

CityPULSE

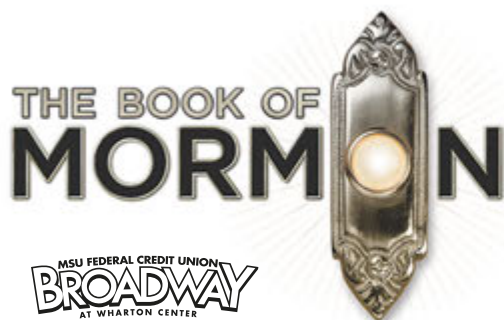
FREE

a newspaper for the rest of us www.lansingcitypulse.com

June 15-21, 2016



City Pulse's Summer of Art: "Universal Fog" by Juanita Baldwin. See page 14 for story.



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**LANSING JUNETEENTH
Celebration**

CAPITOL CITY KICK-OFF JUNETEENTH OPENING PROGRAM
The 12th Annual State of Michigan Juneteenth Freedom Day recognition!
Thurs., June 16, 5:30pm-7:30pm, Lansing City Hall Lobby, 124 W. Mich. Ave., Lansing

2016 JUNETEENTH FREEDOM FESTIVAL
featuring the African-American Parade
Fri., June 17 & Sat., June 18, St. Joseph Park, Lansing, MI



Our keynote speaker is the distinguished **Dr. Sephira Bailey Shuttlesworth.**

The park opens Friday at 3pm. Events include vendors, family activities, a ballgame commemorating the Negro League, community recognitions and special live stage performances.

On Saturday, we open with the African-American Parade at 10am. Staging begins at the Letts Community Center and ends at St. Joseph Park. At 12pm, the Festival opens with the Peace Walk and Main Stage Performances. Activities include food and merchandise vendors, children's activities, a health fair, educational exhibits, and more.

FEATURED ENTERTAINERS:



Dee Hibbert & Company



Jeff Canady



Stanley Johnson



496 West



THROWING THE FIRST PITCH

St. Joseph Park in Lansing opens Friday at 3pm. Events include vendors, family activities, a ballgame starting at 6 p.m. commemorating the Negro League featuring the first pitch by Ernie Boone.

ERNIE BOONE



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2016 LANSING JUNETEENTH SPONSORS:



www.lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org

Introducing The LGBT News

It is just a coincidence but a very appropriate one that this week City Pulse begins publishing the monthly LAHR newsletter, The LGBT News, in our pages.

LAHR is the Lansing Association for Human Rights, which for 40 years has helped lead the effort to expand gay rights in our community. In that time, much has changed for the better for lesbian, gay, transgender and bi people — but as Sunday's tragedy in Orlando clearly shows, much hasn't.

The LAHR newsletter was threatened with extinction after Bill Beachler, a long-time leader of the local gay community, died last year. Month after month, year after year, because of Bill, the newsletter arrived via the mail at hundreds of homes in the Lansing area. In a world of media often devoid of information about gay issues, it connected us. It celebrated our victories and reported on our troubles.

As anyone knows who is involved in a small volunteer organization, producing a monthly newsletter is no small undertaking. No one was waiting in the wings to take over its monthly production with all its little headaches. City Pulse volunteered to help lift some of that load. LAHR remains responsible for the content. City Pulse is merely the

new means of conveyance.

We decided to undertake this project not just to assist LAHR but also to spread its message to a much bigger audience. As the newspaper tycoon E.W. Scripps said, "Give light and the people will find their own way." As the massacre in Orlando shows us, such light is still badly needed.

— Berl Schwartz

(If your business or organization would like to help support City Pulse in publishing The LGBT News, please contact Shelly Olson at (517) 999-6705 or shelly@lansingcitypulse.com.)

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

Now you have two ways to sound off:

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

Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or (517) 999-5061

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

CityPULSE

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Hirten: The Outfield delivers a perfect strike

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Summer Solstice Jazz Festival celebrates 20th anniversary

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City Pulse rocks Adado Riverfront Park

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Michigan author takes humorous look at bird watchers

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CityPULSE NEWSMAKERS

HOSTED BY BERL SCHWARTZ



BOB TREZISE
Lansing Economic Area Partnership



ADAM HUSSAIN
Lansing City Councilman

THIS WEEK SOUTH LANSING'S ECONOMY

my 18 LANSING JACKSON MY18TV!
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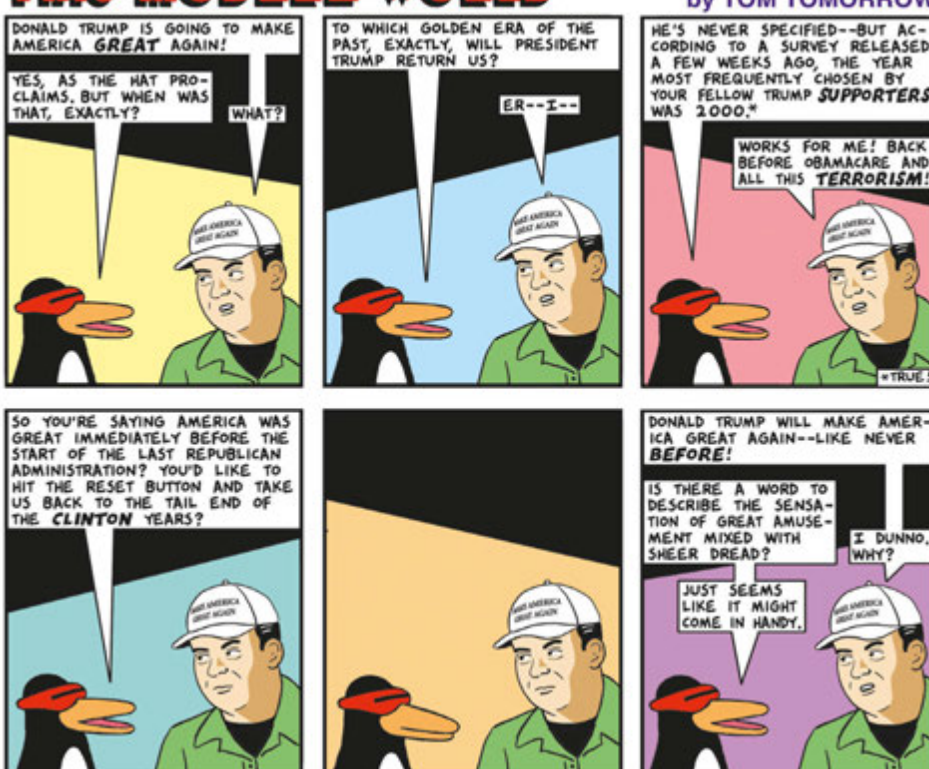
CITY PULSE on the AIR

NOW AT 10:30 A.M. SATURDAYS on

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



PANEL 1: DONALD TRUMP IS GOING TO MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!
YES, AS THE HAT PROCLAIMS. BUT WHEN WAS THAT, EXACTLY? WHAT?

PANEL 2: TO WHICH GOLDEN ERA OF THE PAST, EXACTLY, WILL PRESIDENT TRUMP RETURN US?
ER--I--

PANEL 3: HE'S NEVER SPECIFIED--BUT ACCORDING TO A SURVEY RELEASED A FEW WEEKS AGO, THE YEAR MOST FREQUENTLY CHOSEN BY YOUR FELLOW TRUMP SUPPORTERS WAS 2000.
WORKS FOR ME! BACK BEFORE OBAMACARE AND ALL THIS TERRORISM!

PANEL 4: SO YOU'RE SAYING AMERICA WAS GREAT IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE START OF THE LAST REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION? YOU'D LIKE TO HIT THE RESET BUTTON AND TAKE US BACK TO THE TAIL END OF THE CLINTON YEARS?
I DUNNO, WHY?

PANEL 5: DONALD TRUMP WILL MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN--LIKE NEVER BEFORE!
IS THERE A WORD TO DESCRIBE THE SENSATION OF GREAT AMUSEMENT MIXED WITH SHEER DREAD?
JUST SEEMS LIKE IT MIGHT COME IN HANDY.

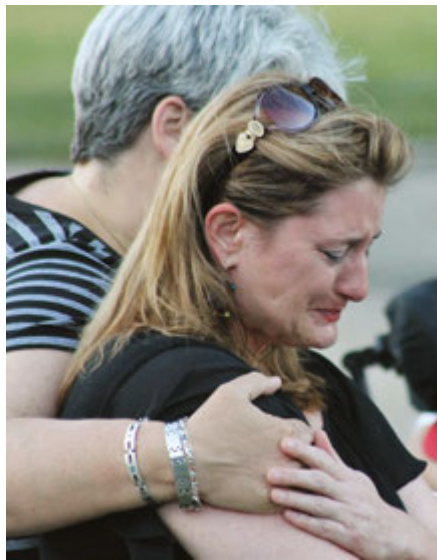
PANEL 6: DONALD TRUMP WILL MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN--LIKE NEVER BEFORE!
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TOM TOMORROW © 2016

Gestures of solidarity

From Lansing and Orlando, shock, sadness and unity

As the cast of Riverwalk Theater's production of "Rent" slowly merged back into the crowd of people — some wearing "Love Wins" t-shirts, and others wrapped in rainbow flags — standing before the steps of the state Capitol Sunday evening,



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Michigan State University staff member Amber Cordell is comforted by Lisa Laughman of MSU during a vigil for those murdered in Orlando Sunday night. The two were participating in an event at The Rock on MSU's campus.

another group of people quietly walked up. They stood at the back of the gathering of politicians and members of the LGBT community. There were men and children and women wearing hijabs.

They were members of the Islamic Center of Greater Lansing, present to stand with the community.

"For us, we mourn along with the nation the loss of life," Thasin Sardar said after the candlelight vigil. Sardar is the former president of the Islamic Center of Greater Lansing in East Lansing. He also serves on the advisory board for the Council on American and Islamic Relations of Michigan. "We are here not as Muslims, but as Americans. We wanted to join the community here."

Before the vigil, the Lansing Association for Human Rights, a gay rights organization, issued a statement rejecting attempts to use the Orlando shootings as a reason to single out Muslims.

"We want to make clear, this can be an act of hate and an act of terror, and not something that implicates all Muslims — simultaneously. LAHR cannot support the use of this tragedy, our lost LGBTQ lives, to fuel anti-Muslim agendas and the irrational fears of those who are different from us," wrote Emily Dievendorf, a board member of LAHR. "Terrorism has no skin color or religion. When we see it

implied otherwise we will call that what it is, opportunism and ignorance, and it has no place in our mourning and does nothing to help a nation heal."

This was just one of many gestures of solidarity — large and small — Sunday night as the greater Lansing community mourned and processed the apparent terror attack in a gay nightclub in Orlando that left 49 club-goers dead and 53 in the hospital. The attacker, Omar Mateen, was an American citizen and pledged his allegiance to the terror network ISIS during a phone call with 911 during the attack. He was killed by police.

President Barack Obama called it an example of "homegrown extremism," but he noted the killer's motive was unknown.

"Although it's still early in the investigation, we know enough to say that this was an act of terror and an act of hate," Obama said in a statement Sunday afternoon. "And as Americans, we are united in grief, in outrage, and in resolve to defend our people."

That resolve was on full display at the Capitol Sunday night.

"We refuse to be silenced, refuse to allow fear to overcome love," the Rev. Nicolette Siragusa, pastor of the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Grand Ledge, said. "It is in this spirit that we unabashedly gather here — in public, on the steps of our state's Capitol. We refuse to hide in fear, we refuse to shrivel up and die."

"In fierce opposition, we boldly declare June to be our month of Pride. The Pride movement was birthed in a nightclub, led by beautiful trans folk who refused to be beaten down and shamed any longer," Siragusa told over 100 people gathered at the Capitol. "LGBT clubs have long been our community centers, our safe-havens, our places where we may claim our God-given sexuality and celebrate that we are made in the image of the divine."

That God-given sexuality links former Grand Ledge resident Drew Spangler, 46, to the massacre and its aftermath. He lives in Orlando, where one of the victims was an on-again, off-again sexual partner for years. And as often happens, the two grew apart after Spangler met his husband four years ago. They'd see each other at the gym and chat socially. Promises would be made to meet up. And those meetups would never happen.

He learned of the death of his friend Monday morning. Also on the list of the dead was another name he recognized, a passing acquaintance.

"I am sure I will know other people," he said in a phone interview. "Some of the

See Solidarity, Page 6



Property: 131 and 137 Leslie St.
Lansing

This building and its mirror image seen at the right edge of the photo form bookends that will eventually frame an entrance to this long-term development on the east side of Lansing. Designer-builder Dave Muylle's hands-on approach allows him to make minor but important changes during construction. The foundations of two new homes seen in the middle background were adjusted a few feet — following a variance — to preserve site lines for the subject buildings.

While the houses are finished with basic cement-fiber siding, Muylle has cleverly provided variety by applying the boards in one configuration on the main level and another on the upper floor. The upper level features regular coursing widths with contrasting corner trim color. Below, the siding is more detailed, applying different exposures and textures on alternate boards.

The front facing garage disdained by urban planners is significantly altered and improved upon. Rather than serving as a place used exclusively for automobile storage, the structure is opened to the street and serves both as a carport and gathering space. A change in driveway paving material nearer the street helps to define a thick border between the public and private, allowing the residents to choose their level of engagement with the street.

— Daniel E. Bollman, AIA



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

A patron of Spiral Dance Club prepares to release a lit lantern written with words honoring the murder victims in Orlando on Sunday night.

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

Solidarity

from page 5

dead, I am sure — some who were shot.”

He added that had he and his partner been at the Pulse club Saturday night — he’s not been there in a year — they would have been caught in the massacre. They like to close down the bar together, he said.

Spangler said he was surprised the attack came at a gay bar, the weekend after the “Gay Days” event at nearby Disney World. That event attracts members of the LGBT community from around the world who spend their day at the theme park and their nights in the bars in Orlando.



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

A handmade sign and fresh flowers rests against the steps of the state Capitol after a candle light vigil for the victims of the June 12 shooting at a gay bar in Orlando.

“I never thought it would be a gay bar [that was attacked],” he said. “I thought it would be one of the parks.”

The tragedy does have him thankful for his husband, and he encourages others to think of that as well. “When you look at your significant other, your friends, your family and loved ones, be thankful for what you have,” he said.

In Lansing, reaction to the massacre was one of sorrow and reconciliation. Speaking Sunday at the Capitol, Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero said, “Their goal is to divide us. We’re united — exactly the opposite of what the terrorists want.”

To punctuate the togetherness, Bernero pointed out that State Sen. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge, was present. He also noted the attendance of Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum and Lansing City Councilwoman Jody Washington, who is often at odds with him over city-related business. Also attending was Adam Hussain, the Third Ward representative on the City Council. The Michigan State Police stood by.

Byrum fought back tears as she was interviewed following the Capitol vigil.

“It isn’t very often I am at a loss for words,” she said. “The hate. The hate that is so prevalent. It is so disappointing. I do believe love will conquer all. Through love we’ll move forward.”

She paused and looked away. Then quietly, almost to herself, she said, “It’s just horrible. It’s just horrible.”

In East Lansing, in front of the Michigan State University Rock on Farm Lane — famous for being painted for all sorts of causes — about 50 people gathered to remember and reflect. Here, the reflection



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Michigan State University Vice President for Student Affairs and Services Denise Maybanks addresses a gathering of students and community members Sunday night at The Rock. Members of the campus LGBTQ community had painted the rock to honor those killed in the June 12 shootings at a gay bar in Orlando.

was darker, as younger members of the LGBT community struggled to understand how spaces, like gay bars, that were once safe havens in a world considered hostile, could no longer be safe.

“I don’t even have words,” said Denise Maybanks, vice president of student affairs and services. “Nothing seems fitting. Nothing seems adequate.”

An hour later, with dance music thumping away in the background, people gathered in the parking lot of Spiral Dance Bar, a gay bar, in Old Town. It is a club not unlike Pulse, the Orlando gay nightclub where the shooting took place. There were LGBT patrons, as well as families with children and a gaggle of political and community leaders. Bernero was there standing with Lansing Police Chief Michael Yankowski, City Councilwomen Patricia Spitzley and

Kathie Dunbar were with them as was Lansing Community College Trustee Andrew Abood. On the other side of the lot was Lansing City Council President Judi Brown Clarke and her husband, 54-A District Court Judge Hugh Clarke. Two uniformed police officers stood by, watchfully.

This group gathered to send 50 burning lanterns into the sky. It was somber and nearly silent. Delicious, a longtime Lansing drag personality, was uncharacteristically subdued as she quietly directed the line-up and launch.

Written in black marker on one lantern was a simple message: “Compassionate. Respect. Identity. Community.”

—Todd Heywood



PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing City Council on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, to consider **Ordinance No. 1374**; an ordinance to add Section 2-84a to Division 2 – Code of Ethics – Of Article III – Officers and Employees – Of Chapter 2 – Administration – Of the Code of the City of East Lansing

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

Marie E. Wicks, City Clerk

CP#16-145

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on Thursday, July 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

1. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Alan Ross, for the property at 312 N. Harrison/710 Oak Street, to replace windows, doors and an addition of garage doors. The properties are zoned RM-32, City Center Multiple-Family Residential.

Call (517) 319-6930, the Department of Planning, Building and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, for additional information. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

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

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#16-144

PUBLIC NOTICES

ORDINANCE #2592

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN, PROVIDING FOR THE REZONING OF A PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN AND FOR THE REVISION OF THE DISTRICT MAPS ADOPTED BY SECTION 1246.02 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES.

The City of Lansing ordains:

Section 1. That the district maps adopted by and incorporated as Section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lansing, Michigan be amended to provide as follows:

To change the zoning classification of the property described as follows:

Case Number: Z-5-2015

Address: 222 W. Genesee Street

Parcel Number: PPN: 33-01-01-16-130-066

Legal Descriptions: The East 83 Feet of the West 149 Feet of Lot 7, Also the West 17 Feet of the East 43 Feet, Lot 8, Block 70, Original Plat, City of Lansing, Ingham County, MI, from “DM-3” Residential District to “D-1” Professional Office District.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed.

This rezoning ordinance will amend and supersede Ordinance 2589, passed September 28, 2015, by correcting the statement of the rezoning classification to correspond to the rezoning properly noticed and presented at the time.

Section 3. This ordinance was duly adopted by the Lansing City Council on June 13, 2016, and a copy is available in the office of the Lansing City Clerk, 9th Floor, City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon the expiration of seven (7) days from the date this notice of adoption is published in a newspaper of general circulation.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#16-143

PUBLIC NOTICES**CITY OF EAST LANSING****ORDINANCE NO. 1372****AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 26-52 OF DIVISION 2 - DISORDERLY CONDUCT - OF ARTICLE II - OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC PEACE AND ORDER - OF CHAPTER 26 - OFFENSES - OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING.**

Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1372 was adopted by the East Lansing City Council at the regular meeting of the Council held on June 15, 2016 and will become effective on the publication date.

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

Section 26-52 of Chapter 26 of the Code of the City of East Lansing is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 26-52. - Prohibited acts.

No person shall:

- (1) Be intoxicated in a public place and be endangering directly the safety of another person or property. A peace officer who has reasonable cause to believe a person has violated this subsection may ask the person to consent to a preliminary chemical breath analysis or other acceptable blood alcohol test. The results are admissible in a prosecution to determine whether the person was intoxicated. A person whose body alcohol content is equal to or greater than 0.08 grams per 100 milliliters of blood, per 200 liters of breath, or per 67 milliliters of urine, at the time of testing shall be presumed to be intoxicated.
- (2) Knowingly engage in any indecent or obscene conduct in any public place, or knowingly make any immoral exhibition or indecent exposure of his/her person.
- (3) Discharge any firearms, air rifle, or slingshot, nor shall any person have any air rifle or sling shot in his/her possession in any street, or park, except the same be securely wrapped or encased.
- (4) Engage in peeping in the windows of any inhabited place.
- (5) Reserved.
- (6) Swim or bathe in the nude in any public place.
- (7) Accost, molest, or otherwise annoy, either by touching or by word of mouth, or by sign or motion, any person in any public place with intent to interfere with or abuse that person or culpably offend his/her dignity or sensibilities.
- (8) Urinate, defecate, or spit on any street, sidewalk, alley, park, parkway, parking lot or structure, public carrier, or upon any public building or place of public assemblage or upon any other public or private property of another open to public view, or upon any private property of another without the consent of the owner, except where an approved sanitary facility is provided and used.
- (9) Disturb the public peace and quiet by loud or boisterous conduct or by engaging in any disturbance, fight, brawl, or quarrel in any public place.
- (10) Assemble or act in concert with four or more other persons for the purpose of engaging in conduct constituting the crime of riot, or be present at any assembly that either has or develops such a purpose and remain thereat with intent to advance such purpose. For purposes of this section, a person, other than an on-duty law enforcement officer, remains at a riot with the intent to advance its purpose if they participate in the riot in any manner including, but not limited to, committing or attempting to commit any of the following acts:
 - a. Throwing or propelling or causing to be propelled any object which includes, but is not limited to, discharging fire extinguishers or deploying fireworks as defined by MCL 750.243a(1)(a).
 - b. Damaging, destroying, injuring or defacing any public property or private property not their own.
 - c. Meddling with any deployed riot control agent.
 - d. Exposing their buttocks, genitalia, or, if a female, exposing their breasts.
 - e. Wearing a gas mask, helmet, or protective clothing for the purpose of avoiding the affects of deployed riot control agents or for the purpose of meddling with deployed riot control agents.
 - f. Wearing a mask or taking other measures to hide their identity.
 - g. Participating in chants or taunts directed toward the police.
 - h. Walking or running through a police line or otherwise obstructing the police in the discharge of their duties.
 - i. Refusing or failing to leave a public street or sidewalk after an order to do so is given by a police officer.
 - j. Remaining on a street, sidewalk or other public property where a riot control agent has been deployed within that area or returning to said street or sidewalk or other public property within two hours after a riot control agent has been deployed in that area other than to directly traverse the area to get to a destination outside of the area.
 - k. Remaining on a street, sidewalk or other public property after a public announcement has been made over a loud speaker that an assembly on that street, sidewalk or that public property is an unlawful assembly or returning to a street or sidewalk or other public property within two hours after such an announcement has been made other than to directly traverse the area to get to a destination outside of the area.
 - l. Starting a fire or placing combustible items onto a fire.
 - m. Engaging in a physical fight or pushing or shoving persons other than in self defense.
 - n. Cheering, applauding or otherwise encouraging any of the conduct identified in subsections (a) through (m) of this section.
- (11) Jostle or roughly crowd persons in any street, alley, park, or public building.
- (12) Loiter, remain, or wander in or about a place without apparent reason and under circumstances which warrant alarm for the safety of persons or property and, upon the appearance of a peace officer, take flight, manifestly endeavor to conceal oneself, or, upon inquiry by a police officer, refuse to identify himself/herself or give a reasonable, credible account of his/her conduct and purposes.
- (13) Knowingly attend, frequent, operate, or loiter in or about any place where prostitution, gambling, the illegal sale of intoxicating liquor, controlled substances, or any other illegal business or occupation is permitted or conducted.
- (14) Solicit or accost any person for the purpose of engaging in prostitution or any illegal or immoral act.
- (15) Knowingly transport any person to a place where prostitution or gambling is practiced, encouraged, or allowed for the purpose of enabling such person to engage in such acts.
- (16) Keep or maintain a gaming room, gaming table, or any policy or pool tickets, used for gaming; knowingly suffer a gaming room, gaming tables, or any policy or pool tickets to be kept, maintained, played, or sold on any premises occupied or controlled by him/her except as permitted by law; conduct or attend any cock fight or dog fight; or place, receive, or transmit any bet on the outcome of any race, contest, or game of any kind whatsoever.
- (17) Knowingly permit or suffer any place occupied or controlled by him/her to be used so as to disturb the public peace.
- (18) Assault, obstruct, resist, hinder, or oppose any member of the police force, any peace officer, or firefighter in the discharge of his/her duties as such.
- (19) Prowl about any alley or the private premises of any other person in the nighttime, without authority or the permission of the owner of such premises.
- (20) Summon, as a joke or prank or otherwise without any good reason therefor, by telephone or otherwise, the police or the fire department or any public or private ambulance to go to any address where the service called for is not needed.
- (21) Wrongfully throw or propel any snowball, missile, or object from any moving automobile.

Continued on page 8

Baseball and bands

Location sets Outfield apartments apart from other downtown housing

If you've driven past the Outfield project looming over the Cooley Law School Stadium ball field and wondered what it's like inside, I can tell you. It's pitch perfect. Forgive the pun.

Virtually leased out even before it officially opens on Thursday, the Outfield is just what planners envision for cities like Lansing to entice Millennials to their downtowns.

The inaugural mix of tenants skews young, said developer Pat Gillespie, but not exclusively so. The mix includes professionals, a doctor, college students and what one younger tenant calls grandparents.

There is a definite grad school-housing



MICKEY HIRTEN

vibe to the Outfield, starting with the first-floor lounge with its panoramic view of the field, a bar, pool and shuffleboard tables, couches and, of course, big-screen TVs. It's a big party room called Club 420 — the distance to home plate — with open ceilings, industrial lighting, wood strip walls and lots of glass. A Starbucks coffee dispenser flanks the entryway.

The apartments on the second, third and fourth floors range from small studios to two-bedroom, two-bathroom units, most of them with balconies. These aren't meant for families. The accommodations are more cozy than commodious and the room labels reflect the target renters. The living room is labeled "Chill." The kitchen is "Eat." The bathroom is "Refresh." The bedroom, "Sleep." A shade too cute, but it seems to work.

The "Urban Studio" is 548 square feet and leases at \$875 to \$1,025 per month, based on a 12-month lease. The more costly studio comes with a Murphy bed built into a wall unit with drawers, closets and shelves. Empty, it seems like plenty of

space for ... for a studio, that is.

On the fourth floor, the apartments have a loft-like quality with vaulted ceilings and open glass fronts. Single bedroom apartments start at \$925; two bedroom, two baths . . . er, make that refresh rooms, start at \$1,250. Pets are welcome for a non-refundable \$350 fee. And it's \$25 a month for cats, \$40 for dogs with a 35-pound weight limit. Every unit has a washer-dryer. Smoking is banned.

All very nice. But what really makes the Outfield special is location, especially for the apartments fronting the ballpark. It's where you discover that you have more friends than you realized. Who knew baseball was so popular?

With most apartments you get housing and some amenities. At the Outfield you get entertainment. The balconies were packed Saturday night for the Taste of Country Concert, which organizers say drew 11,000 fans. Though people on the balconies couldn't see the bands who played from a covered stage facing the seats, the music was plenty loud. But they

could see the show on large video screens. And even better, it was all free. Although the Outfield has been open for just a few weeks, the balconies are already filled with tables, chairs, flowerpots and coolers. On one balcony, liquor bottles line the windowsill frat style.

Call this the party side of the building. Apartments on the north side of the Outfield overlook the parking lot, the new Lansing Brewing Co. and off to the left the Grand River. Still, it's downtown living with parking (\$25 a month). These units are cheaper than on the ball field side, perhaps a bit saner.

For tenants who have been living in the Outfield for just a few weeks, the ball-games, the fireworks and the concert are still new and exciting. But will it get old? The Lugnuts season started on April 6 and stretches through Sept. 6. The games are loud — cheers, over-amped music and announcements. Lights are on well after the game ends. And fireworks are fun,

See Hirten, Page 9

PUBLIC NOTICES

- (22) Wrongfully throw or propel any snowball, missile or object toward any person or automobile or propel any glass object onto any public street or sidewalk.
- (23) Discharge a fire extinguisher in public or on the premises or in the residence of another, without permission of the owner or occupant thereof, other than with the intent to extinguish a fire.
- (24) Maliciously telephone any other person for the purpose of harassing, molesting, threatening, intimidating, or annoying such other person or his/her family, whether or not conversation ensues.
- (25) Make a false report, by telephone or otherwise, to any public official which may be reasonably expected to cause the evacuation or closing of a building or place open to the public.
- (26) Falsely impersonate a police officer, firefighter, or housing, building or zoning code enforcer for the purpose of gaining entry to private property, or access to private records, or access to public records which would not otherwise be subject to public disclosure under the law.
- (27) Invite, entice, coax, persuade, or induce by threat, any minor child under the age of 17 years to enter any motor vehicle, or conveyance, or private property or place, except where the parent or guardian of said child has given that person his/her express prior consent; this section shall not prohibit school personnel, peace officers, or public health, or social welfare personnel from carrying out the normal duties of their employment.
- (28) Reserved.
- (29) Furnish to a peace officer false, forged, fictitious, or misleading verbal or written information either identifying the person as another person or falsely misrepresenting a material fact about the person including, but not limited to, the person's date of birth or correct spelling of their full name, if the person is detained for a violation of the law, is temporarily detained for the purpose of issuance of an appearance ticket or civil infraction citation, or has an outstanding warrant for their arrest.
- (30) Furnish or use any false, fraudulent, or misleading verbal or written information identifying the person or his/her age to any agent or employee of any licensed establishment which sells or furnishes alcoholic liquor for the purpose of purchasing or consuming alcoholic liquor or to gain entry to the establishment. Any written information which the licensee or his/her agent or employee has reasonable suspicion to believe is false, fraudulent, or misleading shall be seized by the licensee and delivered to the East Lansing Police Department no later than 12:00 p.m. of the next business day following seizure. A suitable sign describing this section shall be posted in a conspicuous place in each room of the establishment. Upon conviction for a violation of this subsection, furnishing or using fraudulent identification, the court shall order the suspension of the person's operator's or chauffeur's license pursuant to MCL 436.1703(2) and MCL 257.319(5). The court shall immediately forward the suspended license and an abstract of conviction to the secretary of state.
- (31) Knowingly or intentionally remaining on a public sidewalk, public street, private property open to the public, or the unenclosed private property of another within 300 feet of a structure fire, vehicle fire, or unlawful fire, after a fire or police official determines a public danger exists and orders individuals to vacate the area and a reasonable period of time has elapsed which permits individuals to leave the area. No person shall remain on a public sidewalk, public street, private property open to the public or unenclosed private property of another between a fire truck parked adjacent to a structure fire, vehicle fire or unlawful fire that fire officials are seeking to contain while knowingly hindering, obstructing or interfering with fire officials discharging their duties after being ordered to vacate the area.
- These provisions do not apply to persons attempting to put out or contain the fire prior to the arrival of firefighting personnel.
 - These provisions do not apply to firefighters, other emergency personnel and police officers discharging their duties as such, or to persons remaining or traveling directly to or from a structure out of a necessity.
 - These provisions do not apply to persons to whom any fire or police official has given express permission to remain unless that permission is revoked by the on-site fire incident commander or on-site supervisor of the police department.
 - These provisions do not apply to a person awaiting arrival of public safety personnel to warn others of danger or provide information about the fire, structures involved, or information that could be useful to public safety personnel, such as, but not limited to information about the origin of the fire, whether any occupants could be in any structure involved, materials that may be in the structure or vicinity of the fire, persons observed in the vicinity of the fire, words, or noises heard, and the condition of any structures involved or persons or property harmed.
 - For purposes of these provisions, an unlawful fire does not include any cooking fire contained in a grill designed for that purpose on private property or any fire that is not in a contained outdoor fireplace on private property. An unlawful fire does not include lit lighters, lit matches or lit candles or emergency flares used for that purpose, but it does include all other fires, flames or combustible materials not authorized by law.
- (32) Direct a verbal, physical or electronic act against the person, family or property of any individual who complains of or witnesses a violation of the East Lansing City Code for the purpose of intimidating or retaliating against that person for the exercise of the right to complain or testify to a violation of this Code.
- (33) Being an employee of a licensed liquor establishment, knowingly allow admittance of a person less than 21 years of age into said establishment, or allow admittance by failure to make a diligent inquiry as to whether the person is less than 21 years of age, at any time when the liquor establishment's special use permit or official policy prohibits entry of that person. For purposes of this subsection an official policy shall mean a policy on file with the East Lansing Police Department and posted at the entrance to the establishment specifying at what times persons under 21 years of age are not allowed in the establishment.

Hirten

from page 8

but every week? After Saturday's concert, workers were dismantling the stage until 5 in the morning.

The Lansing Outfield project is likely to be replicated in other minor league markets.

"I had a call last month from the Great Lake Loons. They said do you know that you're the talk of minor league baseball?" Gillespie said. He added that the project has been written about by Yahoo Sports, ESPN, Sports Illustrated, the Washington Post and Miami Herald.

He would like to duplicate the Outfield at other minor league ballparks and expects visits from baseball officials now that the complex is open.

"We've learned some things about parking and landscaping from this project," Gillespie said. "I should have put another floor on the building. I was just too chicken."

For the Gillespie Group, which built the Midtown on Michigan Avenue, Marketplace on the Grand River and the Stadium District across from the stadium, the Outfield was unusually complicated. The land is owned by the City of Lansing, the stadium is leased to the Lugnuts, and Gillespie in a condominium-like arrangement owns the second, third and fourth floors with some office and common space on the ground level.

Oddly, despite the location, there is no direct access from the Outfield to the plaza between the building and the field.

This is Lugnuts territory, where it holds special events on the promenade and in the View, a 2,000-square-foot special events venue.



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TENTS AND TENTACLES

Summer Solstice Jazz Festival expands its reach for 20th anniversary blowout

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

An octopus in a fedora and dark glasses is looming over the streets.

Now in its 20th year, East Lansing's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival is a surging, swinging cephalopod, a regional event with tentacles stretching in all directions.

Under the aegis of artistic director Rodney Whitaker, who is also director of jazz studies across the street at Michigan State University, the festival has reached out to absorb the unique jazz scenes of Detroit, Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids, Chicago and beyond, with styles ranging from Sinatra-style big band swing to Latin, bebop and fire-breathing free jazz.

Summer Solstice Jazz Festival

4:30 p.m.-midnight Friday, June 17; noon-midnight Saturday, June 18
FREE
Downtown East Lansing
(517) 319-6980,
eljazzfest.com

Formerly a middle-of-the-road, middle-of-the-state event, centered largely on the MSU Jazz Studies students and professors, the festival has dramatically expanded its geographic and stylistic reach.

In 2007, Whitaker's first year as artistic director of the festival, a comment from a listener stuck with him.

"Someone who wasn't a musician and who didn't have a background in the music said, 'A lot of the music you have sounds the same,'" Whitaker said. "That made me think. She was right. The artists we had were all pretty similar, musically."

Working with the Wharton Center, a festival partner, Whitaker recruited a series of still affordable but incandescent young artists, including bassist Esperanza Spalding, vocalists Cecile McLorin Salvant and Cyrille Aimee and trumpeter Bria Skonberg.

Staying within the festival's limited budget, Whitaker has made every dollar count. In December 2015, Vanity Fair published a photo spread called "Jazz on the Loose," featuring 36 jazz artists under 33 who are ringing in "the hottest live jazz scene since World War I." (One of them was MSU's own



Courtesy Photo

Pianist Marcus Roberts headlines an ambitious 20th anniversary lineup at this weekend's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival.

trumpeter Etienne Charles.)

"We had almost all of those artists at our festival," Whitaker said, "Before they won Grammys and became famous."

This year, a Friday evening vocal summit of young, up-and-coming singers Danielle Blanchard, Nashon Holloway, Beth Stalker, Nicole New and Evangeline will extend that tradition.

The most dramatic tent-expander this year is Saturday's festival-within-the-festival, the Kozmic Picnik, beginning at noon in an aptly angular setting for avant-garde music, the sculpture garden of the Broad Art Museum. Last year's gig by Chicago vibraphonist Jason Adaseiwicz turned out so well that Whitaker decided to triple the slate, hoping to draw on the regional audience that packs Ann Arbor's Kerrytown Concert Hall for the adventurous Edgefest each year.

To pick the musicians, Whitaker enlisted the aid of Deanna Relyea, artistic director of both Kerrytown and Edgefest. The result is a rare — as in, never — East Lansing appearance by three of the most engaging, creative artists in avant-garde jazz, headlined by

trumpeter and reedman Joe McPhee, a free jazz icon lionized in Europe and the U.S.

Whitaker found that many of the same people who come to mainstream concerts dug the Kozmic Picnik last year. In the 21st century, musical styles ebb and flow with a fluidity of a random iPod playlist.

"Jazz has changed so much," Whitaker said. "When you put labels on, you sometimes kill it by creating expectations. Mainstream jazz is sometimes free jazz."

The festival proper is topped Saturday night by its biggest headliner ever, pianist Marcus Roberts, an international star and subject of a 2014 "60 Minutes" segment, "The Virtuoso." Roberts has worked with Whitaker for over 20 years at the Savannah Music Festival.

"Marcus is very innovative," Whitaker said. "He's steeped in tradition back to Earl 'Fatha' Hines, boogie-woogie and stride, and with a modern approach to McCoy Tyner and Herbie Hancock. He has his own sound."

This week, Roberts will do a two-day residency at MSU's Big Band Symposium, tying the festival to Whitaker's greatest passion,

jazz education. MSU started the symposium in 2014, inviting top high school musicians from around the country to form a band that performs at the festival.

In addition to Roberts, Whitaker brought another keyboard great to this year's festival: Jerry Motley, a virtuoso from Atlanta in the Oscar Peterson mold.

"A lot of people may not know him, but he's a major gifted pianist," Whitaker said.

Whitaker hopes that a swinging set from the Chicago Jazz Orchestra, with its "Sinatra at 100" tribute program Saturday night, will seduce a whole different crowd into the festival's big tent.

"We wanted a big band, but one with national appeal," Whitaker said. "These are top cats from Chicago. Oftentimes festivals put together a one-time band, and there's nothing wrong with that, but this is a working big band that's toured all over the world."

The festival's Detroit connection is represented this year by several artists. Two standouts are Marcus Elliot, a mesmerizing post-Coltrane saxophonist and mainstay of a resurgent Detroit jazz scene, and Lady Sunshine and the X Band, a brass-heavy soul/blues/jazz machine in the Stax/Volt mold.

Coming from the other side of the map, the Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra, with singer Edye Evans Hyde, will be the festival's first collaboration with the West Michigan Jazz Society.

MSU's own stable of top artists is represented by trombonist Michael Dease and saxophonist Diego Rivera. There's Latin music (Tumbao Bravo) jazz-blues (guitarist Bobby Murray and his band), New Orleans-style brass (Detroit's Gabriel Brass Band, after the Kozmic Picnik Saturday) and more to discover, but there isn't enough space to rhapsodize about it all here.

"We have 100 and some years' history of the music, and you've got to try and present it," Whitaker said. "Every year tops the last one. That's my motto."

Joe McPhee: The fire that boings

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Joe McPhee, 75, is a revered figure in the world of free jazz. But just when you have him in your grasp, the ferocious trumpeter, saxophonist and composer from Poughkeepsie bounces away.

Universal Indians with Joe McPhee

Kozmic Picnic
2:20 p.m. Saturday, June 11
FREE
Broad Art Museum

McBoingBoing,” McPhee said.

The 1951 cult classic cartoon tells the story of a young boy who can only speak in sound effects.

“His friends were terrible bullies,” McPhee said. “They made fun of him because he couldn’t speak, but he could make sounds like anything. That’s who I aspire to be.”

It sounds like a joke. McPhee loves to puncture the humorless reputation of avant-garde jazz — but watch out for the punch line.

“Then months passed and Gerald got louder and louder,” goes the verse by Dr. Seuss in the cartoon, “Until one day he went BOOOM like a big keg of powder.”

McPhee’s seminal 1971 album “Nation Time,” recently re-issued to critical acclaim, burned with the fire of the civil rights move-

ment and opposition to the Vietnam War, and politics is never far from the surface of McPhee’s music.

“Now there’s the Black Lives Matter movement, we’ve got Trump to deal with and this horror that just happened in Orlando,” McPhee said. “All these things happening in the world are a part of what’s happening with our music and our consciousness.”

Freedom, in life and music, is McPhee’s pole star. He was about 22 when he heard John Coltrane’s classic quartet at the Village Gate.

“It was like when you’re sitting on a jetliner and it goes down the runway,” he said. “Suddenly the engines come on, you feel that thrust in your back and you’re racing into the wind.”

Since the death of free-jazz pioneer Ornette Coleman about a year ago, McPhee and the Universal Indians have folded his music into theirs. McPhee has a personal history with the soft-spoken, oracular saxophonist from Texas.

Shortly after Coltrane’s death, McPhee was in his Manhattan apartment, rehearsing, when Coleman knocked on the door.

“Are you going to the funeral?” he asked McPhee.

McPhee protested that he didn’t have any



Photo by Peter Gannushkin

Avant-garde multi-instrumentalist Joe McPhee headlines this year’s expanded Kosmic Picnic in the Broad Art Museum’s sculpture garden.

good clothes.

“You don’t need that. You just go,” Coleman told him.

Hearing Coleman and Albert Ayler play

at Coltrane’s funeral, McPhee was moved to play saxophone as well as trumpet.

Under the spell of saxophonists Coltrane, Coleman, Ayler and Eric Dolphy, McPhee gravitated from traditional jazz of Art Blakey, Miles Davis and other 1950s and ‘60s artists to a free, muscular sound that leaves out nothing worth including, from soul and rock music to the theories of unclassifiable American mavericks like Pauline Oliveros and Harry Partch.

A few years ago, McPhee was playing in Amsterdam with another free jazz icon, saxophonist Peter Brötzmann, when he got an email from Amsterdam-based, American saxophonist John Dikeman inviting McPhee to play with his group, Universal Indians, with Norwegian bassist Jon Rune Strøm and drummer Tollef Østvang. (The band got its name from a composition by Ayler and is not to be confused with the hardcore noise-rock band of the same name that got its start in Lansing and played in Detroit in the 1990s.)

“We have never rehearsed and never discuss the music we’re going to play,” McPhee said. “It’s in the moment, in the air.”

The result is an open-air musical fire, sparking at the most fleeting breeze of emotion.

“We listen very intently and that’s how we capture it,” McPhee said. “Free jazz doesn’t just mean you play whatever you want and everybody makes a whole bunch of noise. That would be anarchy.”

Ben Williams: The song inside the song

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

When bassist Ben Williams takes a solo, the folds of his music fall away to reveal a bare skin of feeling.

“It’s like finding the song inside the song,” Williams said. “You internalize the melody, dig into the core of what the song is about.”

In a homecoming that’s long overdue, Williams, one of the most accomplished graduates

of MSU’s jazz program, will bring his stellar band, Sound Effect, to the East Lansing Jazz Festival Friday.

Williams thinks a lot about something pianist Herbie Hancock said to him once: “Music is not about music.” Hancock made the cryptic comment while he and Williams were teaching a master class together in Russia a few years ago.

“It’s a simple phrase, but there’s so much meaning and depth to it,” Williams said. “Every song is like a conversation, and that conversation has a subject.”

Williams isn’t interested in an empty shell game of “composing.” Every bar springs from reflection and emotion.

“I’m at my best as a composer when I’m not composing, you know what I mean?” he said. “Like it’s not coming from me, it’s com-

ing through me and I just have to guide it.”

Since graduating from MSU in 2007, Williams studied at the Juilliard School and became firmly established in the jazz world, playing most recently in guitarist Pat Metheny’s Grammy-winning Unity Band with saxophonist Chris Potter and drummer Antonio Sánchez.

“He’s got a gift,” said Rodney Whitaker, MSU jazz studies director. “He’s only just begun and he’s not doing too bad. I’m proud of him and I think the whole school is.”

Williams grew up loving many styles of music. The recent death of Prince hit him especially hard. As a kid growing up in Washington, D.C., he would go in the basement in the morning before everybody got up, find the VHS of “Purple Rain” and watch it over and over.

“Prince was the reason I wanted to be a musician,” he said. “I loved the way he played guitar. I decided that’s what I wanted to do.”

But fate switched instruments on him. His middle school guitar class was full, so he ended up playing bass.

He was already a top student at D.C.’s Duke Ellington School of the Arts and gigging around town when Whitaker recruited him to East Lansing.

“Rodney was almost like a father, as well as a professor,” Williams said. “I learned so much from him musically and personally, as a man.”

Williams and Whitaker found they shared the same heroes, including Detroit

jazz bassist Paul Chambers. Both of them also grew up playing different styles of music. Williams evolved into a 21st century, iPod-era musician, seamlessly blending R&B, classical styles, hip-hop and rock into his jazz sensibility.

“D.C.’s U Street Corridor was full of clubs and bars with live music of all kinds,” Williams said. “We all mixed and mingled. I bring all that with me to my music to this day.”

Last year, Williams had fun making a brief appearance in Don Cheadle’s 2016 Miles Davis biopic, “Miles Ahead.” A high school friend of Williams was helping Cheadle cast the film and suggested Williams appear briefly as a bassist.

With its non-linear structure, fantasies and fabrications, the movie has been controversial with purists, but Williams admired Cheadle’s passion for the project and its iconoclastic spirit.

“He did a Miles Davis thing with the Miles Davis movie,” Williams said.

With two CDs of his own under his belt, Williams is ready to branch out into other media. Last week, he released “Toy Soldiers,” a video of a song from his latest album, “Coming of Age,” about a soldier suffering from PTSD.

In the video, Williams’ elegaic ballad-march is punctuated with sudden silences and shrapnel-like slivers of war imagery, with a reflective rap conclusion. It’s a stretch for Williams, and a perfect example of music that “is not about music.”



Photo by David Todd McCarty

Bassist and MSU alum Ben Williams returns to East Lansing for a Friday set at this year’s Summer Solstice Jazz Festival.



City Pulse/Fox 47 News Top of the Town contest winners were recognized with a party Saturday. (Left to right: Jeana-Dee Allen Rogers, Iris Thompson, Scotty Smith and Dylan Rogers of the Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle; Clayton Vandermoore from P.F. Chang's; Lindsay Gluf from the Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle; Jonah Gause from P.F. Chang's; Maureen Hirten from CADL; Don Black from Scratch Pilots; Maurice Ringgold from Creative Wellness; April Bogdenski from Bake n' Cakes; Bre Berry from Scratch Pilots; Chelsea Scheblo from Bake n' Cakes; Joel Bedell from the Green Door; Ed Fedewa; Jeff Berry from Best Buds; Audrey Matusz from the Impact 89FM; Tim Gleason from Golden Harvest; Anthony Parker from Best Buds; Tim Wedge from the Green Door; Joshua Wadds from Lansing Brewing Co.; Ed Glazer from the Impact 89 FM; Keri Brown from Lansing Brewing Co.; Matthew Carr from Golden Harvest; Jesse Mazur from Best Buds; Henry Meyer from Eastside Fish Fry; Draven Diaz, Zane Vicknair and Steve King from Golden Harvest; Sheyanne Johnson from Houlihan's; Jasmine Hughes from Golden Harvest; Brady Burns and Kate Gille from Strange Matter Coffee Co.; John Cichy and Bubba from Golden Harvest; Britt Slocum from Jersey Giant; Kirby Preuss, Haley Martin, Rick and Debbie Preuss, and Pete Martin from Preuss Pets; City Pulse publisher Berl Schwartz)



The Verve Pipe singer/guitarist Brian Vander Ark performs Friday. Vander Ark penned "The Freshmen," the group's biggest hit.

WINNERS AND 'VILLAINS'

Over 1,000 people came out to Adado Riverfront Park Friday and Saturday for the first-ever City Pulse River Rock Concert. Friday featured the Verve Pipe playing its platinum selling "Villains" album cover to cover, with Wally Pleasant and Triple Lindy opening the show. Saturday featured a quartet of local talent, as well as the City Pulse Top of the Town party.

PHOTOS BY NICOLE RICO



Singer/songwriter Stefanie Haapala and her band delivered a set of indie folk.



James Gardin brought his positive version of hip hop to Saturday's Top of the Town Party.

CURTAIN CALL

Imperial farce

'The Explorers Club' serves up frantic fun

By TOM HELMA

In less capable hands, "The Explorer's Club," staged by Over the Ledge Theatre Co., could easily be a disaster. Thanks to the deft direction of LeAnn Dethlefsen, this parody of upper-class British gentlemen's clubs works — even if this genre is not your cup of Earl Grey tea.

"The Explorer's Club"

Over the Ledge Theatre Co.
8 p.m. Thursday, June 16-Saturday, June 18; 2 p.m. Sunday, June 19
\$10/\$8 seniors/\$6 students.
The Ledges Playhouse
137 Fitzgerald Park Drive,
Grand Ledge
(517) 318-0579,
overtheledge.org

The particularly creative cadre of nine loud and boisterous actors helps this play to sing. The absurd dialogue and over-the-top sight gags elicited laughter and appreciative applause. Dethlefsen is ably assisted in this adventure

by set designer David Hackney and set dresser Kathleen Weldon, who built a posh 19th century clubhouse in the Ledges Playhouse. While the plot is illogical at best, the strength of the cast carries the show as the actors take turns sharing their unique versions of imperial pomposity.

Ian Whipp plays Luigi, a native captured and brought back from a land with an unpronounceable name by wannabe explorer Phyllida Spotte-Hume (Carissa Zielinski). Whipp steals many scenes with his imitations of British mannerisms. An early bar scene, where Luigi whips up mixed drinks with an animal-like energy, sets the tone for the rest of this bombastic bouquet of comic crazies.

Zielinski doubles as Phyllida's twin sister, the Countess Glamorgan. Aided by costume changes and clever staging, Zielinski deftly draws distinctions between these twin characters.

Phyllida is hoping that tales of her travels, and her captured specimen, will earn her a membership in the male-only club of inept explorers. While she makes her case to members appalled at the idea of a woman in the club, she must also fight off the advances of members whose interests in her lie less in the clubhouse and more in the bedroom.

Womanizing world traveller Harry Percy (Jeff Kennedy) competes against mild-mannered botanist Lucius Fretway (Zach Riley). Harry is obnoxiously full of himself and fully unaware of the impact he has on others, while Riley is intensely unimaginative.

Meanwhile, three other "professors," each one representing a different scholarly pursuit,

add quirky bits of their own. Professor Sloane (Rick Dethlefsen) is a bible-quoting "archeologist," Professor Cope (Mike Shalley) has an unnatural affinity for snakes and Professor Walling (Gabriel Francisco) is known for his unorthodox experiments with guinea pigs.

Chris Goeckel, as Sir Bernard Humphries wanders into this collage of cuckoos with pomp and circumstance, and explorer Beebe (Justin Brewer) makes a fashionably late entrance, bringing this play to an even higher level of bizarre behavior.

"The Explorers Club" takes no prisoners. Those who are initially resistant to this silly style of frantic farce are eventually compelled to laugh at the onslaught of non-stop, well-done comic characterizations.

Save the date

Calendar Girls' delivers positive message despite technical difficulties

By TOM HELMA

A sell-out crowd packed Owosso's Lebowsky Center Saturday as a 14-person ensemble cast took the stage in the Owosso Community Players' production of "Calendar Girls."

The play is based on the film of the same name, which, in turn, was based on real events. This production opens in an abstract church social room, designed by Dirk Renick and Rob Fett, with ornate beams arching overhead. Six women, the Yorkshire, England, chapter of the international Women's Institute, are doing Tai chi.

From the outset, the play had some dif-

"Calendar Girls"

Owosso Community Players
8 p.m. Friday, June 17 and
Saturday, June 18; 3 p.m.
Sunday, June 19
\$15/\$13.50 seniors and
students/\$7.50 children 13
and under
Lebowsky Center
122 E. Main St., Owosso
(989) 723-4003,
owossoplayers.com

ficulties. The Julia Child-like accents were difficult to understand, and the situation was made worse by too-hot microphones. It was virtually impossible to hear and understand the (presumably) witty utterances

of the cast. Fortunately, despite this major communicative flaw, the story line of the play managed to push through and overcome the sound limitations.

"Calendar Girls" initially focuses on the awkward inhibitions of responsible, middle-aged women wrestling with the idea of shedding their clothes for tastefully obstructed nude photos for a charity calendar. Most of Act One builds up a restless, titillating tension as the plot moves ever closer to the risqué deed. Uncomfortable and inappropriate laughter is everywhere, somewhat making up for the incomprehensible chattering.

The staging of the photography scene is a hoot, as the women hold up circular shields — think pizza pans covered with aluminum foil — to cover each woman as she disrobes. The visual, ironically, brings to mind Sally Rand's famous burlesque feather dance.

The initial prudish reservations of the group are overcome, and the calendars bring in over \$500,000 for cancer research. More-

over, women around the world applauded the calendar as a recognition of beauty in women with diverse ages and body types.

The six members of the group — Anna Owens, Kathy Kowalski, Lynn Culp, Deb Knipe, Mary Jo Damm-Strong and Carol Henley — certainly fit that bill. Short and tall, young and old, full-figured and petite are all represented. Along the way, the group imbues their characters with humor and humanity. Veteran character actor Susan DeRosa plays antagonist as Marie, a nose-in-the-air, stick-in-the-mud elder who attempts to thwart the publishing of the calendar.

At play's end, audience members gave a standing ovation, forgiving the sound problems and embracing the greater good of the play's message.

Books in the wild

StoryWalk brings reading activity to Orlando Park
By KAYLEIGH GARRISON

Some kids can't get enough of the outdoors, while others are perfectly content to stay inside and read all day. A new installation in Haslett's Orlando Park is hoping to appeal to both.

StoryWalk, which was unveiled earlier this month, is a non-traditional way to get families outdoors, exercising and learning all at the same time. The installation comprises a series of signs set up along a walkway. Each sign has a page from a book — the opening version features "Moose on the Loose" — as well as suggested activities for children to do as they read. Ann Chapman, CADL Haslett's head librarian, first learned about StoryWalk from a public library discussion list.

"It just struck me that that would be a really perfect service for our patrons," Chapman said. "Combining outdoor exercise and reading made a lot of sense here."

Since StoryWalk's debut on June 2, Chapman has already received a lot of positive feedback from the community.

"One of our staff stopped over one evening, and two little girls were doing the StoryWalk. When they got to the end, one of the little girls said, 'Oh, I wish there was another story,'" Chapman

said. "That tells us that it's doing what we wanted it to do."

One of Chapman's goals for StoryWalk is to get children hooked on reading early.

"It will show reluctant readers that reading is fun and that it's entertainment, and it will encourage them to read more," she said. "I think seeing how much fun it was will encourage them to come to the library. It's another free, fun destination for all of our residents this summer."

Chapman was awarded a CADL public service grant to fund the project. Once she got the funding, she needed a place to put it, so she approached Meridian Township.

"The Haslett Library approached us about this idea, and when they suggested it, we were thrilled," said Jane Greenway, Meridian Township's parks and land management coordinator. "We recently put in new playground equipment (in Orlando Park), so StoryWalk was the icing on the cake."

Chapman plans on changing the story out every couple of months. StoryWalk will come down for the winter but will return in the spring. For Greenway, the collaboration has already been a success.

"Ever since we've put it in, we've gotten several phone calls and emails of people saying, 'We can't wait to bring our grandkids here this summer,'" she said. "We think everyone is really excited about it and how beautiful the park is."



Courtesy Photo

StoryWalk, a new installation at Haslett's Orlando Park, places pages of a children's book on stations along a walking path.



Courtesy Photo

Artist Juanita Baldwin describes "Organic Lemons" as "experimenting with a glass vase, some organic lemons and sunlight."

Meet the artist

Juanita Baldwin looks for emotional connection in painting, photography

By CALLIE OPPER

City Pulse and the Arts Council of Greater Lansing have teamed up for the Summer of Art, which puts original art by area artists on the cover of City Pulse each week through Aug. 31. This week's cover features "Universal Fog" by Juanita Baldwin.



Baldwin

Okemos-based artist Juanita Baldwin didn't know what she was getting into when she started taking painting lessons. A native of Chile, Baldwin was invited by a friend to watercolor classes taught by an American artist. After just a few lessons, she was hooked.

"I thought it would be fun to join them, have a cup of coffee while they paint and chat," Baldwin said. "I ended up taking lessons and developed a strong interest in the arts."

As she worked with the artist, she felt like she was learning a new language.

"I saw a new world opening before my

eyes," Baldwin said.

In addition to painting, Baldwin, 64, is also a self-taught fine art photographer.

"I have always liked photography and have taken lots of pictures since I was a teenager, mostly family, friends and trivial scenes like sunsets," Baldwin said. "I didn't initially expect that my photography would necessarily even be successful, let alone become a major part of my artistic endeavors."

Baldwin said that she doesn't paint or photograph what is trendy, but that each piece is creative and represents how she feels at the time.

"The photographs I consider to be fine art are the ones that talk to me, where the subject matter elicits an emotional response," Baldwin said.

Being a successful artist, she said, is a balance between absorbing new ideas and maintaining your own identity.

"Be creative and experiment with your own ideas," Baldwin said. "Go around town and see what other artists are doing, but then go back home and do your own thing."

By taking in new ideas, Baldwin keeps the process of making art fresh and exciting.

"To me, to be an artist is a work in progress," Baldwin said. "There is no end to learning and evolving. I want to continue creating art in a dynamic way. I want to try new techniques — learn, apply, experiment."

City Pulse's Summer of Art

To submit your work for the Summer of Art, please go to lansingarts.org. Please read the rules carefully. Pay particular attention to these:

1. If selected, the original art must be given to the Arts Council of Greater Lansing to be auctioned. The artist receives 30 percent of the sale price.
2. Published art will be used horizontally. City Pulse reserves the right to crop or rotate art.
3. Photographs of art that is not intended to be donated (e.g. large sculptures) will not be accepted. Artistic photographs, including photographs of art, will be considered. Please be clear if you are offering the art piece or the photograph for auction.

Questions? Email publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or call (517) 999-5061.

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COLLEGE OF MUSIC

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for performing arts

JUNE 17-18 2016

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THE SOUL OF JAZZ IN THE HEART OF EAST LANSING



WELCOME TO THE 20TH ANNUAL SUMMER SOLSTICE JAZZ FESTIVAL!

This **FREE** festival features two days of outdoor jazz followed by performances at Fieldhouse, 213 Ann St. The festival is presented by the City of East Lansing, MSU College of Music and Wharton Center for Performing Arts, with artistic direction by Rodney Whitaker.

MAIN STAGE ★

Join us under the big tent in Lot #1, 230 Albert Ave., for an exciting mix of local, regional and national jazz talent!

MSU OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT EDUCATION STAGE 🎵

This performance area gives local high school students, as well as up-and-coming musicians, a chance to perform on stage at a major festival. The stage is located in Ann Street Plaza across from the Marriott at University Place.

KOZMIC PICNIK 🌞

At 12 p.m. on Saturday, June 18, join us in the Sculpture Garden at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 East Circle Dr., for the Kozmic Picnik. Bring a picnic basket and enjoy avant-garde jazz performances by the Ken Kozora Quartet, Tomeka Reid Trio and Universal Indians with Joe McPhee.

SECOND LINE PARADE 🎺

At 3:10 p.m., immediately following the Kozmic Picnik, there will be a Second Line Parade with the Gabriel Brass Band. This is a procession from the Sculpture Garden to Ann Street Plaza. The Second Line Parade is a New Orleans tradition where participants follow the grand marshal and brass band while dancing, handing out beads and twirling parasols. It's all about having fun and being seen! The entire community is invited and costumes are encouraged!

JAZZ KIDS CHILDREN'S AREA ⚙️

Families love the Children's Area! Wharton Center's Inner Circle volunteers will offer jazz-inspired crafts and activities, with the help of the East Lansing Public Library and the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum.

FOOD COURT 🍴

Stop by for great food from Jazzy's Sweet Potatoes & More and Spicer's Grill.

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Check out the Summer Solstice Jazz Festival on Facebook & Twitter



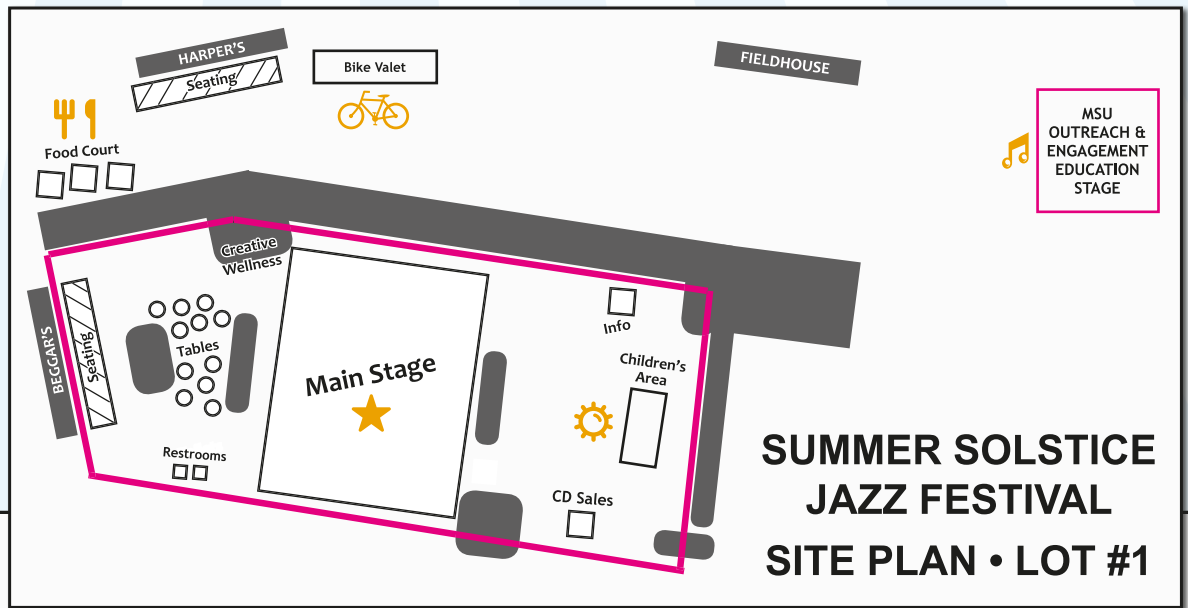
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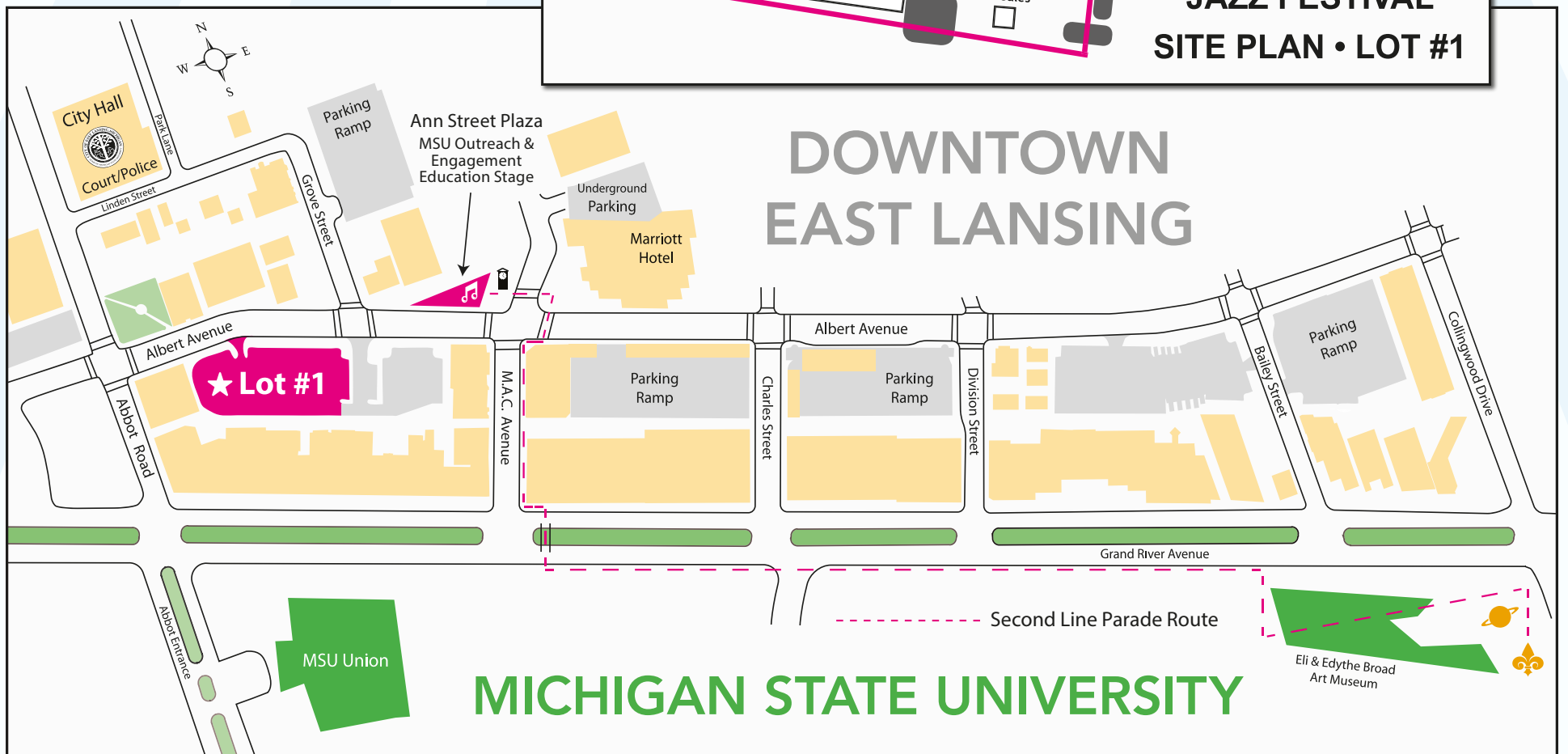
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SUMMER SOLSTICE JAZZ FESTIVAL
SITE PLAN • LOT #1



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TWO NIGHTS OF FREE, LIVE PERFORMANCES

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

MAIN STAGE • LOT #1 • 230 ALBERT AVE.

4:30 P.M.-5:30 P.M.	Gary Motley
6:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.	Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra w/ Edey Evans Hyde
7:30 P.M.-8:45 P.M.	Ben Williams & Sound Effect
9:15 P.M.-10:30 P.M.	Tumbao Bravo
10:45 P.M.-12:30 A.M.	George Delancy Quintet <i>Fieldhouse • 213 Ann St.</i>

MSU OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT EDUCATION STAGE
ANN ST. PLAZA

5:00 P.M.-5:30 P.M.	JAMM Scholarship Quartet w/ Abigail Zerbe
6:00 P.M.-6:30 P.M.	East Lansing High School Jazz Combo
7:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M.	Vocal Summit w/ Jeff Shoup Trio: Danielle Blanchard, Nashon Holloway, Beth Stalker, Nicole New and Evangeline
8:30 P.M.-10:00 P.M.	Bobby Murray Band w/ Lenny Watkins

SATURDAY, JUNE 18

ELI AND EDYTHE BROAD ART MUSEUM
SCULPTURE GARDEN

12:00 P.M.-12:50 P.M.	Kozmic Picnik: Ken Kozora Quartet
1:10 P.M.-2:00 P.M.	Kozmic Picnik: Tomeka Reid Trio
2:20 P.M.-3:10 P.M.	Kozmic Picnik: Universal Indians w/ Joe McPhee
3:10 P.M.	PROCESSION FROM SCULPTURE GARDEN TO ANN STREET PLAZA Second Line Parade: Gabriel Brass Band

MAIN STAGE • LOT #1 • 230 ALBERT AVE.

3:45 P.M.-4:45 P.M.	Marcus Elliot Quartet
5:15 P.M.-6:15 P.M.	Jeff Hamilton Trio
6:45 P.M.-7:30 P.M.	Marcus Roberts
8:00 P.M.-9:15 P.M.	Michael Dease Quintet
9:45 P.M.-10:45 P.M.	Chicago Jazz Orchestra "Sinatra at 100" Tribute featuring Vocalist Paul Marinaro
10:45 P.M.-12:30 A.M.	Diego Rivera Quartet <i>Fieldhouse • 213 Ann St.</i>

MSU OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT EDUCATION STAGE
ANN ST. PLAZA

4:00 P.M.-4:30 P.M.	Blue Lake International Jazz Ensemble <i>Farewell Concert</i>
5:00 P.M.-7:30 P.M.	MSU Big Band Symposium
8:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.	Lydia Harrell
9:30 P.M.-10:30 P.M.	Lady Sunshine and the X Band

PERFORMER BIOS

Gary Motley: an award-winning pianist, composer, arranger and educator that has been featured on National Public Radio's Piano Jazz with Marian McPartland. He has worked with an impressive list of jazz greats, including Dave Brubeck, Clarke Terry, Kenny Baron, Jon Faddis, Eddie Daniels and Benny Golson. Gary is currently Director of Jazz Studies at Emory University in Atlanta.

Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra w/ Edey Evans Hyde: The Grand Rapids Jazz Orchestra is West Michigan's premier Big Band Jazz Ensemble. Edey Evans Hyde has been sharing her talent globally for over 30 years. She has shared the stage with pop singer Michael Bolton, vocalist Maria Muldaur, the late Ray Charles and Cuban trumpet player Arturo Sandoval.

Ben Williams & Sound Effect: Ben Williams is a Jazz Studies alumnu of both MSU and Juilliard. He has also won the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Bass Competition and was awarded the 2013 GRAMMY Award for Best Jazz Instrumental Album as a member of guitarist Pat Metheny's Unity Band. Ben also appears with Don Cheadle in the recent film about legend Miles Davis, "Miles Ahead," and performed at the White House recently for International Jazz Day.

Tumbao Bravo: Formed in August 2003 by reedman Paul VornHagen and conguero Alberto Nacif, this exciting Cuban jazz combo has released four critically acclaimed CDs, has been featured on all of the major jazz public radio stations throughout the U.S., and are winners of the 2005, 2007 and 2013 Detroit Music Awards for Best Jazz Recording and Best World Music Band.

JAMM Scholarship Quartet w/ Abigail Zerbe: 2016 Sandy Izenon Scholarship winner Abigail Zerbe, backed up by two former scholarship winners, directed by the very talented local guitarist Doug Fritch.

East Lansing High School Jazz Band: Our hometown high school jazz band under the direction of David Larzelere.

Vocal Summit w/ the Jeff Shoup Trio: Shoup hosts the weekly jam session "Jazz Tuesdays" at Stober's Bar in downtown Lansing. He can be found performing jazz music at area restaurants, night clubs and special events. He has performed at the Lansing JazzFest, Summer Solstice Jazz Festival and the East Lansing Art Festival. Jeff has shared the stage with such notable jazz musicians as Jim Alfredson, Rodney Whitaker, Diego Rivera, Wess "Warmdaddy" Anderson and Ralph Tople.

Danielle Blanchard: Danielle is a versatile vocalist that is as comfortable on stage with a Big Band, as she is in the studio recording commercial jingles. During the day, she is an award-winning public school teacher that was named Newsweek WDIV Teacher of the Year.

Nashon Holloway: Nashon Holloway is where Amy Winehouse meets Corinne Bailey Rae. Performance credits include features on The Oprah Winfrey Show with David Foster, Jazz at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall. Nashon is a soulful songstress set to release her first studio album, "The Palace" & the Hut. In addition to teaching private voice to young children, she also collaborates with students of all ages on using music for healing and artistic therapy.

Beth Stalker: Detroit native Beth Stalker started her professional music career at the age of four. She currently has a total of seven Detroit Music Awards, and had an original song, "Hold Me," receive the Grand Prize in Peavey's 40th Anniversary Song Contest. In 2008, Beth competed and became a finalist on American Idol.

Nicole New: Nicole is a passionate and provocative singer that allures crowds with her sensitivity and soulfulness. Her eclectic style of singing, drawing from early influences of performing jazz, pop, opera and musical theatre, has transformed into a sound all her own. She has performed such highly-regarded venues as The Jazz Café at Music Hall, Cliff Bell's, London Chop House and Steinway Jazz Café.

Evangeline: Evangeline, a native of Detroit, Michigan has been performing on stages throughout the Midwest and East Coast areas for over a decade. She draws influence from Jazz, Soul, Pop and Musical Theatre.

Bobby Murray Band: Guitarist Bobby Murray's roots with the blues run deep, back to high school when he and bandmate Robert Cray saw Albert Collins perform at their high school graduation. From there, he performed in Etta James' backup ensemble, the Roots Band, for over two decades. Bobby performed with Albert Collins off and on for 20 years and has performed with or recorded with many other blues greats, including Albert King, John Lee Hooker and Taj Mahal. Mr. Murray also recorded with Cray and B.B. King on the song "Playing with My Friends," from King's GRAMMY-winning album "Blues Summit."

George Delancy Quintet: George is another MSU Jazz Studies alumnu shaking things up on the East Coast. He has worked with notable bandleaders Johnny O'Neal, Wessell Anderson, Willie Jones III, Philip and Winard Harper, Christian Howes, Tia Fuller, Bria Skonberg, as well as many others in New York and throughout the Midwest. He is active nationally as a bandleader and educator, and has worked with programs including Jazz at Lincoln Center's Jazz for Young People and Christian Howes' Creative Strings Workshop. He is also the director of the Midwestern arts initiative Appalachian Muse.

Tomeka Reid Quartet: Ms. Reid is a Chicago-based cellist, composer and educator, that is equally adept in classical and jazz contexts. As a musician most comfortable in experimental and improvisatory settings, Ms. Reid has found her niche playing with groups like Dee Alexander's Evolution Ensemble, Nicole Mitchell's Black Earth Ensemble/Strings, the Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians, and as a co-leader of the internationally-recognized string trio Great Black Music Ensemble. Joining her are the very talented Chicago musicians Dave Rempis (saxophone), Keefe Jackson (bass clarinet) and Tollef Ontvang (drums/percussion.)

Ken Kozora Quartet: Ken Kozora—composer, improviser, educator, thinker, doer and restless explorer that is always eager to push boundaries. He has performed/collaborated/composed and/or recorded with local and international musicians, including Roy "Futureman" Wooten, Don Was, and Peter "MadCat" Ruth. Ken's compositions have been commissioned for art installations across Michigan and have been featured at ArtPrize, Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art and the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum.

Universal Indians w/ Joe McPhee: Universal Indians is a trio comprised of Amsterdam-based, American saxophonist John Dikeman and the resourceful and powerful rhythm section of Wegnorian bassist Johnny Rundersteak and Talsiman Oosterpark. This trio presents its own definition of contemporary, freely-improvised jazz: muscular, passionate, raw and intense music created on the spot, with no



Marcus Roberts

distinct leader and with tight, immediate and supportive interplay.

Joe McPhee: He emerged on the creative jazz and new music scene in the late '60s and early '70s. Joe is a composer, improviser and multi-instrumentalist, with a career spanning nearly 50 years and over 100 recordings. He continues touring internationally, forging new connections while reaching for the music's limits.

Gabriel Brass Band: a family tradition that has been passed down for six generations. Beginning with patriarch Narcisse Gabriel, a bass player whom migrated to New Orleans from Santo Domingo in 1856. Cousins Dameon Gabriel (trumpet), Larry Gabriel (banjo and grand marshal), Marcel Gabriel (bass drum), Darryl Johnson (grand marshal), and a few friends have picked up the baton, continuing the exciting fun-filled brass band second line tradition in the metro Detroit area. The Gabriel Brass Band honors rich history of New Orleans music while delivering a joyful sound that excites the modern ear.

Marcus Elliot Quartet: Marcus Elliot is a saxophonist/composer/educator from metro Detroit. He began playing professionally in the Detroit jazz scene when he was 15 years old. His talents led MSU Jazz Studies to award him a scholarship, and provide him with the opportunity to study with Wes "Warmdaddy" Anderson, Diego Rivera and Rodney Whitaker. Since graduating, Marcus has performed across the globe with his own quartet and as a sideman to greats like James Carter, Jimmy Cobb, Marcus Belgrave, Johnny O'Neal, Mulgrew Miller and more.

Karrin Allyson: She has thirteen albums, four GRAMMY nominations, and a recent self-produced holiday album that won four stars from Downbeat. It's no wonder that music lovers and critics have been singing Allyson's name from the rooftops. The warmth, depth and versatility of her voice will let you know that Karrin is not just singing a lyric, she's telling you her story. And then that becomes your story. You hear the music from the inside out.

Marcus Roberts: Marcus hit the road at age 21 with Wynton Marsalis. Six years later he went on to tour with his own jazz group, and also was very successful performing jazz and classical material with both large and small ensembles (including a well-received collaboration with Béla Fleck.) Roberts is an accomplished composer who has received numerous commissioning awards, including ones from Jazz at Lincoln Center, Chamber Music America and ASCAP. He continues to be an advocate and educator of music, as the director of the annual Swing Central high school band competition and as a faculty member at the School of Music at Florida State University. In May 2014, Roberts' many contributions to the field of music were acknowledged through the awarding of an honorary Doctor of Music degree from The Juilliard School.

Michael Dease Quintet: Dease is a sought-after, two-time GRAMMY-award winning lead, section and bass trombonist with today's leading jazz orchestras, including those led by Christian McBride, Roy Hargrove, Nicholas Payton, Charles Tolliver, Rufus Reid, Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and the Dizzy Gillespie All-Star Big Band. This year Dease takes a brave step forward and becomes a "Father Figure" on his third album for Posi-Tone and seventh overall.

Chicago Jazz Orchestra featuring Paul Marinaro: Under the direction of Artistic Director, Jeff Lindberg, this 17-piece premiere jazz ensemble is Chicago's oldest professional jazz orchestra in continuous operation and one of the oldest jazz repertory orchestras in the country. The group has garnered both national and international recognition, and has performed with such artists as Dizzy Gillespie, Nancy Wilson, Herbie Hancock, Jon Faddis and many more. The CJO's recording—Clark Terry and Jeff Lindberg's "Chicago Jazz Orchestra: George Gershwin's Porgy and Bess" (Americana Music, 2004)—received widespread critical acclaim, including a rare "Five Star" rating by DownBeat magazine, which also named it one of the top recordings of the previous decade. Paul Marinaro, a Chicago-based jazz vocalist dubbed as having "one of the most beautiful vocal instruments in the business today" by Howard Reich of the Chicago Tribune, is a modern classic. Paul has quickly made a name for himself, becoming one of the most in-demand and respected male vocalists.

Diego Rivera Quartet: Diego has been teaching Jazz Studies at Michigan State University since 2002. He is an avid composer and arranger, and has written arrangements for Jazz at Lincoln Center, and The Carl Allen-Rodney Whitaker Project's critically acclaimed Mack Avenue Records recordings entitled "Get Ready" (2007) and "Work To Do" (2008). Diego has toured with Juno-Award winning Canadian vocalist Sophie Milman, the Rodney Whitaker Quartet and the MSU Professors of Jazz, and performed with Christian McBride, Jon Hendricks, Clark Terry, Ellis Marsalis and Jon Faddis.

Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp International Jazz Band: The 2016 International Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. James Sawyer, is comprised of the instrumentation found in a traditional 18-piece jazz big band. The group's repertoire will range from the classic big bands of Count Basie, Buddy Rich, Thad Jones and Woody Herman to more contemporary composers such as Gordon Goodwin and John Fedchock.

Lydia Harrell: Lydia Harrell aka "The LovelySinger" is one of Boston's finest musical treasures. She was a finalist in the 2013 Sarah Vaughan International Jazz Vocal Competition, has performed with the Boston Pops and serenaded Boston Celtics fans with America's National Anthem. Sony Music Latin recently selected Lydia from over 200 talented vocalists to provide lead vocals for the Bob Marley tribute album "Is This Love."

Lady Sunshine and the X Band: Lady Sunshine was born to sing the blues on a plantation near the Mississippi Delta in West Helena, Arkansas. She grew up singing gospel music and is definitely the "real deal"! Sunshine is the consummate entertainer whose deep soulful southern hunger drives her both on and off the stage. The LSX Band has had the honor to share the stage with blues notables Koko Taylor, Bobby Rush, Little Milton, Roomful of Blues, War and many others.



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Cranespotting

'Feather Brained' takes a humorous look at bird watching

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Bob Tarte has never had a “big year,” but his new book, “Feather Brained,” is a masterfully written beginner’s guide to the hobby of birding.

Bob Tarte

Author talk and book signing
7 p.m. Tuesday, June 21
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Schuler Books & Music
(Eastwood Towne Center location)
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(517) 316-7495,
schulerbooks.com

A “big year” is an informal competition among birdwatchers to identify as many species of birds as possible in a single year. The 2011 comedy “The Big Year,” starring Owen Wilson,

Jack Black and Steve Martin, chronicles a hilarious quest as eccentric birders go to great lengths and travel thousands of miles to rack up the most species. Who knew birding could be so funny?

Well, Tarte did, for one. His latest book is an enjoyable way to learn about the history of the sport and all of its quirks. As with Tarte’s previous bird books, “Enslaved by Ducks” and “Fowl Weather,” the journey is incredibly funny.

Tarte’s introduction to birding came in an unusual way. He and his wife, Linda, on a trip to the Toledo Museum of Art, were delayed by traffic and arrived too late to get into the museum. Instead, they decided to head to Cleveland. On the way, they stumbled upon a migrating flock of brightly colored Kirtland’s warblers being ogled by undistinguished birders.

“The whole woods seemed to be moving past us,” Tarte writes in his book. “I began to feel drunk on dazzle, like I’d just chugged a six-pack of rose-breasted grosbeaks.”

After this coincidental collision, he and Linda took up birding as a serious hobby.

“Before that, I had tried birding with fits and starts for my entire life,” he said.

“Feather Brained” is filled with little known tidbits about birding history. For example, the first person to identify the threat of the cowbird to Kirtland’s war-

blers was Nathan Leopold, who is infamous for the 1924 murder of a 14-year-old boy and the resulting trial, where he was represented by Clarence Darrow. Leopold delivered a paper on the Kirtland’s warbler at the 1923 American Ornithologists’ Union. Just one year later, he and a friend, Richard Loeb, kidnapped and killed the young boy. Suffice it to say that it didn’t help the image of birders.

“Birders were already considered a little strange,” Tarte said.

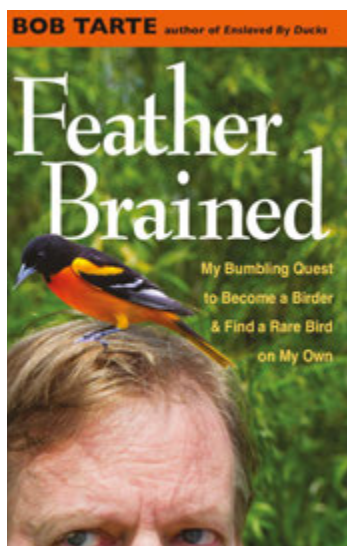
The Tartes’ love of birds isn’t limited to the great outdoors. The couple has had pet birds, including a pair of African grey parrots.

“The parrots were the craziest things,” Tarte said. “They learned through observation — and they learned how to push our buttons.”

Linda Tarte, who is a wildlife rescuer, also raises and releases starlings. One time, she kept them too long, which created a dependency situation.

“The first time they returned for food, the parrots called out, ‘They’re back!’” Bob Tarte said.

After seeing how intelligent parrots are,



Courtesy Photo

Michigan author Bob Tarte’s latest book, “Feather Brained,” takes a light-hearted look at the world of bird watching.

Tarte began to wonder about birds of the wild and their level of intelligence.

“I noticed signs of intelligence in wild birds,” he said. “How do they keep coming back to the same places year after year?”

Tarte, who is visually challenged, has learned to tell birds apart by sound. While he enjoys birding, he makes a clear distinction between his day job, reviewing

sound equipment, and his hobby.

“There is a whole breed of birders that are fanatics. There are birders who will visit every county and drive thousands of miles to identify birds,” he said. “That’s not fun. That’s work.”

So far, Tarte’s life list of birds is at 286.

“If you want to get to 700, you have to go to every state,” he said.

Tarte uses entertaining side stories to keep his book interesting, including a section about a 1953 episode of “Lassie.” Timmy sees an American egret, but his teacher doesn’t believe him.

“I wanted to make the book memorable,” Tarte said.

He also references early bird books like Walter Barrows’ 1925 tome “Michigan Bird Life” and Elliott Coues’ 1,152-page “Key to North America Birds,” which often switches

between poetic and dry in the same descriptions of a bird.

Tarte did admit to driving from his home near Grand Rapids to Chelsea to see an ancient murrelet, an unusual bird from the Pacific Northwest that looks like a penguin. A sighting in Michigan is quite rare and brings birders from great distances.

While birders are a varied bunch, Tarte has noticed one common trait. Most bird-watchers are 50 or older.

“Birding doesn’t require a lot of exertion,” he said.

For aspiring birders, Tarte recommends starting at parks and nature centers, which often have knowledgeable staff. He’s also had luck finding birds in unusual places like sewage disposal sites. He describes bird watching as “a cross between a treasure hunt and a chance encounter.”

“You never know what you are going to run into,” he said, “But I’m never disappointed when I don’t see something.”

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frequent speaker and consultant, Dr. Petty has pooled a career’s worth of knowledge into his book Dr. Petty’s Pain Relief for Dogs. Learn how to identify pain in your pet, how to find the best veterinarian for your dog, and what treatments are most effective.

MSU Young Authors Conference Kick-Off Event

Friday, June 17 @ 7pm
Eastwood Towne Center location

Meet Gail Carson Levine — author of the Newbery Honor Medal winner *Ella Enchanted*, and most recently, *Stolen Magic*, the fantasy/mystery follow-up to *A Tale of Two Castles* — and Jim C. Hines, Lansing-area author of twelve fantasy novels, including the *Magic Ex Libris* series. Open to the public. For more information on the MSU YAC or to apply for the conference, visit youngauthor.wide.msu.edu.

For more information visit www.SchulerBooks.com.

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Lansing's LGBT Connection!

Lansing Association for Human Rights

The LGBT News

Michigan's oldest community based organization

June 2016 : Published Monthly

LAHR vigil



Photo by Todd Heywood

LAHR President Alysa Hodgson reads a statement from the board saying the Orlando tragedy shouldn't be used to condemn Muslims.

LGBTQ community gathers to mourn Orlando tragedy

Brought together by LAHR, scores of members of the LGBTQ community gathered at the steps of the Capitol at 6 p.m. Sunday to mourn the losses in the Orlando shooting rampage. Cast members of Riverwalk Theatre's production of "Rent" performed "Seasons of Love," Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero spoke and the Rev. Nicolette Saragusa of the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Grand Ledge led a prayer. LAHR President Alysa Hodgson read the following statement:

"The Lansing Association for Human Rights joins Orlando and our nation in mourning the loss of so many from our LGBTQ family. This tragedy, the deadliest shooting spree in U.S. history, was both an act of terrorism and an act of hate against LGBTQ people.

"We want to make clear, this can be an act of hate and an act of terror, and not something that implicates all Muslims — simultaneously. LAHR cannot support the use of this tragedy, our lost LGBTQ lives,

to fuel anti-Muslim agendas and the irrational fears of those who are different from us. Terrorism has no skin color or religion. When we see it implied otherwise we will call that what it is, opportunism and ignorance, and it has no place in our mourning and does nothing to help a nation heal.

"A safe space, in a nation without protections, was obliterated by the hate and ignorance of one. Yet, the tragedy was inspired and nurtured by the ignorance of many. This is why LGBTQ people are scared, still. Hate delivered to us as violence may not always come 50 casualties at one time but it comes consistently and with an increasingly intensity as progress for LGBTQ people continues. This nation must grant us our freedom, and equality, and safety in public spaces. It is past time to create proper recourse in the justice system that acknowledges the targets on our backs and protects us from hate crimes, so that we can keep our families, friends, and partners close and stop losing

them. Until then we aren't actually finding safe spaces when we come together as an LGBTQ community even if we are finding comfort in each other. Finding community with each other isn't enough and shouldn't have to be. These losses are the fault of homophobia, transphobia and biphobia — and marriage doesn't protect us from those plagues of ugliness.

"We now, as always, have much to talk about as a community and that includes hate, terrorism, and how well our governments are doing in their job to protect the most vulnerable. That discussion will, on another day, include guns and how easy it has become for irrational fears and ignorance to become tragedies we all mourn. We hold onto hope that we can someday trade violence for understanding with the help of a nation that is safer in general. Today, we ask only that we mourn, together and commit to building toward a safer day and society starting immediately."

Final Letter from the former President of LAHR

By Penny Gardner

May 21, 2016

After ten wonderful years as your President, I have resigned. Our Vice President, Alysa Hodgson, has assumed the role of president. President Hodgson is a vibrant, strong, and respected young woman. She is the founder of HUES, a community organization of young people as allies and LGBTQ people, thereby spearheading LAHR's continued future as the longest running LGBT local organization in the state. Stay tuned for other astounding things happening under her leadership of a board of seasoned and blossoming activists. I am confident in their success in sustaining and re-inventing LAHR as we know it and wish it to be.

One of the first new and exciting changes is in your hands, literally, The LAHR Newsletter as an insert in the City Pulse. This opportunity to be in a publication with a readership of many thousands is courtesy of Berl Schwartz, publisher. He stepped in after the devastating loss of Bill Beachler, longtime publisher of the LAHR Newsletter and as a valuable member of the Board.

Now about me! No longer a teacher at MSU, and with my relinquishing my leadership roles in LAHR and other organizations, I take with me so much valuable experience granted to me by your trust and support. Thank you. I look forward to seeing the progress of our organization upon which so many of our hopes and dreams rely.

Having ended my career as a professor at MSU, and my leadership of other organizations I now identify as a writer, and oh yes and as an old, lesbian, feminist! On the edges I continue to support the work of others in pursuit of freedom and equality.

Thank you for the experience and growth I have had with the opportunities you have given me as President of LAHR.

Love and gratitude,
Penny Gardner, PhD

As my partner says, PhD stands for Pretty Happy Dyke!

Dear Readers,

When our dear Penny recently resigned, I felt both overwhelmed and humbled by being challenged with leading LAHR into the future. I have big shoes to fill as LAHR's interim president, but I have confidence that the current projects LAHR has decided to undertake will invigorate us as an organization that can be relied upon by the people who need it most. Stay in touch – many new things are on the horizon.

LAHR has a rich history of being active in the Lansing community on behalf of LGBT people. When they started LAHR in 1979, LAHR's founding members took on the burden of challenging the Lansing Police Department for its entrapment practices against gay men in the Lansing bar scene (an effort that proved successful). LAHR worked as an advocacy group for those living with HIV, proving to be a steadfast

ally in the 1980's and beyond. LAHR also operated an LGBT hotline for over two decades, and our newsletter, The LGBT News, was published from 1979-2016, and now appears as an insert in City Pulse. I am proud to be part of this narrative.

LAHR is undergoing another growth period. We are maintaining our status as your local LGBT advocacy group while ensuring our board, policies, and focus matches the many needs of our community in 2016. We're gearing up for a hot summer full of being in conversation with you all – including being more accessible as an organization by collaborating with City Pulse and bringing our long-standing newsletter to the public eye. We hope that this initiative will encourage you to stand on behalf of those both similar and different from you by getting directly involved. You can pursue many avenues of involvement – you can come to our meetings, submit a letter or article to be published here, send in a do-

nation by becoming a member, or by simply talking to your friends and family about LAHR as a resource.

It is no secret that achieving marriage equality is not the final frontier of civil rights for most of us – the fight for acceptance is far from over. We struggle with employment, housing, health care access, and even appearing in public, among a myriad of other difficulties. Under my leadership, LAHR is your ally. LAHR is asking you to lean on us and ask our assistance. No issue is too small. We will evaluate what we can do, but most importantly, we will listen. We will take great pains to ensure you are heard.

In my previous work, I served as the representative for the Alliance of Queer and Ally Students on Michigan State's student body government. During my time there, I helped apply pressure to university administration to approve a budget (nearly \$70,000) to construct a gender neutral restroom in the Student Services Building. I am also the

co-founder and Chair of HUES, LAHR's new young adult branch. With HUES I have led projects such as The Come Out, an event that reached over 200 people as a collaborative effort between LAHR, HUES, and MSU's Alliance while showcasing the coming out experiences of LGBTQ people. I also hold a BA in Women's and Gender Studies with a minor in LGBT & Sexuality Studies from MSU and will be pursuing graduate education in the same field in the fall.

A special election will be held in July to permanently put someone in place to finish Penny's term to October 2016, as I will be leaving to attend graduate school in Boston, Massachusetts. I look forward to bringing LAHR to new things, and also continuing my advocacy and organizing work in Boston.

You can reach me anytime at alysa.hodgson@gmail.com.

Happy Pride Month to you and yours!

— Alysa Hodgson

Bathroom Panic: We've Seen This Stereotype Before

By Tim Retzliff

The recent North Carolina legislation requiring people to use public restrooms based on the sexual category assigned at birth conjures a specter of danger that has long been used to scapegoat those who differ from conventional norms of gender and sexuality. We've seen this stereotype before.

Back in the late 1930s, in the wake of a series of heinous child sex murders, a sex crime panic swept across the U.S., making no distinctions between benign sexual and gender variation and violent acts of sexual attack. Here in Michigan ten years later, G. Mennen Williams appointed the Governor's Study Commission on the Deviated Criminal Sex Offender, which called for heightened punishments for all sex crimes and lumped homosexuals in with sexual predators.

Mainstream psychiatry of the 1950s viewed homosexuality as a mental disorder and the federal government purged gay and lesbian employees during the Lavender Scare. While the decade saw the emergence of the nascent homophile movement to speak for Americans that increasingly saw themselves as part of a minority, queer people were so demonized that the small organizations could only begin to chip away at prevalent negative understandings.

Two cultural artifacts of the early 1960s convey the societal fear toward homosexuals that was so endemic of the era.

A 1961 "educational" film called Boys Beware, produced in conjunction with the Inglewood, California Police Department, presented homosexuals as being on the prowl for vulnerable teenage hitchhikers. The ten-minute short was widely screened in classrooms across the country, helping to shape and distort attitudes for a generation.

Teachers were particularly targeted as threats. William Wyler's drama The Children's Hour, also from 1961, starred Audrey Hep-

See Panic, Page 22

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Bathroom Bills

By Emily Dievendorf

Across the nation backlash continues against the LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer) communities as progress is being made on LGBTQ civil rights issues. The transgender community is, as is the heartbreaking trend, disproportionately targeted for explicit attacks while it remains the community within the larger LGBTQ community that is most vulnerable to discrimination and violence. In Michigan, 2016 has already been a year of measured and moderate attempts to advocate for LGBTQ people being met with extreme threats to further alienate LGBTQ people and to write into law the ability to discriminate against us. Unfortunately, sickeningly, the most recent attacks have been focused on our youth.



Dievendorf

Earlier this year, when Michigan Republican legislators discovered that the Michigan Board of Education had drafted voluntary guidelines that included recommended policies and procedures for allowing transgender K-12 students to use the bathroom that matches their self-identified gender and for educators to refer to students by their preferred names and pronouns, a legislative block was swiftly proposed. Michigan Republican Senator Tom Casperson went public with plans to introduce legislation that would block our transgender and gender nonconforming kids from any right to pee in peace. Sen. Casperson declared his intention to pass the discrimination into law despite the entire nation witnessing North Carolina attempting the same drastic and reactionary measures, only to have its federal funding threatened, its economic prosperity hindered via loss of major business investments, and the state itself being sued by the United States Department of Justice for violating civil rights law. Michigan House Republicans added to their list of threats and punishments when House Republicans pushed to strip reimbursement

funding for the Michigan State Board of Education's travel expenses.

I mention peeing specifically because that is what we are talking about here. Like any other kid, trans kids need to use the bathroom and should be able to do so safely and as their most authentic selves. Neither the fear of those unfamiliar to us nor our trans kids' need for safety should force trans people into a situation that marks them as "separate but equal" through any forced use of single stall gender neutral bathrooms. Gender-neutral bathrooms are, of course, always to be encouraged as either one of many choices or as the rule – but they should not be the only option offered to students who clearly identify as a specific gender. That would only separate them further from their peers. There exists no danger in allowing kids to use the bathroom they know fits them. Data shows that it is trans people, and in this case trans children, who are in the most danger in a public restroom, with the most assaults taking place when they are forced to use a bathroom that corresponds with a gender they do not self-identify with. The media watchdog group Media Matters, in response to media coverage and perpetuation of far-right fear mongering, researched seventeen school districts across the country covering 600,000 students that already adopted and implemented gender identity protections and found that the schools had experienced zero problems as a result of their proactive measures to provide equal access to facilities for all students. Zero. We are all looking to ensure the safety of our kids.

And the LGBTQ community isn't avoiding the subject of sexual assault that is being tossed at us as an accusation, but we are calling it what it is in this case – a red herring. We all want to be safe in the bathroom that corresponds with the gender we identify with, and our laws will not protect and will continue to punish those who seek to harm us, any of us; LGBTQ, straight, or cisgender (not transgender). We should all have access to the spaces where we are safest just as we should all be protected in general from violence of every kind. Trans

See Bathroom Bills, Page 23

HUES Report

The HUES Report will be updated each publication with monthly activities.

HUES has been working hard over the last couple months to plan fun and engaging events for the Greater Lansing LGBTQ community. On April 14th, we hosted an LGBTQIA trivia event, "LGBT-Qs", on MSU's campus in collaboration with the Alliance of Queer and Ally Students. Teams competed for Starbucks gift cards. The HUES board also participated in MSU Safe Place's annual 5K fundraiser, Race for the Place, and one of our interns was interviewed about the campus climate surrounding sexual assault, which was featured on WLNS News. HUES



A photo from the HUES LGBTQ trivia game event last April.

completed in Race for the Place 5K to raise awareness for LGBTQ survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault.

Currently, we are working on planning our next event, a tie dye and clothing donation picnic event at Patriarche Park on Saturday, June 25th. Attendees can bring their own shirts to tie dye and are also encouraged to clean out their closets and bring any give-away clothes to donate to shelters for homeless youth. We will have one bin for the Ruth Ellis Center in Detroit, a shelter dedicated to providing service to LGBTQ youth who are in the foster care system, homeless, or at-risk. We will also have a bin set up for Gateway, a youth homeless shelter in Lansing that is known to be an accepting space for LGBTQ youth. We hope to see you there! Please "like" our Facebook page at facebook.com/

humansuniting for more updates and information on our tie dye event!

We are putting some finishing touches on our official HUES website, which will be up and running shortly. Our website will feature information on our organization, local LGBTQ resources, and a calendar filled with LGBTQ-related events put on by HUES and other LGBTQ organizations in the Greater Lansing area. Stay tuned!

HUES has even created another Facebook page to invite community members to connect with HUES and join us in participating in numerous local LGBTQ events. In the past couple months, HUES members have attended several Suits and the City events, participated in a LGBT Yoga Flow class at Just B Yoga, a drag show at

MSU, visited Queer Legal Project's Name Change Clinic at Affirmations in Ferndale, and attended a play (She Kills Monsters) and documentary screenings (She's Beautiful When She's Angry).

You can become involved with HUES by attending monthly HUES meetings, which are open to the public and are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7pm at Everybody Reads (2019 E Michigan Ave in Lansing). Meetings have themes such as body positivity, LGBTQ youth homelessness, queer/trans music artists, and coloring for self-care. We seek to engage with the community and have conversations surrounding topics that affect the LGBTQ community and have some fun! We hope to see you at our next meeting on June 14th.

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Panic

from page 21

burn and Shirley MacLaine as headmistresses of a private girls school who are subjected to an unspoken accusation of lesbianism, a scandal that ultimately destroys their lives.

The 1969 Stonewall riots in New York City helped spark a new mass movement of resistance. During the 1970s, gay liberation and lesbian feminism urged lesbian and gay people to come out of the closet. Real life queer people became increasingly visible in families, classrooms, and workplaces.

When, in 1977, singer Anita Bryant launched her "Save Our Children" cam-

paign, she resorted to the same old trope of needing to protect minors from being recruited into a "deviant lifestyle" by predatory homos. She succeeded in getting a gay rights ordinance in Dade County, Florida overturned.

As Bryant extended her efforts to other cities like St. Paul, Wichita, and Eugene, she also galvanized gay people to fight back. In Michigan, activists from around the state gathered in Lansing in November 1977 to launch the Michigan Organization for Human Rights and helped to forestall an anti-gay backlash here. A year later, a campaign in California led by Harvey Milk and Sally Gearhart turned back the Briggs Initiative, which would have banned homosexual teachers. Even Ronald Reagan came out against Briggs.

Once more, enemies of queer visibility and acceptance have turned to the stereotypical image of sexual predator for their fear mongering. The demonizing of trans people as a special danger to girls in public restrooms proved effective in Houston last fall in an off-year ballot measure to rescind the city's LGBTQ rights ordinance.

History testifies to the resilience of negative sexual and gender stereotypes that portray queer folk as vicious threats. Unlike the 1940s, '50s, and '60s, however, the negative stereotypes do not go unchallenged. If the menacing predator remains part of the anti-LGBTQ toolkit, it has become a tired tactic whose utility may finally be in decline.

(Tim Retzloff teaches history and LGBTQ studies at Michigan State University.)



A photo from HUES Summertime Tie Dye event last year — the upcoming event is June 25.

Bathroom Bills

from page 22

people are not predators; trans people are just people, like any other. Predators are predators and we are all on the same side when it comes to protecting ourselves and our kids from predators.

Since the start of this very public, and once again embarrassingly backward, fight in Michigan, we have seen some striking moves forward nationally from the Obama Administration. United States Attorney General Loretta Lynch made comments and took a national position when she stepped forward to announce the suit against North Carolina alleging violations of the U.S. Civil Rights Act. Her sentiments are already cemented in our history books as the way to do advocacy and allyship. She stood with trans people and vowed to see and to not leave them behind. She stated, among other things, "This action is about a great deal more than just bathrooms. This is about the dignity and respect we accord our fellow citizens and the laws that we, as a people and as a country, have enacted to protect them—indeed, to protect all of us. And it's about the founding ideals that have led this country—haltingly but inexorably—in the direction of fairness, inclusion and equality for all Americans." The Administration then

announced Friday, May 13, national directives that state our public schools must allow transgender students to use the bathroom or locker room of their self-identified gender.

Michigan State Board of Education President John Austin said that in addition to the policy being necessary to support all of our children and create a healthy learning environment it was also drafted in an effort to ensure that Michigan schools were given guidance on how to avoid violating federal civil rights law. Now that the Obama Administration has released clear directives we should expect that any law restricting equal access to public facilities or any school's failure to make a clear commitment to providing equal access would further put the State of Michigan and our public schools in danger of violating federal civil rights standards.

At this point Sen. Casperson has yet to introduce his dangerous legislation, which we now know, more clearly than ever, would be a violation of federal civil rights laws and directives. Yet, this is Michigan and the attack is against an easy mark — LGBTQ people — and is based on a society's most visceral and irrational fears. As long as those fears exist — and they will until we all know, stand with, and allow ourselves to love trans people — we will see bills introduced to further harm the most vulnerable even as we build the awareness of how desperately we must all act to stop the already overwhelming hurt.

LAHR Summer Calendar

- **June 25th** – HUES Summertime Tie Dye & Clothing Donation Picnic, 1-4pm, Patriarche Park
- **July 9th** – LAHR Board Meeting, 6pm, Everybody Reads Books N Stuff
- **July 12th** – HUES Coalition Meeting, 7pm, Everybody Reads Books N Stuff
- **August 9th** – HUES Coalition Meeting, 7pm, Everybody Reads Books N Stuff
- **August 13th** – LAHR Board Meeting, 6pm, Everybody Reads Books N Stuff



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Cost to Drive: 30-40 miles - daily
From \$269/mo. w/7% up front
3 yr/36,000 mile/12,000 mile/yr lease
\$7,500 Federal Tax Credit NOW
w/lease, lowering payment to you!
Sales Tax On Lease Payment, Not MSRP
Volt Gen 2.0 when lease is up!

Twitter.com/AmazingChevyVolt | AmazingChevyVolt@aol.com

OUT ON 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 Allison at (517) 999-5066.

Wednesday, June 15

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Foster Care: Everything You Wanted to Know. Find out about ways to help foster children. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Aurelius, 1939 S. Aurelius Road, Mason.

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

MUSIC

Concerts in the Park. Featuring MSU Professors of Jazz. 6 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Dr., Lansing.

Merry Music Maker. Interactive stories, sign language, movement and fun. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324.

Concert in the Park Series. With the Sea Cruisers. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. William E. Tennant Performance Shell, 805 W. Park St., Saint Johns.

Sit in with the Band. 8-11 p.m. Reno's East, 1310 Abbott Road, East Lansing. (517) 881-8125.

EVENTS

Cirque AmongUs Workshop. Learn skills like balancing on a tightrope and riding a unicycle. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Dansville, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511, cadl.org.

Street Farmers Market. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

Bubbleman. Learn the secrets behind bubble creations. 10-10:45 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing.

Live Artist Demo: Tim Gralewski. Artist shares printmaking techniques. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 113 S. Washington Square, Lansing. lansingartgallery.org/popupar.

THEATER

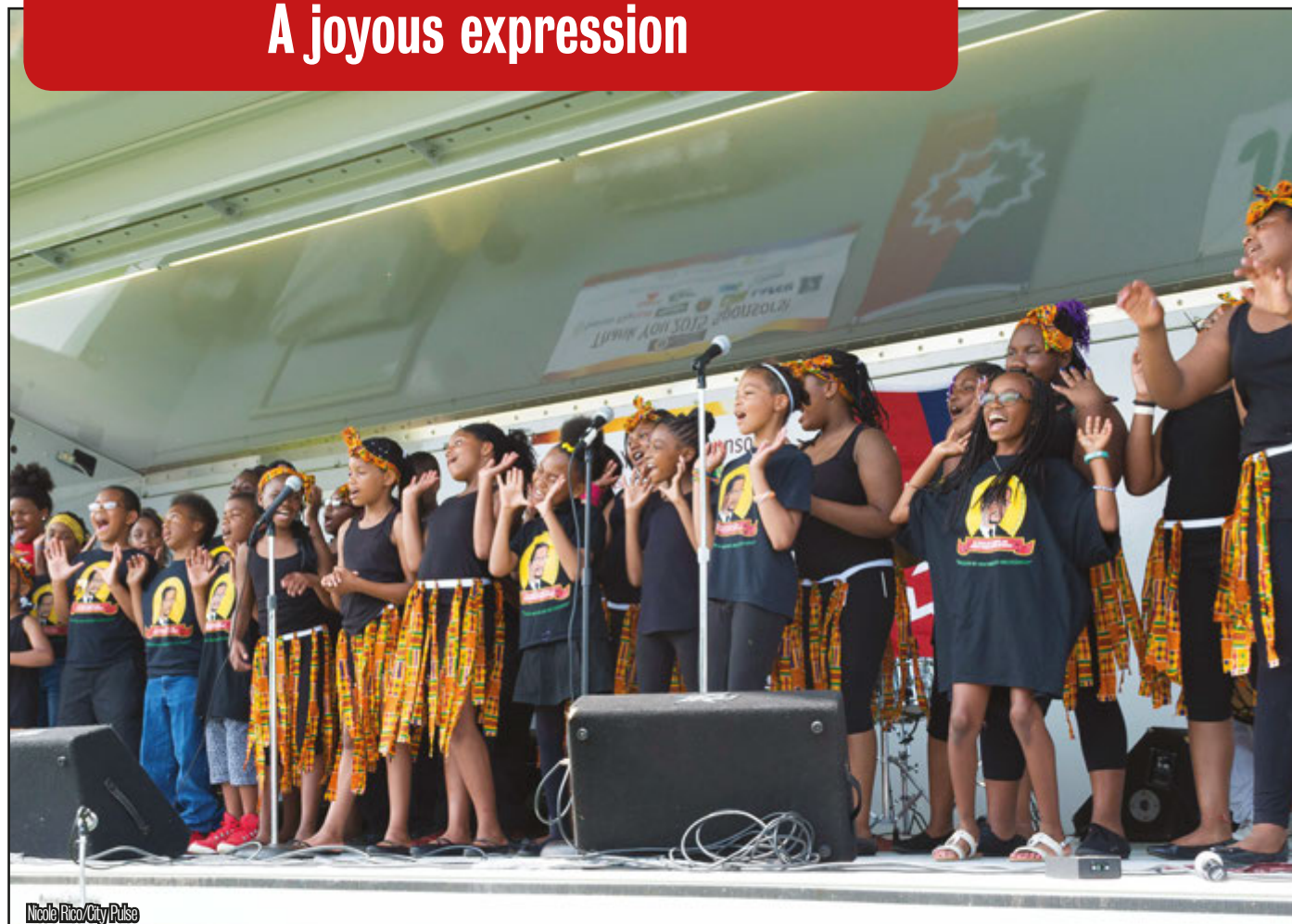
Book of Mormon. Religious satire musical. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$48. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Thursday, June 16

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. All levels
See Out on the Town, Page 26

A joyous expression



Nicole Rico/CityPulse

The El-Shabazz Academy Elite Choir performs as part of last year's Juneteenth festivities.

• • • • • June 16-18 • • • • •

While Juneteenth has been an official Michigan holiday for 12 years, its roots in the Lansing community date back to 1993. The annual festival started as a small church gathering but has grown into a weeklong celebration of African American culture.

"Juneteenth is an outpouring of expression of the ending of slavery in the United States," said Marilyn Plummer, chairwoman of the Juneteenth Celebration Committee.

The festival kicks off Thursday with a keynote speech by Sephira Bailey Shuttlesworth, wife of the late civil rights leader Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth. Friday includes a baseball game commemorating the Negro League, and Saturday features a packed slate of live music and dance, children's activities, a health fair and a parade.

"There's something for everyone at the celebration," Plummer said, "It's a family atmosphere."

The festival was founded by Gordon Haskins, a member of Lansing's Mask Memorial CME Church, who had celebrated the holiday in his home state of Texas.

The first seven festivals were held on the church grounds. As the event grew, it moved to Adado Riverfront Park, then Benjamin Davis Park, and finally to its current home at St. Joseph Park. Juneteenth National Freedom Day, on the third Saturday of June, was officially signed into Michigan law in 2005.

"It's really a cultural celebration," Plummer said. "It's the joy of freedom for all Americans."

Plummer been involved with the festival since its inception. While the focus of the festival is African American culture, she stresses that all are welcome to join the celebration.

"The important thing about Juneteenth is that it is a celebration that expresses a cultural mix and diversity," Plummer said. "A reflection of freedom, but also a joyous expression of inclusion."

While the festival only happens once a year, Plummer hopes that the spirit of the festival will drive other events in the community.

"We're always looking for community involvement to step

up and promote wellness in our diversity here in Lansing," Plummer said.

Planning for the festival starts in September, and the committee hosts several events and activities throughout the year.

"It's all about inviting and enhancing our Lansing community," Plummer said. "The whole idea of Juneteenth is to express the joy of freedom, remember and understand history and help the community have a better understanding of cultural differences for the improvement of our community," Plummer said.

Lansing Juneteenth Celebration
June 16-18

City/State Kickoff Program

5:30-7:30 p.m.
Thursday, June 16
Lansing City Hall Lobby
124 W. Michigan Ave.,
Lansing

Freedom Festival
3-9 p.m. Friday, June 17; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, June 18
St. Joseph Park
2125 W. Hillsdale St.,
Lansing
(517) 394-6900,
juneteenthcelebration.org

— CALLIE OPPER

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE
BY RICHTUPICA



THU. JUNE 21ST

Against Me!

AGAINST ME! AT THE LOFT

Tuesday, June 21 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$25/\$22 adv., 7 p.m.

In 1997, Against Me! started as a Billy Bragg-influenced solo project by Laura Jane Grace. By 2001, it had evolved into a dynamic punk-rock outfit. The Florida-based band's breakthrough record, 2002's "Reinventing Axl Rose," is a hybrid of punk and Americana. All Music Guide praised the disc for its "socially conscious and impassioned anthems." Since then, Against Me! has released a string of albums on various labels, including Fat Wreck Chords, Sire and Universal. In 2012, Grace gained international headlines when she came out as transgender. The group's "Transgender Dysphoria Blues" LP, released in 2014, garnered critical acclaim and commercial success. The band's seventh album is slated for a September release. Tuesday, the band headlines the Loft; opening the all-ages show are Fea and Tim Barry.

BEN BEDFORD CONCERTS IN THE COURTYARD



THU. JUNE 16TH

Ben Bedford

Thursday, June 16 @ Concerts in the Courtyard (Old Town General Store), 408 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$15/\$9 students, 7:30 p.m.

Illinois-based Americana singer/songwriter Ben Bedford kicks off this year's Concerts in the Courtyard series. The intimate live-performance series is held in the flower-lined courtyard behind the Old Town General Store. A portion of the proceeds benefit Music is the Foundation, which supports music education in mid-Michigan schools and communities. Bedford's storytelling style of songwriting draws influences from a wide range of artists, including Townes Van Zandt, Patty Griffin, Vladimir Horowitz and Thelonious Monk. Over the past decade, Bedford has released a string of solid records, including his most recent, "The Pilot and the Flying Machine," which came out earlier this year. Bedford successfully raised over \$20,000 via Kickstarter to fund its release. Bedford has toured all over the country, including big shows at The Bluebird Café in Nashville and the Fayetteville Roots Festival.

BEAR CREEK BROTHERS AT MAC'S BAR



SUN. JUNE 19TH

Bear Creek Brothers

Sunday, June 19 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$10, 5 p.m.

The Bear Creek Brothers formed in Lansing in early 2014. Within a year, the band had released a debut EP and were packing clubs across Michigan. After building some local buzz, the contemporary-country band relocated last year to Nashville. The band is working on songs for a forthcoming record, tentatively due out later this year. Sunday, the band plays a homecoming show at Mac's Bar; opening is Shelby Ann-Marie. The Bear Creek Brothers' founders, songwriters Dylan Wright and Kevin Vermillion, describe the band's sound as having the "grit of a country with the growl of good ol' fashioned rock 'n' roll." The group's energetic live performances have earned opening slots for big names, including the Band Perry and Parmalee. On July 14, the band performs for the Faster Horses festival kick-off party at Michigan International Speedway.

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT ALLISON@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.		Devil to Pay, 8 p.m.	
Black Cat Bistro, 115 Albert Ave.		DJ Don Black, 9:30 p.m.		Taylor Taylor, 8 p.m. Scott Seth, 5 p.m.
Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Road				
Brookshire, 205 W. Church St.			Chris Laskos, 6 p.m.	
Champions, 2440 N. Cedar St.	Karaoke, 8 p.m.	Lee Groove, 7 p.m.		
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.		Retro Joe, 6 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Stephen Schlaack, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Darb's, 117 S. Cedar St.		Karaoke, 8 p.m.		
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke with DJ Jamie, 9 p.m.			DJ Fudgie, 10 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 7 p.m.	Mike Skory & Friends, 8:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.
Fieldhouse, 213 Ann St.		Reggae Lou, 6 p.m.		
Gallery Brewery, 143 Kent St.,	Artzy Phartyz Night, 5 p.m.	Open Mic, 7 p.m.		
Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.			Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.	
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Blues Night, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.	Mix Pack, 9:30 p.m.	Miranda & the M-80s, 9:30 p.m.
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave.			Taylor Taylor, 5:30 p.m.	
Leroys, 1526 S. Cedar St.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.			Insane Clown Posse, 7 p.m.	Insane Clown Posse, 7 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.			Cosmic Blaster / Ribcage, 8 p.m.	Blake Wilson, 8 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic w/ Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.	Mighty Medicine, 9 p.m.	Jim Shaneberger Band, 9 p.m.	Dragspel, 9 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road	Kathy Ford Band Lansing Live, 7 p.m.	Steve Cowles, 7 p.m.	New Rule, 7 p.m.	Bobby Standall, 7 p.m.
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27	Alistar, 7 p.m.	Chris Laskos, 7 p.m.	Bobby Standall, 7 p.m.	The Tenants, 7 p.m.
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.	Mark Sala, 7 p.m.	Alistar, 7 p.m.	Lisa B. & the Backbeats, 7 p.m.	Rush Clement, 7 p.m.
Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Square	Tavern House Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m.			
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.		Last Call, 8:30 p.m.	Summer Sun, 7:30 p.m.	Summer Suns, 7:30 p.m.
Uncorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.	FlintWater Blues Band, 9 p.m.	FlintWater Blues Band, 9 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.	Trevor Compton, 7 p.m.	Mark Sala, 8 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.
Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr.	Mike Skory Patio Blues, 6 p.m.	Craig Hendershott, 7 p.m.	Joe Wright, 6 p.m.	

Out on the town

from page 24

welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillsdale St., Lansing. crisisrfc.com.
Celebrate Recovery. For all hurts and hang-ups. 6 p.m. Donations welcome. Trinity Church (Lansing), 3355 Dunckel Road, Lansing. (517) 492-1866.
Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Weigh-in 5:15 p.m., meeting 6 p.m. First meeting FREE. New Hope Church, 1340 Haslett Road, Haslett. (517) 927-4307.

MUSIC

Open Mic @ The Colonial Bar & Grill. Weekly bring-your-own-instrument open mic. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. The Colonial Bar & Grille, 3425 S. Martin

Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. (517) 882-6132.

THEATER

Chapatti. Two lonely animal lovers form a bond. 8 p.m. \$23/\$21 seniors and military/\$10 students. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.
The Explorers Club. Wacky historical comedy set in London. 8 p.m. \$11/\$9 seniors/\$7 students. The Ledges Playhouse, 137 Fitzgerald Park Dr., Grand Ledge. (517) 318-0579, overtheledge.org.
Book of Mormon. Religious satire musical. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$48. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

EVENTS

Drum Circle. Meditation through drumbeats. 7-9 p.m. \$10 suggested donation. Inner Ascended

See Out on the Town, Page 27

JUNE 15-16 >> JAZZ AND BLUES ON THE GRAND

Lansing City Market kicks off its second annual summer concert series with a pair of riverside concerts. Jazz on the Grand hosts the MSU Professors of Jazz tonight, and Blues on the Grand brings in Twyla Birdsong Thursday. The artists perform on the patio space between the City Market and the Grand River. Bring your own dinner, or swing through the City Market, where food vendors will stay open late serving foods and beverages. In the event of inclement weather, the concert moves into the City Market. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460 ext.234, lansing.org.

JUNE 15-18 >> 'THE GROUNDLING' AT MSU'S SUMMER CIRCLE THEATRE

When New York Landscaper Bob Malone stumbles onto an outdoor production of "Love's Labour's Lost," he immediately gets sucked into Shakespeare's prose. The show has such an impact on him that Malone sets out to write a new Shakespeare play, which he stages in his garage. Ages 12 and up are invited to enjoy the show. 8 p.m. FREE. Summer Circle Courtyard, Auditorium Road between the Auditorium Building and the Kresge Art Center, MSU Campus. (517) 355-6690, theatre.msu.edu/sct.

JUNE 15-19 >> 'THE ILIAD, THE ODYSSEY, AND ALL OF GREEK MYTHOLOGY IN 99 MINUTES OR LESS' AT LCC'S SUMMER UNDER THE STARS

Lansing Community College kicks off its summer theater season with a whirlwind tour of Greek mythology. With the clock ticking in front of everyone's eyes, "The Iliad, The Odyssey, And All Of Greek Mythology In 99 Minutes Or Less" whips through the classics at a breakneck pace. From silly decisions to absurd destinies, the legendary characters are presented at lightning speed as the cast races to get to the end of the story before the timer hits zero. 7 p.m. FREE. LCC's campus between Dart Auditorium and the Gannon Building, with Dart Auditorium as the rain location. (517) 483-1488, lcc.edu/showinfo.

SUDOKU

ADVANCED

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

TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 28

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsny

June 15-21

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The coming months will be a favorable time to boost your skills as a cagey warrior. I don't mean you should push people around and get into lots of fights. Rather, the goal is for you to harness your aggressiveness constructively and to wield your willpower with maximum grace. In the face of fear, you will not just be brave, but brave and crafty. You'll refrain from forcing storylines to unfold before they're ready, and you'll rely on strategy and good timing instead of brute strength and the decree "Because I said so." Now study this counsel from the ancient Chinese statesman Zhuge Liang, also known as Crouching Dragon: "The wise win before they fight, while the ignorant fight to win."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Everything you do in the coming days should be imbued with the intention of enhancing the Flow. It's high time to identify where the energy is stuck, and then get it unstuck. You have a sacred mandate to relieve the congestion . . . to relax the tweaks . . . to unravel the snarls if you can, or simply cut through them if necessary. You don't need to tell anyone about your secret agenda. Just go about your business with zealous diligence and unflinching purpose. If it takes more effort than you wished, so be it. If your progress seems maddeningly gradual, keep the faith.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): My long-term predictions for the next 15 months are a blend of hopeful optimism and a reasonable interpretation of the astrological omens. Here we go: 1. You will have an excellent chance to smooth and soothe the rough spots in your romantic karma. 2. You will outgrow any addiction you might have to frustrating connections. 3. Unrequited love will either be requited, or else you'll become bored with the futile chase and move on. 4. You'll be challenged to either refresh and reinvent an existing intimacy, or else get shrewd enough not to repeat past mistakes in a new intimacy. 5. You will have an abundance of good ideas about how to install the theme of "smart fun" at the heart of your strongest alliances.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Author Courttia Newland quotes the pre-Socratic philosopher Meno: "How will you go about finding the thing the nature of which is totally unknown to you?" In response to this riddle, Newland riffs on what it means to him: "Even more important than the journey itself, is the venture into the unknowable. The ability to find comfort moving forwards without quite knowing where you are going." I nominate these to be your words to live by in the coming days, Cancerian. Have open-hearted fun as you go in search of mysterious and impossible secrets! I'm confident you will track them down -- especially if you're willing to be lost.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your homework is to write a story about the life you're going to live between now and next April. The length of this predictive tale should be at least three pages, although it's fine if you produce more. Here are some meditations to lubricate the flow of your imagination. 1. What three questions would you love to have answered during the next 42 weeks? 2. Of the numerous adventures that might be fun to explore, which are the two that would be most consistently energizing? 3. What is the one thing you'd most like to change about your attitude or revamp about your life? 4. What new privilege will you have earned by April 2017?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): According to an old Chinese proverb, if you want to get rich, you must have a nickname. My meditations on your future suggest that this curious formula may have some validity. The next 15 months will be a favorable time to attend to the groundwork that will ultimately increase your wealth. And your luck in doing this work is likely to be oddly good if you add a frisky tweak to your identity -- such as a zesty new nickname, for example. I suggest you stay away from clichés like Ace or Vixen or Sharpie, as well as off-

putting ironic monikers like Poker Face and Stonewall. Instead, gravitate toward lively choices like Dazzler, FluxLuster, Hoochie-Coochie, or FreeBorn.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): During the next 15 months, you will have an unprecedented chance to materialize a fantasy you've harbored for years. Essential to your efforts will be a capacity to summon more ambition than you ever have before. I'm not talking about the grubby self-promotion that typically passes for ambition, however. Arrogant self-importance and selfish posturing will not be part of your winning formula. Rather, the kind of ambition I'm referring to is a soaring aspiration that seeks the best and highest not just for yourself but for everyone whose life you touch. I mean the holy hunger that drives you to express impeccable integrity as you seek to master the tasks you came to Earth to accomplish. Get started!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): During the next 15 months, composting should be a primary practice, as well as a main metaphor. If you have been lazy about saving leftover scraps from your kitchen and turning them into fertilizer, now is an excellent time to intensify your efforts. The same is true if you have been lax about transforming your pain into useful lessons that invigorate your lust for life. Be ever-alert for opportunities to capitalize on junk, muck, and slop. Find secret joy in creating unexpected treasure out of old failures and wrong turns.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Have you ever made a fool of yourself while trying to fulfill your deepest yearnings? I hope so. If you haven't, your yearnings probably aren't deep enough. Most of us, on multiple occasions, have pursued our longings for connection with such unruly intensity that we have made foggy decisions and engaged in questionable behavior. That's the weird news. The good news is that now and then, the impulse to leave our safety zone in a quest to quench our deepest yearnings can actually make us smarter and more effective. I believe this is one of those times for you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): During the next 13 months, what can you do to enhance your ability to be the boss of yourself? What practices can you engage in on a daily basis that will build your potency and authority and clout? How can you gain access to more of the helpers and resources you need to carry out your life's master plan? These are excellent questions to ask yourself every day between now and July 2017. It's time to find or create your ultimate power spot.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The prison population in the U.S. is over two million, more than twice what it was in 1990. In contrast, Canada keeps about 41,000 people in jail, Italy 52,000, and France 66,000. That's the bad news. The good news, at least for you and your tribe, is that a relatively small percentage of you will be incarcerated during the next 15 months. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, Aquarians all over the world will specialize in liberation. Not only will you be extra ethical; not only will you be skillful at evading traps; you will also be adept at emancipating yourself from your own delusions and limitations. Congratulations in advance! It's time to start singing some new freedom songs.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The English word "catharsis" is derived from the ancient Greek "katharsis," which was a technical medical term that meant "purgation" or "purification," as in flushing out the bowels. Aristotle converted "katharsis" into a metaphor that described how a drama performed in the theater could "clean out" the emotions of spectators. These days, catharsis may refer to any event that precipitates a psycho-spiritual renewal by building up and then releasing tension. I foresee at least one of these strenuous blessings in your immediate future.

Out on the town

from page 26

Masters Ministry, 5705 S. Washington Ave., Lansing.
Film Movement Series. Today's film: Secrets of War (Netherlands). 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos.

Mason Codependents Anonymous. A fellowship to develop healthy relationships. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Mason First Church of the Nazarene, 415 E. Maple St., Mason. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

Drop-In Coloring Group. Adults color, supplies provided. 6-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Friday, June 17

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Mud & Mug. Pottery course. 7-10 p.m. \$25. Reach

Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

MUSIC

The Coffeehouse at All Saints. Musical/spoken word showcase. 7:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 402-2582, ow.ly/XeLKP.

THEATER

Chapatti. Two lonely animal lovers form a bond. 8 p.m. \$28/\$26 senior and military/\$10 students. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.

Book of Mormon. Religious satire musical. 8 p.m. Tickets from \$48. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

The Explorers Club. Wacky historical comedy set in London. 8 p.m. \$11/\$9 seniors/\$7 students. The Ledges Playhouse, 137 Fitzgerald Park Dr., Grand Ledge. (517) 318-0579, overtheledge.org.

Calendar Girls. A nude calendar made by a group

of women comically sparks global phenomenon. 8 p.m. \$15. Owosso Community Players, 114 E. Main St., Owosso. owossoplayers.com.

Saturday, June 18

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Lansing Area Multiple Sclerosis Self-Help Support Group. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 393-9747.

LoungeBrite. Open-space design and web development conference. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 481-2218, loungebrite.com.

Small Fruit Production. Course on growing fruits and berries at home. 12:30-2 p.m. \$5-10 suggested donation. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910, ow.ly/w73s301cSz0.

Tai Chi at the Park. Instruction in Qigong,

See Out on the Town, Page 28

SATURDAY, JUNE 18 >> LANSING BEER FEST

The fourth annual Lansing Beer Fest returns to REO Town Saturday. Hosted by I'm a Beer Hound, the event features 25 Michigan breweries pouring over 100 craft beers. For the non-beer drinkers, the festival also offers a variety of Michigan-made ciders meads, spirits and wine. The event also includes live music by Mark Warner, Donny Brown and the Van Dell-tones and the Jonestown Crows. A food truck rally, featuring Good Bites, Mark's Gourmet Dogs, Shimmy Shack and more, rolls into REO Town to provide tasty treats for festival goers. \$35/\$30 adv./\$40 VIP/\$10 designated driver. 1-6 p.m. Washington Avenue between South Street and Elm Street, Lansing. lansingbeerfest.com.

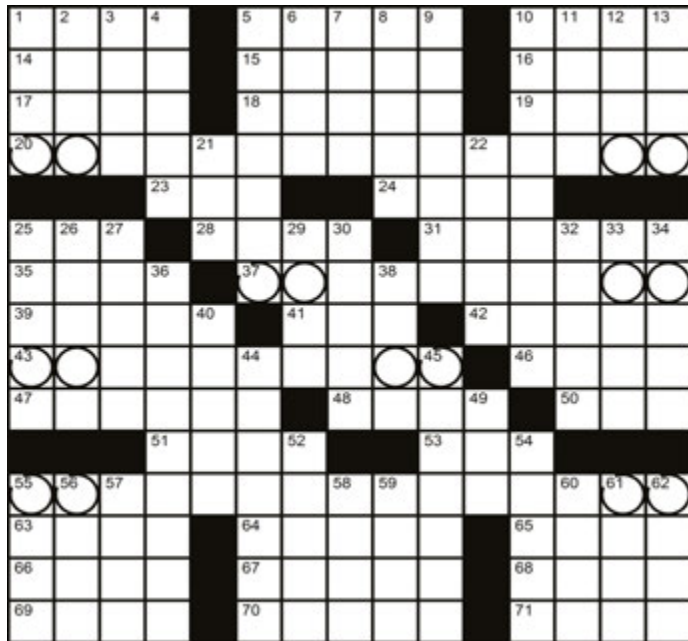
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Shell Games"—from an outside perspective. Matt Jones

Across

- 1 ___ of Maine (tooth-paste brand)
- 5 Name associated with a philosophical "razor"
- 10 Some insurance options, for short
- 14 Stonestreet of "Modern Family"
- 15 "Star Trek" character that speaks Swahili
- 16 Little green guy of film
- 17 Maitre d' handout
- 18 Get red, maybe
- 19 Google cofounder Sergey
- 20 Alternative rock band formed in 1984 that's called Honolulu, Austin, and Chicago home
- 23 Treatment facility
- 24 "Rikki-Tikki-___" (Kipling short story)
- 25 Auth. submissions
- 28 Colonial critters?
- 31 Punk rocker with the backup band The Pharmacists
- 35 Scratcher's target
- 37 Bovine Old Testament idol
- 39 Headwear banned by the NFL in 2001
- 41 "La ___" (Debussy opus)
- 42 Actor Killam of both "Mad TV" and "SNL"
- 43 Races, like the heart
- 46 Hourly wage
- 47 ___ fugit
- 48 Olympic skating medalist Michelle
- 50 "Feed me kitten food!"
- 51 Barks like a fox



- 53 Ornamental carp
- 55 Schoolroom furniture with a surface shaped like a "7"
- 63 River into which Ali threw his gold medal
- 64 Lost spectacularly, in slang
- 65 "... hit me like ___ of bricks"
- 66 Recurring "Seinfeld" character from Pakistan
- 67 Center square occupant Paul
- 68 Tony of "Veep"
- 69 Czech Republic river
- 70 Freight hauler
- 71 "Ye ___ Curiosity Shoppe"
- alternately
- 6 Motherboard component
- 7 "We'll tak a ___ kindness yet": Burns
- 8 "___ you just the cutest thing ever?"
- 9 Formal order
- 10 Prius, e.g.
- 11 Memento ___
- 12 Norse counterpart of Ares
- 13 Ratted
- 21 ___-Locka (city near Miami)
- 22 Track meet component
- 25 In the ___ of (surrounded by)
- 26 Add fuel to
- 27 See-through scenery piece
- 29 Grant's landmark
- 30 Aerodynamic
- 32 West Coast NFLer as of 2016
- 33 Bring bliss to
- 34 Humans ___ York (photo/interview site)
- 36 Time to drink cheap
- 38 Old West challenge
- 40 Astronaut's pressurized garb
- 44 Blacktop makeup
- 45 Rest for a while
- 49 Head bob
- 52 Attendant of Bacchus
- 54 State where "Wayward Pines" is set
- 55 Cop or call lead-in
- 56 "If ___ \$1000000" (Barenaked Ladies song)
- 57 Dig
- 58 "99 Luftballons" singer
- 59 Actress Conn of "Grease"
- 60 "Too many more to mention" abbr.
- 61 Gavel-banging word
- 62 Meniscus location



Meet Author

Kate DiCamillo



The award-winning author of *Because of Winn-Dixie* will be discussing her newest title, *Raymie Nightingale*. This is a FREE event but registration is required.

Visit cadl.org/events (keyword "Kate") or call 517-367-6312.

Wharton Center

750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing

Saturday, July 9 • 4 p.m.



Capital Area District Libraries

Everything...right here.

cadl.org

Out on the town

from page 27

meditation and Yang style tai chi forms. No class April 30. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park, 400 S. Holmes St., Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

Deacon Earl: Meridian Twp. Farmers Market. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Meridian Township Farmers Market, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos.

THEATER

Chapatti. Two lonely animal lovers form a bond. 3 and 8 p.m. \$28/\$26 senior and military/\$10 students. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.

The Explorers Club. Wacky historical comedy set in London. 8 p.m. \$11/\$9 seniors/\$7 students. The Ledges Playhouse, 137 Fitzgerald Park Dr., Grand Ledge. (517) 318-0579, overtheledge.org.

Calendar Girls. A nude calendar made by a group of women comically sparks global phenomenon. 8 p.m. \$15. Owosso Community Players, 114 E. Main St., Owosso. owossoplayers.com.

Book of Mormon. Religious satire musical. 2 and 8 p.m. Tickets from \$48. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

EVENTS

Father's Day Fun. Storytime, craft and donuts. 10-11 a.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351 ext. 3, cadl.org.

Mobile Food Pantry. Food for those in need. 9 a.m. FREE. Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing.

Sunday, June 19

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Juggling. Learn to juggle. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pump House, 368 Orchard St., Lansing. (517) 371-5119.

THEATER

Chapatti. Two lonely animal lovers form a bond. 2 p.m. \$25/\$23 senior and military/\$10 students. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.

Book of Mormon. Religious satire musical. 1 and 6:30 p.m. Tickets from \$48. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

The Explorers Club. Wacky historical comedy set in London. 2 p.m. \$11/\$9 seniors/\$7 students. The Ledges Playhouse, 137 Fitzgerald Park Dr., Grand Ledge. (517) 318-0579, overtheledge.org.

Calendar Girls. A nude calendar made by a group of women comically sparks global phenomenon. 3

p.m. \$15. Owosso Community Players, 114 E. Main St., Owosso. owossoplayers.com.

EVENTS

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. A fellowship to develop healthy relationships. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

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

Monday, June 20

MUSIC

Music in the Lobby. With guitarist Pete Wittig. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363, cadl.org.

EVENTS

PFLAG Greater Lansing Area Meeting. Safe space for LGBTQ topics. 3-5 p.m. FREE. First Congregational United Church of Christ, 210 W. Saginaw Highway, Grand Ledge. (517) 925-1125, ow.ly/flvx3015uhk.

Social Bridge. Play bridge and meet new people. No partner needed. 1-4 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing.

Tuesday, June 21

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. Learn public speaking and leadership skills. 7 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 775-2697, cadl.org.

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

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

Overeaters Anonymous. Support for weight loss efforts. 7 p.m. FREE. Okemos Presbyterian Church, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 819-3294.

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

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Have a support system, lose weight. Wheelchair accessible. Weigh-in 6:30, meeting 7 p.m. FREE first visit. St. Therese Church, 102 W. Randolph St., Lansing. tops.org.

Writing a Business Plan. Intro course on business planning. 9-1:30 a.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington

SATURDAY, JUNE 18 >> RIVER CITY MRKT SUMMER POP-UP

Get your creative fix and support Michigan artisans at River City MRKT's summer pop-up arts and crafts show. The event features 40 small and independent vendors selling a variety of home goods, jewelry, ceramics and more. Vendors include EatPomegranate Photography, My Little Buffalo, Burton & Levy and more. See website for a complete list of vendors. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Old Town Marquee, 319 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. rivercitymrkt.com.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18 >> HISTORIC REO TOWN TOUR

The Historical Society of Greater Lansing kicks off its series of summer walking tours with a tour of Lansing's historic REO Town district. Ransom Olds built the REO Motor Car Co. south of downtown Lansing in 1903, and neighborhoods and businesses sprung up around the factory. The 90-minute tour will include former sites of REO Motor Car Co. buildings and other businesses. Attendees are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes and bring a water bottle. 10 a.m. FREE. BWL REO Town Depot, 1203 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 282-0671, lansing.org.

Square, Suite 110, Lansing. sbdcmichigan.org.

MUSIC

DJClarinet Does Lunch at Lansing City Market. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460.

Evening Classical Concert Series On Board the Michigan Princess. With Lansing's international talent. 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$20. Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St., Lansing.

Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

EVENTS

Downtown River Market. With nutrition demos and live music. 3-7 p.m. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Dr., Lansing. ow.ly/sqjs300GI5W.

Google Drive Basics. Learn about collaborative documents. Call to register. 5:30-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Foster, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185.

Jug and Mug General Meeting. Singles activity club. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Buddies Pub & Grill, 2040 N. Aurelius Road, Holt. jugandmug.org.

Knitting and Crochet Group. All ages and skills welcome. 11 a.m.-noon. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

Read and Play Storytime. Family storytime with kids under age 6. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

Reminisce: The 1960s. Meetup for reminiscing, fellowship and refreshments. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Aurelius, 1939 S. Aurelius Road, Mason.

Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. All levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillsdale St., Lansing. crisisrhc.com.

Wednesday, June 22

MUSIC

Concert in the Park. Featuring The Lansing

TUESDAY, JUNE 21 >> COMEDY COVEN XVI: JUST DESSERTS

Does a spoonful of sugar help the comedy go down? Lansing-based all-female comedy group Comedy Coven presents its latest show, "Just Desserts," Tuesday at REO Town's Robin Theatre. The ladies of Comedy Coven — Tricia Chamberlain, Stephanie Onderchanin and Emily Syrja — are joined by Sarah Jean Anderson, Mikey Hall, Heather Jay and Will Savino for an evening of high fructose entertainment. 8-9 p.m. \$10/\$7 adv. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. comedycoven.com.

Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle. 7-9 p.m. FREE.

Moore's Park, 420 Moore's River Drive, Lansing.

Sit in with the Band. 8-11 p.m. Reno's East, 1310 Abbott Road, East Lansing. (517) 881-8125.

St. Johns Concert in the Park Series. The Louie Longoria Band in concert. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. William E. Tennant Performance Shell, 805 W. Park St., Saint Johns.

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Alcoholics Anonymous. A closed step meeting. 6 p.m. Donations. Pennsylvania Ave. Church of God, 3500 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 899-3215.

EVENTS

Stevens Puppets. The Wizard of Oz brought to life with marionettes. 10-10:45 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840.

Howell Nature Center: Animal Athletes. Compare skills with animal athletes. 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Aurelius, 1939 S. Aurelius Road, Mason.

Howell Nature Center: Myth Crackers. Facts and myths about animals. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Dansville, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville.

Ribbon Cutting for New Merchants at the Lansing City Market. 11 a.m.-noon. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 927-9795, ow.ly/znxZ301d6sq.

Allen Street Farmers Market. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

ICACS Whisker Wednesday. Pet adoptions.

All animals spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. Noon to 6 p.m. Ingham County Animal Control, 600 Curtis St., Mason. (517) 676-8370.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 27

T	O	M	S		O	C	C	A	M		H	M	O	S
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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 26

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



FRESH FISH AND FRY/MR. TACO/BLOOM COFFEE CO.

Ty Forquer/City Pulse

New signs for Mr. Taco (shown) and Fresh Fish and Fry, both on South Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, have created a buzz around the two businesses.

By **ALLAN I. ROSS**

Sign, sign, everywhere a sign. At least that's the way it seems along the 3100 block of South Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, where two signs — one new and one old — made a big splash earlier this month.

Two weeks ago, **Fresh Fish and Fry**, a you-buy-we-fry seafood and chicken shop, erected a sign that could easily be misconstrued as a name change for the 13-year-old business. But manager Wayne Haddad said his family was simply hitching to popular sentiment when they decided to put up the new sign, which features a picture of a cartoon chick beneath the store's nickname, Crack Chicken.

"People come in looking lost and ask that same question every day," Haddad said. "They say, 'Is this the crack chicken place?' Now with the new sign, they won't have to ask anymore."

That sign advertises the store's star menu item, which, interestingly enough, isn't actually the chicken. It's the seasoning, a secret family recipe of herbs, spices and oils — including black pepper, lemon peel, sunflower seed oil and cane sugar — that make the fried food as addictive as, well, crack.

"We started selling the seasoning separately about six months ago, but it hasn't slowed down sales,"

Haddad said. "It's all there in the ingredients."

If the Crack Chicken sign has gotten people to stop asking questions, the **Mr. Taco** sign two doors down has had the opposite effect. Last week, a vintage sign featuring the mustachioed, sombrero-clad, anthropomorphized taco was installed in front of 3122 S. Martin Luther King Jr., the site of the original Mr. Taco. Its reappearance marks a big step forward for owner Bill Bonofiglo, who vowed last year that the restaurant would reopen.

In an email to City Pulse, Bonofiglo said the decision to put up the signs, a part of the restaurant's ongoing restoration, was hastened when he lost access to the warehouse he had been storing them in.

"They are expensive and somewhat fragile, and we did not want to transport them," Bonofiglo said. "The best place to put them was where they belong."

Mr. Taco was started in that location in 1967 by Bonofiglo's father, Eugene Bonofiglo, and two business partners. Three additional stores opened over the years, but they eventually closed, one by one. The last one, on Lansing's west side, shuttered 10 years ago, at which point Bill Bonofiglo, who had taken over the business, put the four signs in storage and moved to Grand Rapids.

In May 2015, Bonofiglo announced that he intended to reopen the original restaurant. He started a private Facebook group that, for the last 13 months, has generated outpours of both support and frustration from customers looking for solid answers. Bonofiglo said that funding has taken longer than anticipated, and he's performed interior and exterior renovation work on the building himself.

"There are many moving parts to bringing back a Lansing icon that has been closed for over a decade," Bonofiglo said. "However, reaching the milestone of handing lenders the right documents has been met."

Bonofiglo said he hasn't signed an agreement yet but has been working with the Small Business Development Center, the Lansing Economic Area Partnership and multiple lenders to reach a solution. For his part, Bonofiglo is perfectly happy being an object lesson for aspiring entrepreneurs.

"We sincerely hope the rebirth of Mr. Taco has contributed (to the) public awareness of how these entities work together to help a new business open in Lansing," Bonofiglo said. "I think many people have gained insight by having a front row seat on just how expensive and what a huge undertaking a project like this is."

With nothing concrete, and an opening date far from established, the timing of the sign erection seems to be a morale boost for the nearly 8,000 members of the Facebook group.

"(They) share kind things such as past memories, anticipation, things they like the most," Bonofiglo said. "Past employees reunite. People help me find resources. They understand how hard we work and understand our commitment is real. I think what matters most is (the sign) makes a lot of people smile."

In Bloom

Bloom Coffee Roasters Café will have a "sneak opening" on July 1, four days ahead of its July 5 grand opening. The new cafe, 1236 Turner St. in Lansing's Old Town neighborhood, will feature its own brand of coffee, which is roasted on-site, as well as pastries from **Groovy Donuts** in Williamston and the Mason-based **Glorry Bee Sweet Treats**.

The July 1 opening will have hours of 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and was planned to line up with the Arts Council of Greater Lansing's next Arts Night Out event. When Bloom opens on July 5, regular hours will be 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Fresh Fish & Fry/Crack Chicken
3140 S. MLK Blvd. Lansing
10 a.m.-midnight Monday-Thursday;
10 a.m.-2 a.m. Friday-Saturday;
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sunday
(517) 882-7007, freshfishandfry.weebly.com

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Mijo's Delight

— Mijo's Diner

When I read the description for Mijo's Delight, I knew I had to try it. This burger features two beef patties on a brioche bun, with a piece of crustless white bread wedged in between the beef patties. The whole thing is topped with fresh onion, tomato, lettuce, American cheese — and Thousand Island dressing.

Mijo's Diner
6 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday
5131 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing
(517) 940-7815

I don't know what compelled Mijo to put Thousand Island dressing on this burger, but it works. The dressing adds just enough zip to balance out the heaviness of the beef and bread.

Both the sandwich and the north Lansing diner are named after the late Mijo Kovac, a Croatian immigrant who came to Lansing in the 1970s in hopes of land-

ing a job at GM. Instead, he ended up owning and operating his own diner for over 40 years. He died in 2011; the diner is still family owned.

Mijo's Diner has a folksy, small-town vibe. ("Parks and Recreation" fans, just imagine JJ's Diner plopped into a strip mall across from the airport. And yes, there are waffles.) Portions are large and

breakfast meats are plentiful. Bread for French toast is made in-house. It's the kind of place where servicemen have their bills anonymously paid for. (This happened on our last visit. Good on you, fellow diners.)

—Ty Forquer



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2706 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing

What's your favorite dish?

Do you have a go-to dish at your favorite local restaurant? We want to know about it. Email your favorite dish and a short explanation about why you love it to food@lansingcitypulse.com, and it may be featured in a future issue. If possible, please send a photo along with your description — a nice smartphone photo is fine. Cheers!

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Lansing
Across from EastWood Towne Center
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THE PULSIFIEDS

BACKPAGE CLASSIFIEDS

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B/16/117 PAINTING O&M BUILDINGS as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City will accept sealed bids at the City Of Lansing - Purchasing Office, c/o LBWL, 1232 Haco Dr., Lansing, Michigan 48912 until **2:00 PM** Local Time In Effect **On JUNE 28, 2016** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Stephanie Robinson at (517) 702-6197, or slr@lbwl.com or go to www.mitn.info.** The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

Meridian Mall Arts, Crafts, Antiques, Collectibles & Home-Business Shows
Oct 21-23, Nov 4-6, Nov 24-27, Dec 9-11, Dec 16-18. Space limited. For info visit www.smetankacraftshows.com or call 810-658-0440

RFPQ/16/104 EVALUATE AND UPDATE MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING STANDARDS as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. Proposals will be accepted at the CITY OF LANSING PURCHASING OFFICE, 1232 HACO DR, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912 until **2:00 PM** local time in effect on **July 12, 2016** at which time proposals will be opened. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit proposals are available by calling Stephanie Robinson, CPPB at (517) 702-6197, or email: slr@lbwl.com, or for content and purpose of this proposal contact Bret Taylor, at (517) 483-4832, or go to www.mitn.info.** The City of Lansing encourages proposals from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

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B/16/112 LIFE OF RILEY PARK DEMOLITION as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City will accept sealed bids at the City Of Lansing - Purchasing Office, c/o LBWL, 1232 Haco Dr., Lansing, Michigan 48912 until **2:00 PM** Local Time In Effect **On JUNE 21, 2016** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Stephanie Robinson at (517) 702-6197, or slr@lbwl.com or go to www.mitn.info.** The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

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by Christian O'Reilly

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Featuring: John Seibert and Karen Sheridan

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(517) 763-2717
Hours-
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Greenwave Dispensary Lansing sets the standard in cannabis therapy. The staff excels in patient care and focuses on aligning cannabinoids to combat illnesses and debilitating conditions. All Greenwave products are tested from ISO certified laboratories. Greenwave provides a safe and secure environment located on the corner of Oakland and Cedar.

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Here at Kola, we have the highest quality, lab tested meds obtainable. We strive to continually raise the bar, bettering the industry and community through excellent quality control, great service and education. You can expect an open, safe facility with professional, knowledgeable and friendly staff - stop by and let us show you what we have to offer.

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Our mission at Nature's Alternative is to provide access to high quality, medical marijuana in a safe and professional environment. We are committed to helping patients find the most effective relief for their qualifying ailments. A wide variety of lab tested medical marijuana flowers, edibles and extracts are always available.

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Hours-
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