

A student prepares for a  
Shakespearian role of a lifetime

FACES+PLACES, PAGE 1B

# The State News

## DEVELOPMENT

### City Council modifies plans for 4 northern E.L. properties

#### The proposals

**Ordinance 1200:** Council approved the rezoning of 2.93 acres of land on Lake Lansing Road to its retail sales business district.

**Ordinance 1201:** Council approved the rezoning of 3.29 acres of land on Lake Lansing Road to its general office business district.

**Ordinance 1202:** Council approved allowing hotels in its restricted office business district.

**Modification to the Beaumont development's site plan:** Council approved the option for the 16,000 square feet of retail and office space in the development to be converted to residential units.

SOURCE: EAST LANSING

By Allison Bush  
THE STATE NEWS

The northern part of East Lansing dominated much of the conversation at the East Lansing City Council meeting Tuesday, with the council voting to rezone or otherwise modify plans for several of its parcels.

The council approved a modification to the site plan for the Beaumont development, 1000 Coleman Road, to allow the 16,000 square feet of office and retail space to be used as residential units. The existing site plan calls for 443 housing units.

Although the modification allows the option for more residential units, another option provides that the units can change back to office or retail, offering more flexibility, said Darcy Schmitt, planning and zoning administrator for East Lansing.

Two rezoned parcels of land, located on Lake Lansing Road, were annexed from Meridian Township in 2006.

"Essentially under state law, we have to provide a zoning for it once it's annexed," said Tim Schmitt, a community development analyst for East Lansing. "One of the properties is a church, and I don't think there's any anticipation it will be anything else, and the other is vacant land, being rezoned for commercial use."

The council also passed an ordinance to allow hotels in its restricted office business district.

"I think the only area where this might have some application might be in the Northern Tier in the city, based on some of the recent applications," Councilmember Roger Peters said. "Especially along the expressway, it seems to be attractive to developers of hotels."

There have been several pro-

See COUNCIL on page 2A

## E.L. BUILDINGS GO GREEN

City officials look to develop environmentally friendly structures

#### By the numbers

Right now, buildings in the United States account for ...

72%  
of energy consumption

39%  
of energy use

30%  
of waste output

38%  
of all carbon dioxide emissions

40%  
of raw materials use



Green buildings can make all of these numbers decrease.

SOURCE: U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

#### By Allison Bush

THE STATE NEWS

East Lansing is "going green" with its developments. "One of the things we've thought about is ... we'd like to promote LEED certification when projects get funding from the city," said Tim Schmitt, a community development analyst for East Lansing.

LEED certification is a nationally accepted program that rates the level of green buildings. There are varying levels of certification, from basic to platinum, which is the most environmentally friendly.

The proposed 10-story building in the City Center II project on the corner of Grand River Avenue and Abbot Road will have a silver certification.

"A lot of communities committed to silver because it's not the lowest level, but it's still very reachable," Schmitt said.

"If we get good at it, maybe that standard (would get) higher."

The city currently does not have any requirements on developments becoming more environmentally friendly, but Dave Smith, an environmental specialist for East Lansing, said he is actively working with the East Lansing Commission on the Environment to develop incentives to promote LEED development in the city.

"(The commission) hopes to have a rec-

Please see GREEN on page 2A

#### Tips for LEED certification

**Setting a clear environmental target:** It is important to determine what level of LEED certification is the target.

**Set a clear budget:** The higher the level of LEED certification, the higher the cost.

**Stick to both the budget and the LEED goal.**

**Hire LEED-accredited professionals:** They will be able to assist with meeting the goal, and can suggest ways to do so.

SOURCE: NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

"The students of our generation are very focused on being green, and taking care of the environment, so I think a lot of people would be interested in (this)."

Amanda Pelletier,  
human biology sophomore

#### Transitioning into "Green" buildings



SOURCE: THE STATE NEWS

Buildings throughout the city of East Lansing are in various steps of the LEED certification process:

- 1 The city of East Lansing has plans for the proposed 10-story building in the City Center II project to be LEED certified.
- 2 The new MSU Federal Credit Union headquarters, 600 E. Crescent Road, opened as an LEED-certified building in September.
- 3 Urban Options, 405 Grove St., is in the process of converting its existing building into an LEED-certified building.

## SPORTS

### Football team heals, prepares for Penn State

By Jacob Carpenter  
THE STATE NEWS

For the first time since 1990, the MSU football team will be playing its final game with a Big Ten championship on the line.

The differences between 18 years ago and Saturday's game, though, will be dramatic.

In 1990, MSU was playing for a four-way tie in the Big Ten at home against Wisconsin, which finished the season winless in the conference.

This season, the No. 17 Spartans (9-2 overall, 6-1 Big Ten) will travel to Penn State (10-7, 6-1), which boasts

the Big Ten's top defense and second-best offense as well as a home stadium where MSU has lost seven straight times.

The magnitude of the game hasn't been lost on MSU head coach Mark Dantonio, who has been preparing his team for Penn State since Nov. 9.

"I think I've probably said, 'It's exciting,' 15 times," Dantonio said of Saturday's game 15 minutes into his weekly press conference.

"The atmosphere will be electric, I'm sure, and this will be something that players will remember for

See GAME on page 2A



Then-senior safety Nehemiah Warwick (3) and then-sophomore cornerback Ross Weaver tackle then-Penn State sophomore tailback Rodney Kinlaw on Nov. 17, 2007, when MSU achieved a 35-31 victory at home.

## UNIVERSITY

### U-M higher-up recommended to fill MSU vice president slot

By Justin Harris  
THE STATE NEWS

With the support of MSU President Lou Anna K. Simon, Robert Groves has been recommended to become the new vice president for university advancement.

Groves currently works at the University of Michigan as the associate vice president and campaign director for university development. Under his daily leadership, U-M conducted the Michigan Difference, a \$3.1 billion fundraising campaign, which is the largest ever for a public university.

"I hope that I can help Michigan State develop one of the outstanding advancement programs in the country," Groves said. "Michigan State is truly a world-class institution and it deserves to have a program that reaches out to its supporters, wherever they are."

Groves' appointment still must be approved by the Board of Trustees. If approved, he would begin in the spring semester.

The board voted in May to create a University Advancement department, which combines University Development — the university's fundraising branch — and the Alumni Association in an effort to increase activity among alumni for university fundraising.

"I really think that's the way advancement needs to be done and I'm just really pleased to have an opportunity to come be a part of that process," Groves said of MSU's department changes.

Groves' appointment would partially fill the void in development leadership created when Charles Webb, the former vice president for University Development, left earlier this year to become the president of Spring Arbor University. Under Webb, the university conducted the "Campaign for

See JOB on page 2A

## DONATING

Students take part in an annual blood drive against Penn State as part of a competition, page 3A.

## BUSINESS

Local companies employ different tactics to draw shoppers to stores and Web sites, page 3A.

Weather

Snow  
High 36° | Low 31°  
Three-day forecast, page 2A