH THIS ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF.

NOTICE: Pursuant to Section 8 of the Charter Township Act (Public Act 359 of 1947, as amended), the full text of the adopted ordinances, as adopted, have been posted, and are available for inspection at, the following locations: (1) the office of the Township Clerk, 3209 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, Michigan 48917; and (2) the Charter Township of Lansing's website, located at the following web address: www.lansingtownship.org

Copies of the ordinances can be obtained from the office of the Township Clerk for a fee to be determined by the Township Clerk in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, MCL 15.231, et seq.

Susan Aten, Clerk Charter Township of Lansing athletes between 2008 and 2017.

Some activists and victims want a review of those cases, but the current prosecutor said she will move cautiously as she approaches the fallout from the Larry Nassar case and an incendiary ESPN report. The sports network ran an investigative piece called "Spartan Silence" last weekend that accused the athletic department at MSU of covering up numerous sexual assaults involving student athletes.

Ingham County Prosecutor Carol Siemon acknowledges her office has the power to reopen cases, such as the 2010 sexual assault cases against former MSU basketball players Keith Appling and Adreian Payne, and that she will move in concert with others investigating the university's

"It's too soon to say what action I'd take," said Carol Siemon, who has served

as prosecutor for just over a year. "What I am going to do is be part of this discussion. part of working with the entire system in what our response looks like. I think there has been a lot of light shown on a variety of places where we can do better. What that would look like for our office and our review process, and whether I reopen cases, I can't say that yet. I'm just going to say that I'm going to be part of that discussion and openly look at what needs to be explored."

During an interview Monday, Siemon said she would cooperate with the recently announced special prosecutor reviewing the situation at Michigan State University. Republican Attorney General Bill Schuette, in a rare Saturday press conference in Lansing, announced he had appointed former Kent County Prosecutor William Forsyth to the position of special prosecu-

See Siemon, Page 10

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING WAS HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES LOCATED AT 3209 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018, AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hayes, Clerk Aten, Treasurer Rodgers Trustees: Broughton, Harris, McKenzie, DeLay

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Gresens, Attorney

ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes.

Minutes of the meeting held on December 12, 2017 approved.

Agenda approved.

Approved with conditions, conditional rezoning R-17-14.

Denied sidewalk waiver, SW-17-16.

Introduced Ordinance No. 75, Medical Marijuana Facilities.

Introduced Ordinance No. 76, Non-Discrimination. Approved to amend employment agreement.

Approved budget amendment for 2017

Adopted Resolution 18-1: Resolution to opt out of publically funded health insurance contribution.

Claims approved.

CP#18-016

Executive session held to discuss pending litigation.

Board returned to regular session.

Authorized Supervisor and Clerk to negotiate regarding Lansing Township v BWL.

Meeting adjourned

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor Susan I Aten Clerk

CP#18-018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSED PARKS & RECREATION PLAN

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LANSING,

INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, and any other interested persons:
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, the 6th day of February, 2018, at 7:00 o'clock, p.m., at the Township Administration Building, 3209 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48917, for the purpose of reviewing, and receiving comments and input from the public about, Lansing Township's proposed Parks & Recreation Plan (the "Plan").

The proposed Plan will be available for review and examination at the office of the Township Clerk (located at 3209 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48917) during regular business hours of regular business days until the date and time of the hearing, and may further be examined at the hearing. The proposed Plan will be made available for review and examination by the public for at least thirty (30) days before the public hearing. The plan will be available for

review electronically on the Lansing Township website at www.lansingtownship.org.
You may attend the public hearing in person or by representative, and provide comments during the public hearing, and/or submit written comments before the public hearing to the Township Planner, Sam Schultz, at the above-referenced address, or at sschultz@lansingtownship.org.

Susan L. Aten, Township Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING - PROPOSED FUNDING ALLOCATIONS FY2018. 7/1/2018 - 6/30/19

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO: ALL LANSING CITIZENS AND ORGANIZATIONS

FROM: LANSING PLANNING BOARD

SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEARING ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2018

TIME AND PLACE: 6:30 p.m., Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple

Street, Lansing, MI.

PURPOSE: TO PROVIDE CITIZENS THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE AND COMMENT ON PROPOSED OBJECTIVES, GOALS AND PROJECTED USE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND RESOURCES, INCLUDING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, HOME AND EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAMS, TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CITY'S ANNUAL ACTION PLAN SUBMISSION FOR

FY 2018 (7/1/2018 - 6/30/2019)

For additional information, please contact Doris M. Witherspoon, Senior Planner at doris.witherspoon@lansingmi.gov or (517) 483-4063, M-F, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE – Entitlement Grant Awards for FY 2018 (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019) have not been announced by HUD as of the date of this publication. Amounts proposed herein for FY 2018 CDBG, HOME and ESG activities are based on prior entitlement awards. If the grant amounts HUD actually awards to the City of Lansing for CDBG, HOME and ESG are different from the amounts shown above, adjustments will be made to the budget amounts proposed for each activity

PROPOSED FUNDING ALLOCATIONS PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND USE OF FUNDS ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 2018 (7/1/18 - 6/30/19) CITY OF LANSING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of Lansing's Housing and Community Development Program is the development of a viable community which will provide standard housing in a suitable living environment, principally to benefit low and moderate income persons, preserve and expand existing businesses and industries, and create an atmosphere conducive to stability in neighborhoods.

- Provide standard housing in a suitable living environment through rehabilitation, new construction and improvement of the housing stock primarily in CDBG eligible neighborhoods and in specifically designated housing target areas
- b Provide housing counseling and assistance that will benefit low and moderate-income households.
- Promote home ownership for low and moderate-income households and promote deconcentration of poverty. C.
- d. Maintain at current levels the number of public and assisted housing units available to low and moderate-income households.
- Provide homeless prevention assistance, emergency shelter, street outreach and supportive human services for people with special needs, people who are homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless
- Provide assistance for permanent supportive housing and human services for low and moderate income households with a history of chronic homelessness, including those with special needs. f.
- Promote economic opportunity for low and moderate-income individuals by facilitating economic development, providing employment opportunity, sponsoring job training, supporting business development, micro-enterprise lending and business or financial educational programs and initiatives.
- Promote economic development to provide jobs, business services and shopping opportunities for residents located in CDBG eligible areas. h.
- Provide community and neighborhood services, recreational opportunities and public facilities and promote neighborhood social cohesion to improve the quality of life in CDBG eligible neighborhoods.
- Increase security and safety in neighborhoods by supporting public safety and crime prevention initiatives, public educational programs and citizens' awareness in CDBG eligible areas.
- k. Improve the city's transportation, public facilities and infrastructure systems in CDBG eligible areas.
- Protect and improve the city's physical environment, including preventing or eliminating blight, removing lead or other safety hazards, preserving historic resources, mitigating flood hazards, promoting healthy housing and improving energy fitness in housing occupied by low and moderate-income households.
- Promote fair housing objectives. m.
- n. Provide affordable housing and economic development that benefits low and moderate income people in the context of mixed use development along transit corridors

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

CDBG Single-family, Owner-Occupied Rehab Program/Public Improvements

Includes loans and grants for rehabilitation of owner-occupied housing units through city sponsored programs, and in conjunction with affordable housing efforts sponsored by nonprofit housing corporations and other state and federal agencies. Includes funds to meet lead hazard reduction regulations in rehabilitated structures, funds to assist in emergency housing rehabilitation, market analysis activities and technical assistance to nonprofit housing corporations, contractors, and low- and moderate-income households. Includes loans and grants for owner-occupied single-family units through city sponsored programs, loans to rehabilitate historic homes in conjunction with rehabilitation of the unit, and loans or grants for ramps, hazard remediation or weatherization. Includes staff, office space, technical assistance, training and other direct project costs associated with delivery of Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant and other State and Federal Programs.

General street, sidewalk, water/sewer improvements, including assistance to income eligible owner-occupants or those in CDBG-eligible areas for special assessments related to new improvements. Includes improvements to neighborhood parks, recreational facilities; public neighborhood, medical and community facilities in CDBG priority areas.

Proposed funding amount: \$1,040,880

<u>CDBG Rental Rehab Program/Weatherization</u>
Includes loans and grants for rehabilitation of rental housing units through city sponsored programs. Includes funds to meet healthy housing standards and/or lead hazard reduction regulations in rehabilitated

Proposed funding amount: \$50,000

Continued from Page 8

Includes acquisition, maintenance and security of properties acquired through programs, and activities related to acquisition, disposition, relocation and clearance of dilapidated structures. Funds may also be used to acquire properties in the flood plain. Includes staff time associated with this activity.

Proposed funding amount: \$1,000

Public Services (limited to 15%)

Includes services for low- and moderate-income individuals such as: homeownership counseling, education, neighborhood counseling, youth and senior programs, neighborhood clean-ups, community gardens, home repair classes. Services are for low- and moderate-income individuals and/or those in CDBG-eligible areas located within the Lansing city limits.

Proposed funding amount: \$ 258,510

Economic Development

Loans, technical assistance and training to low- and moderate-income owners of and persons developing micro-enterprises within or planning to locate within the Lansing city limits. Technical assistance to individuals and for-profit businesses including workshops, technology assistance, and façade improvement loans/grants. Creation of jobs to benefit low and moderate-income city of Lansing residents.

Technical assistance to individuals and for-profit businesses including workshops, technology assistance, façade improvement loans/grants, market analysis, business promotion, referrals for the attraction of new business and expansion of existing business within CDBG-eligible areas of Lansing.

Proposed funding amount: \$129,060

CDBG General Administration (limited to 20%)

Includes staff and other costs associated with preparation of required

Consolidated Planning documents, environmental clearances, fair housing activities and citizen participation activities associated with the delivery of CDBG, HOME and other state and federal programs. Includes planning and general administration costs associated with delivery of CDBG and other state and federal programs. Includes indirect administrative costs and building rent paid to the city.

Proposed funding amount: \$372,362

TOTAL CDBG \$1,851,812

HOME

<u>Down Payment Assistance</u>
Funds provided to homebuyers for down payment and closing costs for purchase of a single-family home located within the Lansing city limits. Up to \$15,000 will be available as a 0% interest second mortgage for homebuyers with income at or below 80% of median income. Assistance not limited to first-time homebuyers. May include staff time and/or homeownership counseling fees associated with this activity.

Proposed funding amount: \$101,616

New Construction/HOME Rehab/Development Program

Includes funds for loans and grants for housing construction and rehabilitation with non-profit and for-profit developers, including CHDOs.

Includes funds for loans and grants for housing construction and rehabilitation with non-profit and for-profit developers, including CHDOs.

HOME funds allocated for housing developed in partnership with the city, including Supportive Housing Program (SHP) and Acquisition, Development and Resale (ADR) activities. Projects may include new construction and rehabilitation activities with non-profit and for-profit developers, including CHDOs. Funds may be used for staff time associated with these activities.

Proposed funding amount: \$ 335,123

<u>CHDO Set-aside (15% minimum required)</u>
Reserved for housing developed, sponsored or owned by CHDOs in partnership with the City.

Proposed funding amount: \$86,234

Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) Operating (limited to 5%)
Funds reserved at option of the City to provide operating funds to CHDO's utilizing the City's HOME funds to produce affordable housing in the community.

Proposed funding amount: \$28,745

HOME General Administration (limited to 10%)

Includes staff and general administration costs to deliver the HOME program.

Proposed funding amount: \$61,301 **TOTAL HOME** \$ 613.019

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG)

Street Outreach

Street Outreach activities.

Proposed funding amount: \$5,003

Homeless Prevention

Homeless Prevention activities.

Proposed funding amount: \$50,015

Administrative Activities (limited to 7.5%)

Funds provided to offset the cost of administering emergency solutions program.

Proposed funding amount: \$ 11,688

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

Funds will be provided for HMIS and comparable database costs

Proposed funding amount: \$5,003

Alt-right

from page 5

for assaulting a protester at a political rally for Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump. Heimbach argued he was acting as a deputy for the campaign, according to a report in the Louisville Courier Journal.

Spencer will speak at Michigan State University March 5 at the Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education. As part of the settlement paving the way for Spencer's speech, Bristow will be paid \$27,400 for his legal work representing Cameron Padgett. Padgett has been booking private speaking events

at public universities in the country, including Florida, Texas, Alabama and the University of Michigan. If a public university balks at renting the facility for the white nationalist to use, Padgett sues under First Amendment grounds.

Edwards unsuccessfully sued the Detroit News, with Bristow representing him, claiming libel. Edwards cried foul when an editorial writer implied the radio host was a leader in the KKK. The Michigan Court of Appeals ruled in October of last year that there was no libel because while Edwards was not an elected leader, he was an embodiment of the organization and a mouthpiece for its leaders.

- TODD HEYWOOD

Continued from Page 9

Shelter Operation

Funds provided to shelter providers to cover cost of maintenance, operations, insurance, utilities and furnishings in shelter facilities.

Proposed funding amount: \$ 95,057

TOTAL ESG: \$166,766

SUMMARY Forty –Fourth Year Community Development Resources

Program	Annual Action Plan
CDBG Entitlement Grant:	\$1,861,812
HOME Program Funds	\$ 573,019
HOME Program Income (est.)	\$40,000
ESG Program Funds:	\$166,766
TOTAL	\$2,641,597

Administrative, management and operation costs for the above programs include the administration, management and operations of the eligible activities, as well as other federal and state community development programs in which the city is now or may be participating.

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Siemon

from page 6

tor.

During that announcement, Schuette promised the special team he had assembled would investigate "every corner" of MSU as it related to the Nassar scandal. He did not take questions after the press conference.

It is unclear if the probe will also review allegations that the athletic program failed to report sexual assault cases in the past, or that the university failed to properly investigate those cases and seek appropriate criminal charges.

Two politicians previously held the position of Ingham County Prosecutor during the majority of time covered by the reports in question. First was Ingham County Prosecutor Stuart Dunnings III, who left office in 2015 after he was arrested on multiple criminal charges stemming from his engagement with sex workers, some of whom were trafficked by other men. His tenure covered the bulk of cases involving MSU athletes, including the controversial case of MSU basketball players Appling

and Payne.

The two men, as freshmen, were accused of sexually assaulting Carolyn Schaner in August of 2010. Despite a video recorded interview with investigators in which Payne appears to substantially support Schaner's detailed allegations, Dunnings declared at the time no crime had been committed and refused to prosecute. Michigan State University Police sought

charges of criminal sexual conduct third degree against both men. Those charges have a 10-year statute of limitations, meaning if Siemon reviews the case and determines there is evidence a crime was committed, she can still file criminal charges.

After Dunnings resigned in July 2016, former State Senate Minority Leader Gretchen Whitmer, a Democrat from Ingham County, served as interim prosecutor for six months until Siemon was elected.

Whitmer is seeking the Democratic nomination for governor this year, and has been chastised by political opponents who allege she failed to prosecute Nassar.



Siemon

Whitmer has countered that the appropriate place to handle the charges against Nassar was through the Attorney General's Office because his crimes extended across county borders. Bridge Magazine's fact-checking program has substantiated Whitmer's claims.

Siemon started her legal career nearly 30 years ago prosecuting sex crimes. She said the legal and social barri-

ers in bringing the cases to court have not changed as much as she had hoped.

"This is something that even before I took office, I started meeting with law enforcement and advocates about how do we do culture change," she said about sexual assault cases. For Siemon, the issue is one of making sure everyone understands the idea of consent.

"That's a tough one, because I want to be really clear we're not talking about blaming the victim, but one of the concerns we have is we have to have the defendant also knowing and the accused knowing, 'Hey that wasn't consensual.'

"So often over the decades, I've seen sit-

uations where I've had victims, boys and girls alike, who had said, 'I didn't want it to happen, but I don't think I said anything. I didn't push him away. I was just laying there thinking, Oh my God, I just want this to be over. I don't want this to happen.' That's some huge disconnect. That's a huge disconnect where there's non-consensual sex going on, but it's not necessarily a kind of interaction that we could charge a criminal in."

The late MSU journalism professor and advocate for victims in the media, Bonnie Bucqueroux, used to tell reporters that sexual assault may not be a crime fit for prosecution in the courts, Siemon concurs.

"The criminal justice system in the courtroom can be a very appropriate place, but it's not always the best place," she said. "It's the place we have, and we have to work with the forum we have. One of the real struggles is that the criminal justice system is an adversarial system, it's a finger-pointing system, it's a system where you can say, 'Hey, in my gut I know that something bad happened here, but there may not be a remedy under the law."

- TODD HEYWOOD





ARTS & CULTURE

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Nestling and wrestling

Lansing Art Gallery's 'Echo' weaves two artists into one show

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

In art, two points seldom make a straight line. That's the fertile paradox behind the current Lansing Art Gallery exhibit, "Echo." The joint show is a pas de deux of paint, wood, fabric and miscellaneous stuff where two of the area's finest artists come to rest, build a nest, fledge, fly away and converge again.

The artists are Barb Hranilovich, a master

Echo: Barb Hranilovich & Deb Cholewicki

Through Feb. 23 Lansing Art Gallery 119 N. Washington Sq., Lansing Free Lansingartgallery.org of many media whose work is well known to the Lansing area and beyond, and Deb Cholewicki, manager of the

Grove Gallery Co-Op in East Lansing.

Chelowicki is a self-taught clay sculptor as well as weaver and sculptor; Hranilovich admits she has painted in "every medium that exists, done bronze and ceramics and printmaking, and I like it all."

In the show's signature piece, Hranilovich painted a pastel-hued bird's nest with eggs, using encaustics, or textured wax. Cholewicki overlaid a nest of real twigs and branches, wrapped in yarns that echo Hranilovich's color scheme of yellow, pink, green and pur-

ple

Although they worked together on that piece only, the two artists' entwined sensibilities raise swarms of allusions and associations just by hanging next to each other.

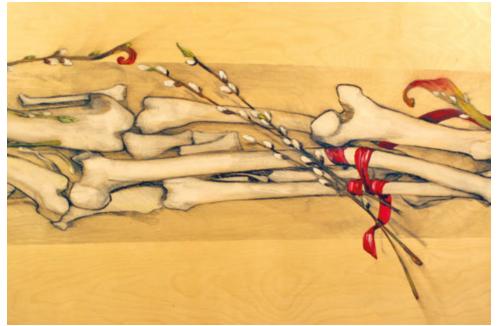
A lush acrylic painting of a curly willow tree by Hranilovich is half a step away from the remains of a real tree, broken and bound into a matrix of dark constructions by Cholewicki.

While putting together their proposal for a joint show, the two artists discovered a deep affinity, with just enough tension to make it interesting. Lansing Art Gallery director Barb Whitney said the joint show was one of only four proposals, out of about 30, to be approved at the gallery this year.

"We've known each other for years and like each other's work," Hranilovich said. Once their proposal was approved, the two artists met regularly over about a year and a half, just to see if they were "on track," as Hranilovich put it.

She loves to visit Cholewicki's studio, but isn't tempted to use her methods. "She has these curly things, yarns and branches and fibers and it's just gorgeous stuff to play with," Hranilovich said. "But I didn't want to work in that medium — I just wanted to be aware of it."

Hranilovich's range is broad enough as it



awrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Natural objects such as stones and bones stir philosophical thoughts in Barb Hranilovich's work for "Echo," the joint show with Deb Cholewicki at the Lansing Art Gallery.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Barb Hranilovich (left) and Deb Cholewicki found that a shared sensibility, with a hint of tension, made their joint show greater than the sum of its two artists.

is. She has an alcove of miniatures all to herself in "Echo." On one partition are gouache paintings studded with mushrooms, fern fronds, snails and fungi. On the opposite wall are micro-grottos sculpted out of clay, where exquisite details like a copper wire spider web lay in wait for discovery. Hranilovich calls them "crevice pieces."

"I love how, whenever there's a space in nature, something will fill it," she said. "A leaf will fall in it, a bug will build a nest. I like to get my nose in there and look at these crevices."

While Hranilovich meticulously re-creates the forest floor and other scenes from nature, Cholewicki seems determined to unravel the whole mess and re-arrange it into rational grids, matrices and spirals. She subdues twirling branches, broken bark, threads and vines into objects of contemplation, leaving gaps and irregular edges where the natural materials defy the square rules of a gallery.

The struggle is at its most raw in "Eye of the Storm," a wall-sized lattice of twigs curled into a double vortex.

Cholewicki said her job managing the Grove Gallery leaves her little chance to dive deeply into a show of this scope. She was clearly thrilled to see her work hanging with Hranilovich's.

"This is such a big deal for me," she said. "I knew Barb before I knew her." Long before they met, Cholewicki bought several pieces by Hranilovich at East Lansing's Mackerel Sky gallery.

"I love the textures, the layers and the playfulness of her work," Cholewicki said. "My work has a lot of those qualities, and we both like a lot of movement, and we both like to be pretty bold."

A highlight of the show is a triptych of three large panoramas Hranilovich painted on hardwood panels. The first is a garland of rocks of the type found on Great Lakes beaches. The second is a flotilla of peeling birch logs, some with red ribbons tied around them. The third is a serene pile of bones, as carefully and sympathetically rendered as the stones and logs. The paintings, with wide margins suggesting silence, are meant to stir thoughts the artist prefers to leave to the viewer, except for one bit of philosophy.

"Once you get the flesh off, we're all the same — a person who lived," she said.

Folk legend Tom Paxton headlines Friday festival

Mid-Winter Singing & Folk Festival hosts the celebrated songwriter

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

In 1955, a young drama student from the University of Oklahoma named Tom Paxton was in the audience for a Weavers concert at Carnegie Hall. It changed his life.

Hearing Pete Seeger's band made Paxton want to play folk music. "I was somebody

who loved it. I was somebody who had to do it," he said. "I felt that I could do it." More than six decades later, Paxton is still playing music.

"It's all their fault," he joked from a phone in his Alexandria, VA home. "I got a chance to thank (The Weavers) personally for ruining my life."

With more

than 50 al-

bums, numerous Grammy nominations, five "Lifetime Achievement" awards, hundreds of tours home and abroad and a Martin guitar named after him, Paxton's life has been remarkable.

On Friday he joins pals Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer at Hannah Community Center in East Lansing to kick off the Mid-Winter Singing and Folk Festival. "I'm looking forward to playing with them," Paxton said. "I always do. You can't go wrong with those two."

The joy of performing with Fink and Marxer-and in a group called The Don Juans-encouraged Paxton, 80, to keep touring. Three or four years ago he thought about quitting. "That lasted about 10 to 15 minutes," Paxton said. He quickly decided to "postpone my retirement while I'm having this much fun."

He never chose a folkie career for wealth. "Anyone who thinks you're going to make money in folk songs-give me five minutes with them," Paxton said. "You can't get rich—but you can make a living."

Part of his folk revenue has come from famous artists who covered Paxton songs. They include A-listers like Judy Collins, Joan Baez, John Denver, Peter, Paul and

Mary, Willie Nelson, Harry Belafonte, Dolly Parton and Porter Wagoner and The Weavers. "Neil Diamond did a wonderful version of 'The Last Thing on my Mind," Paxton said. "I wanted to tell him, 'Don't stop there!"

In 1970, Paxton played "Annie's Going to Sing Her Song" in a bar in New York. "Bob

> Dvlan said, 'I like that song. I want to do it.' Four years later, he did," Paxton said. "I'm glad I didn't hold my breath."

> Of those who recorded songs, Dylan was one of the bigger thrills. So were Seeger and Johnny Cash. When others sing his songs, "It's usually someone I know," Paxton said. He has met most of the artists that have



Paxton performing onstage.

covered his music. The guitarist has no objections about

performing his most familiar tunes like "Bottle of Wine," "Ramblin' Boy," and 'Whose Garden Was This." "I enjoy doing those songs," he said. "I'm really lucky that

Part of Paxton's appeal has been humanistic and peaceful messages. His activism began with 1960s Civil Rights marches. "In the Trump era, I feel it's important to be honest myself," Paxton said. "I get up in the morning and aspire to be decent."

For the East Lansing show, he said to expect "some of the old, some written in the last couple of years." Referencing Michael Wolff's recent book, Paxton promised, "there might be a little fire and fury!

"I still love to write. I'm the same guy who wrote 'Ramblin' Boy'," he said. "I plow the same fields and come up with the same crop." That process includes many missteps. "I estimate 10 songs to get a keeper," Paxton said.

"I'm like Charlie Brown and Lucy holding the football, hoping that this time, maybe I'll kick it," he said. With a chuckle, Paxton added: "My average is better than Charlie Brown's."

'Face of Riverwalk' reflects on 22 years at the helm

Recounting Michael Siracuse's storied career

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

Michael Siracuse's enthusiasm for Riverwalk Theatre seems to light up the night - stage craft that is obvious to many pa-

"Their impression of Riverwalk Theatre is often based on their interactions with Mike," said founding member Tom Ferris. "Mike's dedication to Riverwalk is obvious to them. They get excited because he is ex-

Siracuse, 62, has been the ringmaster of the building's multiple rehearsal sites and black box theatre for 22 years. He's in charge of schedules, crew, talent and office duties. But if you ask him about the job, he says his first concern is customer

"Most of my time is spent with people coming in to chat," Siracuse said, adding he knows "about 80 percent" of regular customers by name.

When reminiscing about patrons who have passed, Siracuse is visibly moved. Wiping away tears he said simply, "I get choked up."

Before he became the theater manager at Riverwalk, Siracuse worked for a variety of hotels for 17 years. He started at a Hampton in his hometown of Buffalo, NY That led to promotions and hotel positions in Illinois, Kentucky, Niagara Falls and at one of Lansing's Holiday Inns.

Siracuse's hotel experience seemed like the perfect preparation for the Riverwalk

"Every skill for this position I already had," he said. That included his philosophies of "the customer is always right" and "always be smiling." He answered an ad by Riverwalk Theatre and was promptly giv-

"They picked the right man for the job," said local musician Tom Heideman, who had also applied for the job.

But there were facets of the job that rendered Siracuse's hotel skills useless. "I'd never heard of 'strike,' except for unions going on strike," Siracuse admitted. "I didn't know any of the theater terms." Strike —as in "strike the set" — means tearing down a set after the final performance.

Learning the lingo was easier than remaining in a hotel career where Siracuse often faced angry customers and workers, even if it meant a \$10,000 pay cut. "It was a pleasure going to work. People were happy," Siracuse said. "I feel like I'm the host

of my own party. It's not like working.

His tenure has put him close to wellknown names in local theater. One of his favorite experiences was working with director Jane



Siracuse

Falion on "1776" for Riverwalk in 2007. But Siracuse found her meticulous process somewhat maddening.

"She drove me nuts," Siracuse confessed. "She asked so many questions, but her attention to detail made the play successful, so all her sins are forgiven."

That strain of perfectionism may pertain to Siracuse himself, says Jane Shipley Zussman, an actress and newsletter writer who has worked with Siracuse for 17 years. "He can be notoriously and hilariously cranky with us insiders," she said. 'That's because he cares so much and knows so much about how things work and sometimes don't work."

Now in his later years, Siracuse has prepared for his inevitable departure by compiling the 50-chapter manual, "How I Did It. It" includes pictures and extensive details of his job. "It took me about two months," Siracuse said.

Riverwalk Theatre Founder and children's director Leonore Helder dreads the day he might retire. "He's the face of Riverwalk," Helder said. "The Theatre is as much his as anybody else's. I can't imagine Riverwalk without him."

With all his time in the theater, Siracuse has managed to spend only a small amount of time onstage. He portrayed a rude ticket taker in "The Road to Bountiful," but his turn as a horse in "Equus" removed hope for any future appearances. When he was called to the lobby during rehearsals and couldn't remove the hooves, the moment proved to be too much. "I was up on wooden blocks," Siracuse said. "I was embarrassed."

With all the ups and downs of his job, Siracuse still manages to find the humor in things. "Thank God I work in a theater," Siracuse admitted, "because everything is drama around here and I'm the most dramatic!"

No snow? No problem for Lansing's Cardboard Classic

Even without the white stuff, sled making event still sparks creatives from around the area

By JONATHAN SHEAD

It's an event that fosters creativity; an event for those who enjoy a challenge. And mostly it's an event that continues to bring the Lansing community closer together whether it's sunny or snowing, though the participants always hope for snow.

It's the Cardboard Classic, an annual cardboard sled-building event hosted by Lansing Community College's (LCC) radio station, 89.7 WNLZ, the Lansing Parks and Recreation Department and Gier Community Center. The event has nurtured a community of makers and creators in Lansing for the last 12 years.

Despite it being the event's second year without snow, meaning they were unable to actually test their sleds on the hill, Daedalian Lowry, the current event coordinator and station manager at LCC Radio, said at the end of the day the event is really about the community uniting for a mutual cause. For Lowry and others, it's a time to support and celebrate the hard work and creativity participants put into their sleds, while having some fun.

"Normally with snow, it's a time for us to

get out and beat that cabin fever," Lowry said.

Peter Roach of Lansing returned with his family for the second year in a row simply because of the community and the creativity that the event brings out.

"My favorite part about the event is just the way the people act toward each other and are willing to help out," Roach said. "Everyone wants everyone else to participate and have a good time."

Don Allen of Lansing has participated in the event for the last five years. He said regardless if there's snow or not, he enjoys coming to the event year after year for the sheer excitement and curiosity of trying to guess what all the other participants have built.

"Last year we didn't have any snow. This year we didn't have any snow, so it's been kind of a bummer," said Allen. "The numbers are kind of down as far as sleds in the room, but it's still fun."

The event, which was held at Gier Community Center Jan. 27, had an estimated 30 sleds and teams participating.

"The very first year we did this event, I don't think we had more than 15 or 20



Jonathan Shead/City Puls

Dennis Lowry and his two boys, Callum and Braylon Armstrong, work to make their abominable snowman sled sturdier at the Cardboard Classic on Jan. 27.

sleds. The best year we've had, where we had some good snow, we've had over 60 sleds participating. So there's been some phenomenal years," Lowry said. "Of course, though, when there's no snow, obviously the entries seem to go down."

Regardless of the number of sled entries each year, Anthony Rodebaugh, a Lansing community member who's judged the event the past two years, said the best part is seeing the enthusiasm, creativity and level of healthy competition the community and participants bring to the event each time.

"In the event there was snow, It'd also be really fun to see what people's creative drives can come up with from an aesthetic level and an engineering level," Rode-baugh admits. "But it's fun, it's exciting and the children love it. It's really all about them."

Although there were no test for durability on the hill, awards were still given out for best design, ("because we felt like it," Lowry said) and several more specific categories. The award for "fastest sled" was not given out this year due to the uncooperative weather.

Lowry hopes to reschedule a day in the coming weeks for the community to come back and see if participants' sleds will stay together once they're pushed down the hill. Check the Cardboard Classic Facebook page for updates.



Jonathan Shead/City Pulse

Don Allen of Lansing poses with his dragonfly sled at the Cardboard Classic on Jan. 27. Allen's sled, inspired by the steampunk art movement, took 100 hours to complete.

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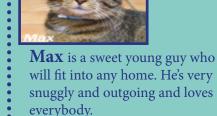
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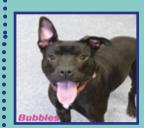


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MSUFCU showcases student art

Eighteen local high schools contribute to art exhibit

By JINGJING NIE

Artwork from students of 18 Michigan area high schools is on display through February at the 11th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit at the MSUFCU Headquarters in East Lansing.

The exhibit features more than

MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit

Now through Feb. 28 MSUFCU Headquarters, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday 180 pieces of original artwork, including paintings, sketches, 3D pieces, photogra-

phy, animation and art.

"We have been partnering with these schools for many years," said Whitney Anderson-Harrell, the chief community development officer for the credit union. "We're really excited to have all the high school artists and the community come out."

It's also her first time experiencing the student art exhibit. "This is just an awesome event," said Anderson-Harrell. "I'm really excited to see all of the different art pieces and I

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JingJing Nie/City Pulse

Some of the artwork displayed at MSUFCU's East Lansing headquarters.

really love seeing the different sculptures."

The watercolor and sharpie piece, "Monster in the Water," was created by 12th-grader Nicholas File of Lansing's Everett High School. He practiced the different techniques by drawing anime. "At first it was very hard to draw, later I actually got better," said File. "After I'm done mastering this technique, I want to master some other ones I'm unfamiliar with."

Imagination inspired his watercolor and sharpie project, but he now sees a missed opportunity. "For one, I could have done better with the background. All black probably wasn't the best choice, because the value doesn't match it," File said.

Even though he received many compliments for his artwork, File still likes to push himself a little bit further.

Xavier Bodary, a 12th-grade student at Okemos High School, has two pieces in this year's exhibition. One is a photograph and the other a digital ink drawing piece.

The photograph was taken when he was hanging out with a friend.

"My friend and I played football since we were in seventh grade together. One day we were going out and I asked if I could take a couple pictures of him, just kind of playing around," Bodary said. "I got another friend to throw the ball around a little bit, and we did some action photography."

Bodary calls his drawing more of a "fantasy piece." He made a sharpie outline of two hands, and then used Photoshop to make it appear as if it is hanging of the cliff side.

"I'm really into cross-hatching, so with the sharpie pieces that I do, I usually do original outlines," Bodary said. "With the digital background I used a regular tablet. I kind of drew in all the background and did all of the shading and line work in that program."

Bodary has dabbled in photography since the sixth grade. "I've done it for a really long time, I absolutely love it," he said.

Awards of the Exhibit include: Juried Awards, The Social Media Award, The People's Choice Awards and the School Spirit Award.

'The Graduate' gap: 50 years later, it persists

How the 1967 film encapsulated a generation

By BILL CASTANIER

Fifty years ago this week on a cold wintry day, my date and I were in line at East Lansing's Campus Theater to see "The Graduate." Since it was the only game in town and I didn't have a car, I would see the movie several times. It would run until mid-April and I would join other moviegoers standing and cheering for the unhip Benjamin Braddock played by Dustin Hoffman, bedded by Mrs. Robinson (Anne Bancroft) the mother of his soon-to-be girlfriend, Elaine, played by Katharine Ross.

In the buildup to its opening, theater-goers had already learned about the movie's classic moments through word-of-mouth, marketing and creative trailers. Because of its long run, moviegoers would anticipate dialogue by calling out "plastics," "Mrs. Robinson, you're trying to seduce me. Aren't you?" and "Are you here for an affair, sir?"

"The Graduate" with its focus on the generation gap became the replacement for the movie "Catcher in the Rye," which every director wanted to make but would never be able to.

A new book, "Seduced by Mrs. Robinson: How the Graduate Became the Touchstone of a Generation," by Beverly Gray details the making of the movie and its impact on a generation.

Gray wrote: "In 'The Graduate' we found the power to make our own choices."

No doubt about it, the movie was about the generation gap between adults and children, most notably represented by the movie's welcome home cocktail party for Benjamin where he gets one word of advice: "Plastics."

Even the award-winning soundtrack was a perfect representation for the disassociation experienced by college-age young adults. For the soundtrack Mike Nichols turned to the song writer-poet duo of Simon and Garfunkel. The movie's signature song, "Mrs. Robinson," became a No. 1 hit on pop music lists.

The movie has some Mike Nichols'-style deadpan, uproarious funny moments. Many males in the audience in 1968 could easily identify with Benjamin's clumsy checkin at the hotel for his tryst with Mrs. Robinson.

Benjamin is unsettled when asked "Are you here for an affair, sir?"

Even some of the more unbelievable plot points — such as why would a girl even consider seeing her ersatz boyfriend after learning he has had an affair with her mother (who called it rape) are soon

forgotten under the masterful direction of Nichols.

Nichols, although criticized at the time, avoided any mention of a raging war, civil rights, the looming draft or women's rights. In fact, as the movie opened in East Lansing the Tet Offensive had swung into full gear.

Some of the more comedic moments show the deft hand of writer Buck Henry, who would go on to to fame as a regular host of "Saturday Night Live."

In some ways, the most amazing thing about the movie is that it was even made, according to Gray.

The purchaser and soon-to-be producer Larry Turman, unable to find a big-time financier, turned to Joseph E. Levine who was known for remaking foreign films, like the schlock "Hercules" which he re-dubbed.

Nichols pored through A-list stars until after a screen test, he selected a little-known actor, the nebbish-Jewish Dustin Hoffman. It was a courageous choice, as Gray details in her book. Jews just didn't get leading roles in the mid-1960s.

The movie also faced stiff competition from movies like "Bonnie and Clyde," "The Valley of the Dolls," and "Guess Who's Com-

ing to Dinner."

So why, 50 years later, do we turn to the movie "The Graduate" as representative of a generation?

As Gray writes, quoting Ron Howard in a New York Times article: "We feel the story through Benjamin — his feelings are the ones we are also feeling."

That might be summed up best by the lyric popularized by the movie: "Hello darkness, my old friend."

And for the record, one of my dates to see "The Graduate" heeded the call

of "plastics" and had a very successful career. Me, I'd stand outside MSU's Student Services Building protesting Dow Chemical.

Watching the movie today, it may not stand the test of time. One teenager I know said: "Elaine should have called the cops on Benjamin," a stalker if there ever was one.

City Pulse Book Club meets Feb. 1

The City Pulse Book Club will discuss "The Odyssey of Echo Company," by Doug Stanton, which looks at the Tet offensive in Vietnam, at 7 p.m. Thursday. Feb. 1, at Schuler Books & Music in the Meridian Mall. Each month this year, the club is reading books about 1968 or published in 1968 as part of the year's golden anniversary. For more information, please contact Bill Castanier at castanier@sbeglobal. net.

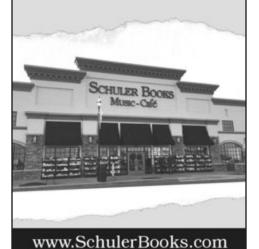
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New film festival aims to break cultural tunnel vision

MSU Latinx Film Fest reveals unseen lives

By SKYLER ASHLEY

An untapped world of film will soon crack open for all of Lansing to see. The history of the "Jimi Hendrix of accordion," a Spanish thriller about cult suicide and a forensic detective's harrowing search for the missing men and women of Peru's civil war comprise less than half of the stories that will be screened at MSU's inaugural Latinx Film Festival, which begins Thursday.

The films represent contemporary cinema rife with world teachings and perspectives often unexplored by American mass media. For newcomers to international film, this promises to be a breakout from cultural tunnel vision.

"We want the viewers to try to understand, or at least reflect, on the human rights issues that affect not only the Latino community, but the Lansing area," said festival organizer José Adrián Badillo Carlos.

The festival is the brainchild of Scott Boehm, an assistant professor of Spanish cultural studies and MSU's premier Spanish film expert. Having studied screenwriting in Madrid, Boehm was an ideal candidate to undertake the daunting task of constructing an entirely new festival. In fact, one of the seven featured films, "Acantilado," features Boehm's work as a script consultant and translator.

Six international films, "Que Horas Ela Volta?," "Carga Sellada," "NN: Sin Indentidad," "Pelo Malo," "Acantilado," "Tempestad," and one from the border of Texas and Mexico, "As I Walk Through the Valley," are scheduled.

And the term "Latinx?" It has gained traction academically as an inclusive descriptor that can mean both Hispanic and Latino. Boehm explained that he and his fellow organizers carefully debated the merits of Latinx as a catch-all, before deeming it the most inclusive term possible, thus best fit for the film festival.

Boehm earned his doctorate at the University of California, San Diego, where he and several colleagues organized the Spanish Civil War Memory Project. The work was massive in scope and breadth, leading to the single largest compilation of video testimonies from men and women who suffered under the violent Franco dictatorship.

In the American consciousness, Franco's reign is perhaps best remembered as the backdrop for the Academy Award-winning 2006 Spanish film, "Pan's Labyrinth."

What truly got the cogs turning for the MSU Latinx Film Festival was Boehm's joy of the San Diego Latino Film Festival, which he regularly attended during his time in Southern California. Considering that Lansing has already provided a home for two successful film festivals, East Lansing Film Festival and Capital City Film Festival, he knew that MSU was fertile ground.

"I saw Lansing as a good film city and MSU has a really active film studies program," said Boehm. "The goal was to create a space for the celebration and appreciation of Latinx cinema."

While Boehm knows the festival will highlight the artistry and craft put into the

Courtesy photo

Thursday Feb 1st
4:00 - THE SECOND MOTHER At the MSU Library
7:00 - SEALED CARGO At Wells Hall

Friday Feb 2nd At Snyder-Phillips Hall
4:00 - NN
6:00 - Opening Reception
7:00 - BAD HAIR

Saturday Feb 3rd At the Robin Theatre
2:00 - Meet & Greet with Invited Directors
4:00 - TEMPEST
7:00 - AS I MALK THROUGH THE VALLEY

Sunday Feb 4th At the Meridian Mall's Studio C!
2:30 - THE CLIFF
4:30 - CLosing Reception

films, he also hopes they will act as a conduit to spark debate about the challenges facing the Hispanic and Latino community – not just on a national level, but right here in Lansing.

"We can use the films as a platform, and the festival as a venue, to talk about social, political and cultural issues," Boehm said. "Many of which intersect with things happening here."

And when it comes to galvanizing discussion, the festival couldn't come at a better time. The xenophobic spitfire pouring out of the White House has unfairly put a target on the backs of many Hispanics and Latinos. The national surge of hate crimes -- a 5 percent spike from 2015 to 2016, according to the FBI — spilled over to Lansing last summer, when an alleged July attack on a Hispanic immigrant spawned community outrage and an FBI-assisted investigation.

In a time Hispanics and Latinos are so casually stigmatized, the festival hopes to ground the sensationalism and remind people of the universal humanity found within these communities.

The festival's loudest statement on these issues locally will come in the form of a short documentary, produced by Boehm and his colleague Peter Johnston, about the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program.

"What Happens to a Dream Deferred," highlights the several hundred thousand DACA recipients whose futures are suddenly in the hands of Congress and the White House. The two subjects whose interviews form the basis of the documentary, Badillo Carlos and Osvaldo Sandoval, helped organize the festival. Both are graduate students at MSU.

The two live in a state of haunting uncertainty as DACA is fiercely debated

in the halls of Congress. Badillo Carlos says public opinion toward DACA recipients has been aggressive and led astray by stereotypes. He became involved with the documentary to reverse some of the more hurtful rhetoric.

"The documentary shows a day in our lives," Badillo Carlos said. "We are not criminals, we are not drug dealers, nor any of these things that have been said about us in the news. We go to work, we study and we go home to our families."

Badillo Carlos says that the reality of DACA requires him to live a straight and narrow life, or suffer deportation. In fact, those with criminal records never qualified for DACA to begin with. Whether DACA will be upheld is unclear. The disagreements over DACA between Republicans and Democrats contributed to the government shutdown earlier in January.

Boehm's vision for the Latinx Film Festival was embraced by the university and quickly attracted grants and sponsorships. "There's a desire for this; a festival like this just hasn't existed here," Boehm said. "People jumped on board right away."

The financial support afforded the festival the opportunity to fly three of the directors to Lansing. Charlie Vela and Ronnie Garza ("As I Walk Through the Valley") and Helena Taberna ("Acantilado") will participate in a Q&A during Saturday's festivities. Garza and Vela hail from Southern Texas, while Taberna will travel from Spain.

"English cinema is the only European cinema that enters major American circuits. Spanish cinema finds its exhibition more limited, hence the importance of

Latinx

from page 16

festivals such as this," Taberna said. "They allow you to see films from other countries, which is undoubtedly very enriching for the public, especially for university students."

Garza and Vela acted as dual directors on "As I Walk Through the Valley," a multi-generational dive into the Rio

Grande Valley region of Texas' musical history. The two were able to interview a cavalcade of unique artists, spinning a web of stories that bring the valley to life on screen.

Due to the Rio Grande Valley's position on the border of Texas and Mexico, its cities are often attached to narratives of drug cartel-related violence. Despite routinely decreasing crime rates, the stigma still casts an unwelcoming shadow on the valley.

"We're primarily an overlooked region of the United States, so we're trying to show that there's more to life here than these media narratives about the border," Vela said. "People here are concerned about making art and finding meaning and community through music."

Oficine

LA CALAVERA

"As I Walk Through the Valley" gave the natives of the region the rare opportunity to tell their own story, free from media bias and pervasive prejudice.

"You realize that the only stories about your way of life are made by people who've never been to where you live," Vela said. "Or they just flew in for a couple of weeks so they could write about cartel violence. Then they fly away, their story goes on TV

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and that's all anybody thinks about when your home gets mentioned."

Production on the documentary began in 2014, and the pair had no idea that the next president would create a caustic political environment for communities like Rio Grande Valley.

The outcome of the 2016 election gave their work a boosted value as a political document, as honest narratives about Hispanic and Latinos become increasingly necessary to dispel the prejudice, for which the current administration has

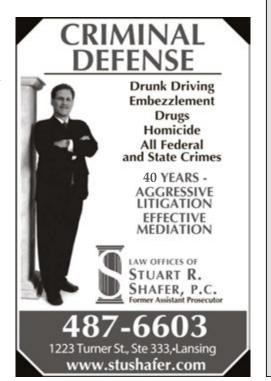
been a lightning rod.

"There's this idea that people from a place like the valley should have a louder voice about what life is like there," Vela said. "It's not so much about combating narratives, but showing that people are complex and there are many shades of experience."

It is not just documentaries that are rife with political and social themes. Spanish and Latin American filmmakers frequently rely

on these subtleties to tell a story, because political struggle is a much more common element in their daily lives. This sort of subtext can be found within each of the festival's seven films.

"The wound of conquest is not something that disappeared in the 19th century with independence," said festival organizer Claudia Berrios-Campos. "People in Latin America carry it on for all their lives. The feelings of being a minority, it goes with you everyday."



$\wedge \wedge$ H A R T



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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

W H A R T O N
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OU THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Ella at (517) 999-6704.

Wednesday, January 31

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

Open Studio Life Drawing. From 7 to 9:30 p.m. Model fee: \$2 students (LCC, MSU, High School), \$5 all others.. Kresge Art Center, 600 Auditorium East Lansing.

Senior Discovery Group. From 10 a.m. to noon free. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1611 E Kalamazoo St. Lansing.

EVENTS

Black History 101 Mobile Museum. From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Games at the Meridian Senior Center (See Descriptions for Dates and Times). From 12:30 to 4 p.m. Bingo and Bridge- \$1 - \$2 per person to play. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

Issues Facing MSU International Students. From 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Allen Market Place, 1629 E Kalamazoo Lansing.

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

Rebounding . From 2 to 3 p.m. Cost: \$70 members / \$80 non members / \$12 drop in fee. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

Thursday, February 1

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

(TOPS) Take Off Pounds Sensibly . At 6 p.m. First meeting FREE.. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St. Haslett.

Preschool Science Exploration. From 1 to 2:30 p.m. \$4/child. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

THEATER

Peppermint Creek Theatre present "The Christians." From 8 to 10 p.m. Tickets \$15 general admission, \$10 students/seniors 65+. Tickets available at www. peppermintcreek.org. . Sycamore Creek Church, 1919 S. Pennsylvania Ave Lansing. (517) 394-6100.

EVENTS

Families Against Narcotics - Eaton County. From 7 to 9 p.m. Real Life Church, 1848 C. Cochran Avenue Charlotte. (517) 541-5433.

Preschool Storytime in Wacousta. From 11 a.m. to noon Grand Ledge Area District Library , 131 E. Jefferson St Grand Ledge. 517.627.7014.

Friday, February 2

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

Picture This!. From 7 to 9:30 p.m. \$28/\$50 for two. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave. Lansing. (517) 999-3643.

MUSIC

Mid-Winter Singing & Folk Festival: Concert with Tom Paxton, with Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer and Bruce Molsky's Mountain Dr. From 7:30 to 11 p.m. \$30 Floor Seats; \$20 Balcony. Available online or at the box office at 6:30pm. East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road East Lansing.

Rhonda Sider Edgington, an international organist, will present a recital at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 7:30pm. 955 Alton Road, East Lansing.

EVENTS

Howl at the Moon: Guided Night Walk. From 7 to 8 p.m. \$3/person. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

"Cuba — the Pearl of the Caribbean" 5:00-8:00pm Join us for an evening of food and culture. Experience Cuba through the lens of a Cuban-born local photographer. Her vivid images will transport you to the pristine beaches of Varadero and the majestic colonial city of Havana. Her photography masterfully captures the soul of the people and the fabric of the culture. This rare glimpse of the forbidden island and its people will surely captivate your senses. Meet and greet the photographer while taking in authentic Cuban food in this newly opened Cuban restaurant in the heart of downtown Lansing. Photo images will be available for purchase. 123 Washington Sq., Lansing (517) 708-8144

Sunday, February 4

ARTS

Artist Reception for Barb Fuller and Steve Faramelli, mother and son. From 3 to 5 p.m. Free. EagleMonk Pub & Brewery, 4906 W. Mount Hope Highway Lansing.

Monday, February 5

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

Balance and Core Class . From 1 to 2 p.m. Cost: \$60 for members / \$70 nonmembers / \$15 drop in. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

Photography Class Lansing. From 6:30 to 9 p.m. \$60 - covers all four sessions. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road Lansing.

Tuesday, February 6

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

Starting a Business. From 6 to 8 p.m. Free - to register call (517) 483-1921. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Dr. Lansing. (517) 321-4014. Starting a Business. From 6 to 8 p.m. Free - To Register Call: (517) 483-1921. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Dr. Lansing. (517) 321-4014.

MUSIC

Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's. From 7 to 10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 485-5987

Scary Women CD Release at The Avenue



• • • • • • February 3, 2018 • • • • • •

By ARIEL ROGERS

Be afraid...and entertained.

After two years on the scene, Lansing rockers Scary Women celebrate the release of their first full-length studio album at the Avenue Cafe, Saturday, Feb. 3.

Jason Roedel of the Jackpine Snag produced, engineered, mixed and mastered Scary Women's self-titled album that captures their "driving, aggressive" sound and dark lyrics, often compared to Bikini Kill and the Runaways.

The album opens with "Scary Women," which was featured on the fall 2016 Seraphine Collective mixtape.

Scary Women Saturday Feb. 3 @ The Avenue, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

21+. Free. 8 p.m.

"Billie Boggs" hangs with the theme of frightening females and tells the true story of Joyce Patricia Brown, a

homeless woman better known as Billie Boggs, who successfully fought New York City's attempt to involuntarily admit her to a psychiatric treatment program in the late '80s.

"We're not the scared ones, we're the scary ones," guitarist Tammy Cook said. "We try to come from a position of strength."

"Scary Women" showcases the band's growth and range with material written by all four members, spanning their entire career. "Everyone brings in some different element," drummer Joel Kuiper said. "We have classic rock, punk, hard rock and metal. ['Scary Women'] feels like the culmination of everything we've done so far."

Scary Women is comprised of Tammy Cook (guitar/vocals), Joel Kuiper (drums), who is also a member of the Stickarounds and ICY/DICEY; Amy Starr (guitar/vocals), and Jennifer Toms (bass/vocals).

The group has been busy since its first gig in 2015 at the defunct Lansing venue the Mystery Garage, playing more than 70 shows across the state, and appearing on 10 compilations. They don't seem to be slowing down anytime soon, noting that they'll be ready to record again this year, and hope to perform out of state by 2019.

Toms believes Scary Women has exceeded their expectations. "I entered the music scene fairly nervous, but everyone has been very supportive and embracing."

Openers at the CD release show are No Skull, Luxury Flux and the Jackpine Snag. Local nonprofit organization Punks With Lunch Lansing will also be at the show hosting a supply drive, accepting donations of winter wear (heavy coats, socks, gloves, hats, hoodies), non-perishable snacks and personal care items.

Jonesin' Crossword By Matt Jones "The Jokers"--and the ones seen with them. Across Lama (Tibetan leader) 6 Some football linemen, briefly 9 "The Destroyer," in Hinduism 13 Oak-to-be 14 Slip up 15 McGregor in a hyped 2017 boxing match 16 "Super Freak" singer 18 The Mad Hatter's guest 19 Commotion 20 Roths, for short? (abbr.) 21 "King Lear" daughter 22 Tree with an extract that purportedly helps memory 25 Sea of (Biblical 59 location) 28 Word before bump or boom 29 It's a sign 58 Not yet burning character ___ Montoya participant 30 Actor Benicio del of "Star Wars: The 59 Gator or Power 11 Word knowledge, 38 At any point Last Jedi' follower briefly 42 Offshore drilling 31 Daily ___ (political blog since 2002) 60 Constellation with 12 Scene of action structure 15 Arctic herd 34 Worth a "meh" 61 Catch on clothing 17 Actress Hathaway of at the Rio in Las Vegas response Kommissar" "The Princess Diaries" 44 Like cheaper 39 D&D game runners, (1983 pop hit) textbooks 22 "I Just Wanna Stop" for short 45 The rougher __ Vannelli 63 Jury members singer 40 Quicker than quick

41 Participate in a poll

42 Letters over 0 on

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46 He was

Ides of March

51 Winter ride

for two

55 Bete _

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50 ___ to arms

43 Stretchy shirt of

assassinated on the

52 Diddley and Derek,

56 Jokers, usually (or what the circled letters

_ (nemesis)

Down 1 Irish comedian _

Briain 2 Hydrochloric _ parentis (legal 3 In

doctrine) 4 Boat with a pair of

5 Monopoly board words near "Just visiting'

6 2011's "Arthur," e.g. 7 Duane Allman's brother

8 Near-grads, for short

9 Without help 10 "The Princess Bride" 23 Wind section member

24 Surname of two brothers behind a root beer brand

25 Beyond passable 26 Radio band letters

27 Microscope piece 30 Cough syrup amt.

31 Shape of a pretzel (but not a pretzel stick) 32 Septa- plus one

33 Dissipate slowly 35 Juliet's surname

36 Medical suffixes

37 Drug bust

TO PLAY

43 Half of a headliner

interrogator, in

procedurals 46 Roman god with two faces

47 Home of the Huskies, for short

48 Boxer Ali 49 Stage whisper,

perhaps 52 Cheese that goes

with red wine 53 Quality of some

cheeses 54 Some bank acct.

data

56 Stack of cash

_ you for real?"

INTERMEDIATE

©2017 Jonesin' Crosswords ● For answers to this puzzle, call: 1-900-226-2800, 99 cents per minute. Must be 18+. Or to bill to Answers Page 21 your credit card, call: 1-800-655-6548

SUDOKU 2 9 7 6 2 5 8 4 7 8 6 4 2 5 1 2 8 6 4 3 8

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

Answers on page 21

Free Will Astrology By Rob Brezsny

Jan. 31 - Feb. 6, 2018

Aries (March 21-April 19) In all of history, humans have mined about 182,000 tons of gold. Best estimates suggest there are still 35 billion tons of gold buried in the earth, but the remaining riches will be more difficult to find and collect than what we've already gotten. We need better technology. If I had to say who would be the entrepreneurs and inventors best qualified to lead the quest, my choice would be members of the Aries tribe. For the foreseeable future, you people will have extra skill at excavating hidden treasure and gathering resources that are hard to access.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Stories have the power to either dampen or mobilize your life energy. I hope that in the coming weeks, you will make heroic efforts to seek out the latter and avoid the former. Now is a crucial time to treat yourself to stories that will jolt you out of your habitual responses and inspire you to take long-postponed actions and awaken the sleeping parts of your soul. And that's just half of your assignment, dear Taurus. Here's the rest: Tell stories that help you remember the totality of who you are, and that inspire your listeners to remember the totality of who they are.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Author Anais Nin said, "There are two ways to reach me: by way of kisses or by way of the imagination. But there is a hierarchy: the kisses alone don't work." For two reasons, AnaĐs's formulation is especially apropos for you right now. First, you should not allow yourself to be seduced, tempted, or won over by sweet gestures alone. You must insist on sweet gestures that are synergized by a sense of wonder and an appreciation of your unique beauty. Second, you should adopt the same approach for those you want to seduce, tempt, or win over: sweet gestures seasoned with wonder and an appreciation of their unique beauty.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Are you more inclined right now to favor temporary involvements and shortterm promises? Or would you consider making brave commitments that lead you deeper into the Great Mystery? Given the upcoming astrological omens, I vote for the latter. Here's another pair of questions for you, Cancerian. Are you inclined to meander from commotion to commotion without any game plan? Or might you invoke the magic necessary to get involved with high-quality collaborations? I'm hoping you'll opt for the latter. (P.S. The near future will be prime time for you to swear a sacred oath or two.)

Leo (July 23-August 22) In March 1996, a man burst into the studio of radio station Star FM in Wanganui, New Zealand. He took the manager hostage and issued a single demand: that the dj play a recording of the Muppet song "The Rainbow Connection," as sung by the puppet Kermit the Frog. Fortunately, police intervened quickly, no one was hurt, and the kidnapper was jailed. In bringing this to your attention, Leo, I am certainly not suggesting that you imitate the kidnapper. Please don't break the law or threaten anyone with harm. On the other hand, I do urge you to take dramatic, innovative action to fulfill one of your very specific desires.

Virgo (August 23-September 22) Many varieties of the nettle plant will sting you if you touch the leaves and stems. Their hairs are like hypodermic needles that inject your skin with a blend of irritant chemicals. And yet nettle is also an herb with numerous medicinal properties. It can provide relief for allergies, arthritis, joint pain, and urinary problems. That's why Shakespeare invoked the nettle as a metaphor in his play Henry IV, Part 1: "Out of this nettle, danger, we pluck this flower, safety," says the character named Hotspur. In accordance with the astrological omens, Virgo, I choose the nettle as your power metaphor for the first three weeks of February.

Libra (September 23-October 22) Knullrufs is a Swedish word that refers to what your hair looks like after sex: tousled, rumpled, disordered. If I'm reading the astrological omens correctly, you should experience more knullrufs than usual in the coming weeks. You're in a phase when you need and deserve extra pleasure and delight, especially the kind that rearranges your attitudes as well as your coiffure. You have license to exceed your normal quotas of ravenousness and rowdiness.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21) In his "Crazy Lake Experiment" documented on Youtube, Harvard physicist Greg Kestin takes a raft out on a lake. He drops a tablespoon of olive oil into the water, and a few minutes later, the half-acre around his boat is still and smooth. All the small waves have disappeared. He proceeds to explain the science behind the calming effect produced by a tiny amount of oil. I suspect that you will have a metaphorically comparable power in the next two weeks, Scorpio. What's your version of the olive oil? Your poise? Your graciousness? Your tolerance? Your insight into human nature?

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21) In 1989, a man spent four dollars on a painting at a flea market in Adamstown, Pennsylvania. He didn't care much for the actual image, which was a boring country scene, but he thought he could use the frame. Upon returning home, he found a document concealed behind the painting. It turned out to be a rare old copy of America's Declaration of Independence, originally created in 1776. He eventually sold it for \$2.42 million. I doubt that you will experience anything quite as spectacular in the coming weeks, Sagittarius. But I do suspect you will find something valuable where you don't expect it, or develop a connection with something that's better than you imagined it would be. Capricorn (December 22-January 19) In the 1740s, a teenage Capricorn girl named Eliza Lucas almost single-handedly introduced a new crop into American agriculture: indigo, a plant used as a dye for textiles. In South Carolina, where she managed her father's farm, indigo ultimately became the second-mostimportant cash crop over the next 30 years. I have astrological reasons to believe that you are now in a phase when you could likewise make innovations that will have long-range economic repercussions. Be alert for good intuitions and promising opportunities to increase your wealth.

Aquarius (January 20- February 18) When I was in my early twenties, I smoked marijuana now and then. I liked it. It made me feel good and inspired my creativity and roused spiritual visions. But I reconsidered my use after encountering pagan magician Isaac Bonewits. He didn't have a moral objection to cannabis use, but believed it withered one's willpower and diminished one's determination to transform one's life for the better. For a year, I meditated on and experimented with his hypothesis. I found it to be true, at least for me. I haven't smoked since. My purpose in bringing this up is not to advise you about your relationship to drugs, but rather to urge you to question whether there are influences in your life that wither your willpower and diminish your determination to transform your life for the better. Now is an excellent time to examine this issue.

Pisces (February 19-March 20) Would you like to shed unwieldy baggage before moving on to your next big challenge? I hope so. It will purge your soul of karmic sludge. It will prime you for a fresh start. One way to accomplish this bravery is to confess your sins and ask for forgiveness in front of a mirror. Here are data to consider. Is there anyone you know who would not give you a good character reference? Have you ever committed a seriously unethical act? Have you revealed information that was told to you in confidence? While under the influence of intoxicants or bad ideas, have you done things you're ashamed of? I'm not saying you're more guilty of these things than the rest of us; it's just that now is your special time to seek redemption.

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A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE BY RICH TUPICA

Sat., Feb. 3 YOUNG PIONEER



Young Pioneer at The Loft

Saturday, Feb. 3 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 16+, \$12, \$10 adv., 7 p.m.

Young Pioneer, a Michigan-based pop/rock five-piece, returns Saturday to the Loft for a headlining show. Warming up the stage are Valley Girl, Lilac Lungs and James Gardin. Young Pioneer is currently wrapping up production on its yet-to-be-titled sophomore full-length record. The disc, recorded by John Espy from Red Jumpsuit Apparatus, is due out later this year. For those looking for an early taste, the debut single "Better" will be available in mid-to-late February. The band, which formed in 2012, is technically a Brighton-based indie rock band, but grew some Lansing roots a couple summers back when guitarist Jason Marr and drummer Austin Howard joined the band. Marr is known for fronting Elliot Street Lunatic, and he also played alongside Howard in another now-defunct alt-rock band, Lights and Caves.



Great American Ghost at Mac's Bar

Sunday, Feb. 4 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, 6:30 p.m.

One of Boston's harshest exports, Great American Ghost, released its self-titled record in March 2013 and has since embedded itself in the hardcore scene. Sunday the band's tour stops at Mac's Bar, openers are Limbs, Bog Wraith and Foxfollow. Led by frontman Ethan Harrison, Great American Ghost's poignant lyrics combined with its furious delivery has caught the ear of rock critics across the map, including MetalSucks.net, which debuted the band's 2017 single "Ann Arbor (Be Safe)," hailing it as "everything you want in metal-tinged hardcore music." The site also praised the track for having "drums like cannons," "guitars like wood chippers" and "vocals like hot coals." The single appears on the band's latest LP, "Hatred Stems from the Seed." Released in September via Good Fight Records, the album is available on CD, digital and blue vinyl.

Thurs., Feb. 1

OZAY MOORE



Ozay Moore at The Avenue Café

Thursday, Feb. 1 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 21+, FREE, 9 p.m.

Emcee Ozay Moore performs his upcoming album, "In the Wake of O," Thursday at the Avenue Café. DJ Ruckus and DJ Omni share the bill, spinning a J Dilla tribute set. Moore's 20-track LP hits stores Feb. 16 and includes the single "Good" and the track "Where You At," which features fellow local rappers James Gardin and Jahshua Smith. Moore, a Seattle native now living in Lansing, was initially known as Othello and as a member of the group Lightheaded. After 15 years of rapping and more than a decade of touring, Moore has dropped seven solo albums and four collaborative group releases, as well as a resume of production work. With that, he also splits his time being a father and running his local organization, the All of The Above hip-hop Academy. For more information, visit alloftheabovehiphop.org.

UPCOMING SHOW?

CONTACT

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LIVE & LOCAL	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Industry Night	Free Hip Hop	Wormfoot	Scary Women
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Dale Wicks	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Road	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.	Pool Tournament, 7:30 p.m.		DJ, 9 p.m
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.			
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	The Good Cookies, 8 p.m.	Mike Skory & Friends Open Mic, 8:30 p.m.	Showdown	Showdown
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Johnny D Blues Night	CABS Beale Street Send off Party	CABS Beale Street Send off Party	CABS Beale Street Send off Party
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.	J Roddy Walston and the Business	Jessimae Peluso	Homegrown Throwdown Round 4	Young Pioneer
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Rd, East Lansing				The New Rule, 7 p.m.
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.				Brent Lowry & the Drifters, 8 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.			Capital City DJ's	Capital City DJ's
Lansing Brewing Co. 518 E Shiawassee St.				Be Kind, Rewind, 8 p.m.



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THE DOLSON'S SURPRISE CLOSING

By ALLAN I. ROSS

This week, the local dining scene was shaken by the surprise closing of **The Dolson** in Charlotte. It had been a joint effort between the Lansing-based restaurant group Potent Potables Project and the Charlotte-based Dutch Brothers Development Group, it seemed like a guaranteed hit when it opened last June.

Dutch Brothers sunk about \$1.3 million into buying and renovating the historic building at 112 S. Cochran St., former home of The Gavel restaurant, and Potent Potables worked to create a creative/eclectic menu that was designed to draw diners from around the tri-county area. But co-owner Jason Vanderstelt said those diners just didn't come.

"Ultimately our concept of made-fromscratch, chef-driven cuisine wasn't supported at a level that would lead us to believe it would be wise to continue," said Vanderstelt on Sunday, the day after The Dolson closed for good. "It wasn't sustainable for the business, let alone at the level that we had hoped it would."

Vanderstelt said that in 2016 when he initially decided to open a restaurant, his first choice for a group to partner with was Potent Potables, made up of Al Hooper, Aaron Matthews and Sam Short.

The trio that had breathed new life into Old Town's dining scene with the hipster bar **Zoobie's Old Town Tavern**, the wood-fired pizza joint **Cosmos**, and the upscale New Orleans bistro **Creole** (recently rebranded as a more casual burger bar). Vanderstelt hoped to bring some of that magic to his neck of the woods, and successfully wooed the partners despite their reservations about working so far from their comfort zone.

"To be honest, we really weren't looking to open a restaurant in this area," Short said last summer, shortly before The Dolson's opening. "But we're always looking to push the boundaries of what dining can look and feel like, and this community was very receptive

to our ideas."

Short deferred all questions about The Dolson's closing to Vanderstelt, who said the decision was made last week as a group. Vanderstelt said he and his brother, Darrell, who own the building, are currently "pursuing other opportunities for the space."

"It's a fantastic space, and it certainly will be a topic of conversation regarding the redevelopment of our community," he said. "Good things continue in Charlotte, people are organized and small businesses are entering the downtown. I know many are disappointed with the closing of The Dolson, but there will be others interested in serving the community in that space, I'm sure."

Vanderstelt is also one of the driving forces behind the CharlotteRising movement, which is trying to rebrand the Lansing exurb as destination for retail, real estate and development. The Dolson's failure certainly puts a kink in that plan, but he appeared optimistic that the movement would continue.

"CharlotteRising will continue to focus on what's best for Charlotte," Vanderstelt said. "Growth often isn't a straight line. There will be wins and losses in getting where we ultimately end up. As an entrepreneur I am well aware of the ups and downs, and I am committed to testing new opportunities for our community."

An ominous start to 2018:

The Dolson is the latest in an already dire month for Lansing-area businesses. These other closings, all announced this month, are part of corporate consolidation efforts, victims of online retail competition or a combination of the two:

- · BD's Mongolian BBQ (Okemos)
- · Schuler Books & Music (Eastwood Town Center)
- · Sam's Club (south Lansing)
- · Babies R Us (west Lansing)
- · Bagger Dave's Burger Tavern (East Lansing)
- · Toys R Us (Okemos)

2018: Hoppy Brew Year!

Greater Lansing beer news for the new year

By MEGAN WESTERS

Now that 2018 is in full swing, it's exciting to watch the local beer scene explode with new beer releases from local breweries. Here's the scoop from three local breweries on what they will highlight this year:

Old Nation Brewery 1500 E. Grand River Ave. Williamston, MI 48895



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Old Nation Brewery has brought some great beers to the table in the past few years, and a new pilot system (brewing equipment) being installed this month will allow them to continue its success. "We will have brand-new experimental beers and super awesome collaborations throughout the year," said Mark Logusz, from Old Nation Brewery.

Their Boss Tweed NE Double IPA, which was the highest rated beer in Michigan over the summer on the Untappd! social beer app that was released statewide last month. Already, quantities are extremely low. Its Boxer NE IPA will be released in 2018 under a new name: Cart Horse. This old favorite will be released in the first quarter of the year.

EagleMonk Pub and Brewery 4906 W. Mt Hope Hwy, Lansing, Mi 48917

EagleMonk is a Lansing favorite, known for its laid-back atmosphere and good food. It will release these beers in 2018:

- · Vienna Lager
- All Night IPA
- Go Green Wheat with MSU wheat
- Easy Blonde
- The Raven black IPA
- British Dark Mild
- Instigator Doppelbock

"The Spartan Barley (not Wheat) was put in a seed vault on MSU's campus back in 1908 and was taken out of the vault in 2014 and ramped up to grow again for the Michigan beer industry," said Sonia Buonodono, owner of EagleMonk.

She explained that they combined the bar-



ley with white wheat malt to accentuate the Spartan Barley, making a nice, easy-drinking ale. Regardless of what sort of beer you're into, EagleMonk is releasing a little bit of everything in 2018 to please every palate.

Ozone's Brewhouse 305 Beaver St. Lansing Mi 48906

Ozone's Brewhouse, the relatively new brewery in Lansing's Old Town, is bringing the most releases in 2018. Kyle Malone, Founder/Brewmaster at Ozone's, said some will be new and others favorites due for an encore.

"Unfortunately, we don't have firm or solid release dates for them, as many barrel-aged (beers) will go on tap when we determine they are ready," said Malone.

"These are just specialties that we are planning on doing. We will be coming up with plenty more throughout the year that we simply haven't thought up yet."

Its lineup is as follows:

- Black Roses (Bourbon Barrel-Aged) Imperial Stout): This was brewed last year and it was a big hit. Ozone expected it back on tap in mid to late January, depending on how the aging process goes in the barrels.
- Saigin (Gin Barrel-Aged Imperial Saision): Also brewed this last year. For 2018 it will get its gin barrels from American Fifth Spirits. Look for it in mid to late February.
- · Woodturners (Whiskey Barrel Aged Imperial Brown): Woodturners is currently available in Ozone's tasting room in a nonbarrel-aged version. It was so good that the brewers decided to get some Whiskey Barrels from American Fifth so they could brew another batch and age it in those. Should be available mid to late February.
- MINE (Michigan Northeast Session IPA): Ozone did a small batch of this earlier in 2017 and it came out great. An all-Michigan ingredient spin on the haze craze NE IPAs. Should be on tap this month.
- · Hefescape (Blood Orange Hefeweizen): Brewers did a couple of small batches of this earlier in the year. Both times it sold incredibly fast, so they are brewing a larger batch to be released June 1.
- Watermelon Mint Wheat: A new, summery beer, currently planning on a summertime release.
- Grapefruit Basil Pale: Also a new beer, currently planning a late spring early summer release.
- Pomegranate Brown: Another new beer, either late winter or fall release.

For more Greater Lansing beer news, be sure to follow this column every month.

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