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December 13 - 19, 2017

The Bernero Years: Exit interview

See Page 10



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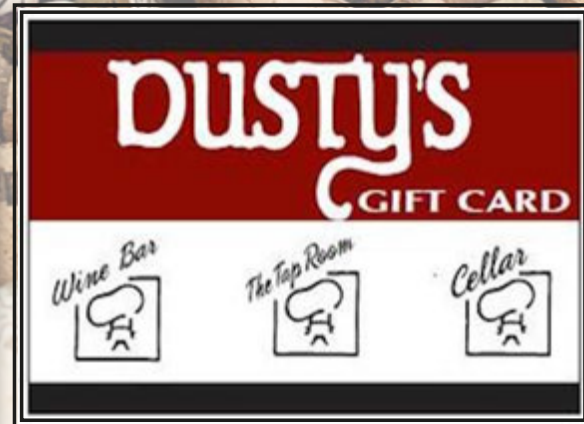
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Introducing Clay Jones

Every 17 years, City Pulse likes to introduce a new cartoon.

That's how long we've been around — and hence carrying "This Modern World," our sole cartoon.

Now comes a new one. Unlike Dan Perkins' multi-panel look from the left, this one is a single panel (for the most part) look from ... wherever the hell Clay Jones is standing.

Who is this guy? As Jones, who lives in Virginia, like to tell it (talking for some reason in the third person):

"Clay Jones was often sent to the principal's office as a child for making fun of his classmates. He discovered at a young age that he had a knack for poking fun at

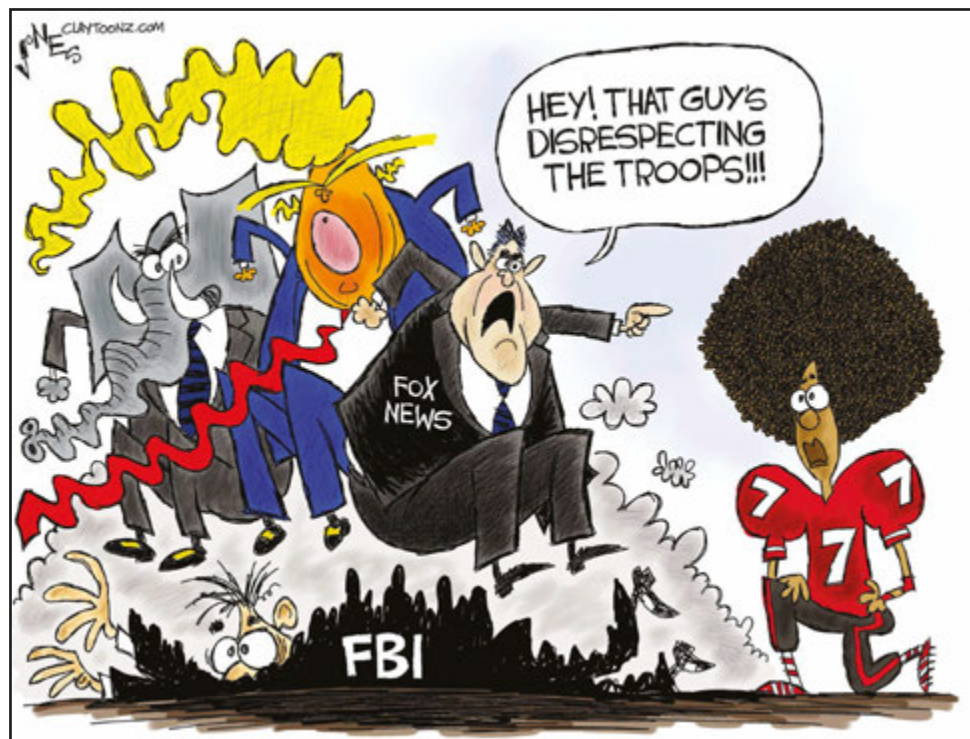
the flaws of others, and he decided later to make it a career. He went from drawing simple Crayola caricatures of his friends to full-sized comic books by the time he was in high school."

Jones' bio says he refuses to align himself with political parties and believes it is his daily goal to lampoon authority and make it look as ridiculous as possible. "My cartoons do not tell readers what they should believe. I hope they simply challenge people to think."

Jones, who was born in Texas, lives in Fredericksburg with a loud beagle. He excels at being a lousy guitarist.

"Occasionally," his bio tells us, "he is still sent to the principal's office."

Enjoy. Or not.



CityPULSE

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New Broad exhibit is gender bending



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Christmas music made in Michigan



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Bill Castanier selects his best books for Christmas



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Cover illustration by Khalid Ibrahim

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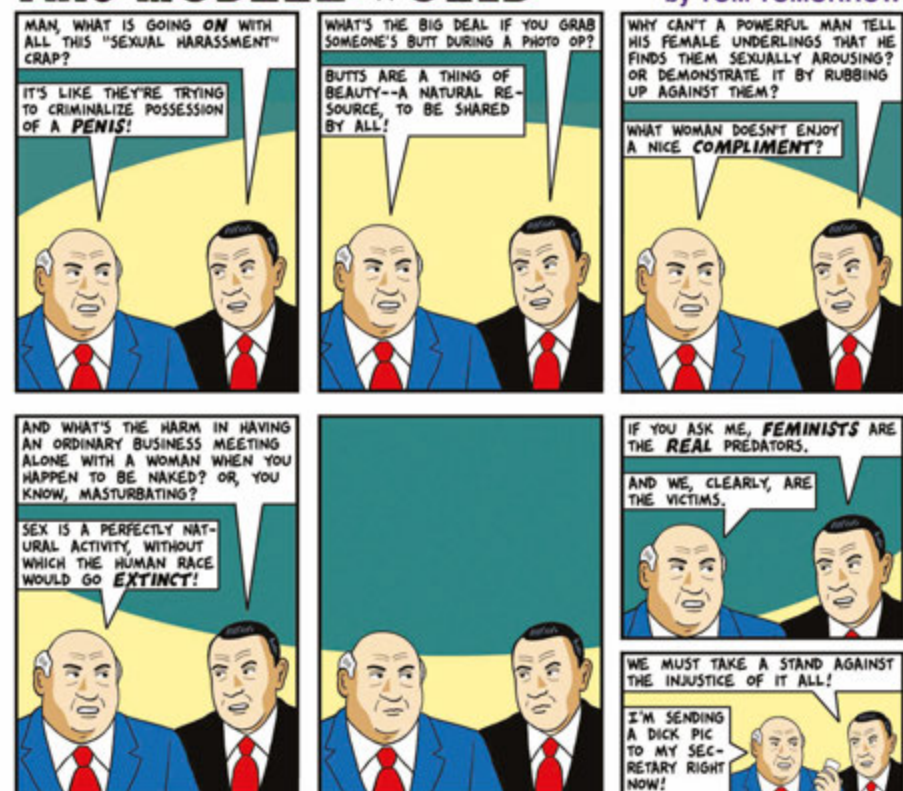


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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Empowering two departments

Schor plans to target neighborhood economic development

With a push and pull tension between neighborhoods and large scale developments long gnawing at city government, incoming Mayor Andy Schor is reshuffling his departments and cabinet leaders to send a message: economic development of neighborhoods matter.

Under his plan, the Department of Planning and Neighborhood Development will be split into two cabinet-level departments: one Economic Development and Planning, the other Neighborhoods and Citizen Engagement.

It's partially a symbolic move, but it's also elevating neighborhood concerns, organizations and stabilizations to the cabinet level. The move comes as a direct result of Schor's door to door work during the mayoral campaign this summer, he said. His consolidation of economic development issues and planning is also a response to citizen concerns, he said.

Ingham County Commissioner Brian McGrain will oversee the new Economic Development and Planning Department, while Andrea Crawford, who was tapped in 2014 by outgoing Mayor Virg Bernero to coordinate neighborhood activities for his office, will lead the new Neighborhoods and Citizen Engagement Department.

The Lansing Economic Area Partnership will continue to represent the city on large-scale development deals. "LEAP is the expert with tools and LEAP does a lot for the city and will continue to do that," said Schor. He and McGrain said in phone interviews Monday the restructured city departments will enhance LEAP activities.

The incoming mayor said the new Economic Development and Planning Department under McGrain would be a bridge between LEAP and individuals who want to start having conversations about projects.

"I think what he also wants to do is make sure that his philosophy of economic development is the philosophy that guides that relationship. It will be up to me to assist in making that happen.

"He's certainly, of course, interested in attracting new jobs and new employers," McGrain said, "But I think he also has an interest in growing what we have here locally, working with small business



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Good and bad: Colonial Village is seen as a positive example of neighborhood development, while Logan Square may be Lansing's classic example of the opposite. Mayor-elect Andy Schor aims to bring stronger development outside of downtown.

that's generated out of the community and helping to make sure that businesses are thriving in all parts of town, in all of our commercial corridors."

At-Large Councilwoman Carol Wood said those corridors were like the front porch. "If it looks like, excuse me for this,

crap on the porch, you don't know what gem might be hidden behind it," she said.

Wood, who is likely to be Council president next year, said she believes the focus on neighbors and the corridor development is important.

"We know from our experiences with Colonial Village that those businesses helped the neighborhood," she said. "People could walk to them. And even with economic downturns, the area was able to remain with more owner occupied housing. That's good."

Schor is considering appointing a business ombudsman to assist business in navigating the city's often complicated and at times byzantine licensing, inspections and occupancy permits processes. Wood said she was not necessarily opposed to this idea, but said she would also like to see the new mayor focus on customer service.

"If it takes pushing 15 buttons to reach a live person, that's not good," she said. "If you then have to leave a message, but don't hear back, that's not good either. We need a situation where those calls are being returned, even if the employee can't immediately answer the question and has to do more research. It's all about customer service."

Also, he is considering returning code compliance to the planning department. It is handled now by the Fire Department.

While the outgoing Bernero administration has dramatically reshaped the skyline of Michigan Avenue, the mayor has been criticized for doing so at the expense of the southern corridors like Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Cedar Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.

Elaine Wolmboldt, facilitator for Rejuvenating South Lansing, said she looks at the Logan Square, at the corner of Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard and Holmes Road, as an example of blight that didn't need to happen.

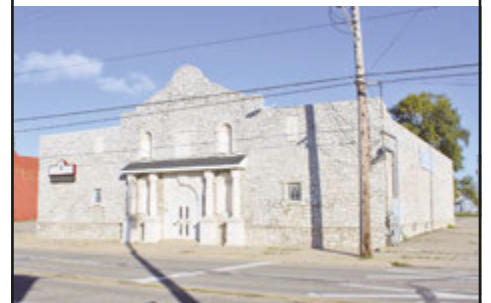
"He's going to need to find a way to deal with deadbeat landlords," she said. She was pleased that Schor is following up on his campaign promises to engage the neighborhoods.

"I think sometimes some neighborhoods have been excluded," she said. "You can't do that and make it work."

She said her group is eager to "roll up their sleeves and get dirty" to improve their neighborhoods and the corridors.

Assessing Schor's intentions, McGrain

See Development, Page 6



Danny Sorrells of Lansing was the first reader to correctly identify the Nov. 14 Eye for Design as the niche on the Christ's Kingdom Builders Church at 719 E. Grand River Ave. in Lansing. An Eye for Design mug awaits him at City Pulse. He adds that "the building was fashioned after the Alamo." The building is the former home of the Athens Grill, and then housed Ramon's Alamo restaurant, which moved into this building from its former location across the street.

The snow-surrounded silhouette below may be found in Delhi Charter Township. The first person to correctly identify the location of the detail will receive a City Pulse Eye for Design mug. Send your answer to daniel@eastarbor.com by Dec. 20.

DANIEL E. BOLLMAN, AIA



"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.

Wait and see

Lansing, East Lansing, Windsor Twp. only localities to opt into state medical marijuana licensing

To allow or not to allow — that is the question for communities across Michigan when it comes to medical marijuana facilities. Many municipalities in the greater Lansing area are taking the wait-and-see approach to regulating and licensing the facilities in their boundaries.

Without laws expressly allowing marijuana businesses, the state won't issue licenses for their operation in those boundaries. The law will also result in cost-sharing between

the state and municipalities that opt into the law and allow the businesses to operate.

Some municipalities have planned changes in policy or even acted on the issue since the release of emergency state rules last Monday, while others are still waiting to see how the situation plays out.

During a four-hour meeting on Dec. 5, East Lansing City Council voted 4-1 to allow all medical marijuana facility types except provisioning centers to operate within city

limits. Facilities in East Lansing must be 1,000 feet from any school or child care center and must be located within select business districts, office industrial park zones or manufacturing zones.

Councilwoman Ruth Beier was the lone vote against the ordinance. During the meeting, Beier repeatedly moved to heighten the restrictions outlined in the ordinance, such as increasing the required distance between medical marijuana facilities and schools and requiring facilities to be 1,000 feet from residential areas. Each time, those motions failed or were withdrawn.

Despite her opposition, Beier said she has “no problem” with allowing provisioning centers to operate in East Lansing. That issue will be discussed at the council meeting on Tuesday, when a vote will be taken on

a second ordinance that would solely regulate provisioning centers in the city.

Beier said she had no doubt provisioning centers will be allowed. Mayor Mark Meadows has previously made similar statements.

Most smaller communities surrounding Lansing and East Lansing have no ordinance on the books allowing medical marijuana facilities. The state's requirement of an authorizing ordinance makes inaction on the matter equivalent to a ban.

Representatives from Williamstown, Delta and Lansing townships could not be reached for comment. However, in previous interviews Dion'trae Hayes, supervisor of Lansing Township, said that municipality was taking a wait-and-see approach. In Delta

See Pot, Page 7

CITY OF EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF ADOPTION
ORDINANCE NO. 1395

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 50-7 AND 50-9 OF ARTICLE I -IN GENERAL- SECTION 50-552 OF DIVISION 2 – GENERAL OFFICE BUSINESS DISTRICT, B-1 – SECTION 50-572 OF DIVISION 3 – RETAIL SALES BUSINESS DISTRICT, B-2 - SECTION 50-612 OF DIVISION 5 - RESTRICTED OFFICE BUSINESS DISTRICT, B-4 - SECTION 50-632 OF DIVISION 6 - COMMUNITY RETAIL SALES BUSINESS DISTRICT, B-5 – SECTION 50-651 OF DIVISION 7 – MANUFACTURING DISTRICT, M-1 – AND SECTION 50-672 OF DIVISION 8 – OFFICE INDUSTRIAL PARK DISTRICT, OIP - OF ARTICLE VI - BUSINESS, OFFICE AND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS OF CHAPTER 50 - ZONING - OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING AND TO ADD SECTION 50-94a - TO DIVISION 3 - SPECIAL USE PERMIT - TO ARTICLE II - ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT - TO CHAPTER 50 - ZONING - OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING TO DEFINE, ALLOW FOR, AND REGULATE MEDICAL MARIHUANA FACILITIES.

Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1395 was adopted by the East Lansing City Council at the regular meeting of the Council held on December 5, 2017, and will become effective 7 days after the publication of the following summary of ordinance.

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 1395

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

Ordinance1395 is intended to define, allow for and regulate medical marihuana pursuant to the Michigan Medical Marihuana Facilities Act, Public Act 281 of 2016. The ordinance made the following general changes to the City of East Lansing Zoning Ordinance:

- Added definitions relative to various medical marihuana facilities
- Permits the following medical marihuana facilities as a special use in the following zoning districts:
 - Grower – M-1 (Manufacturing), OIP (Office Industrial Park)
 - Processor – M-1 (Manufacturing), OIP (Office Industrial Park)
 - Safety Compliance – B-1 (General Office Business), B-2 (Retail Sales Business), B-4 (Restricted Office), B-5 (Community Retail Sales Business), and OIP (Office Industrial Park)
 - Secure Transport - B-1 (General Office Business), B-2 (Retail Sales Business), B-4 (Restricted Office), B-5 (Community Retail Sales Business), M-1 (Manufacturing), and OIP (Office Industrial Park)
- Establishes the following standards for all medical marihuana facilities:
 - 1.Compliance with the Michigan Medical Marihuana Facilities Licensing Act
 - 2.Must not be located within 1,000 feet of a school, child care, or daycare center
 - 3.May not be a residence or residential structure
 - 4.Consumption of medical marihuana and alcohol is prohibited at facilities
 - 5.Waste and by-products must be properly kept and disposed of
 - 6.All medical marihuana transfers must be conducted by a secure transporter
 - 7.Care-givers and dispensaries may not act as a facility
 - 8.All medical marihuana and infused products must be kept and stored in a locked and enclosed facility
 - 9.Establishments must practice responsible business practices
 - 10.Facilities must install odor controls
 - 11.Facilities must pay an annual fee of \$5K

A true copy of Ordinance No. 1395 can be inspected or obtained at the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan during normal business hours.

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#17-320

Development

from page 5

said, “He is interested in making neighborhoods that work, thinking about the residential in neighborhoods, thinking about the commercial in neighborhoods, making sure that people have amenities in all parts of the town.” An example of integrating a neighborhood need and economic development, he said, is bringing a grocery store to food deserts in the city, like downtown.

“I think a criticism of Bernero that I had heard was always that, ‘What are you doing for the neighborhoods.’

“I think Andy Schor really wanted to respond to that by putting this cabinet level oomph out there, by saying I want to hear actively from the neighborhoods.”

Another community leader, Dale Schrader from the Walnut neighborhood, noted that developing the city is not only about putting cranes in the air. It's about how the developments are marketed. He said the current policy is a field-of dreams,

“build it and they will come” strategy.

“But once they're here, what's going to keep them here?” he asked. He said that's where engaging neighborhoods on their needs, like a grocery store, is essential to creating a different strategy of development that pulls people and businesses into the city.

McGrain said that is an important perspective when it comes to economic development. He noted that without strong neighborhoods featuring a diversity of people and incomes and housing options, it's difficult to expand the economic base.

“I think if you don't have a mix of people bringing in a mix of income, shopping at a mix of different places, working at a mix of different jobs; I think it's problematic,” he said. “I think it's kind of like the auto industry. With everything concentrated in one place, if there's a down turn, everybody suffers. I think for this community, I think when somebody moves to Lansing, they're going to want choice. And if it's not there, I think it hurts us.”

– TODD HEYWOOD

Towing Services

Any explanation desired by a proposer regarding the meaning or interpretation of this RFP and attachments must be requested to the Ingham County Purchasing Department, attention James Hudgins at jhudgins@ingham.org. The deadline for submitting final questions is no later than 3:00 P.M. on December 12, 2017. In the subject line of the email reference the packet number and title of this RFP.

Contact with any other County employee or official regarding this RFP may result in the rejection of the proposer's response.

CP#17-323

Legal Services

Any explanation desired by a proposer regarding the meaning or interpretation of this RFP and attachments must be requested to the Ingham County Purchasing Department, attention James Hudgins at jhudgins@ingham.org. The deadline for submitting final questions is no later than 3:00 P.M. on December 20, 2017. In the subject line of the email reference the packet number and title of this RFP.

Contact with any other County employee or official regarding this RFP may result in the rejection of the proposer's response.

CP#17-324

New faces ... and old

Schor announces department head choices

Mayor-elect Andy Schor has announced the 12 members of his cabinet. Four are new faces to city government and eight are familiar ones. Here's who's who and what they're doing.

New

Linda Sanchez Gazella, chief of staff to former Mayor Tony Benavides, will return to City Hall to join the Schor team as director of human resources. Gazella is the executive director of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program of Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties. She worked for the Lansing School District and former Mayor David Hollister. She replaces Mary Riley, a Bernero appointee.

tee.

Andrew Kilpatrick, the city's transportation engineer, has been named public service director. The department oversees roads, sidewalks, snow plowing and city properties, among other things. During Kilpatrick's 19 years with the city he has managed traffic engineering, parking operations and non-motorized transportation. He oversees transportation in his current post, including traffic engineering and operations, non-motorized planning and implementation, and intelligent transportation systems.

Kilpatrick will replace Chad Gamble, who served as both director of public service

and chief operating officer for the city under Bernero.

Andrea Crawford will run the new Department of Neighborhoods and Citizen Engagement. She was hired by the city in 2014 to work with neighborhoods and neighborhood leaders. In 2016 she was appointed neighborhood resource coordinator. This work has garnered national recognition as part of the Cities of Service coalition and the Robert Wood Johnson Invest Health program.

Brian McGrain will be the director of economic development and planning. McGrain serves as the associate director/chief operating officer of the Community

Economic Development Association of Michigan, where he oversees budget and finances, fundraising, grants management, training, and communication efforts. He is serving his fifth term on the Ingham County Board of Commissioners. He serves on the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, the Ingham County Economic Development Corp, the Ingham County Land Bank and the Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau.

McGrain and Crawford will replace Bob Johnson, who has served as the director of planning and neighborhood development

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Pot

from page 6

Township, Supervisor Ken Fletcher said the township, at the urging of law enforcement, had banned marijuana operations within its boundaries and was "unlikely" to revisit that ban anytime soon.

For Delhi Township, the current lack of an authorizing ordinance shouldn't be interpreted as a permanent prohibition, according to Tracy Miller, the township's director of community development. Delhi Township does have a ban on provisioning centers — referred to by the township as dispensaries — but township ordinances do not outline the regulation of the other facility types.

Miller said there is a potential that the township will change its position in the coming months.

"I don't think that there's an absolute position against these businesses at all at this point," Miller said.

Miller said she has not reviewed the state's emergency rules under the Medical Marijuana Facilities Licensing Act, released on Dec. 4 after a significant delay. There hasn't been much discussion about whether to make a decision now or wait for the release of permanent state rules, which must be unveiled by mid-2018.

"My feeling is we wouldn't do anything until there were permanent rules, maybe, but we really haven't had any conversation about that," Miller said.

The city of Williamston is similarly waiting to make a decision, according to City Manager Alan Dolley. Instead of waiting for the release of permanent rules, however, its hesitancy is due to a desire to see what other municipalities in the region decide to do.

"Williamston is not passing any ordinances to allow medical marijuana busi-

nesses inside city limits," Dolley said. "We're taking a wait-and-see approach to see how other communities that are looking at it or participating handle things."

Given the current landscape, that "wait and see approach" likely won't lead to much action any time soon. Few communities in the Lansing metro area have passed an ordinance that either authorizes or prohibits its marijuana facilities in 2017, with East Lansing, Lansing and Windsor Township being a few notable exceptions.

Lansing approved an ordinance in September authorizing all facilities and a maximum of 25 provisioning centers, while Windsor Township passed a law allowing a limited amount of all facility types except provisioning centers, which are prohibited.

A planned development in Windsor Township, dubbed Harvest Park, will turn 130 acres of land into a marijuana industrial park housing growers, processors, testers and transporters. Harvest Park is reportedly expected to open in spring 2018.

Bath, DeWitt, and Meridian townships all have not issued any authorizing ordinances, and only Bath appears to be open to changing that stance right now. Representatives from DeWitt and Meridian townships said they will likely wait until 2018 to take further action on the issue.

Given its proximity to East Lansing, as well as the location of the Chandler Crossings student housing complex within its borders, Bath Township's student population is somewhat unique compared to the other, mostly rural townships surrounding Lansing.

However, students have largely ignored the township's attempts to gauge their views on most other projects, planning director Brian Shorkey said, leading him to believe they won't have much influence over medical marijuana regulations, either.

"We've done a couple surveys since I

started here a year and a half ago on different project plans and township plans, and we have very little feedback in general from the student community in Chandler

Crossings," Shorkey said. "If they want to have an impact, they can come and talk to us about it."

— MAXWELL EVANS

Apply or shut down

Bernero tells pot businesses to license or face consequences

Marijuana businesses in Lansing are facing strict deadlines to get their applications for licensing submitted or face closure. Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero, who completes his third and last term Jan. 1, issued an executive order on Monday laying out the timeline for compliance.

The order, which is effective immediately, requires growers, transporters, testers and processors of medical marijuana who do not apply for a conditional city license to shut down by 5 p.m. Dec. 31. Provisioning centers will be required to shut down even earlier. The order mandates dispensaries must either apply for a city license by Friday or close by 5 p.m. Dec. 22.

Applicants who are denied a local or state license must immediately cease operations.

With four days left in the initial application period, there have been no applications for a license under the city's medical marijuana ordinance as of Monday afternoon, according to Deputy City Clerk Brian Jackson. The application period for city licenses opened on Nov. 16.

Jackson said a timeline for the City Clerk's office to finish scoring applications and begin issuing city licenses had not been determined. State licenses are expected to be issued by April 2018, if not sooner, David Harns of the state's

Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs said.

Civil infractions will be issued against businesses who do not follow the order, with \$1,000-a-day fines for each day a rogue business continues to operate. The businesses could also face mandatory lockdown by city officials and other civil actions.

City Attorney Jim Smiertka, the Lansing Police Department, the Lansing Fire Department, and the Building Safety and Zoning divisions of the Department of Planning and Neighborhood Development are authorized to take action against non-compliant facilities under the executive order.

Applicants for a city license must also apply for a state license by Feb. 15, or they will be shut down as well. State applications must include an attestation from the city clerk that the municipality has allowed medical marijuana facilities, according to Harns.

If businesses have not received a state license by June 15, they are required to close immediately.

A resolution submitted to the city council by Bernero will be heard during the Council's meeting on Monday, satisfying a requirement under LARA's emergency rules.

— MAXWELL EVANS

Cabinet

from page 7

during Bernero's 12 years in office.

Staying on

Angela Bennett will continue to oversee the Finance Department. Bennett has 20 years of municipal finance experience, including 12 for the City of Lansing. Previously she worked for the City of Kalamazoo.

Collin Boyce will remain chief information officer. His primary responsibility include strategic technology issues: governance and policy, resource allocation, information security and assurance, and information technology services.

Tammy Good remains treasurer. She has worked for the City of Lansing for 22 years. She has been on the board of directors for the Michigan Municipal Treasurers Association since 2013 and is a Michigan certified public treasurer and certified public funds investment manager.

Joan Jackson-Johnson will continue to head the Human Relations and Community Services Department, its director since 2006. She is a clinical psychologist and principal owner of the East Lansing Center for the Family.

Brett Kaschinske will continue as direc-

tor of parks and recreation. Kaschinske has worked for the Department since 1993 and has been director since 2011. He is serving as president of MParks, the parks and recreation association for Michigan.

Jim Smiertka will continue as city attorney. He has served as city attorney since July 2016 and previously held the position from 1994 to 2004. His prior municipal experience includes 11 years as deputy city attorney for Pontiac and assistant city attorney for Kalamazoo.

Randy Talifarro will continue as chief of the Lansing's Fire Department. He has 34 years' experience in fire services and has been with the City of Lansing since 2001. He worked in Flint for 17 years. He is a certified professional emergency manager and fire inspector. This post will continue as a shared position between the Lansing and East Lansing.

Mike Yankowski will continue to run the Lansing Police Department. Yankowski has been with the LPD for 23 years. He has served the last four years as chief. He was



McGrain



Bennett



Sanchez-Gazella



Kashinske

instrumental in developing and executing the implementation of the Data Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety, Gang Resistance Education and Training,

Capitol Area Violent Crime Initiative, Crisis Intervention Teams, and the Body Worn Camera Program at the Lansing Police Department.

January resignations

McGrain seeks smooth transition to city development job

Brian McGrain, named director of economic development and planning for Lansing, plans to continue service as a county legislator until the commission's last meeting in January. He will resign his current position with Community Economic Development Association of Michigan sometime in early January.

The slight delays will allow for a smooth transition over the holidays, he said. "I want to provide my colleagues some time to prepare for this."

Once McGrain has turned in his resignation, the county commission will have 30 days to appoint someone to complete his term, said Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum. His current two-year term ends in January 2019.

"I'm going to need to focus on the city," he said. "I think there would be places

where there might be some awkward negotiations. On the flip side, having those relationships, I think we're gonna be able to do some collaborative things. I think it just would be neater and cleaner if we were, if I'm just fully with the city and not serving two masters."

City leaders have long sought partnerships with the county. Some of those have been successful, including a countywide millage to finance Potter Park Zoo and another to fund parks and trails within the county, including the Lansing River Trail. Mayor Virg Bernero has been pushing publicly to have the county help finance an addition to the Veterans Memorial Courthouse, on Kalamazoo Street, to include a temporary lockup to replace the current lockup at City Hall.

LEGAL NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING CONDITIONAL REZONING PENDING

Notice is hereby given that the Lansing Charter Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, December 20, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lansing Township Administration Building located at 3209 West Michigan Avenue to recommend approval or denial of the following conditional rezoning request:

Case R-17-14: Request to conditionally rezone 225 S. Waverly Road from "E" Local Business to "G" General Business Conditional, to allow for expansion of services provided by Waverly Animal Hospital.

Information on the conditional rezoning request may be examined at the office of the Clerk, 3209 West Michigan Avenue.

Susan L. Aten, Clerk
Charter Township of Lansing

CP#17_311

STATE OF MICHIGAN OFFICE OF THE INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

In the Matter of:

Aurelius/Delhi, Branch #1 Drain

ORDER OF ABANDONMENT OF PETITION

Whereas, a petition dated December 15, 1992, having been filed for cleaning out, relocating, widening, deepening, straightening, tiling, extending, or relocating along a highway of the Aurelius/Delhi, Branch #1 Drain; and,

Whereas, no contract for construction of said county drain is necessary due to the petition received from Delhi Charter Township, dated June 18, 2013, for the consolidation of drainage districts and drains, including the Aurelius/Delhi, Branch #1 Drain Drainage District, and a subsequent petition received on November 14, 2016 for the improvement of the consolidated drain, which is now known as the Aurelius and Delhi Consolidated Drain.

It is therefore Ordered and Determined, that the petition dated December 15, 1992, shall be deemed abandoned as unnecessary due to the petitions dated June 18, 2013 and November 14, 2016 and that no further action shall be taken on the petition dated December 15, 1992.

Patrick E. Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

Dated: April 18, 2017
And filed in the Office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#17-319

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING WAS HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES LOCATED AT 3209 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hayes, Clerk Aten, Treasurer Rodgers

Trustees: Harris, DeLay

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustees: Broughton, McKenzie

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Gresens, Attorney

ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes.

Minutes of the meeting held on November 14, 2017 approved.

Agenda approved.

Removed R-16-20 from table.

Denied conditional rezoning request R-16-20.

Adopted Resolution 17-30: Resolution Objecting to the Transfer of All Unsold Tax Reverted Properties from the Ingham County Treasurer to the Township of Lansing.

Approved budget amendments.

Approved 2018 meeting dates and authorized Clerk to publish.

Claims approved.

Executive Session held to discuss pending litigation.

Board returned to regular session

Approved MTT settlement and authorized Attorney and Assessor to execute agreements.

Meeting adjourned.

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor
Susan L. Aten, Clerk

CP#17-321

East Lansing • Meridian Township • East Lansing • Meridian Township • East Lansing • Meridian Township • Ea

East Lansing arts in trouble?

After citizens reject an income tax, everything is on the table

Facing a budget crunch after voters rejected an income tax, the East Lansing City Council is taking a hard look at where to cut — and arts and recreation are in the crosshairs.

“The bottom line is there are going to be cuts,” said Councilwoman Shanna Draheim. “There are going to be cuts to services that people don’t like. Everyone has the things they love, so we are not looking forward to that.”

Following the income tax vote's failure, nothing is sacred. The city needs to address a legacy cost of nearly \$130 million in pension liability and retiree health care.

City Manager George Lahanas, during a special City Council meeting Sunday, provided a memo of potential cuts to parks and recreation. That hypothetical proposal includes yanking all support from the city for the Summer Solstice Jazz and Great Lakes Folk festivals.

Does that mean the arts and culture offerings of city that has touted itself as “the city of the arts” have bullseye on them?

“What we discussed isn’t a list of things we want to cut or are certainly planning to cut,” said Lahanas. “The list we went over comes from direct questions by City Council of what would be the savings if we didn’t do those programs.”

Like East Lansing's other public entities, the Parks and Recreation Department will inevitably feel the sting of a reduced budget. Lahanas requested that the department identify ways it could swing either a 5 or 10 percent budget reduction, which would entail cutting costs of either \$97,000 or \$194,000.

The hypothetical 5 percent budget reduction proposed by Parks and Recreation Director Tim McCaffrey rolls back spending by pulling \$10,500 in cash support from the jazz festival, \$15,000 from the folk festival, \$4,000 from the East Lansing Emerging Leaders Program and saves the remaining \$68,000 by eliminating a full-time parks and recreation staffer. The 10 percent plan is the same, but nixes an additional full-time staffer.

But those proposals, hypothetical or not, don't set well with some in the city.

“Overall in the city’s budget, it’s a drop in the bucket,” said Sarah Gonzalez Triplett, who chairs the East Lansing Arts Commission. “It is one of those items that

you do see both a tangible and intangible return on investment for the city.”

The East Lansing Art Festival is not under the same amount of pressure as its folk and jazz counterparts, given that it does not rely on any funding from the city. The festival's director, Michelle Carlson, chose not to comment, saying she would merely be speculating on "what-ifs"

The Summer Solstice Jazz Festival's coordinator, Benjamin Hall said the funds being looked at by the city as potential cuts have helped the festival expand into achieving national recognition.

"It's become more of a regionally and nationally recognized festival," Hall said. "If they take away that support, it will go back to what it was before, mostly attended by local people without a diverse regional lineup."

Hall said the festival is valuable regardless of a direct revenue stream for the city. “In the summertime it kind of turns into a ghost town here,” said Hall. “The festivals and summer concert series are some of the only things that bring people into East Lansing.”

Lahanas agreed that the festivals benefit East Lansing's vibrancy, but he added that those benefits don't translate into hard cash for the city's budget.

"If we give them a \$10,000 subsidy, that money is gone," said Lahanas. "People come, they eat, they drink, they hang out. Those things are great, but there isn't a direct payback."

Whether community enrichment will be considered as valuable to the city as

saving on expenditures is something Lahanas said the Council will have to decide as they move forward.

"I'm not always going to be looking into what revenue they bring," said Draheim. "We have some things that operate at a moderate cost but have huge intangible economic benefits for our businesses and community."

Leading up to Sunday's meeting, newly elected Mayor Pro Tem Erik Altmann voiced frustrations about his vision for East Lansing and the impending budget cuts at the City Council's Nov. 21 meet-

These comments raised some eyebrows across East Lansing's community and Altmann's fellow Council members.

“Look at the surrounding areas. Lansing, DeWitt, the city of Jackson have had a revival when it comes to the arts,” said Triplett. “They’re exceeding their economic development. So those comments struck a chord with me.”

But after Sunday's meeting and discussion, Altmann elaborated further on the point he was trying to make and took a few steps back about the extensive recreation cuts.



Courtesy photo

Among budget-cutting targets in East Lansing is the Summer Solstice Jazz Festival as the city government tries to figure how to make ends meet after voters rejected an income tax.

ing.

"If you stop making payments and the bank repossesses your car, nobody would say that's vindictive or punitive," said Altmann. "You stop paying for something so you don't get it."

While speaking about where cuts should be considered, Altmann suggested pulling all financial support away from the festivals, grants from the arts commission and closing or selling the Hannah Community Center, which has its own art programs.

Altmann summed up his feelings by saying his vision of the city had changed into something more of a bedroom community and he was no longer sure if it made sense to encourage bringing more urban features to East Lansing.

"I was trying to find ways to think about our vision for the city, what we need to cut, what we need to emphasize," said Altmann. "One of the strengths of the city is that it's a good place to live and do your work. If we emphasize that dimension it changes what amenities need to be cut."

Altmann said he had been under the impression that the festivals and other recreation staples came at a higher cost. "What we've learned is that cutting a lot of them wouldn't save us a lot of money," said Altmann. "They are largely self sufficient."

“We need to engage in a thoughtful dialogue,” said Triplett. “I am thrilled to hear he’s changed his tune.”

– SKYLER ASHLEY

The Bernero years: An assessment

By temperament, and perhaps talent, Virg Bernero always had the political makings of a mayor. He chafed at the measured pace of a county legislator, state representative and senator, his pre-mayoral elected offices. But, unbridled as mayor, he was the boss — bold and brash and autocratic. For the past 12 years Bernero called Lansing “His City,” and it was.



MICKEY HIRTEN

How will his tenure be judged? Bernero, in a long sit-down interview with City Pulse, graded his performance a B-plus, a generous but not altogether inaccurate appraisal. Twelve years covers a lot of political ground, inevitable successes and failures. Overall, Lansing has advanced during the Bernero years, a particularly challenging time for Michigan cities that struggled with the collapse of the state economy, years of hostile Republican government (think Flint and grim rounds of state aid cuts) and a need to resize and, if possible reimagine, themselves.

Bernero had to right-size a city government he inherited from former Mayor Tony Benavides in 2006, trimming nearly 300 employees with little spending budget growth. With fewer resources, it's easy to find what's missing, what isn't being done. The City Council excels at this. But Lansing's core services like fire, police and parks, the things that concern most residents, are in fine shape. Not the roads, of course. But that's a state government mortal sin.

Bernero narrowed city services, closing two money-losing golf courses. He offloaded its economic development mission to the Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) and offered his lieutenant, Bob Trezise, to resuscitate the floundering organization. A notable exception to a city slim-down was his support for a new Lansing City Market: unnecessary, ugly and a perpetual money loser.

In his City Pulse interview, Bernero cites former Mayor Dave Hollister as a mentor and role model, praising his support for the Michigan Avenue baseball stadium. It changed the face of downtown Lansing and set the stage for two decades of projects that are changing the state's capital.

It paved the way for Bernero's monuments. The Accident Fund complex that arose from the abandoned Ottawa Street Power Station fronting the Grand River is a world-class example of inner-redevelopment and job creation. So too is the resurrection of the decaying Knapp department store, now a one-of-a-kind Art Moderne office/housing showplace.

Both projects reflect Bernero's belief that a vibrant downtown Lansing is vital to the city's future. He ignored carping from those seeking more support for neighborhoods and complaints that he was in the



pocket of developers. The result is a resurgent Michigan Avenue corridor, thanks largely to the support of the Gillespie Group.

The Outfield apartment complex, stretching between right and left field at Cooley Law School Stadium, is unique and has drawn national attention to the city. There are nearby Market Place Apartments, adjacent to Lansing's most under appreciated asset, the Grand River. There are new mixed-use (housing and business) buildings stretching east on Michigan Avenue, narrowing the commercial and cultural distance between Lansing and East Lansing.

The long delayed and perhaps overly ambitious Red Cedar development planned in the flood plain of the Red Cedar golf course and the oversized, Iron Curtain-styled SkyVue apartment complex would be the midpoint of a larger and more unified Greater Lansing.

Other accomplishments during the Bernero years include the development of the Promise scholarship program — 65 free credits at Lansing Community College and equivalent aid at other state colleges for city high school graduates. There's the emergence of Old Town as the city's trendiest neighborhood and the kickstart of a REO Town revival, attempting a similar transformation. And there was the failed, but bold, bid for a tribal gambling casino adjacent to the Lansing Center.

To critics, Bernero's strong personality has been viewed as a detriment to addressing the regional issues facing greater Lansing. This, in part, is true. He tars those on his mayoral enemies list with derogatory names: fat ass, piece of shit, etc. — well broadcast digs that ensure poisonous relationships.

And he has particular and quite public disdain for the collection of Balkan states that is Lansing Township, labeling it a subsidiary of developer Mike Eyde's Eastwood LCC's sprawling retail and mixed use empire. The township is an appendage to the city of Lansing, with most of the benefits and few of the costs. It contributes as little as possible to the overall support of the region and illustrates the larger issue that bedeviled Bernero and other mayors. Greater Lansing is a collection of independent townships and small cities that

rely on a strong central city but need not support it.

Nonetheless, Bernero was able to build regional support for a zoo and trails millage and pushed for a single chief to oversee the Lansing/East Lansing fire departments.

Whether in time Bernero is venerated like Hollister,

crowned with senior statesman laurels, may depend on how his less savory characteristics are weighed.

Bernero's meddling with the city's supposedly independent Board of Water and Light resulted in an impulsive \$650,000 payout to former chief executive J. Peter Lark. Bernero pressured the board of his political appointees to fire Lark, his one-time ally. There is also the still unexplained \$160,000-plus payout for former city attorney Janene McIntyre. Bernero minimizes the money involved, calling it insignificant in light of the city's \$200 million budget.

During his time in office, Bernero expressed little interest in the arts, and Lansing, unlike East Lansing with its Hannah Center, still has no decent venue for music, dance or theater. A centrally located arts center would burnish Lansing's image and complement its 21st century transformation. Similarly, his musings about an amphitheater or performance site in Adado Park never materialized.

Bernero's cable-news fueled “Angriest Mayor” in America shtick — fun at first, but overplayed — offered no real benefit to Lansing. It raised Bernero's national profile, as did his run for governor against Rick Snyder in 2010. He made little progress in addressing the city's \$700 million pension and \$442 million health care obligations, most of it unfunded. Selling the BWL could have addressed this crushing debt, but while Bernero raised the prospect he in the end wanted no part of this politically risky solution.

Twelve years running Lansing may seem like a long time, but mayors can have a long shelf life. Bernero hasn't offered a meaningful explanation for his decision not to seek a fourth term or future plans. He simply may have wanted to avoid what could have been some very personal attacks. But a seasoned street fighter, he'd probably have won. Incoming Mayor Andy Schor is a much cooler politician than Bernero, and it may be that reflecting on Bernero's more fiery temperament, people may miss him. It was, after all, for the past 12 years his city.

Mickey Hirten oversaw coverage of Bernero's years in office, first as executive editor of the Lansing State Journal and then as associate publisher of City Pulse.

The Bernero years: Exit interview

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero sat down with City Pulse editor and publisher Berl Schwartz for over an hour to talk about his three terms in City Hall. He chose not to seek a fourth term and leaves office on Jan. 1 after 12 years. The full interview will air on the Lansing public access channel beginning today. It is also available at www.lansingcitypulse.com. The following excerpts are edited and condensed for clarity and concision.

'What did I do'

I remember sitting in my chair about 6:30 on Friday the first week, looking out of the Capitol longingly thinking, "What in the world? What was I thinking? Leaving the Legislature, I was not term limited. I could have stayed. I thought, "Dear Lord, what did I do? What did I get myself into?"

I was exhausted in every way. Physically, mentally, I mean, that first week just took everything I had just to get through it. I remember saying a little prayer. I said, "Dear Lord. Just get me through this year." All thoughts of a political future were vanquished from my mind.

One tough, great job

Mayor is the toughest job next to president of the United States. You are on the front line. It is like drinking out of a fire hose every day. I have loved it, as you know. I did it with vigor on most days. I've loved it.

Wearing this badge of the city of Lansing every day for 12 years has been my highest honor, an extreme privilege, something that I don't take lightly. This means something to me. It's the hopes, and dreams, and aspirations of the people of Lansing.

'My mentor,' the zing and the void

Bernero ran unsuccessfully against Tony Benavides in 2003 after Hollister left to work for Gov. Jennifer Granholm with three years left in his third term,

My mentor, whether he knew it or not at the time, and whether I knew it, was



The left and center covers were prepared by Dennis Preston well in advance of Virg Bernero's first race against Tony Benavides in 2003. The one on the right was on the cover of City Pulse on Nov. 5 of that year.

Three covers for one issue

We knew it would be a tight race. State Sen. Virg Bernero was challenging Lansing Mayor Tony Benavides, who by dint of being president of the City Council had been anointed mayor after David Hollister quit to go to work for Gov. Jennifer Granholm. We figured we better prepare two covers, each declaring one or the other the winner.

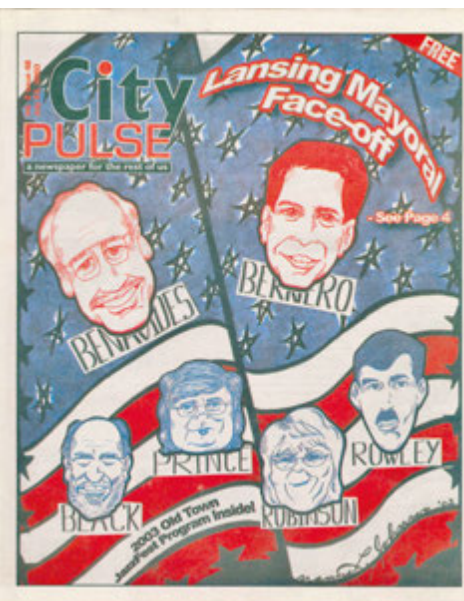
We didn't know how close it was going to be.

Sometime after midnight on Nov. 5, 2003, I called Dennis Preston, who had created the

alternate covers, and let him know the news: We will still did not know who was going to win. Fortunately, Preston was a night Owl and, more fortunately, one of the nicest guys in the world. "Dennis," I pleaded, "could you whip up a new cover?" or words to that effect. "One that doesn't declare a winner, because it's a cliff hanger."

A couple of hours later, he sent it over. By the time we sent it to the printer, Benavides won by a hair — 258 votes out of more than 23,000.

— BERL SCHWARTZ



July 23, 2003

Dave Hollister. I was a political science major. I aspired to go to Washington. I never thought about being mayor. Dave Hollister changed all that for me. When I



Aug. 6, 2003

got to Lansing, Terry McKane was mayor. It was a sleepy town. It was a two-horse town, GM and the state capital and not much more. We didn't aspire to more. I

remember a bench on South Cedar with the slogan of Lansing on it then: "Put the zing back in Lansing." We just didn't have a plan. There was no vision.

I was just beginning by running for county commissioner and Hollister ran for mayor. We did a little house party for him. I saw how he galvanized, how he brought people together, how he talked about Lansing as a region. He led with his chin on some things. Some of the stuff people thought was crazy. He was gonna save GM. he was gonna build a stadium where people said it couldn't fit. When he said he was going to make Lansing a world-class city, people chortled. I might have been one of them. Lansing? Put the zing back in. He built the foundation, and I learned from him.

We had a void, a malaise, for three years. That's what led me to say, "Maybe I gotta run."

'The worst day'

I was the first mayor to lay off a police officer and a firefighter. I don't say it as a point of pride. That was the worst day of my life. Well, close. When a toddler was killed on the south side who was used almost as a human shield by his father or stepfather, that was probably the worst day. But laying off a police officer or firefighter, that's the last thing any mayor wants to do, next to attending a funeral of a toddler.

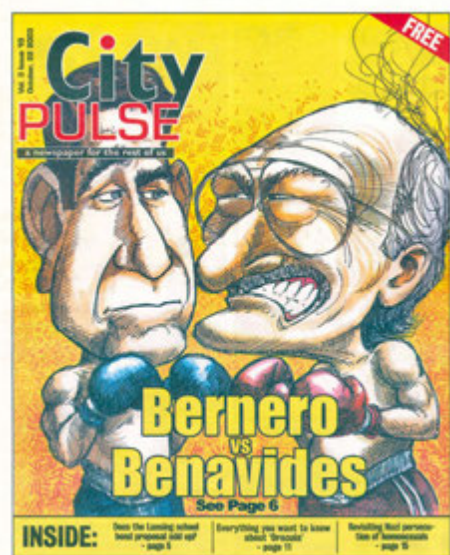
It was the Great Recession. I had to cut 30 percent of staff. Police and fire is over 50 percent of the budget. You're not going to be able to hold them harmless. The firefighter union worked with us, so only had to lay off 11 firefighters. People say to me, "You must hate the police, because you laid off 36 police, but only 11 firefighters." No. They took cuts to save their brethren. The police union said, "Cut 'em loose." Terrible. Terrible time.

We were actually able to rehire almost every firefighter and police officer. That was very gratifying.

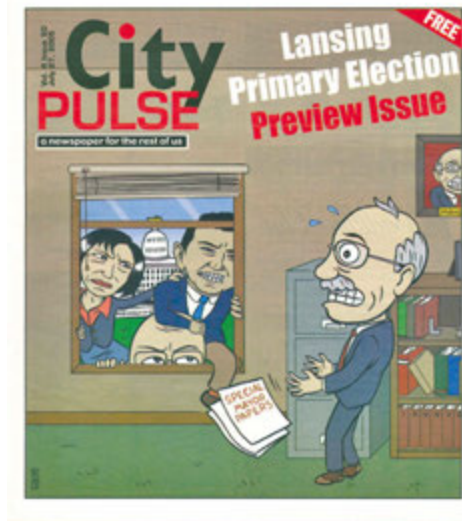
The Angriest Mayor

I led Lansing through the Great Recession. Things were collapsing around us. President George

See Exit, Page 12



Oct. 22, 2003



July 27, 2005



Nov. 2, 2005



Nov. 9, 2005

Exit

from page 11

Bush was weighing whether to intervene in a major way to save the auto industry. My dad's a GM retiree. When my dad came here from Italy, he was a produce man and then went to work for GM. That was when we got health benefits and stopped bringing produce to the doctor's office because we had the Blue Cross card.

The right wing was talking about, "Let the auto industry die." That's when I became the angry mayor because I knew what it meant. I knew how families and the middle class were under attack. GM and Chrysler would have gone down. I was petrified. My city is a GM town. I couldn't imagine those two plants closing, and the reverberating effects. We're not just talking about 5,000 or 6,000 employees at those two plants. We're talking about all of the spin off, the supply chain, the truckers, the steel, the tires, all the things that go into a car. I called the executive director, Tom Cochran, of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. It took me days to get through. At one point, I said, "Call him every half hour. This is a crisis." Finally we got him on the phone. He pretended he knew me. I said, "Listen, we gotta act. We need to get automotive mayors together. Is there a plan? Do you have a plan? Are you working to get automotive mayors together so we can discuss going in there and lobbying the Bush administration? Blah, blah, blah."

There was a long pause when I asked the question. He says, "Well, I talked to Manny" Diaz, the mayor of Miami president of the U.S. Conference. "I talked to Manny, and it's just not a priority for the U.S. Conference of Mayors."

I sat in stunned silence. Literally, it was like I was shellshocked. And then I just hung up the phone. I had the presence of mind, because you would have heard the angry mayor if I would have stayed on the phone. I was either going to either blow up or hang up. I didn't even slam it. I just hung it up. So I had plausible deniability. Like, maybe we were disconnected. But, I then called in my staff, Randy, and Renee and Joe. I said, "We're on our own. We've got to organize mayors. Google. Get on the Internet. Find every automotive mayor. Try to find where they have a plant or a supplier."

I just started getting positive responses. These mayors were as scared as I was. But nobody really knew what to do, not that I did, except that we gotta go to Washington and fight like hell. I called up the one guy I knew in Washington, Matt Ward, who's a phenomenal lobbyist. "Matt, I got no money, but I'm gonna have a bunch of mayors. I need your help."

And the rest is history. He organized us. We knocked on doors. We had Democrat and Republican mayors from all over the country. We got into Republican doors in Washington because we had Republican

mayors.

That was when I got on national news. I was just Joe Average mayor. I apparently struck a cord, and I guess I came across sincere. I am. I was sincere. I guess I was authentic. I was angry. It wasn't made up. Because I was angry for my dad, and again, all the things that we've talked about. The fact that they could just flush all that, and the way they were blaming the UAW.

Wrong about City Hall

Out of the four developers that we had submit plans, we chose the non-local developer. All my friends are equally mad at me. I don't know this guy, Beitler, from Adam, but we looked into his record. The review committees chose Beitler's proposal unanimously. I could have overruled them. I wrote a column in your paper saying, "The building is crap. Take it down. I've been in it for 12 years. Everything's broken about it." And I believed that. It just goes to show you how wrong we can be. That's why it is important for lead-

ers to stay open. I've tried to do that. As much as people think I'm closed-minded and I've made up my mind, I've always surrounded myself not just with yes people. Randy Hannan is an example. We argue. We have knock-down, drag-out fights all the time. If I wanted a yes person, I wouldn't have Randy Hannan. My whole staff knows that. Our cabinet meetings, we argue about stuff. They change my mind. People can change my mind. But then, there are cases when I think I'm right, like on Ormond Park or on the Northrup sidewalk. The fact that you, as a resident, don't want a sidewalk is, frankly, neither here nor there. My job is to build sidewalks. Our job is to figure out what the right thing is, and do it.

Lark

In 12 years, you, and other media want to talk to me about two dismissals — about two departures I should say. You want to talk to me in 12 years about two people that got quote unquote, "Paid off to leave." I got an answer for you. A two-word answer. Maybe it's four: "Give me a break." It was gonna be, "Big deal."

I'm not gonna get into it. I'm the CEO of a \$200 million corporation. Andy Schor will be CEO of a \$200 million corporation. He can talk about transparency all he wants. If you think that Andy Schor or any other mayor is going to sit here and tell you every employment decision, and the where-ofs, and where-ats, and whys, you're kidding yourself. No CEO can. It is complex. There are a lot of moving parts. Keep kidding yourself.



May 6, 2009



Feb. 10, 2010

See Exit, Page 13

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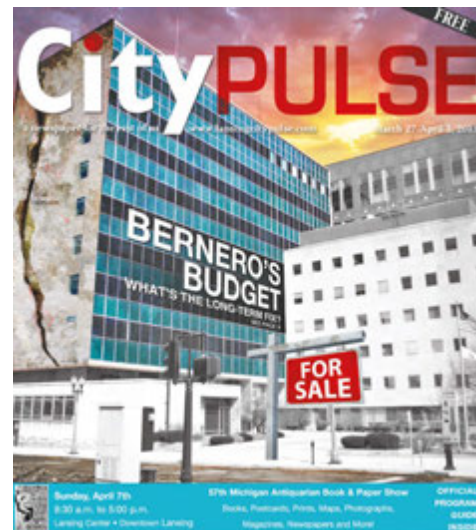
EAST LANSING ENGAGEMENT WELCOMED BY FARM BUREAU INSURANCE,
INGHAM COUNTY AND ARTS COUNCIL OF GREATER LANSING, AND MAYBERRY HOMES.



Oct. 27, 2010



April 27, 2011



March 27, 2012



Oct. 23, 2013

Exit

from page 12

McIntyre

Schwartz: In the Jeanine McIntyre case, that there were allegations of sexual harassment. Can you rule that out?

Bernero: I can tell you, there weren't against me. I can tell you that.

Schwartz: When you say, not against you, it sounds like there were allegations.

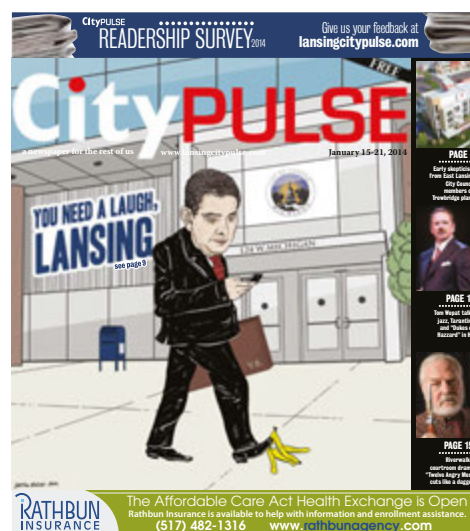
Bernero: I don't believe there were at all. I don't believe there were at all.

Schwartz: There were not allegations?

Bernero: All I'm saying is, I'm not at liberty to say, because as you're aware, there was a non-disclosure.

Schwartz: No, you're not at liberty to disparage anyone.

Bernero: I don't believe that was anywhere in there. I don't believe there was any sexual anything. But, what I'm telling you is, people can believe, and people can sue. The reason why I think I would have been reelected, by the way, even with this,



Jan. 15, 2014



March 18, 2015



April 13, 2016

it was \$160,000. She was paid a year's salary out of a \$200 million budget.

Good to not yet great

A lot of people have stopped me and thanked me. They feel that Lansing is really moving in the right direction. I'm not giving myself an A+ or even an A- in terms of the state of

the city on the way out. I think we're a solid B+, especially relatively speaking compared to other cities our size with our challenges. we've moved the needle. I think we moved from good to a hell of a lot better. Does Virg Bernero think we're great? No. I don't. I measure it by how people feel, how residents feel. Granted, there's not una-

nimity. The only unanimity is that of the grave, as was said. But I think most people feel that the city is going in the right direction.

Which is why I think I would have been reelected.



Nov. 9, 2016



March 1, 2017



"The Nightmare Before Christmas" cover costume courtesy Uniquely Yours.

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC • THEATER

It's all a show

Kathryn Andrews mashes politics and showbiz at Broad Museum

By DYLAN TARR

Politicians have been blurring the divide between Washington and Hollywood, mashing theater and policy-making together, for years. Artist Kathryn Andrews has jumped into the melee with a multi-genre display of eclectic complexity and intelligence. Andrews' genre-bending exhibit, including two new sculptures, goes on display Friday at the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum as a part of the Broad's "Field Station" series.

Sculpted specifically for the Broad, Andrews' pieces incorporate elements of the building's role as a location for 2016 blockbuster "Batman v Superman."

The Broad itself hosted a world-class cultural mash-up when it was chosen as a location for "Batman v Superman." Andrews could not resist using such a spectacular collision of contemporary art and architecture with mass culture as a point of departure for her latest work.

"I have been working with objects from Hollywood films for some time," said Andrews. One of her pieces is based on old Batman and Superman films.

It was fun for locals to see mass-market mythmaking appropriate the Broad Museum for a week or so, but the encounter opens the door to serious questions about the way media juggernauts run roughshod over fragile shoots of thought.

"I was interested in exploring where individuals can exist, if at all, in the face of such overwhelming power structures and how we can be more than image-consuming zombies," said Andrews.

The local angle adds extra appeal. "It will be interesting to see what people who were present during the filming of the movie take away from the exhibition," she said.

Taking her ideas beyond movies to the theater of politics, Andrews' newest work revolves around the intersection between the individual and the state in a post-election America.

"The two works on view look at what it means to exist in a world of disinformation, surveillance and governmental coups," Andrews said. "They also point to beauty and poetry and how their production and consumption can function as resistance to systematic oppression."

Born in Mobile, Alabama, Andrews pursued a degree in fine arts at Duke University and continued her training at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, Calif., earning a master's in fine arts. Since then, she has shown her work both nationally and internationally.

Andrews' upcoming installation at the Broad has roots that connect back to the work she did two years ago at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago, entitled "Run for President." In some ways, her installation at the Broad is a sequel to her 2015 exhibit.



Andrews

"The exhibition I made at the MCA in Chicago in 2015 came before the election and had a lot of humorous elements exploring the absurdities of the American electoral process and its historical relationship to the entertainment industry," Andrews said. "This exhibition follows up on what has happened afterwards and is darker in tone."

Andrews' partnership with the Broad was a long time coming. Steven Bridges, an associate curator at the Broad, spent an entire year working with Andrews at a former position at the MCA in Chicago, readying "Run for President."

"I was just really blown away by her intelligence, her creativity and the ways in which she imbeds poignant commentary in her works," Bridges said. "She's one of these amazing artists that's able to layer so many different things into her work. The way in which you can approach and make connections within her work seem never ending."

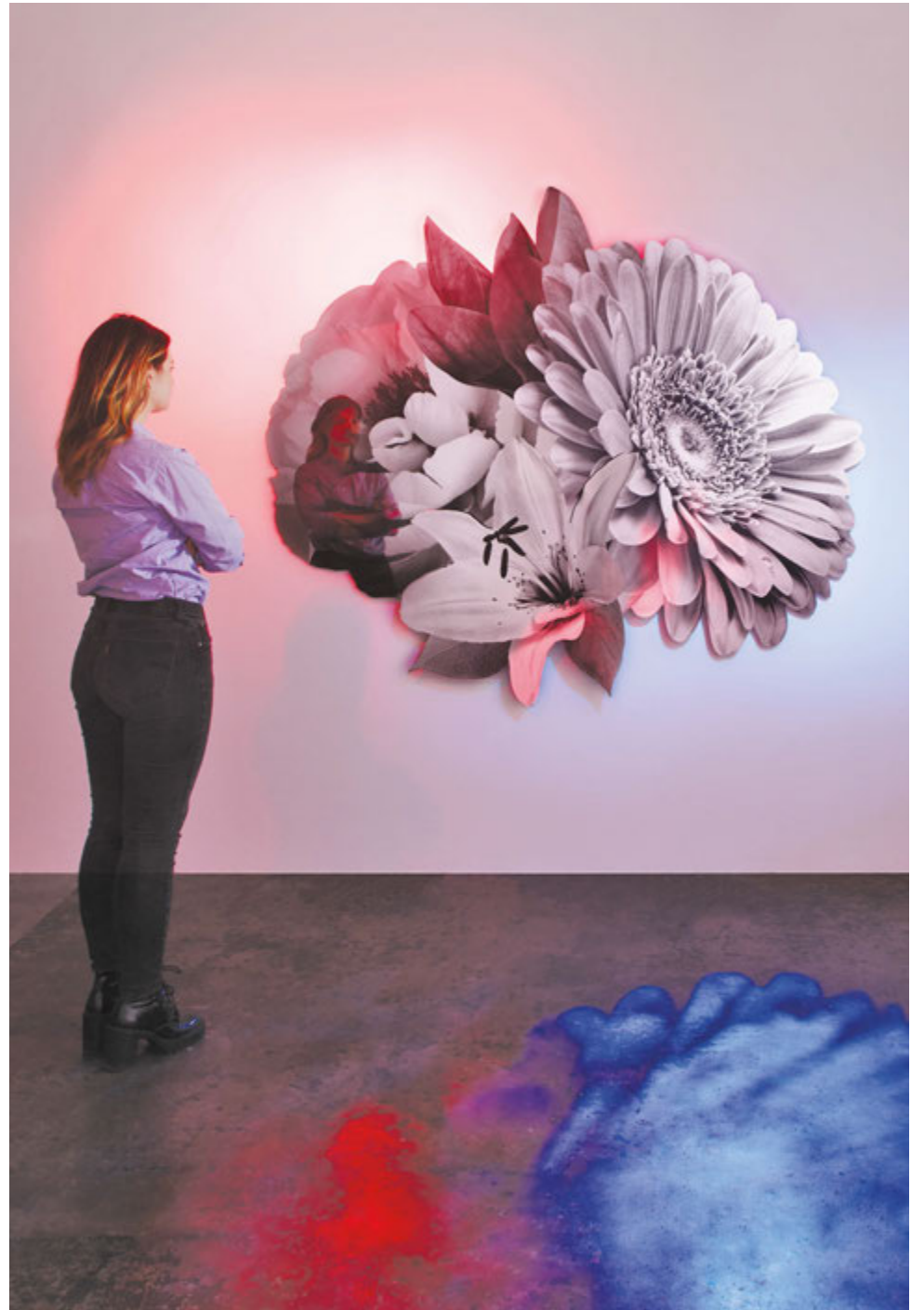
While Andrews' work is very much governmentally engaged, the Broad serves only to provide a space for her pieces and the dialogue they create.

"What we do is try to present the topics of today," Bridges said. "We're a contemporary art museum, we deal with contemporary issues. What we try to do, especially myself as the curator of the show, is present work in a way that is purposely meant to be somewhat open ended."

The work has a life of its own, Bridges asserts, independent of its creator's intentions. "Good artwork should have the ability to speak on many levels and in many different ways," he said. "It's my hope that people will find meaning in it no matter how they're approaching it, their relationship with politics, their social life, or our current social and political landscape in America."

While Bridges' invitation to the exhibit exudes institutional diplomacy, Andrews takes a clear enough stance with regard to her work.

"As the U.S. moves more towards an oligarchic structure, the presence of artists becomes more important, even though



Joshua White/JWPictures.com. Courtesy of David Kordansky Gallery.

Los Angeles-based artist Kathryn Andrews exhibit runs Dec. 16-Feb.11 at the MSU Broad Art Museum. Her new work reflects upon the current social and political climate in the US, but also nod to the cultural histories of Hollywood, superhero comics, and twentieth-century art. Here, her 2017 piece "National Flower," illustrates her use of stainless steel, ink and LED light.

the challenge of being one increases," Andrews said. "Artists continue to model ways out of the quagmire, despite everything. I find this to be incredibly hopeful."

And while Andrews rallies against the political swamp we've found ourselves in, she understands success as a working artist is never certain, especially in the United States.

"Being an artist is difficult," Andrews said. "There is no guaranteed demand for your work and there is no governmental support in the U.S., unlike in other developed countries. It remains a radical position."

Her vision elicits a range of responses from audiences, as all good art does.

"That's always the question when opening an exhibition," Bridges said with a smile. "How are people really going to interact with this, how are they going to read into this, what are they going to see

and how are they going to feel?"

Bridges said, for some, the exhibit's references to blockbuster superheroes might be the draw, but he hopes they leave with more.

"It's not up to me to define people's experiences of the work," Bridges said. "But my hope is that people will come and consider the other layers that are imbedded in those works and not simply take them at face value."

For Andrews, these varying viewpoints are far from discrepancies, but the thesis of her work.

"I'm always interested in bringing awareness to how we perceive our surroundings and in pinpointing how we prioritize certain kinds of seeing over other kinds," Andrews said. "I hope viewers will see the works and will think about the ways in which we, as individuals, can change the present through simple acts."



World renowned English euphonium duo Steven and Misa Mead perform Saturday in St. Johns.

Über-poobah of the unter-tuba

Steven and Misa Mead join Mountain Town Brass holiday concert

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

The Mountain Town Brass, a fast-growing mid-Michigan brass band formed in 2016, is unwrapping a shiny gift package for its holiday concert this year: two euphoniums.

“A Winter’s Night with Steven and Misa Mead” adds a world-renowned euphonium duo from England to the group’s noble, melancholy, very British brass band sound.

We’re not talking about a couple of chartered accountants who moonlight in the town square after a pint or two. In the world of brass bands, Steven Mead is an über-poobah of the euphonium, a mellifluous, smaller relative of the tuba.

He’s the professor of euphonium at the Royal Northern College of Music in his home town of Manchester, England, but tours the globe with 75 international solo performances annually. He’s given over 500 world premiere performances so far.

Travis Scott, director of the Mountain Town Brass Band, is in seventh heaven over hosting the duo in St. Johns.

He called Steven Mead “one of very greatest, if not the greatest soloist playing today.”

Seeing Mead perform for the first time changed Scott’s life.

“My high school band director told me about a soloist coming through town I should check out,” Scott recalled. “Mr. Mead gave a concert with the local brass band, and I was absolutely floored. I had no idea a euphonium could sound that beautiful and

be played with such technical prowess.” These days, Steven Mead is at the top of the brass band world, as soloist, recording artist, teacher and leader of conferences and brass band organizations. He’s played with symphony orchestras around the world and done stints with nearly every military band on the planet, including the U.S. Army band.

Misa Mead was born in the city of Kumamoto, in the south west of Japan. They started playing duos almost immediately after they met in 2013 and it seems their euphonia have irrevocably intertwined. When they married in March 2014, she changed her name from Misa Akahoshi to Misa Mead.

“Misa is an emerging euphonium artist well established in the Far East, but she is quickly becoming a well known soloist and composer internationally,” Scott said. Misa Mead is a composer, arranger and music writer as well as an instrumentalist.

As a duo, the Meads have already toured Australia, Canada, the Netherlands, Germany and Italy. December 2017 is their first tour in the United States.

Riding the burgeoning brass band movement in the United States, the Mountain Town Brass Band has cracked its cheeks on a wide variety of music, from Wagner to the big band sound of Fletcher Henderson. Last April, they uncorked a brass arrangement of George Gershwin’s “Rhapsody in Blue.”

This time around, they will stick largely to holiday favorites such as Leroy Anderson’s “A Christmas Festival” and Mel Tormé’s “The Christmas Song.” However, don’t be shocked if the euphonious star couple sneaks in a golden-toned sonnet from their new CD, “Love’s Joy.” No matter. This time of year, anything played by a brass ensemble sounds like a Christmas song.

Squirrel Nut Zippers swing into Wharton

It’s been just over 20 years since the Squirrel Nut Zippers’ breakthrough album “Hot” helped usher in the big-band swing revival — today the Chapel Hill natives are back at it. Chief songwriter Jimbo Mathus (vocals, guitar and trombone) and founding member Chris Phillips (drums) started the group back in 1993 and have since entered multiple hiatuses but have reemerged every few years. In 2009, the band reunited and released its “Lost at Sea” LP, a live album recorded in Brooklyn featuring

romping versions of their fan favorites, like their hit single “Hell” and “Memphis Exorcism,” a lively instrumental. This latest tour, which stops at Wharton Center’s Cobb Great Hall in mid-January, is a rootsy showcase of true Delta blues, Gypsy-jazz and ’30s swing — presented by some of New Orleans top players. The night also spotlights Davina & the Vagabonds tickets, which are on sale now. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$25, Wharton Center, 750 E.Shaw Ln., East Lansing, (517) 353-5340, whartoncenter.com.

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Snark and sincerity

Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle brings back annual holiday show for five rounds of 'strangeness'

By ALLAN I. ROSS

The wise showman knows how to appeal to a wide range of fans, but when you're dealing with "the holidays" — that hot button, non-secular slush zone of unbridled joy, seasonal depression and cutthroat consumerism — things can get a little strange. So what's a Lansing-based gypsy-folk-band/performance troupe to do for a Christmas

show but dial up the strangeness? Just ask Dylan Rogers, front man and founder of the Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle.

This weekend, LUVS presents its 5th Annual Holiday Show at its home base in REO Town, the Robin Theatre. Promising "equal parts snark and sincerity," this year's show continues its blend of inventive vaudeville-era songs, puppets, short skits, dances

and sing-alongs. The first four shows quickly sold out, as they did last year, but today the band announced a fifth show to appeal to all those last-minute shoppers out there.

This year's iteration has a Dickensian theme providing a storyline throughout the evening. It will all be performed by the smaller version of LUVS, which is less than half the size it was in its 16-piece heyday four years ago. We caught up with Rogers to fill us in on what's back, what's not and what's next for the band.

After five years of holiday shows, can attendees still expect something new?

Every year is different. In my opinion, I think each show has been better than the last. We've incorporated a lot of sketches, puppet, and technology elements into this year's show, in addition to the expected songs and dances. This year, it's a bit of an absurdist take on "A Christmas Carol," with lots of music and sing-alongs.

Are there any returning bits?

We will be playing a few audience favorites, and "Dr. Dan" will be making a number of appearances. (Ceramics artist) Dan Nuñez crafted this vaguely Eastern European scientist about four years ago and now he's become a mainstay of the show.

Is this just for fans of the holidays? What about those who love to hate them?

We've actually been talking about this recently. I tend to go in for the sincere and charming classic holiday vibe, but there's

also a lot of sarcasm and strangeness to the show. We definitely aim for a jolly-feeling show, but certainly toss a few winks to folks who aren't that into the tinsel and sugarpum stuff.

Should the audience do anything to prepare themselves for the show?

We always encourage our audiences to interact with the show. If you want to come in costume, or study your holiday songbook, that's never out of line. Most importantly, we want everybody to have fun and leave feeling good.

It's been a while since we caught up with LUVS. Has the band taken any new turns?

This year's show has the smallest ensemble to date, which is new. We're all taking on a few more roles and stretching some creative muscles that weren't being used before. The band is down to seven musicians, with a creative team of three, who perform puppets, dances and sketches. We also have a few new tunes in the works and hope to get some new recordings out there in 2018.

5th Annual Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle Holiday Show

7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 15; 3 p.m. & 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16; 3 p.m. & 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17 (all shows sold out except 7 p.m. Sunday show)
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Courtesy image

The Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle will spread its fifth annual holiday show over three consecutive nights this weekend. Band founder/event host Dylan Rogers said the event will appeals to fans of the holidays as well as Grinch.

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Mitten melodies

A short list of obscure, Michigan-made Christmas songs

By RICH TUPIKA

Every year, radio stations fall into the same holiday-music trap. Countless spins of the same ol' Christmas tunes by Mariah Carey and Paul McCartney take over the airwaves. Crowded shopping centers blast unnecessary covers of John Lennon's "Happy Xmas (War is Over)." It's a dreadful stream of glossy, polished-pop nonsense.

For those looking to escape the relentless hum of holly-jolly jams, City Pulse has compiled a track list of rare, rough-around-the-edges Christmas tunes. Sure, these six singles might not be as polished as "Santa Baby," but at least they're new to your ears.

Bob Seger 'Sock it to Me Santa'

The bearded Bob Seger might be best known for his massive hits like "Night Moves" and "Main Street," but before he reached superstardom in the mid-'70s, he was just another Michigander with a dream. In 1966, he recorded a James Brown-esque tune called "Sock it to Me Santa." This single, issued on the Cameo Records imprint, is one of Seger's funkier numbers — and much better than his drab 1987 take on "Little Drummer Boy."

White Stripes 'Candy Cane Children'

Before their 2011 breakup, the Jack and Meg White of the White Stripes were among the biggest rock stars to come out of Michigan. Before the Grammy Awards and international tours, the primitive-rock duo spent years cutting their teeth in Detroit's gritty underground rock scene. In 1998, the pair cut "Candy Cane Children," with the ominous un-jovial lyrics: "So when Christmas finally comes/And nobody's got a gun/And you think it might be fun/To hang around/Think again girl."

The Dirtbombs 'My Last Christmas'

Born from the same Motor-City circle as the White Stripes, the Dirtbombs were, and still are, known as Michigan-rock royalty. Led by guitarist/vocalist Mick Collins (who also cofounded the Gories), the group perfected their hybrid of lo-fi rock 'n' roll with blasts of soul and dance music on the milestone 2001 LP "Ultraglide in Black." A year prior, the band cut the moody "My

Last Christmas" for Flying Bomb Records' "Surprise Package" series. "No more seasonal depression/No more holiday aggression/This is my last Christmas," Collins downheartedly sings. Note: Lansing native Jim Diamond, the band's former bassist, co-wrote the tune with Collins.

Nathaniel Mayer 'Mr. Santa Claus (Bring Me My Baby)'

In the early 1960s, one of Detroit's biggest R&B stars was the teenaged Nathaniel Mayer. Thanks to his electrifying hit single "Village of Love," in 1962 on the Fortune Records imprint, he scored a national hit and even an "American Bandstand" appearance. That same year, the locally-owned Fortune label also had him cut the guttural "Mr. Santa Claus" on their in-house, low-rent equipment. If you can track down the original 45 rpm, the B-Side is the equally brilliant — but non-holiday themed — ffl "Well, I've Got News (For You)." Mayer passed away in 2008, but before his death he saw a resurgence after the Black Keys, and a string of other young bands, championed his overlooked discography of Detroit soul.

Nolan Strong & the Diablos 'White Christmas'

Traditional holiday songs were initially axed from this mix, but an exception had to be made for the late Nolan Strong and his doo-wop group the Diablos. Also on the



Fortune Records label, Strong achieved national fame in 1954 thanks to his now classic track "The Wind." The ethereal tune, long revered by staunch doo-wop fans, showcases Strong's distinct falsetto voice — a sound a young Smokey Robinson adored and copped for himself. In fact, Robinson's first ever demo session as a teenager was a spot-on cover of Strong's first single, "Adios, My Desert Love." Like much of Strong's mysterious life (it's even unclear of how he died), the recording date on his take of "White Christmas" is unknown — but it's still a shining example of what was once the hottest voice in pre-Motown Detroit.



The Verve Pipe 'This Christmas Time'

For those who had a pulse and lived in East Lansing in the '90s, it was hard to miss show fliers for the Verve Pipe. When "The Freshman" blew up in 1996, it landed on MTV and went Platinum, making the alt-rock band the biggest deal to come out of the Capital City, perhaps, ever. In the ensuing years the buzz died down, but the band has continued touring and recording records. In 2007, the guys issued a four-song EP, "A Homemade Holiday," which features classics like "Joy to the World," "Silent Night" and "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree." However, the standout track is "This Christmas Time" — a rollicking original tune by Lansing's own Donny Brown.



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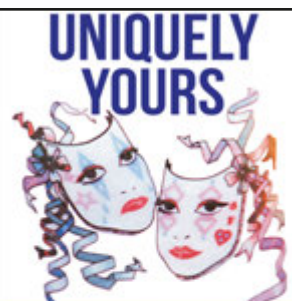
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CURTAIN CALL

'Finding Neverland' soars

By PAUL WOZNIAK

There's plenty of magic and wonder alongside tears and heartbreak in "Finding Neverland." The touring Broadway production, now running at Wharton Center, is not short and certainly not for cynics, but it is a fun adaptation of a classic story. Buoyed by a superb cast, it sails beyond some questionable songs and into the hearts of the audience.

Based on the 2004 film of the same name, "Finding Neverland" is the story of how Scottish playwright J.M. Barrie came to write "Peter Pan." Set in early 20th century England, Barrie struggles to write an original work distinct from his

other more formulaic plays. After meeting four imaginative young brothers, and their widowed mother, Sylvia Llewelyn Davies, Barrie is inspired to write a new play to charm London theatergoers and audiences beyond.

Billy Harrigan Tighe plays Barrie with the perfect balance of playfulness and charm. He displays a genuine affection for Davies (Lael Van Keuren) and her children without giving off predatory vibes. Both Tighe and Van Keuren share impeccable voices that nail the high notes with room to spare. The Llewelyn Davies children – Connor Jameson Casey as Peter, Colin Wheeler as George, Wyatt Cirbus as Jack and Tyler Patrick Hennessy as Michael – are polished professionals themselves. The children may change roles each night, but their performances feel unique.

While the entire cast is strong, two actors stand out. Television veteran John Davidson plays the American theatre producer Charles

Frohman and later the Captain James Hook inside Barrie's mind. Davidson is grounded and pragmatic as Frohman, but his Captain Hook steals the show at the end of Act 1. In the songs "Hook" and "Stronger," Davidson's melodic voice and charismatic bravado make you wish the entire second act was devoted to this character alone. Karen Murphy plays Mrs.

Du Maurier, Llewelyn Davies' disapproving mother. Murphy helps anchor her scenes, serving as the reminder that self-expression is not encouraged in Edwardian England.

Scott Pask's scenic design beautifully blends the real world and the fantastic, transitioning from the two-dimensional pastel backdrops of London to the three-dimensional ship rigging that enters at the end of Act 1. Along with lighting design by Kenneth Posner, the projections and sets seamlessly blend the real and dream world that become Barrie's play. Suttirat Anne Larlarb's costume designs are stately and period appropriate, but also allow the



Jeremy Daniel/Wharton Center

Turner Birthisel, Tyler Patrick Hennessy, Colin Wheeler and Conner Jameson Casey in "Finding Neverland."

actors plenty of room to move around to Mia Michaels choreography.

The music and lyrics by, Gary Barlow and Eliot Kennedy, are poppy and pleasant although not particularly memorable. Songs like "Circus of Your Mind" and "Stronger" stand out in Act 1, but the Act 2 power ballads like "What You Mean to Me" somehow slow down the show instead of energizing it.

Still, as a celebration of the power of play and the imagination, "Finding Neverland" reminds the audience that inspiration is all around us. If the show drags in places, the opening night audience didn't seem to notice. Just sprinkle on some fairy dust and enjoy.

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Don't turn them over

A face-up display of the top gift books of 2017

By **BILL CASTANIER**

When holiday shoppers visit area bookstores this month, they will find that a new front has quietly opened up in the culture wars: upside-down books. To coin a phrase, what happened?

Schuler's books in the Eastwood Towne Center displays best sellers on a table just inside the door. Manager Rhoda Wolfe said patrons are turning books to which they object, flipping inflammatory mugs like those of Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton so they face downward, or hiding the books in other piles.

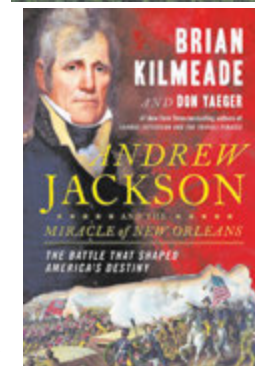
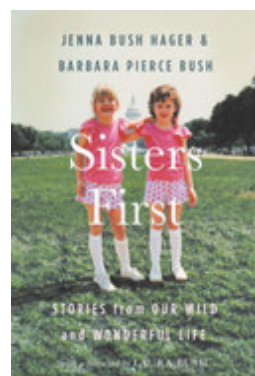
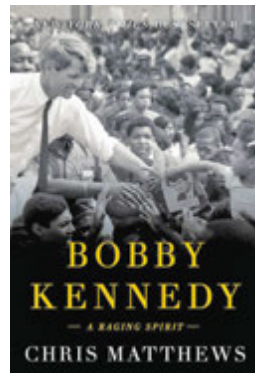
Schuler's recently posted a note on the display, asking patrons to respect others and to not move books or turn them over.

Let's turn a few top choices of 2017 right side up, so Santa can spot them easier and slip them in his bag. First is "The Vietnam War," by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick, a companion piece to their 10-part, highly acclaimed PBS film. Although I've previously written that the book is a bit textbook-ish, it is still one

of the best histories of this war overall, with smart writing and incredible photographs, some of them published for the first time.

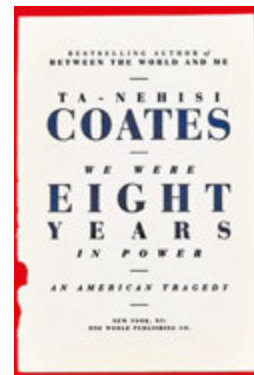
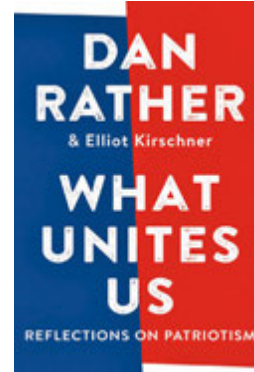
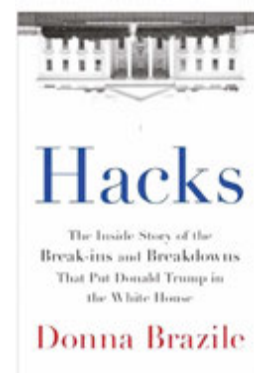
"Summer of Love: Art, Fashion and Rock and Roll," by Jill D'Allesandro and Colleen Terry, shows and tells the history of an incredible era in the 1960s counterculture. The photography is stunning and the accompanying essays are insightful. Flower power rules, and this book will take you on a spacey trip to 1967 and San Francisco.

And why is this monster turned on its back like a sea turtle? "Obama" is a levathan you can't ignore, a loving and hefty tribute to President Barack Obama



by White House photographer Pete Souza. Some 300 photographs detail the personal and professional day-to-day life of the 44th president.

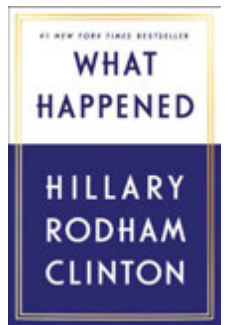
The 2017 holiday season has plenty of books with a political bent that some people will lovingly flip through and others will hatingly flip over: "Bobby Kennedy," by MSNBC host Chris Matthews; "Sisters First," by Jenna Bush Hager and Barbara Pierce Bush, the twin daughters of George W. Bush; "Hacks," by Donna Brazile, a Democratic operative in the 2016 political campaign; "What Unites Us," by Dan Rather and Elliot Kirschner; "We Were Eight Years in Power," by Ta-Nehisi Coates, a look at the Obama presidency; "What Happened," by Hillary Rodham Clinton, and "You Can't Spell America Without Me," by Alec Baldwin and Kurt Andersen, a satirical look at President's



Trump's first year in office.

Several historical tomes are also in the mix, including "Grant," by historian Ron Chernow, a biography of the post-Civ-

See Books, Page 20



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Books

from page 19

il War president, and “Andrew Jackson and the Miracle of New Orleans,” by Brian Kilmeade and Don Yeager.

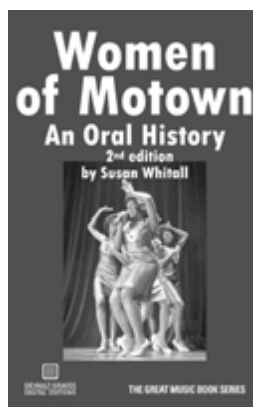
Two books that will have you clapping and toe tapping are the new Joni Mitchell biography, “Reckless Daughter: A Portrait of Joni Mitchell,” by David Yaffe, and a reissue of “Women of Motown,” by the former rock writer



at the Detroit News, Susan Whitall. The Motown book was out of print for more than 15 years when Whitall secured rights and was able to have it reprinted.

There has to be a cookbook in Santa's bag, and is “Zingerman's Bakehouse,” by Amy Emberling and Frank Carollo, will get your yeast rising.

Speaking of yeast, craft beer aficionados will love to spend time with a new guide book to craft



beer pubs in Michigan, “Brewed in Michigan,” by William Rapai.

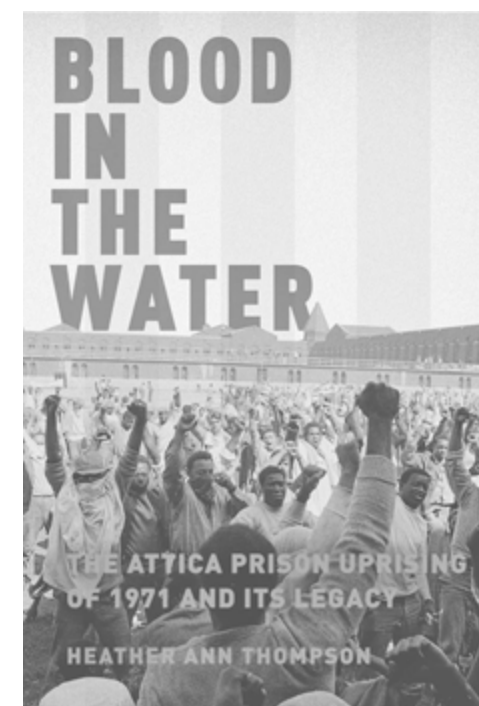
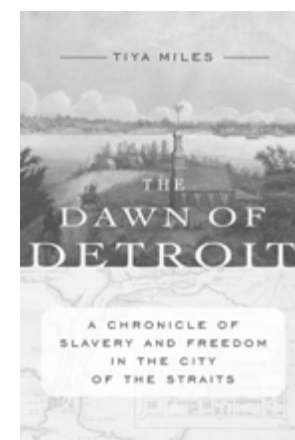
Detroit boosters will appreciate two new books on the art and architecture of Detroit. “Designing Detroit,” by Michael Smith, examines a little-known designer of Detroit's skyscrapers, Wirt Rowland. In the Guardian Building and other Detroit gems, the work of Rowland and Pewabic Pottery were married into one building. MSU's role in saving Pewabic Pottery is told in detail in “Pewabic Pottery,” by Cara Catallo.

Finally, two recently published books will help readers increase a sense their social consciousness. “Dawn of Detroit,” by Tiya Miles, recipient of a MacArthur “genius” grant, examines how the legacy of slavery has had a negative impact on the city's history up to contemporary times.



Heather Ann Thompson's “Blood in the Water” shines light on the 1971 Attica prison riot. Thompson's book, now in paperback, won a 2017 Pulitzer Prize for history and was the City Pulse selection for its December book club.

Miles and Thompson have something in common: They are both on the faculty of the University of Michigan. Some are predicting “Dawn of Detroit” will win a major literary award this year.



SCHULER BOOKS & MUSIC

Richard P. Smith Booksigning

December 13 from 2-8pm
Dec. 16 & 17 from noon to 6pm
Meridian Mall location

Richard P. Smith, author of Great Michigan Deer Tales, will visit Schuler Books for his annual book signing, featuring his various titles, including numerous titles about deer and black bear hunting. These books make a perfect gift for hard-to-buy-for-family members who love to hunt!

Special Story-time with CARL SAMS

Sat., December 16 @ 11am
Meridian Mall location

Join us for a special story-time with Carl Sams, award-winning photographer and author of the holiday classic picture book, A Stranger in the Woods, as well as a new board book, A Winter's Gift.

MERRY MITTEN SIGNING with Denise Brennan-Nelson and Lisa Wheeler

Sun., December 17 from 3-5p
Eastwood Towne Center location

Join us for a book signing featuring two acclaimed Michigan picture book authors! Denise Brennan-Nelson will be signing her books, including copies of her newest book, Good Night Reindeer, while Lisa Wheeler will be signing The Christmas Boot, and her award-winning Dino-Sports series.

for more information visit
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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 Ella at (517) 999-6704.

Wednesday, December 13

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

Mindfulness. From 7 to 9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Lansing. Practice Your English. From 7 to 8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Shamanic Education & Healing Clinic. From 6 to 8 p.m. Donation as guided. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave, Suite D Lansing. 517-402-6727.

HOLIDAYS

35th Annual Hispanic Christmas Symposium. From 5:30 to 9 p.m. \$15.00 per person Food, beverages, and music provided - Cash Bar after first beverage. St. Mary Cathedral, 219 Seymour Ave. Lansing. (517) 484-5331.

Holiday Crafts!- Senior Discovery Group. From 10 a.m. to noon FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

Greenthumbs StoryTime. From 10:30 to 11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MSU Creative Writing Center Group. From 7 to 8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

Tavern House Jazz Band. From 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 a.m. Tavern and Tap, 101 S. Washington Square Lansing.

EVENTS

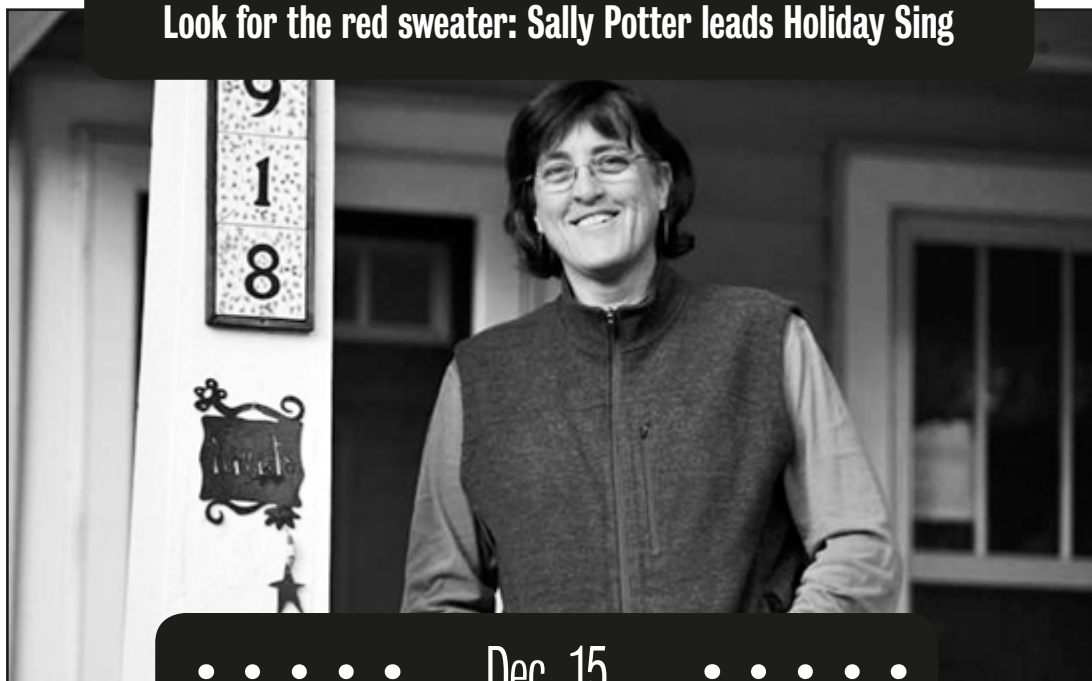
Holiday PJ Storytime (Age 3 & up). From 7 to 7:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi Branch, 2078 Aurelius Road Holt. 517.694.9351.

Raising Little Ones Together. From 6 to 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

ARTS

See Out on the Town Page 22

Look for the red sweater: Sally Potter leads Holiday Sing



Dec. 15

Courtesy Photo.

Ten Pound Fiddle's annual Holiday Sing, organized by Sally Potter, returns Friday to the MSU Community Music School

Local musician and folk music promoter Sally Potter is no ivory tower musician. She keeps busy recording, teaching and performing throughout the year, spreading the inclusive gospel of folk music, but she reaches her egalitarian apex when she hosts the annual Holiday Sing at the Ten Pound Fiddle.

Everyone in the audience, of all talent levels and ages, gets to sing along. "Everybody sings — and I mean everybody," she said, sounding as if she were waving two six-shooters.

In a way, she is. Potter leads the show, sings and plays banjo as well as a 12-string guitar she rarely plays in public.

The first half of the show is more kid-friendly; the rest is just plain friendly. Potter is never shy about coaxing people to sing, but nothing pre-shrinks peoples' inhibitions like holiday music.

"It's my favorite gig of the year. It's really fun to put this on," she said.

It's an old-fashioned program with lots of seasonal songs on the set list. "We will sing a lot of the old hymns — the favorites that everybody sings," she said.

However, every year, Potter peppers the pot with four or five obscure holiday tunes, music aficionado that she is. One obscure tune she is preparing for Friday's show is called "Once in Royal David's City."

A vocalist and banjo player, Potter, 57, has been a fixture in the roots music scene since the mid-'80s, including a stint with the

popular group Second Opinion from 1989 to 2001.

Organizing the popular public Holiday Sing for the 15th time is just one of her many roles. Her day job is teaching economics and civics at Williamston High School. She said it's a demanding career, but she can always find time for music.

Her five CDs include 2005's "It's About Time," a duo LP featuring Pat Madden. Although the Holiday Sing is not yet sung, Potter is already looking forward to recording a solo album this summer.

"Summer is the only time I get to do major projects," she said.

She also makes time to perform solo shows, but only "a couple a year," she said.

Potter said is more active as a singer with the Arts Chorale of Greater Lansing and as a producer of musical events locally and for other communities, including the Holiday Sing. She's booked countless concerts for the Ten Pound Fiddle's extensive folk concert and dance series, now in its 45th year.

Potter said past Holiday Sings has drawn "standing room only" crowds at the 200-seat Unitarian Church in East Lansing. This year's sing-along is at the 300-seat MSU Community Music School. Potter expects to fill that house, too, and has enough 300-lyric sheets at the ready.

Neill Campbell, the featured pianist, has performed across the United States and internationally. For the past two years,

he was the resident artist at Shreveport Opera.

Getting vocalist Lindsay Snyder was an easy matter, and not just because Snyder teaches choir and drama at Williamston High, where Potter teaches. Snyder is dating Campbell, and Potter describes the tight-knit musical duo as a team.

"She has a wonderful soprano voice," said Potter. Snyder will sing a solo during the program, which runs 16 to 20 songs in length.

Hammered dulcimer player Doug Berch is an award-winning musician who has been featured on a stack of albums and soundtracks and recorded several of his own. In 1983, Berch seriously brought down the hammer, winning both the National Hammered Dulcimer Championship and the National Mountain Dulcimer Championship. "To win both is outrageous," Potter said.

Local poet Ruelaine Stokes completes the Holiday Sing line-up. "She's a marvelous spoken word artist," Potter said. "Instead of all music, she'll break it up a couple of times."

December is no time to innovate. The Holiday Sing is soaked in tradition, including Potter's own personal rituals of many years standing. "I always wear my red sweater, my mom's silver earrings and a bracelet I got from my grandfather," Potter said. "It's the same every year."

— DAVID WINKELSTERN

Out on the town

From page 21

Bookworms at the Broad: Music. From 1 to 2 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus East Lansing.

Thursday, December 14

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

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

A Course in Miracles. From 7 to 9 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Lansing. 517-371-3010.

Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. From 6 to 8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillsdale Lansing. 555-555-5555.

Free Yoga for Kids and Youth. From 5:30 to 7:15 p.m. FREE for Youth ages 6-13. Parents pay usual rates. . Bikram Yoga Capital Area, 1355 E. Grand River Ave East Lansing. 517-862-8926.

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. At 5:45 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 346-9900.

Spanish Conversation Group. From 7 to 8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

Chipmunk Story Time: Curious Critters. From 10 to 11 a.m. \$3/child. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

East Lansing High School Book Group. From 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. FREE. East Lansing High School, 509 Burcham Drive East Lansing.

MUSIC

Waterfronts Open Mic/Jam. From 6 to 10 p.m. free and kids are fine until 9. Waterfront Bar and Grille, 325 City Market Drive Lansing.

EVENTS

*Baby Storytime (Ages up to 2). From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Foster Branch, 200 North Foster Lansing. 517.485.5185.

*Decorate a Gingerbread House (Ages 8?12). From 4 to 5 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Williamston Branch, 201 School Street Williamston. 517.655.1191.

12-Step Meeting . From 12 to 1 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome.. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St. Lansing.

Drop-in Holiday Graham Cracker House (All ages). From 3 to 5 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries South Lansing Branch, 3500 S. Cedar St. Lansing. 517-272-9840.

English Country Dance. From 7 to 9:30 p.m. \$6, students \$4, free to MSU students . Snyder-Phillips Hall, C20, 362 Bogue St. East Lansing. 517-321-3070.

Holiday Pinterest Party with Wrapping!. From 6 to 7:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Ladies Silver Blades Figure Skating Club . From 9:30 to 11:20 a.m. \$5 and yearly dues fee. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd. East Lansing.

Lunch at the Meridian Senior Center. From 12 to 1

p.m. \$5.75/\$3 suggested for ages 60+. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

Party Bridge. From 1 to 4 p.m. \$1 Members/\$2 Public. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

ARTS

Ballroom Lessons (Pasodoble). From 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. \$42 per couple; \$21 individual. Jackson School of the Arts, 634 N. Mechanic St. Jackson. (517) 784-2389.

Friday, December 15

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

Elementary Economics Class. From 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Mud & Mug. From 7 to 10 p.m. \$25. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave. Lansing. (517) 999-3643.

HOLIDAYS

Ten Pound Fiddle: Holiday Sing, hosted by Sally Potter, with special guests. From 7:30 to 10 p.m. \$15 Public; \$12 Fiddle Members; \$5 Students. Available online or at the box office at 6:30 PM. MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

StoryTime. From 10:30 to 11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

EVENTS

TGIF Dance Party. From 12 to 12 a.m. \$13. Hawk Hollow Golf Course, 15101 Chandler Rd. Bath. (517) 641-4295.

The Most Wonderful Crime of the Year. From 7 to 9 p.m. \$60.00 General Admission . Finley's American, 433 W Saginaw Hwy Lansing. 8886432583.

ARTS

Sunset Clay Studio Holiday Art Market. From 5 to 9 p.m. Sunset Clay Studio, 1820 Sunset Ave., Ste 203 Lansing.

Saturday, December 16

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

Reiki 1 Training. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$55. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave, Suite D Lansing. 517-402-6727.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

Books and Bagels. From 2 to 3 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Children's Social Justice Reading Group. From 10:30 a.m. to noon FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

Mountain Town Brass Holiday Concert with Steven & Misa Mead. From 7 to 9 p.m. A free will offering will be collected with all the proceeds going towards the renovation of the WC Auditorium and to the Mountain Town Brass operational expenses!. Wilson Center Auditorium, 101 W. Cass St. St. Johns.

SPIRIT OF SOLSTICE CONCERT: In Celebration of the Winter Goddesses . From 7 to 9:30 p.m. Suggested donation \$15 at the door. Red Cedar Friends Meeting House, 1400 Turner St. Lansing.

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Brezsný

Dec. 13 - 19

Aries (March 21-April 19) According to a Sufi aphorism, you can't be sure that you are in possession of the righteous truth unless a thousand people have called you a heretic. If that's accurate, you still have a ways to go before you can be certified. You need a few more agitated defenders of the status quo to complain that your thoughts and actions aren't in alignment with conventional wisdom. Go round them up! Ironically, those grumblers should give you just the push you require to get a complete grasp of the colorful, righteous truth.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) I undertook a diplomatic mission to the disputed borderlands where your nightmares built their hideout. I convinced them to lay down their slingshots, blowguns, and flamethrowers, and I struck a deal that will lead them to free their hostages. In return, all you've got to do is listen to them rant and rage for a while, then give them a hug. Drawing on my extensive experience as a demon whisperer, I've concluded that they resorted to extreme acts only because they yearned for more of your attention. So grant them that small wish, please!

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Have you ever been wounded by a person you cared for deeply? Most of us have. Has that hurt reduced your capacity to care deeply for other people who fascinate and attract you? Probably. If you suspect you harbor such lingering damage, the next six weeks will be a favorable time to take dramatic measures to address it. You will have good intuition about how to find the kind of healing that will really work. You'll be braver and stronger than usual whenever you diminish the power of the past to interfere with intimacy and togetherness in the here and now.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) "Your task is not to seek for love, but merely to seek and find all the barriers within yourself that you have built against it." So said Helen Schuman in A Course in Miracles. Personally, I don't agree with the first part of that advice. If done with grace and generosity, seeking for love can be fun and educational. It can inspire us to escape our limitations and expand our charm. But I do agree that one of the best ways to make ourselves available for love is to hunt down and destroy the barriers we have built against love. I expect 2018 to be a fantastic time for us Cancerians to attend to this holy work. Get started now!

Leo (July 23-August 22) In the coming months, you will have substantial potential to cultivate a deeper, richer sense of home. Here are tips on how to take maximum advantage. 1. Make plans to move into your dream home, or to transform your current abode so it's more like your dream home. 2. Obtain a new mirror that reflects your beauty in the best possible ways. 3. Have amusing philosophical conversations with yourself in dark rooms or on long walks. 4. Acquire a new stuffed animal or magic talisman to cuddle with. 5. Once a month, when the moon is full, literally dance with your own shadow. 6. Expand and refine your relationship with autoerotic pleasures. 7. Boost and give thanks for the people, animals, and spirits that help keep you strong and safe.

Virgo (August 23-September 22) Deuces are wild. Contradictions will turn out to be unpredictably useful. Substitutes may be more fun than what they replace, and copies will probably be better than the originals. Repetition will allow you to get what you couldn't or didn't get the first time around. Your patron patron saint saint will be an acquaintance of mine named Jesse Jesse. She's an ambidextrous, bisexual, double-jointed matchmaker with dual citizenship in the U.S. and Ireland. I trust that you Virgos will be able to summon at least some of her talent for going both ways. I suspect that you may be able to have your cake and eat it, too.

Libra (September 23-October 22) The reptilian part of your brain keeps you alert, makes sure you do what's necessary to survive, and provides you with the aggressiveness and power you need to

fulfill your agendas. Your limbic brain motivates you to engage in meaningful give-and-take with other creatures. It's the source of your emotions and your urges to nurture. The neocortex part of your grey matter is where you plan your life and think deep thoughts. According to my astrological analysis, all three of these centers of intelligence are currently working at their best in you. You may be as smart as you have ever been. How will you use your enhanced savvy?

Scorpio (October 23-November 21) The classical composer and pianist Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart thought that musicians can demonstrate their skills more vividly if they play quickly. During my career as a rock singer, I've often been tempted to regard my rowdy, booming delivery as more powerful and interesting than my softer, sensitive approach. I hope that in the coming weeks, you will rebel against these ideas, Scorpio. According to my reading of the astrological omens, you're more likely to generate meaningful experiences if you are subtle, gentle, gradual, and crafty.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21) At one point in his career, the mythical Greek hero Hercules was compelled to carry out a series of twelve strenuous labors. Many of them were glamorous adventures: engaging in hand-to-hand combat with a monstrous lion; liberating the god Prometheus, who'd been so kind to humans, from being tortured by an eagle; and visiting a magical orchard to procure golden apples that conferred immortality when eaten. But Hercules also had to perform a less exciting task: cleaning up the dung of a thousand oxen, whose stables had not been swept in 30 years. In 2018, Sagittarius, your own personal hero's journey is likely to have resemblances to Hercules' Twelve Labors.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19) Humans have used petroleum as a fuel since ancient times. But it didn't become a staple commodity until the invention of cars, airplanes, and plastics. Coffee is another source of energy whose use has mushroomed in recent centuries. The first European coffee shop appeared in Rome in 1645. Today there are over 25,000 Starbucks on the planet. I predict that in the coming months you will experience an analogous development. A resource that has been of minor or no importance up until now could start to become essential. Do you have a sense of what it is? Start sniffing around.

Aquarius (January 20- February 18) I'm not totally certain that events in 2018 will lift you to the Big Time or the Major League. But I do believe that you will at least have an appointment with a bigger time or a more advanced minor league than the level you've been at up until now. Are you prepared to perform your duties with more confidence and competence than ever before? Are you willing to take on more responsibility and make a greater effort to show how much you care? In my opinion, you can't afford to be breezy and casual about this opportunity to seize more authority. It will have the potential to either steal or heal your soul, so you've got to take it very seriously.

Pisces (February 19-March 20) In 1865, England's Royal Geographical Society decided to call the world's highest mountain "Everest," borrowing the surname of Welsh surveyor George Everest. Long before that, however, Nepali people called it SagarmDthD and Tibetans referred to it as Chomolungma. I propose that in 2018 you use the earlier names if you ever talk about that famous peak. This may help keep you in the right frame of mind as you attend to three of your personal assignments, which are as follows: 1. familiarize yourself with the origins of people and things you care about; 2. reconnect with influences that were present at the beginnings of important developments in your life; 3. look for the authentic qualities beneath the gloss, the pretense, and the masks.

Jonesin' Crossword

“Bundle Up”--by wearing something warm.

Across

1 White of “Wheel” fame

6 Knock lightly

9 Prickly plants

14 Orchestra reeds

15 What tree rings indicate

16 Kind of committee

17 Headwear seen at a rodeo

19 Western capital that’s its state’s largest city

20 DuVernay who directed “Selma”

21 About 30.48 centimeters

22 Tenth grader, for short

23 Half of the Brady kids

25 “Home Again” star Witherspoon

27 Margarine containers

30 Laptop connection option

32 “Monsters, ____” (Pixar film)

34 Former UB40 lead singer Campbell

35 1969 Roberta Flack song with the lyric “The President, he’s got his war / Folks don’t know just what it’s for”

40 Cancel out

41 Sparks of “Queer As Folk”

42 Art store purchase

43 Corporate getaway of sorts

46 Suffix for social or graph

47 “____ and Eric Awesome Show, Great Job!”

48 Solo on screen

By Matt Jones

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49 Office fixture

51 2016 Key and Peele movie

54 Quick drive

58 Play it ____

60 Rounded roof

62 Nest egg letters

63 Hang in folds

65 Political upheaval

67 Fashion magazine since 1892

68 Java vessel

69 Persona non ____

70 Food regimens

71 Wanna-____

72 Art store purchase

Down

1 Word knowledge, briefly

2 From the beginning, in Latin

3 “I don’t buy it”

4 Lincoln’s st.

5 Beginning from

6 Lake between two states

7 Quartz variety

8 Iguana, for some

9 ____ San Lucas

10 Take in or take on

11 Little barker

12 How-____ (instructional publications)

13 Swelling reducer

18 ____ Linda, Calif. (Nixon Library site)

22 E-mailed

24 Recap

26 Move like a crab

28 Fun time

29 “Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the ____”

31 Egg-breaking sound

33 Mongoose’s foe

35 \$100 bill, slangily

36 Sticking to the party line, like political speeches

37 Take the rap?

38 Corn unit

39 Some birdhouse dwellers

40 Electroplating stuff

44 Apparel giant with a World Headquarters in Beaverton, Ore.

45 Kick drum sound

50 Demolished

52 Love so much

53 Grammatical things

55 Pockets in the bread aisle

56 Steamed

57 Birth-related

59 Bill listings

61 Just beat out

63 Streaming video predecessor

64 King, in Cannes

65 Little leopard

66 Time period split into periods

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

Answers Page 25

Out on the town

From page 22

EVENTS

*Decorate a Gingerbread House (Ages 2-16). From 1 to 2 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Mason Branch, 145 W. Ash St. Mason. 517-676-9088.

Drop-in Holiday Craft (All ages). From 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi Branch, 2078 Aurelius Road Holt. 517.694.9351

Holiday Storytime (Ages up to 6). From 11 a.m. to noon FREE. Capital Area District Libraries South Lansing Branch, 3500 S. Cedar St. Lansing. 517-272-9840.

Make a Scratch Holiday Card. From 3:30 to 5 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Saturday Holiday Matinee (All ages). From 11 a.m. to 12:35 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 South Capitol Avenue Lansing. 517-367-6363.

ARTS

Red Barn Pottery Grand Opening of New Retail Store. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. FREE. Red Barn Pottery, 4098 Zimmer Road Williamston.

Sunday, December 17

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

Charlotte Yoga Club. From 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. \$5 annually. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Charlotte. Juggling. From 2 to 4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St. East Lansing.

Reiki 2 Training. From 9 to 4 p.m. \$95. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave, Suite D Lansing. 517-402-6727.

MUSIC

Holiday Ukulele Concert with the Prime Time Strummers. From 2 to 3 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

EVENTS

Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance . At 6 p.m. \$8 dance, \$10 dance & lesson. The Lansing Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave. Lansing. (517)

321-0933.

ARTS

LCC Dance Open House. From 4 to 6 p.m. free. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave. Lansing.

Monday, December 18

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

A Course in Love. From 1 to 2 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Lansing. 517-371-3010.

Support Group . At 7:30 p.m. St. Davids Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Rd. Lansing. (517) 323-2272.

MUSIC

New Horizons Community Band. From 6 to 8 p.m. MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road East Lansing. (517) 355-7661.

EVENTS

Chess, Cribbage, Hand & Foot. From 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos. Social Bridge. From 1 to 4 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road Lansing.

ARTS

Monday Movie Matinee. At 1 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Monday Night Life Drawing. From 7 to 9 p.m. \$10 per session (\$5 for students) to cover the model and studio.. O'Day Studios, Suite 115 1650 Kendale Blvd. East Lansing.

Tuesday, December 19

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

Bach Stress Relief Q&A. From 6 to 7:30 p.m. Free or Donation. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave, Suite D Lansing. 517-402-6727.

Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. At 7 p.m. FREE for visitors.. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave. Lansing. (517) 367-6300.

Duplicate Bridge . From 1 to 4 p.m. \$2 members, \$3 non members . Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

SUDOKU

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

BEGINNER

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 25

DEC. 16>> TEASE A GOGO HOLIDAY BURLESQUE VARIETY SHOW

The Holiday Burlesque Variety Show may not be the most traditional way to get in the Christmas spirt, but it’s certainly a thrilling way to celebrate the season. Tease-A-Gogo – a risqué local event company formed in 2013 – hosts its annual Christmas event, showcasing some of Michigan’s top burlesque acts. Food, jolly drinks and a free photo booth top off the festivities. Performers include Vivacious Miss Audacious, Veruka Salty, Tish La’Rain, Deliah Poppers, Sadie Tate, Veronica Scott and more.

Doors at 9 p.m., show at 10 p.m. \$15, \$12 advance, The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, teaseagogo.com

DEC. 16>> MSUFCU SHOWCASE SERIES: A JAZZY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

By now, Christmas shopping is well underway, decorations are up, and the tree is likely standing tall in the living room. Top off those holly, jolly vibes by watching A Jazzy Little Christmas, presented by Michigan State University’s Professors of Jazz and friends. The festive set of holiday classics features the talent behind MSU’s School of Music. For those sick of the same old holiday songs, come hear them spiced up with a jazzy twist. All ages are welcome.

8 p.m. \$20, \$18 for senior citizens, \$10 for students and people under 18. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Rd., East Lansing, music.msu.edu. (517) 353-5340.

TURN IT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S
MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPIGA

Friday, Dec. 15

JASON ALARM



Jason Alarm at The Avenue Café

Friday, Dec. 15 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 21+, FREE, 8 p.m.

Grand Ledge-based power-new wave band Jason Alarm released its first full-length record, “Piling it On,” in 2016, but the band has been a scene fixture since the mid-2000s. The group, which comprises front man Matt Waterman (vocals/guitar), Kirk Mason (drums), Alex Rosendall (guitar), David Birdsall (keys) and bassist Pat Hogan, returns Friday to the Avenue Café. Sharing the stage are Lipstick Jodi, the Tommy Plural Group, Stop Bobby Hatch and Corduroy Heart. Known for shredding rock ‘n’ roll guitars and blasting synthesizers, Jason Alarm gained a strong local following with its high-energy all-ages shows across Mid-Michigan while simultaneously releasing tracks on local labels like Bermuda Mohawk, Good Time Gang and Lower Peninsula Records. In 2011, the band entered a four-year hiatus, but then reunited, recorded an LP, and have been periodically gigging ever since.

Thursday, Dec. 14

JIMI KANKLEZ



UnKalled 4 Christmas Show

Thursday, Dec. 14 @ Mac’s Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$13, \$10 adv., 8 p.m.

Local rapper Jimi Kanklez (real name James Secord) hosts the eighth annual UnKalled 4 Christmas Show Friday at Mac’s Bar. The animated emcee, who started performing in 2007, said the event blends Christmas with a dark dash of Halloween. Sharing the bill are Jayson Starks, VALO and the Michigan Misfits. “I started throwing the show because I love Halloween,” Secord told City Pulse. “I figured, ‘Why does it have to be over after October?’” In 2018, he plans to release a new record, “Alien Muzik Vol. 4.” The disc will be released by his own label, E.T. Ent, and will feature his roster of labelmates. The New Year will also unveil his new duo, The TommyKnockez, a collaboration with Jayson Starks – but that LP “is still in progress,” according to Secord.

Sunday, Dec. 17

ROOKIE OF
THE YEAR



Rookie of the Year at Mac’s Bar

Sunday, Dec. 17 @ Mac’s Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$10, \$8 adv., 8 p.m.

Rookie of the Year front man Ryan Dunson (guitar/vocals) brings his solo tour – the Winter Snow Tour 2017 – Sunday to Mac’s Bar. The all-ages show features openers Jeremy Menard, Alexis Mercer, Victory Drive, Life Size Ghost and Tyler Walterspaugh. Dunson, Rookie of the Year’s chief songwriter, plays acoustic, stripped down versions of his emoting, indie-pop tunes. The band’s breakthrough happened after the release of 2006’s “The Goodnight Moon,” the band’s debut LP on OneEleven/Warner Bros. Records. After years of international touring, more than 200,000 records sold, and multiple Billboard-charting albums and singles, Dunson toured under the Rookie of The Year moniker as a solo act for the better part of five years. While this is a Dunson solo tour, the full group has indeed reformed and is working on new music and scheduling tour dates.

UPCOMING SHOW?

CONTACT ELLA@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service industry Night	Krissy Booth Variety Show	Free GTG	Tease a Gogo
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Travis Faber	Karaoke, 9 pm	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Goach's, 6201 Bishop Road	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.	Pool Tourny, 7:30 a.m.	Alskn "walleye" AYCE	DJ, 9 p.m.
Darb's Tavern, 117 S. Cedar St.				Scott Seth
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.			
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	The Good Cookies Band	Mike Skory & Friends Open Mic	Smooth Daddy	Smooth Daddy
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Johnny D Blues Night 9 p.m.	Karaoke	Avon Bomb	Medusa
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.	Astronomy on Tap, 7pm			The Jump Off Beat Battle, 7pm
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Jimi Kanklez, 8pm	Gettoblaster, 9pm	
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Rd				The New Rule, 7pm
The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave.	The Appleseed Collective, 7pm		5th Annual LUVS Holiday Show, 7pm	5th Annual LUVS Holiday Show, 3/7pm
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Steve Armstrong and the 25 Cent Beer Band	Steve Armstrong and the 25 Cent Beer Band
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.		Ladies Night	Capitol City DJ's	Capitol City DJ's

Out on the town

From page 23

HOLIDAYS

Gingerbread Houses. From 6 to 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's. From 7 to 10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 485-5287.

New Horizons Community Band. From 9 to 11 a.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road East Lansing. (517) 355-7661.

EVENTS

Bingo, Bridge, and Euchre. From 1 to 4:30 p.m. Cost Varies. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos. Game Night at UrbanBeat. From 7 to 11 p.m. FREE. UrbanBeat Event Center, 1213 Turner St. Lansing.

Knitting and Crochet Group. From 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

LCC West Toastmasters. From 5 to 6:30 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive Lansing. 5174831314.

Overeaters Anonymous. At 7 p.m. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road., Okemos. (517) 349-9536.

Reflexology. From 10:20 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. \$14/\$12 members. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

V	A	N	N	A		T	A	P		C	A	C	T	I
O	B	O	E	S		A	G	E		A	D	H	O	C
C	O	W	B	O	Y	H	A	T		B	O	I	S	E
A	V	A		F	O	O	T		S	O	P	H		
B	O	Y	S		R	E	E	S	E		T	U	B	S
				U	S	B			I	N	C		A	L
				C	O	M	P	A	R	E	D	T	O	W
				A	N	N	U		H	A	L		B	R
				C	O	M	P	A	N	Y	R	E	T	R
				I	T	E		T	I	M		H	A	N
				D	E	S	K		K	E	A	N		S
					S	A	F	E		D	O	M	E	I
				D	R	A	P	E		C	O	U	P	D
				V	O	G	U	E		U	R	N		G
				D	I	E	T	S		B	E	S		E

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

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



OLD TOWN CHANGES: BLOOM COFFEE ROASTERS / GOLDEN HARVEST / CENTER OF THE HEALING ARTS

Alan Ross/City Pulse

Bloom Coffee Roasters in Lansing's Old Town commercial district will close its café indefinitely next week. Owner/operator Jared Field will shift his focus back to roasting coffee beans full time at that location.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

In June 2016, Jared Field transformed his Old Town coffee bean roasting operation, **Bloom Coffee Roasters**, into a sit-down café. As part of the third wave coffee trend, customers patiently waited minutes on end for their slow-pours or French presses, but on Christmas Eve, Field and his crew will hang up their aprons for good.

Well, maybe. Last week, Field posted a heartfelt letter on his website citing a blend of unmet expectations (his, not his customers) and impending fatherhood as reasons for the closure. In a City Pulse exclusive, Field took some time to wax philosophical on the nature of good service and creating a quality product, expanding on his decision to close, and what the chances are that Bloom may someday bloom again.

Why the decision to close?

Essentially, we're going through an identity crisis amidst a potentially saturated café market in a "destination" sub-district of Lansing. We've always known who we want to be, as Bloom Coffee Roasters. But we aren't on that path, and haven't been since the day we opened the café. We can have a greater impact on this community if we're focused solely on one part of the business. Since you can't have a café without roasted coffee beans, it was a no-brainer.

So what path do you want to be on?

When we opened the cafe in June of 2016, we had less than \$200. That being said, in the months prior, we knew we were running low on money and that the money wouldn't buy us time to complete the space the way I had envisioned it. It caused us a lot of efficiency issues and spatial practicality has been pretty nonexistent. I personally feel like I'm constantly putting out fires as a result and not focusing on educating our staff or developing my own coffee education. Trying to do it all has stretched me rather thin.

How are the employees handling it?

My team, the BCR family, feels the same way. They are just as worn out as I am. So we want

to take some time to catch our breath and put the right things in place so that we can all personally grow.

Will Bloom continue as a roastery?

Yes, we will still be roasting. Roasting is our foundation and one of the reasons we're doing this with the café is to focus on the roasting and wholesale end of our business so that the potentially reopened café will have a shot at being the best around.

What do you think the chances are of reopening?

We're putting the right plans together to make that happen. I say it's 50/50. We're focused on regaining a semblance of intention toward our craft. If we don't meet that, we won't reopen. The space should exemplify that level of focus and intention, so if we can't come to a solution regarding our spatial needs, we won't open. But we promise we're working hard to find solutions.

Golden (late) hours

Meanwhile, just up the street from Bloom, **Golden Harvest** started offering Friday dinner hours last week. So if you've ever lusted after blueberry custard French toast but can't get to the buzzy brunch spot during the day, or you want to fuel up before heading out to the bar with the monster Mother Trucker plate, loaded with potatoes, bacon, eggs, biscuits and gravy (not pictured: cardiologist warning), now you can.

Last week's first-time experiment was a success, with nighttime lines rivaling daytime ones, and this weekend is expected to be similarly busy. Initially the plan was only to stay open until 8 p.m., but the onslaught of hunger kept the stools swiveling until 9 p.m. But snow is also in the forecast, so dress warmly if you head over this week — the only way you get to wait inside is if fireballs are raining down from the sky. Seriously, it's written right there on the door.

Healing moves

Last month, Lena Maxson moved her 6-year-old healing center, **Center of the Healing**

Arts, to a new location in Old Town. For the last year she was situated in a building behind the glass art boutique/workshop of her partner, Craig Mitchell Smith, on Grand River Avenue. The move gives her a more prominent, walkable location along Washington Avenue in the former HQ for the Michigan Association of Counties, and it also allowed her to add some new staff.

"I called in people who like to work with me and who have new ideas," Maxson said. "This new building will allow us to do more classes and workshops. I also want to work with artists who can present their paintings on my walls."

Maxson specializes in "intuitive healing," which includes a full line of holistic healing modalities to improve her clients' overall well-being and good health. Maxson's objective is to understand her clients' problems, both physically and emotionally, and help release the energetic causes of both types of discomfort.

Services include energy-based massages, pranic healing, reiki, and reflexology, with new additions including a medical sauna and medical ionic foot bath. Unlike her previous space, the new location is also ADA-compliant, enabling customers with wheelchairs to be able to visit.

"And I also would like to work with children," Maxson said. "I want to include them with activities like storytelling, meditation and brain yoga."

Er, brain yoga?

"Yes, I'm certified in that," Maxson said. "It's wonderful. It changes lives. Kids are more centered after they do it and they get better grades in school."

Allan I. Ross is a weekly contributor to the Lansing City Pulse. If you know of any new businesses in town, contact him at allan@lansingcitypulse.com.

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Wrought Iron Grill's Caprese Pasta

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

The Wrought Iron Grill ensnares unsuspecting visitors to Owosso with lavish gourmet offerings and a lengthy wine selection. When traveling to Shiawassee County to see an Owosso Community Players production at the nearby Lebowsky Center, a stop is always tempting. When the playhouse offered a 10-percent-off coupon with its print-at-home tickets, the choice was no choice at all.

On my last visit, I chose the stylish eatery's Caprese Pasta. It was served in a bowl large enough to accommodate an open hand, filled with three colors of bow-tie

pasta — white, beige, and green — topped with halved ripe grape tomatoes.

Liberal slices of fresh mozzarella were layered throughout the mixture. The cheese was thick, chewy and semi-melted, neither soft nor bland. The dish was embellished with shreds of real Parmesan cheese. I asked for an extra sprinkle at the table.

What made the Caprese Pasta far from pedestrian was the Wrought Iron Grill's unique basil pesto cream sauce that coats every bit of the entrée. The extraordinary sauce is flavorful and not soupy. Cooked leaves of garden-fresh basil

The Wrought Iron Grill

317 S. Elm St., Owosso
Tuesday-Thursday: 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Friday-Saturday: 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sun: Noon-8 p.m.
(989) 472-9025
wroughtirongrill.com



took firm and splendid charge of the flavor. The price was \$17.99 — but that was before applying the discount.

Beggar's Banquet's 'Abbot Road Cucumber Martini'

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

Beggar's Banquet was named after a Rolling Stones album — which explains why its menu listed the Abbot Road Cucumber Martini as "light and refreshing." After a sip, I realized only the Stones' guitarist Keith Richards would call it

"light." The rest of us might quibble.

The flavorful martini has a real kick to it, but I wholeheartedly agree with the "refreshing" label. The inclusion of fresh cilantro and cut cucumber rendered a cocktail that is usually on the harsher side more palatable. Simple syrup and freshly squeezed lemon juice also

helped give the drink qualities that were — well — refreshing.

The heart and heat of the \$8 martini was a generous amount of Tito's Handmade Vodka. The distillery in Austin, Texas uses yellow corn instead of wheat or potatoes like most vodka. Instead of something bitter, Tito's gives the drink a lingering, sweet aftertaste.

The Abbot Road Cucumber Martini is served cold in an ample, martini glass — ample for me, anyway. Keith Richards would probably disagree.

Beggar's Banquet

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TOP 5
DINING GUIDE

THE BEST RESTAURANTS IN
GREATER LANSING AS DECIDED
BY CITY PULSE READERS

- TOP 5 SUSHI
- 1.) Sansu

City Pulse readers love Sansu's value, serving quality sushi at good prices
4750 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing
(517) 333-1933
sansu-sushi.com
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. & 4:30-10 p.m. Monday-Saturday;
3-10 p.m. Sunday
- 2.) Maru Sushi & Grill (Okemos)

High quality sushi, upscale atmosphere
5100 Marsh Road, Okemos
(517) 349-7500
marurestaurant.com
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. & 4-9:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday;
11:30 a.m-9:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday
- 3.) Ai Fusion

Known for creative sushi rolls and good service
2827 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
(517) 853-3700
ai-fusion.com
11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; noon-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-11 p.m. Sunday
- 4.) Ukai (west side)

Sushi bar and hibachi grill, known for entertaining hibachi chefs
754 Delta Commerce Drive, Lansing
(517) 853-8888
iloveukai.com
11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. & 4-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 4-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-9 p.m. Sunday
- 5.) Sushi Moto

Cozy west side restaurant known for its fresh sushi
436 Elmwood Road, Lansing
(517) 580-4321
sushimoto.us
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 4-9:30 p.m. Sunday

Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2017 Top of the Town contest, we've assembled a guide to your favorite Lansing-area eateries. We'll run single categories in the paper periodically, but the complete dining guide is always available on our website or on our official mobile app, The Pulse. The app is available on iPhone and Android platforms; head over to [facebook.com/lansingapp](https://www.facebook.com/lansingapp) or text "pulse" to 77948 for links to download.

Bon appétit!

THE PULSIFIEDS

BACKPAGE CLASSIFIEDS

ANTIQUE? Huge solid oak desk, matching rolling chair, was MSU professor's, both for \$75. Two Eastlake 1890s side chairs, \$100.

(517) 694-5741

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