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MUSIC LISTINGS
CONTINUED

JOHN HENRY'S Broadway Revue—10pm; Burlesque, \$5
MCDONALD THEATRE Mickey Hart Band w/Dave Schools of Widespread Panic—8pm; \$25/\$30
O'DONNELL'S IRISH PUB Guitaraoke w/Neriah Hart—7pm; Acoustic karaoke, n/c
PIZZA RESEARCH INSTITUTE Robert Meade—7pm; R&B, Americana, n/c
RAGOZZINO PERFORMANCE HALL LCC Chamber Orchestra—3pm; \$3/\$5
SAM BOND'S Marv Ellis, Unkle Nancy—8:30pm; Hip-hop, acoustic, \$5
SPRINGFIELD VFW McKenzie Express—7pm; n/c
SWEET CHEEKS WINERY Jen Sennet-Franklin—2pm; n/c
VILLAGE GREEN Paul Safar & Nancy Wood—7pm; Jazz piano, n/c
THE WEBFOOT Karaoke—9pm
WOW HALL Ott & the All-Seeing I, Kilowatts, Smoke Sign—9pm; Live tronica, \$12/\$15

MONDAY 2/18
ASTORIA BAR Karaoke—9pm; n/c
BEALL HALL Flute Studio Recital—8pm; Classical, n/c
BLACK FOREST Karaoke—9pm
BREW & CUE DJ Brady—9pm; n/c
BUGSY'S Monday Bug—7pm; Acoustic, n/c
EUGENE SUZUKI MUSIC ACADEMY Irish Jam Session—7pm; n/c
PORKY'S PALACE Karaoke—8pm
REALITY KITCHEN Acoustic Reality—7:30pm; Open mic, n/c
SAM BOND'S Bingo w/Chad & Cookie—9pm; n/c
VILLAGE GREEN Dylan James—7pm; Contemporary guitar, n/c
WANDERING GOAT Songwriter's Night [originals only]—7pm; n/c
TUESDAY 2/19
5TH ST. CORNUCOPIA Jesse Meade w/Amblin—9:30pm; n/c
BEALL HALL Poetry in Song—7pm; n/c
BLACK FOREST Open mic—9pm; n/c
BUGSY'S Karaoke—8pm

THE CITY iPod Night—6pm; n/c
COZMIC Sol Seed, HillStomp, Hazel Shower Roots—6pm; n/c
COWFISH School Night Dance Party w/Michael Human—9pm; Electro, blog-house, n/c
DEXTER LAKE CLUB Jam night—7pm; Open mic, n/c
DOC'S PAD Karaoke—9pm
DOWNTOWN LOUNGE Open Mic—6pm; n/c; Karaoke—9pm
GRANARY S.I.N. Night & Karaoke w/Nick—9pm; n/c
HOT MAMA'S WINGS Open Mic—8pm; n/c
IZAKAYA MEIJI CO. Cowboy Karaoke—10pm; n/c
LUCKEY'S Get it Together w/ Scott Styles—10pm; Hip hop, ladies night, \$2
MAC'S Roosters Blues Jam—7pm; n/c
THE O BAR Karaoke—9:30pm
OAK ST. SPEAKEASY Karaoke party—9pm, n/c
POUR HOUSE Guitaraoke w/ Neriah Hart—8pm
ROOSEVELT MIDDLE SCHOOL String Academy Concert—7pm; n/c
SAM BONDS Bluegrass Jam—9pm; n/c
VILLAGE GREEN Dylan James—7pm; Contemporary guitar, n/c

BLUEGRASS FROM THE DEPTHS OF MOTHER MICHIGAN

Many musicians are coy when it comes to the meaning behind their songs, but not the refreshingly candid Lindsay Rachel Rilko, lead singer for **Lindsay Lou & The Flatbelllys**. “There’s a song I wrote, ‘Mercy.’ It’s about a bankrobber and the bankrobber is my aunt,” Rilko says, while driving south from Olympia, Wash. Rilko was studying abroad in Ecuador when her mom sent her a message from Michigan’s Upper Peninsula that her aunt had robbed a bank and hid the money in their backyard, forcing her mom to call the police. As a contemporary bluegrass musician, this kind of personal experience makes for songwriting gold.

Lindsay Lou & The Flatbelllys — Rilko (vocals, guitar, clawhammer banjo), her husband Joshuo Rilko (mandolin, vocals), Spencer Cain (upright bass), Keith Bilik (five-string banjo, vocals) and Mark Lavengood (dobro, vocals) — made their way from Ann Arbor, Mich., on their first West Coast tour for their sophomore album, *Release Your Shrouds* (2012). The album is a sweet, melodic study in modern bluegrass guided by Rilko’s smooth, jazzy voice — creating a sound that is part The Little Willies (Norah Jones’ band project) and part Fruition. “It’s definitely got the Appalachian flavor,” Rilko says. But people are always telling the band their bluegrass is “Michigan music,” like their friends Greensky Bluegrass.

There are three aspects that set the band apart from other modern bluegrass outfits: They have a strong swing and jazz flavor, a female banjo player and a song in Spanish. “I’m influenced by jazz as much as bluegrass,” Rilko says. Rilko also plays clawhammer banjo, a somewhat male-dominated instrument. “We been going to the Midwest Banjo Camp,” she says. “I’ve watched over the last five years it go from 99.9 percent men to this last year it was one-third women ... That has been awesome to see.” Rilko, who has studied Spanish since high school, wrote “Querida Tierra” (Dear Earth), a fast-paced but soft love song for the earth.

Lindsay Lou & The Flatbelllys play 8:30 pm Friday, Feb. 15, at the Axe & Fiddle; \$10.

— Alex Notman

