

# JOE BIDEN & KAMALA HARRIS AND SENATOR GARY PETERS WILL LEAD MICHIGAN FORWARD

Make sure to cast your vote for them **on or before November 3**



**Biden, Harris, and Peters** know the challenges our communities face and will tackle them with honesty and compassion. In this time of crisis for our state and country, we deserve leaders who will unite us and work through division.

Paid for by Millions of Michiganians, 614 Seymour Ave., Lansing, MI 48933. Not authorized by any candidate or candidate committee.



Attorney Andrew P. Abood and  
Lansing Community College  
President Dr. Steve J. Robinson

## Pleased to welcome Dr. Steve Robinson, President, Lansing Community College.

— Andrew P. Abood

# WHY VOTE FOR JOE BIDEN & KAMALA HARRIS?

- ✓ *They'll bring compassionate leadership and empathy back to the White House*
- ✓ *They have a plan to beat back COVID-19 and provide frontline workers the resources they need*
- ✓ *They will defend health care for millions with preexisting conditions and work to build on the Affordable Care Act*
- ✓ *They will work to raise the minimum wage and expand affordable childcare*



# WHY VOTE FOR SENATOR GARY PETERS?

- ✓ *He will always protect health care coverage for preexisting conditions*
- ✓ *He'll help get rid of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos and work in the U.S. Senate to approve an Education Secretary who supports public education*
- ✓ *He's consistently fought for clean water and against climate change to protect the health of our communities*
- ✓ *He's been focused on doing the work, not seeking the spotlight in the U.S. Senate*



**NOW OR ON  
ELECTION DAY,  
VOTE FOR  
JOE BIDEN &  
KAMALA HARRIS,  
AND SENATOR  
GARY PETERS.**

**THE STAKES ARE TOO HIGH FOR LANSING AND THE REST OF MICHIGAN. WE CAN'T AFFORD ANOTHER FOUR YEARS OF CHAOS AND DIVISION.**

**LEADERSHIP MATTERS. REELECTING GARY PETERS TO THE SENATE WILL ENSURE MICHIGANDERS HAVE AN EFFECTIVE CHAMPION AT THE TABLE.**

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# CityPULSE

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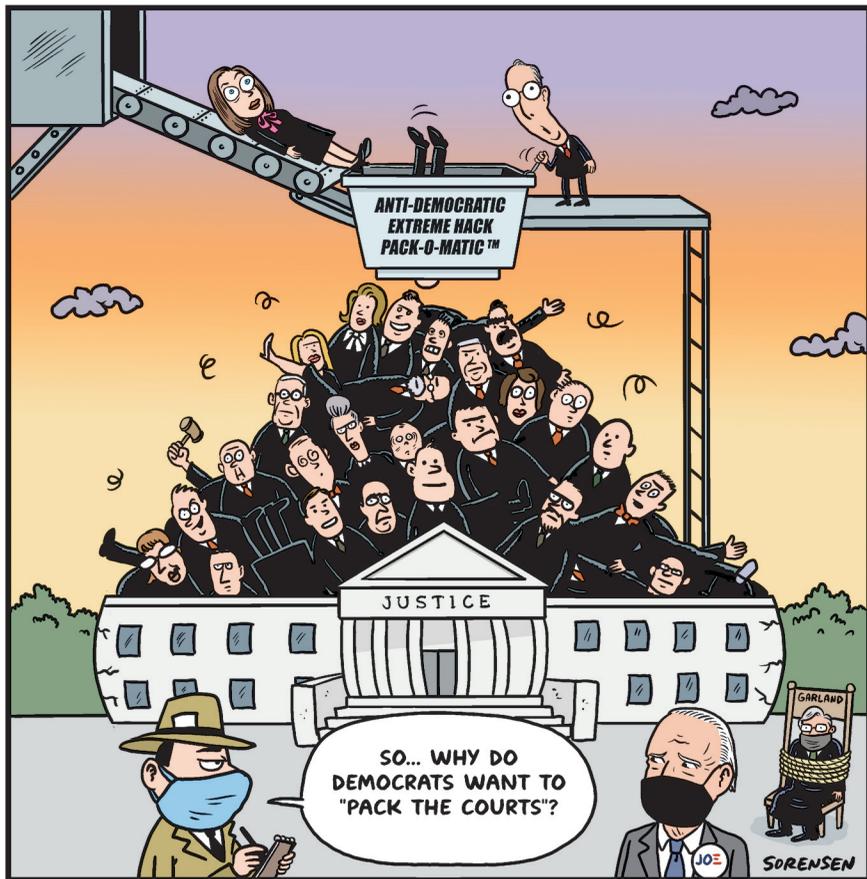
**Restaurants adapt to keep warm  
and keep COVID-19 out**

**SEE PAGE 16**

# CityPULSE

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Life after a cancer diagnosis



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New downtown Lansing grocery store opens today



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New in Town: House of Soles



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Coffee shop gets roasting in eco-friendly machine

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88.9FM

## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

from the case files of...  
**DONALD J. TRUMP**  
Detective-in-Chief

WHITE-HAIRED GUY! YOU'RE JUST IN TIME! I'M WORKING ON THE BIGGEST MYSTERY OF MY CAREER! COME STAND RIGHT NEXT TO ME AND I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT!

BUT TAKE OFF THAT STUPID MASK. IT MAKES YOU LOOK WEAK.

YES SIR.

THE QUESTION IS, HOW COULD I HAVE POSSIBLY GOTTEN THE VIRUS? APART FROM REFUSING TO WEAR MASKS, IGNORING SOCIAL DISTANCING, AND CAMPAIGNING IN LARGE CROWDS, I WAS AT NO RISK WHATSOEVER! I'M THE MOST PROTECTED MAN ON THE PLANET!

IT'S TRULY A CONUNDRUM! "SIR."

SIR.

BUT NOT TO WORRY, WHITE-HAIRED GUY! THAT WAS LAST WEEK! I'M COMPLETELY BETTER NOW! THE DOCTORS GAVE ME ALL KINDS OF DRUGS! I FEEL--COUGH!--GREAT!

THAT'S GOOD TO KNOW, SIR! WHAT ABOUT YOUR WIFE, AND ALL THE OTHERS?

WHAT ABOUT THEM?

ER, NOTHING, SIR.

AND THERE'S ANOTHER MYSTERY! I KNOW YOU LACK MY KEEN SENSE OF DEDUCTIVE REASONING, BUT DOESN'T IT STRIKE YOU AS SUSPICIOUS THAT THE ONLY PEOPLE GETTING SICK IN THIS ADMINISTRATION...ARE REPUBLICANS?

ER--YES, IT'S VERY PUZZLING, SIR.

BUT WAIT--I'VE JUST FIGURED OUT THE SOLUTION!

WHEN YOU ELIMINATE THE PERSON WHO IS NEVER AT FAULT--ME-- THEN WHOEVER REMAINS MUST BE BLAME!

LIKE THE CHINESE, OR THE DEMOCRATS, OR MAYBE THOSE GOLD STAR FAMILIES! IT DOESN'T MATTER-- AS LONG AS I'M OFF THE HOOK!

BY GOD SIR, YOU'VE DONE IT AGAIN!

WELL, NOW THAT I'M--COUGH!-- TOTALLY HEALTHY, I THINK I'LL ISSUE AN EXECUTIVE ORDER DECLARING THE PANDEMIC OVER!

YET ANOTHER JOB WELL DONE, SIR!

NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'M GOING TO GO WANDER AROUND THE WEST WING AND BREATHE ON EVERYONE!

WE WOULD EXPECT NO LESS, SIR!

TOM TOMORROW © 2020

# Capitol offenses

Last week was a tough one for Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. Close on the heels of the Michigan Supreme Court ruling that reined in her emergency powers, the FBI arrested a cadre of mouth-breathing morons who were plotting to kidnap or assassinate the governor and launch a coup against state government by storming the State Capitol building and taking hostages. Kudos to the feds for sniffing out the scheme and hearty congratulations to the plotters for likely earning themselves well-deserved life sentences in the federal pokey. We can only hope their trials don't occur until after Trump is out of office, lest they receive pardons for their patriotism and can-do spirit.

The dignity and resolve that Whitmer continues to show in the face of such threats is yet another illustration of the honor she brings to our state and her national importance as an anti-Trump voice of reason. We're also fortunate to have a world-class county health officer in Linda Vail, who immediately stepped into the void created by the Supreme Court ruling and issued a series of emergency public health orders reviving the most important parts of Whitmer's life-saving executive orders. Vail has also received numerous threats, reminding us once again that our public servants and their families sometimes pay a heavy price for their willingness to enter the arena.

The foiled kidnapping and coup plot also gave rise to renewed calls for a ban on firearms in the State Capitol building, especially after it was discovered that several of the arrested individuals were among those who attended the April 30 rally at the Capitol where heavily armed protesters were allowed into the House gallery to intimidate Democratic lawmakers. It's just a matter of luck that no one was hurt and highlighted once again the insanity of allowing firearms in the Capitol.

Then and now, Republican reaction has been entirely predictable. After mouthing perfunctory platitudes condemning the terrorist plot, House Speaker Lee Chatfield helpfully noted that a firearms ban would not have stopped a small army of well-armed thugs from storming the building. His remarks remind us of the Republican reaction to school shootings like Sandy Hook, where even the sickening massacre of schoolchildren and their teachers wasn't enough to bring about reforms in



## The CP Edit

### Opinion

the nation's gun laws. We're certain that if the terrorists had actually executed their plan to overthrow Michigan's government, Speaker Chatfield and his ilk would call for even more guns in the Capitol, just like the perverse suggestion that the answer to school shootings is to arm teachers.

Even in the face of a deadly plot against them, Republicans evidently can't risk alienating the gun-toting, wack-job wing of their party by doing the right thing and prohibiting firearms in the Capitol. It's a sad reflection on the current state of the Grand Old Party, which has become entirely captive to gun nuts, racists, homophobes and anti-immigrant kooks. The Trumpification of the Republican Party is now complete, and the only thing

that will turn it around is a Democratic wave that drives them into irrelevancy, where they can lick their wounds and think long and hard about what they really stand for and whether or not they want to be part of an America that respects all, embraces our nation's rich diversity, and takes a common sense approach to issues like gun control and containing the COVID pandemic.

Let's be clear: The middle of a deadly pandemic is no time to settle political scores. It's no time to continue spewing partisan claptrap that encourages disobedience on matters like masking and emboldens domestic terrorists to plan violent attacks against public officials. As Whitmer said last week, words matter.

Yet the leaders of Michigan's Republican Party continue to spout nonsense like Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey's recent statement that achieving herd immunity should be part of the state's public health strategy to beat COVID. His suggestion that we should just let the coronavirus infect thousands more people, a particularly twisted take on Darwinian survival of the fittest, drew a swift rebuke from Whitmer and a respected group of national medical experts who pointed out that Shirkey's strategy would likely result in 30,000 additional COVID deaths in Michigan.

All of which points to the fact that pandemics don't lend themselves to legislative action, which is a slow, deliberative process by design. A pandemic requires an immediate response and the flexibility to make timely, science-based decisions that the executive branch is best suited to render. Upcoming negotiations between Whitmer and legislative Republicans on which elements of her now-defunct executive orders should be reinstated by lawmakers will no doubt prove the point. Shirkey has already indicated that a statewide mask mandate is off the table, demonstrating once again that the current crop of Republican leaders cannot be trusted to make decisions in the best interests of the people of Michigan.

In less than three weeks, state voters have the chance to send a strong message to Shirkey and like-minded Republicans. Even though he and his Senate colleagues aren't on the ballot this year, an electoral tsunami that puts the state house and the White House firmly back in Democratic hands should get their attention.

Please vote accordingly.

Send letters to the editor on this editorial or any other topic to [letters@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:letters@lansingcitypulse.com).

Please limit them to 250 words

# Sierra Club urges a 'No' vote on Proposal 1

By **MARVIN ROBERSON**

*(The writer is the Sierra Club Michigan Chapter's Forest ecologist.)*

In the 1970s, conservationists championed the idea of using the revenue generated from the extraction of nonrenewable energy sources on state-

owned land to purchase land for permanent public benefit. Legislation was first passed in 1976 to create a trust fund for this purpose. The creation of the Natural Resources Trust Fund was a visionary plan to offset the extraction of nonrenewable, polluting fossil fuels with the protection of scenic, recreational, and environmentally significant lands for the public in perpetuity.

For years, the legislature raided the Trust Fund for other purposes, so citizens voted by an almost 2-to-1 margin in 1976 to put the Trust Fund into the Constitution to



Roberson

protect it from those diversions and guarantee that its primary purpose remained to protect and acquire land. Twenty-five percent of annual revenues was reserved for grants to local governments so that they could do the same. The remainder was available for statewide acquisition purposes. The constitution contained no requirement that all revenue be spent annually, which allowed the fund to grow in order to ensure that as revenue from finite resource extraction declined, the fund would continue to fulfill its purposes. The fund currently does not receive any oil and gas revenues and has not since 2011 when the total oil and gas revenues into the fund reached the constitutional cap of \$500 million dollars. All oil and gas revenues now go into the State Parks Endowment Fund. The Natural Resources Trust Fund now has about \$590 million in assets and continues to grow so more income and earnings of the fund can benefit its mission.

Ballot Proposal 20-1 changes the fundamental purpose of the Trust Fund and prioritizes "development, redevelopment and renovation of

public recreational facilities" over land acquisition by removing the 25% cap on local government grants and requiring that no less than 25% of revenues be directed towards the new purpose quoted above. This change will reduce substantially available funds for acquisition purposes at the state and local level. If passed by the voters, the Trust Fund could be weakened by shifting funds away from the protection of natural areas and to the development, redevelopment and renovation of public recreation facilities. Which, by the way, was at least partially the purpose of the State Parks Endowment Fund.

But that is not even all it does. It also fundamentally changes the way the Natural Resources Trust Fund operates by adding a definition of "accumulated principal limit." That language, if enacted by passage of 20-1, would require the Trust Fund to divest the \$90 million it has grown by, lose the buying power that represents and require the expenditure of every dime it earns or is given on an annual basis. It will change the fund from having a "soft" cap to a "hard" cap. This

change will, over a period of time, substantially reduce the buying power of the fund.

If 20-1 is passed, the Trust

Fund cap is eliminated as soon as the State Parks Endowment Fund reaches its "soft" cap of \$800 million. The Citizens Research Council estimates that this elimination of the Trust Fund cap will take place about 2055. That is right, three and a half decades from now. That means three and a half decades of steadily reducing buying power for the Trust Fund. While the Michigan Chapter supports both lifting the cap and appropriate funding for park development, redevelopment and renovation, 20-1 is not the way to do that. We are faced with a climate crisis — and securing more land for permanent preservation becomes more important than ever.

Ongoing expenses will always be with us. Requiring revenue from a nonrenewable source to go to ongoing, increasing funding needs creates financial problems — it doesn't solve them. Land is also nonrenewable — if we miss out on the acquisition of a spectacular parcel, and it gets sold and subdivided, that's that — we missed it.

For all these reasons, the Sierra Club urges a "NO" vote on Proposal 20-1.

## LETTERS to the editor

### Vote for Biden

The recent City Pulse opinion editorial "Biden or Bust" hit all but one of reasons I have already voted for Biden by submitting my absentee ballad: Trump's separation of children from their parents at the southern borders. We must not ignore this ugly action. Trump, his administration, the border guards and many cowardly congressional members are all guilty of this unbelievably outrageous deed. The trauma suffered by these children and their parents will be with them and all of us for many years to come. There are few records of what happened to these children, making it almost impossible to re-unite them with their families. Imagine what Trump might do if he is reelected! Please, everyone, do NOT vote for Trump, Vote for Biden.

**Claude R. Beavers**  
Lansing

### Trump-as-Kong cover triumphs

I loved the picture on the cover of the Election Guide Sept. 30-Oct. 6 issue.

President Trump shown as King Kong.

Powerful, dynamic and fearless! Senator Biden flying an old rickety biplane desperate to unseat a mighty adversary.

I hope this election ends like the movie.

(Not with Kong's defeat, I mean just before with the biplane crashing as I hope the Biden/Harris campaign shall crash and burn!)

**Earl Ruhf**  
Lansing

### Proudly boosting Cole for judge

I am incredibly proud to have been given the opportunity to get to know Morgan Cole over the last few months and I hope that you will join me in voting for her for 30th Circuit Court on the Nonpartisan section of your ballots this fall.

Morgan has dedicated her career to the notion that the judicial system can be a force for good. Morgan is one of the brightest, and most ethical people I have had the pleasure to know. Her experience and her moral compass will serve her well when she steps behind the bench.

**Scott Hendrickson**  
Okemos

### The NIMBY candidate

Apparently the hefty pension and the generous health insurance former senator Rick Jones gets in retirement aren't enough for him. So he's running for sheriff. I remember when he was on a panel as a senator at a League of Women Voters informational venue in DeWitt a few years ago. I asked him what he thought about fracking. His answer: "I don't care if they do it Up North. There's lots of land up there. But not in my back yard." Then he chuckled. Such a statement speaks volumes about the character of Rick Jones.

**Judy Hood**  
Bath

**Have something to say about a local issue or an item that appeared in our pages? Now you have two ways to sound off:**

#### 1.) Write a letter to the editor:

- E-mail: [letters@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:letters@lansingcitypulse.com)
- Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
- Fax: (517) 371-5800
- At [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com)

#### 2.) Write a guest column:

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

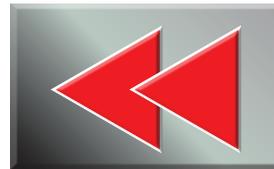
(Please include your name, address and telephone number so we can reach you. Keep letters to 250 words or fewer. City Pulse reserves the right to edit letters and columns.)

### Correction

A story featured in last week's print edition misidentified a local candidate's political party affiliation. Patrick Witt, a Democrat, is challenging Clinton County Commissioner Kam Washburn, a Republican, this November.

# REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS



By KYLE KAMINSKI



Kyle Kaminski/City Pulse

## Retirees pushed back against healthcare changes

A crowd of several dozen retirees — mostly older white men — gathered in front of Lansing City Hall on Monday to protest pending changes to their health care benefits. Most complaints were directed squarely at Mayor Andy Schor, who orchestrated a series of changes that adds copays and other added prescription costs for 1,300 retirees, saving the city about \$8 million annually.

## Talks of a Capitol gun ban are back

State lawmakers are again discussing plans to ban guns at the Michigan State Capitol after the FBI foiled an alleged plot from domestic terrorists to storm the building, kidnap Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, bring her to Wisconsin and likely execute her as part of an illegitimate courtroom trial.



Discussions over the prohibition on weapons inside the Capitol started and stalled in recent months as various anti-Whitmer protests formed in downtown Lansing. Many are now calling on lawmakers to pass legislation to ban them once and for all following the foiled kidnapping plot.

In total, 19 state felony charges were filed by Attorney General Dana Nessel against seven people known to be tied to the militia group Wolverine Watchmen. Federal charges were also filed against six other people in the recent joint operation. All of them were arraigned this week. Meanwhile, the FBI said Tuesday that Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam was discussed as a possible target of the same alleged co-conspirators.

## Unlocked ballot drop boxes triggered concerns

The security of ballot drop boxes in Lansing was called into question last week after elections officials discovered at least two of them had been found ajar, including one at Lansing City Hall. While some were closed for maintenance, all 15 drop boxes were locked and available for ballots this week despite repeated concerns from the Michigan Republican Party over election security.



City Clerk Chris Swope told residents at a recent press conference that a video shared by the GOP that purportedly showed a ballot in the bottom of an unlocked box was a “red herring.” The design of the alleged ballot was clearly different from the actual format used by Swope’s office. The drop box at City Hall was emptied at 10:45 a.m. Thursday but was discovered

to be unlocked later that day at 1:35 p.m. Officials have no indication that ballots were compromised.

## Sparrow is planning a \$30 million expansion

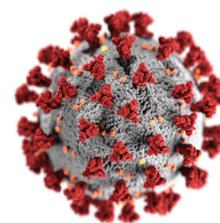
Sparrow is expanding its main hospital campus on Michigan Avenue in downtown Lansing. Hospital officials announced plans for a three-story, 100,000 square-foot outpatient surgery center and medical office facility near the northwest corner of Michigan and Pennsylvania avenues, adjacent to its existing complex on both sides of Michigan. The project is designed to support an increase in same-day surgeries, free up capacity for inpatient procedures at Sparrow Hospital and boost employment opportunities in the region. Sparrow officials reportedly plan to break ground on the \$30 million project by next spring.



## Ingham Co. to set COVID-19 fines

In addition to a series of pandemic-related emergency orders from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the Ingham County Health Department has also doled out a series of capacity restrictions on gatherings, face masks and continued business-related precautions.

County commissioners were expected to set cash penalties for violations capped at \$1,000 per day for each violation of a Health Department order anywhere in Ingham County. The new penalties come as Michigan surpasses 136,000 COVID-19 cases, including nearly 5,500 across Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties — more than twice as many cases than were confirmed across Greater Lansing compared to eight weeks ago on Aug. 18. Ingham County alone has recorded at least 3,980 coronavirus cases to date and 54 deaths — an increase of about 1,000 cases and at least a dozen more deaths since this time last month.



## 693 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing

This month’s Eye Candy is the new addition to the back of Eastminster Child Development Center. The cleverly designed addition separates the visitor entrance from the entry used by families. This wording emphasizes that the building’s regular users are families, reflecting the building’s historic role in the community as a center of social life. The first school was built on the property in 1860 and the current building was erected in 1934. According to local historian Kevin Forsyth, “For years the school was the heart of Marble community life, acting as a church and social center as well as a classroom.” The elementary school moved across the street in 1954; the childcare center was opened at a different location in 1969. The brick on the new addition is visually matched to the 86-year-old brick in color and shape. The roof canopies over both sets of doors match the darker tones in the old brick, and draw the eye to them. The clear signage indicates which entrance should be used. Both the roof line and large windows in the new addition mirror those of the older building but with modern flair.

— CARRIE SAMPSON

“Eye Candy of the Week” is our 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](mailto:eye@lansingcitypulse.com) or call Berl Schwartz at 999-5061.

# In denial: Lansing-area candidates who see no structural racism

Several political candidates in Ingham, Clinton and Eaton counties have contended that structural racism does not exist within their local communities as social unrest persists ahead of the general election.

City Pulse sent out surveys to virtually every candidate in Mid-Michigan. A total of 93 of 259 candidates replied, while 166 either declined to participate or ignored them altogether. We awarded up to six points to those with progressive views on racial justice and social equity. (The full scoreboard was published in last week's issue and online at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com).)

More than a dozen of those who responded — most of whom were Republicans — flunked the survey by choosing “all lives matter” over “Black lives matter,” denying the existence of racism within their communities and failing to elaborate on any significant reforms to remediate inequity.

Here's a sampling of responses from candidates who scored three points or fewer last week:

**George Platsis** is a Republican who is challenging Ingham County Prosecuting Attorney Carol Siemon, an incumbent Democrat. He selected “all lives matter” over “Black lives matter.”

Asked if structural racism exists within his community, he responded, “Without knowing the specific structure or hierarchy in play, generally, no,” Platsis told City Pulse. “However, I will know it when I see it.”

As for what role he would play in leveling the social equity playing field or amplify the voices of Black and brown residents across Ingham County? Platsis said he has “no agenda” on criminal justice reforms, only noting he understands “the importance of discipline and the rule of law.”

Ingham County Sheriff **Scott Wriggelsworth**, a Democrat, is running for another term this year. He not-

ed last week that “you can't say all lives matter unless you believe black lives matter,” but otherwise he said he doesn't believe that structural racism or implicit biases exist within his ranks.

“Structural racism, as I know it, does not exist at the Ingham County Sheriff's Office,” he said. “ICSO members are imperfect people like us all. Yet we are well vetted, well trained, embrace being held to a higher standard, and are mission driven. Our mission does not discriminate.”

Wriggelsworth, for his part, said he will continue to engage with the local Black community.

“If it's wrong, hold people accountable,” he said. “If it's broken, fix it.”

**Carol VanDrie** is an “all lives matter” Republican who is challenging Derrick Quinney, an incumbent Democrat, for another term as Ingham County Register of Deeds. She rejected the “liberal definition of structural racism” and refused to entertain the concept of “white privilege.”

“I had no such thing growing up working since I was 13 years old and holding four jobs through college as the only daughter of a school secretary and a grandmother who was a waitress,” VanDrie said. “There is racism. It exists. I acknowledge that. I abhor it and have always spoken out when I see it. I will not, however, define it as the liberal left does and will fight it based upon Biblical principles as it is founded in hate and there is a loving way it can and should be fought.”

**Tony Spagnuolo**, a Republican can-



Wriggelsworth



VanDrie

didate for Clinton County prosecutor, failed to pick “Black lives matter” and flatly denied the existence of structural racism in the entirety of Clinton County. Accordingly, he offered exactly zero suggestions for how to promote social equity if elected.

“I will treat all persons who come into the Prosecutor's office with respect and dignity,” he said.

Mason Mayor **Russell Whipple** is another “all lives matter” Republican who claimed to be unaware of the existence of structural racism within his local community and therefore offered no plans to promote racial justice and social equity if elected to another term in November.

“Social equity should not, in my opinion, be a primary objective of government policies,” he said. “The ordinances and policies put in place by government should be focused upon allowing all citizens to pursue their own goals and objectives from an equal footing.”

Others like Lansing Township Clerk **Susan Aten**, Elsie Village Councilman **Todd Carroll**, Grand Ledge City Council candidate **Michael Doty** and Duplain Township clerk candidate **Sandra Frink**, ignored several questions in the survey. Parsing out their views was entirely impossible.

When asked how she would amplify voices of Black and brown residents, Aten also made clear that she would widen the focus to “all residents” if reelected. Doty botched the definitions of equity and equality and, like others, failed to say whether er discrimination exists in Grand Ledge.

Democratic Ingham County Commissioner **Mark Grebner** labeled himself a “passive observer” amid the latest round of activism geared toward social reforms. He said he supports efforts to uproot discrimina-



Spagnuolo



Whipple



Aten



Grebner

tory attitudes and practices, but will not be “at the vanguard of that fight.”

“They don't need my help at the moment. They're making themselves heard,” Grebner added.

**Greg Uihlein**, nonpartisan candidate for Stockbridge village president, was also hesitant to commit to amplifying voices of minorities if it meant white representation would be diminished.

“Assuming you have to amplify a voice, who are you amplifying that over? I can say this: I see no reason to keep anyone down in our community for any reason,” Uihlein explained. “We all live here and have an investment in this community and that means everyone has a voice.”

**Rick Olivarez**, an “all lives matter” Republican, is facing off against Brandon Haskell for a slot on the Eaton County Board of Commissioners. He said there's no difference between equity and equality and that he had no trouble overcoming adversity despite his Hispanic ethnicity.

**Christine Gardner-Terpening**, a Democratic candidate for the Kalamo Township Board of Trustees, contended that her farming community is far too “rural” for structural racism to exist.

“I believe that individual racism is far too existent in every avenue of our country,” Gardner-Terpening added. “Kalamo Township is, corner to corner, full of good people with the best hearts. We, as Americans, can all do better when it comes to putting an end to racism.”

**Jon Elgas**, Libertarian candidate for Wayne State University Board of Governors, also chose “all lives matter” over “Black lives matter.” He said structural racism on campus is unintentional and is only tied to perceptions of poor people — who only tend to be African American people.

“I will try to help those in need to get a level of education so they can provide for themselves,” he said. “I will treat everyone, regardless of who they are, as I would like them to be treated.”

— **KYLE KAMINSKI**



Olivarez



Gardener-Terpening

## CITY OF EAST LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST FOR THE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020 ELECTION

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Public Accuracy Test for the November 3, 2020 State General Election for registered voters in the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, has been scheduled for Monday, October 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m., in the City Clerk's Office located at 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the program being used to tabulate the results of the election, counts the votes in the manner that meets the requirements of the law.

All interested persons are welcome to attend.

Jennifer Shuster  
East Lansing City Clerk

CP#20-240

# Red or blue, Sanford's voters on emotional empty

By SAMANTHA SHRIBER

**SANFORD, Midland County** — Lightning-tinted clouds loomed above M-20, dead raccoons cluttering the center lane. Up and down Midland County's main artery, residents along this rural highway are posting up their "Make America Great Again" flags in the inevitability of Monday's downpour.

It's a lot of omens — dreary prophecies on what's to come — to be collected from a storm lurking toward Midland County.

Election Day is fast approaching, but it feels no different than driving into a monsoon for some members of this community. They'll vote — likely more Republican than not — with low enthusiasm and seemingly permanent feelings of abandonment.

Much like a gloomy day in October, Bruce Thibodeu, who's lived in Sanford since 1992 and will be voting straight-ticket Republican, said it's political scenery is a "shady, grey area."

"I will vote for Republicans — am I doing it because I feel they're the best choice? Hell no. I'm doing it because I feel it's the least of two evils and both of them, as far as I'm concerned, should be drugged out, zip-tied, thrown on a barge and sent to China," he said.

When asked if he was fine with that statement being on-the-record, he said he's been saying it "so many times lately," especially after this past spring.

The Edenville and Sanford dam failures in May emptied out the Sanford and Wixom lakes and had either damaged or wholly annihilated an estimated 2,500 properties. In June, Midland County Commissioner Mark Bone estimated the total expense for relieving and repairing the county at more than \$200 million.

"We have been let down completely and utterly by every level of every form of our government in this community this year," Thibodeu said. "There's not a thing being done by any of them to make it right — it's pointing fingers and blaming somebody else."

After helping rescue more than 150 boats from the bottom of the dry lake beds, he said he still doesn't believe that the historic flooding will change the area's political culture, specifically because negligence remains present everywhere.

As less than 10% of damaged properties had flood insurance for the May phenomenon, Thibodeu said covered homes were denied aid because it was a "manmade disaster."



This is the fourth part in a six-part series reporting on the presidential campaign in Michigan in different locations across the state. This series is paid for by contributions from you to the City Pulse Fund for Community Journalism. To contribute, please go to [lansingcitypulse.com/donation](http://lansingcitypulse.com/donation).

Additionally, he said his neighbors continue to live in tents and campers and are making house payments on homes that were bulldozed by the flooding.

"Honestly, I think overall the entire political scene in this whole state, county, country — all, is a flip of the coin. I really do. Nobody is happy, nobody is excited (over) any of the candidates. Let's be honest, it's like, 'Oh right, which one is going to screw us the least?'" Thibodeu said.

The 98th House District in Michigan, which features the areas tarnished by the Sanford and Edenville dam failures, is essentially undergoing a replay of their 2018 race — Democrat Sarah Schulz and Rep. Anette Glenn, R-Midland.

The district's base is 57% Republican, but incumbent Glenn achieved a tight victory over Schulz with 52% of the vote.

Glenn's successful bill from September sank \$6 million of emergency state aid into flood recovery. She said in the days and weeks following the flooding, she's worked in Sanford and Midland by cleaning out houses and tearing out drywall, insulation and carpet.

At the same time, House Democrats have claimed that Glenn passed off their efforts to invest more into those communities and their infrastructure before the dam failures.

With an estimated price tag of \$175 million in losses, these gestures are swallowable but not enough to make all constituents feel taken care of.

According to Republican Cameron



An early autumn day at the Sanford waterfront.

Photos by Rachael Yablowsky

Crowder, a summertime gas station worker and lifelong Sanford resident, the neighborhood consists of small business owners, employees at the Dow Chemical Co. and the typical blue-collar workers commuting in-and-out of town.

He explained that even before the dam failures, Sanford always had a tight-knit community. Nowadays, residents depend on one another and prioritize rebuilding their humble society, from handing out hot meals, filling houses with insulation to offering renovation supplies and heavy-duty labor.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer ordered the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy to investigate the dam failures and President Donald Trump approved her disaster declaration on July 9. On Sept. 25, the U.S. Department of Transportation issued more than \$25.3 million to mid-Michigan for road and bridge repairs.

Crowder tossed a bone out to Democrat Schulz, claiming that she "is the only one to be in Sanford helping businesses and residents clean up the mess."

He actively believes Whitmer has used the town for publicity.

"Whitmer did a fly-over the week (the flooding) happened, held a press conference in the gym and shamed people who just lost everything for not wearing a mask. Then she got back into her helicopter and flew off and hasn't been heard of since," Crowder said. "She didn't help clean up — it was almost like it was a photoshoot that she showed up."

Ultimately for Crowder, his hometown has been subjected to an immense dread of feeling abandoned by the political world. While working at the only gas station open during when the dams broke, he said he experienced the type of emotional train wreck that is rooted in absolute helplessness.

Homes floated away off of their foundation and the site of sobbing families became a photo opportunity for the powerful — compensation for so much tragedy was Crowder going "oh, looks like we're on our own now."

Schulz, who's made her campaign signs purple instead of blue, said that while helping people recover from the flooding, it didn't matter if they had a Trump flag hanging in their garage or conservative conspiracist books in their basement — if a person needed help, she would help them.

With her own cottage devastated by the floods, Schulz said running in the area is less about being able to speak on the hardships it's faced, but to demonstrate a commitment to community service.

"The flood was absolutely tragic and still is — but the beauty of it has been the way the community has come together to support each other. We have found some strength in each other that we didn't know (even) existed," Schulz said.

For 21-year-old Logan Daniels of Midland, he attempts to be optimistic that there are still swayable voters out there. But with Sanford's rural voters pursuing the more gritty means for survival and Midland's city-hopefuls seeking a life of affluence, the fates might have been decided.

For each Schulz and Joe Biden poster standing proudly in the district's hub, Republican loyalties circle around like sharks. When the bodies of water are abandoned by hydration as its casualties feel neglected by their elected officials, even aspiring political scientists like Daniels see limited room for an ideological revolution.

"You kind of have to find that line where you can pick up voters because both sides really can't afford to lose voters," he said.

## Grebner on the 2020 presidential race: It's over — and Biden has won big time

Democrat Joe Biden will win Michigan by at least eight percentage points, but likely much more as the president's ad spending here continues to drop, according to Mark Grebner, who's been crunching Michigan election numbers for more than 40 years.

Practical Political Consultants' data guru said he doesn't have the data from other states to prognosticate Biden's success in gathering the 270 electoral votes needed to become the country's 46th president.

But as far as Michigan is concerned, Grebner is projecting the former vice president will win by at least 400,000 votes.

"It's over," Grebner said. "The margin could grow for Biden, but Trump can't narrow the gap. The numbers just don't work."

I know you don't trust polls. I'm telling you, though. Don't throw this prognostication away as more pre-election noise. When Grebner puts numbers to his predictions, he's (more often than not) right on.

Two years ago, he predicted the winning percentage of each statewide ballot proposal within one percentage point. He accurately predicted Justice Beth Clemente would retain her seat in 2018. He had U.S. Rep. Tim Walberg winning reelection in 2016 with 52%. Walberg won with 55%. He projected Snyder would win narrowly in '14. I could go on, but I don't have the space.

Grebner doesn't run a poll or two and make projections off that. He has a secret sauce made up of equal parts polling numbers from across the state, absentee voter data, trends and flat-out election experience.

In short, the guy knows what's going on.

In 2020, Trump can't win with large enough margins in rural Michigan to balance out the heavy losses he'll suffer in the state's urban areas and suburbs.

Biden is likely to win Wayne County by about 300,000 votes, Oakland County by 200,000 and Washtenaw by 100,000 votes. Biden is probably going to win Kent County (Grand Rapids,) a remarkable development in and of itself.

It's possible Trump could squeeze



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

out a victory in Michigan's historical bellwether, Macomb County, but the growingly diverse and Democratic-heavy southern part of the county doesn't make that a sure thing, Grebner said.

Trump will win rural counties, but not by the margins he stomped Hillary Clinton by in 2016. Alcona County, for example, went more than 2:1 for Trump four years ago. The numbers he's seeing in these parts of the state today has Trump with 57% or 55% support.

"Trump may win by 2,000 votes in these counties, but there are precincts in East Lansing where Biden will win by 2,000 votes," Grebner said.

Other counties where Republicans have done well in the past, like Van Buren, may go for Biden, too. Trump may win nearby Berrien, but not with the 54% support he received in '16.

"If you're worried about Van Buren, you've lost if you're a Republican," he said.

The Trump campaign and Republicans are spending some money on Michigan TV, but not the \$80 million Democrats and their allies are outspending Trump and the Republican by.

It's nearly 4-to-1 on Michigan airwaves since the presidential primary, according to the Michigan Campaign Finance Network.

Meanwhile, Grebner said the Trump campaign's strategy to discourage early voting as an apparent affront to the coronavirus pandemic is blowing up in the incumbent's face.

Based on secretary of state numbers Grebner is seeing, about 700,000 have voted already and 63% of them have a history of voting in Democratic primaries. In terms of first-time absentee voters, traditionally Democratic primary voters are leading traditionally Republican primary voters 10-to-1, Grebner said.

The risk for Republicans at this point is a complete collapse in marginally Republican counties and the impact that could have in state House, countywide, county commission and other local races.

Grebner isn't predicting an implosion at this point, but it's much more likely things will get worse for Trump and Republicans before they get better.

*(Kyle Melinn of the Capitol news service MIRS is melinnky@gmail.com.)*

## Latest state Supreme Court ruling stalls Lansing City Council meetings

The capital city remains in legislative standstill this week after the Lansing City Council canceled its regular meeting Monday and cleared out its calendar for at least the next two weeks.

The reason: The Michigan Supreme Court invalidated this week a series of executive orders issued by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, including one that allowed public bodies — like the City Council — to meet virtually to conduct its usual legislative business. And unless state lawmakers take action, safely hosting a public meeting during a pandemic will be a challenge.

"The setup we had in place was potentially, if not directly, in violation of the Open Meetings Act. The Michigan Supreme Court made it very clear yesterday that local governments could no longer do virtual meetings to satisfy the law," explained Council President Peter Spadafore.

After the orders were shot down, only five of eight Council members — just enough for a quorum — had planned to meet in-person at City Hall for the first time in months. The others would participate virtually. No others were to be allowed inside. Public comment was to only be virtual.

Later on Monday, Spadafore canceled altogether. For without Whitmer's order to allow for virtual participation, the state Open Meetings Act doesn't otherwise carry that provision — also making the meeting illegal without an avenue for people to physically speak at a podium.

There also was not enough time to allow for safe in-person participation at City Hall and city officials weren't immediately prepared to relocate elsewhere, Spadafore explained to City Pulse.

"This ruling came late on Monday and there was not time to set up an alternative site to allow the public to come into the room in a safe manner," Spadafore posted to Facebook Tuesday.

State lawmakers were expected to quickly pass legislation that would allow for municipalities and other public bodies to conduct legislative business over virtual platforms, but in the meantime, it means all City Council business will remain paused until at least Oct. 26.

Spadafore said virtual meetings will

continue if legally possible. If not, the next scheduled in-person meeting could take place at the City Clerk's South Washington Elections Unit, 2500 S.

Washington Ave. The larger facility will better allow for adequate social distancing protocols, he said.

"In the meantime, I encourage lawmakers to swiftly pass legislation aimed at clarifying the Open Meetings Act during a global pandemic," Spadafore said in a statement Tuesday.

While the Supreme Court ruling immediately invalidates all of Whitmer's pandemic-related protections issued by executive order since April 30, many of those precautions — including capacity restrictions and mandates on face masks — have been replaced by an emergency order from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Ingham County has also implemented a redundant line of defense in a series of similar emergency orders in recent days.

Among city business paused as a result of virtual meetings hiccup: a resolution to start a cadet recruitment program at the Lansing Fire Department; a resolution to accept federal COVID-19 grant funding; an ordinance that would ramp up local enforcement of county health orders; a public hearing on a lease agreement for a new shuffleboard club at the old Lansing City Market.

While no votes are slated to be taken until at least Oct. 26, Spadafore said that City Council committees may still meet for informational-only discussions over the next two weeks. A more detailed schedule will be posted to the city website as plans continue to be developed.

— KYLE KAMINSKI



Spadafore



# 'Live until I die': How one person copes with cancer

By SHEILA O'BRIEN SCHIMPF  
Capital News Service

(Editor's note: Sheila Schimpf is a retired Capital News Service copy editor and retired columnist for the Lansing State Journal who lives in East Lansing. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.)

Twenty-nine years after I was treated for breast cancer, it came back — and now it is dug in and metastasized.

And so, I bought a horse. Then I bought an 8-week-old golden retriever puppy.

Denial? Maybe not.

The five-year survival rate for metastatic breast cancer is only 27%, according to the American Cancer Society. In the examining room in the University of Michigan's Rogel Cancer Center — head spinning — I learned that many people with my diagnosis only made it three years, until recently.

Three years. Five years. Inside I was shouting, "That's not enough!" Outside, the doctor was saying, "It won't go away but we can manage it, like a chronic disease. You can live with cancer." One patient, she said, has lived 10 years with metastatic breast cancer.

That puppy I bought, Sadie, has a lifespan of 10 to 12 years. Her world revolves around me. She needs me.

That horse, Q the Applause, requires a rider to concentrate on him, not moon about anything cancer. And he needs me to ride him several times a week.

So the two of them are both the challenge that everybody else sees and the remedy I know they are.

In the first few months of living with cancer, my thinking about time changed. If I only live three more years, do I want to spend any time doing this? Or that?

I knew what I was up against.

I had Stage II breast cancer when I was 41 years old. It changed my life, and that of my husband and our three kids. I learned how to cope with fear, how to choose what is important, how to fight cancer, how to let people help me, and how to live when the odds go against you. The biggest lesson: forget about control and be happy now.

This time around, those skills came back — eventually. I had fallen, as my father used to say, into a false sense of security. I was done with breast cancer. We told war stories of how hard it had been, as if it were a closed book.

So, for almost three months this time, I refused to believe the symptoms could

be cancer.

How could they be?

They were most likely the dregs of the walking pneumonia I was diagnosed with in early June 2019 after a cruise to Alaska. Every other person on the train to Denali National Park had loud, wracking coughs. My husband and I both got sick but he got better and I didn't. At home, the cough and the shortness of breath surely were related to that. And the pleural effusion (a huge jug of fluid) removed from my chest — twice — contained no cancer cells.

But the fluid refilled my chest as soon as it was drained. The cough — a very deep, unusual cough — didn't go away. The shortness of breath grew worse. That feeling of dragging through the day was with me all day, every day. Still, when different doctors kept listing cancer as a possible cause, I scoffed.

Finally in September, a biopsy of some cells from my omentum (a fatty apron near the diaphragm) showed metastatic breast cancer. The same damn cancer I had in 1990.

Shock waves thudded through my family.

They went through the same "How is this possible?" moment I did. My original treatment — the best you could get in 1990 — included two mastectomies, aggressive chemotherapy, five years of tamoxifen, 17 years of Evista and a team effort, with the whole family pitching in.

During those years we were beating back cancer, something else happened.

I lived the life I was afraid I was going to miss. All I wanted in 1990 was to see how it all turned out — the story of our three kids who were 9, 11 and 14. I wanted to go to their high school graduations with my husband and see them through college. I wanted ordinary, everyday life. I wanted to travel with my husband.

I did. For 29 years I lived the Good Life. Because I had a life-threatening experience, it might even have been a Better Life. My priorities shifted. Do things now, a voice in my head (or was that my husband?) kept saying.

We took the kids cruising and to England and Ireland and everywhere else. We made time for them. We ate dinner together. People and relationships were primary. Within a few years we had the dog I always wanted. Life was about enjoying everything *now* because, as a bumper sticker I posted over my desk said, Life is not a dress rehearsal.



Courtesy Sheila O'Brien Schimpf

Sheila O'Brien Schimpf with her quarter horse, Q the Applause.

So this time around, after shock and disbelief, my next reaction was gratitude. I was grateful for all those good years when it really counted. The kids are better than OK. Two grandchildren have popped up and a third is in the wings. We are still married. We are still traveling. We still have dogs, and now I have a horse.

This time the prognosis is different. The cancer is here for good. But the drugs we have now are the best we have ever had and new, even better drugs are coming, the oncologist told me. We'll find one that works and when it stops working, we'll find another one. Breast cancer research is one of the best-funded research fields, she said.

So, I've learned, living with cancer is stepping into the great undefined. No one knows how long the new drugs will work, what the new life expectancy will

be. No one knows how they will work for me or you.

The first drugs we tried are Ibrance — 21 days on, seven days off — plus letrozole every day.

The letrozole works to decrease production of estrogen and the Ibrance reduces the ability of the cancer cells to divide and flourish.

The side effects so far have been manageable — dry skin, dry fingernails, a few mouth sores, thinning hair. Pfft.

My insurance covers almost all the costs of both drugs.

My job is to get through the day. The best way to do that 29 years ago was to keep going. Aim for a regular day. So that is what I am doing now, trying not to make cancer the center of my week. Live until I die. And take the pills on schedule.

# Cancer

from page 11

It's a goal. Some days I just sit in a chair and do crossword puzzles.

And some days I go riding. I've only been riding about nine years and I was hooked.

The trainers at my barn searched for a horse I could buy. It takes a while to find just the right horse, they said. It

took a couple years.

They found a quarter horse for me to try that same month I was diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer. I could keep him or send him back and pay only the shipping.

He was priced way below my budget, probably because he is not the horse of my dreams. He is older and smaller. He needed several hundred dollars' worth of dental work, a daily supplement, and intense farrier work because of a small birth defect in one leg.

Some people might have sent him

back.

But I had waited too long. He was mine.

No one searched for the puppy. When one of our goldens died that fall and the other turned 12 and a half, the possibility of life without a dog cropped up. I found an 8-week-old golden retriever puppy that I thought was exactly what I needed. She sat quietly at the breeder's, watching me, then snuggled when I picked her up.

Smart, I thought. A thinking dog. Low key.

And I was wrong. She is smart. She is exuberant when she sees me. But mostly she is a high-energy blur — athletic, agile, running toward new things, never pausing to consider the risk. That's how she greets life: head-on, at full speed.

She is a role model.

It's been a year since the word "metastasis" became a part of my life. Regular blood tests and CT scans check for cancer. This last round showed no new cancers. Some of the existing spots were smaller. I began to believe in the new drugs. I stopped making every decision based on a three-year life expectancy.

Then, the pandemic happened.

Everything changed, again.

Because my immune system is compromised, we can't travel, even now with things opening up. That means

the thing I need the most — time with my family — is impossible because one of our sons lives in California and one in Virginia.

We FaceTime. In the early spring, riding lessons were canceled but now I am back in the barn two or three days a week, masked up. We walk the puppy, steering away from anybody else on the sidewalk. Without distractions, I work hard at not dwelling on the wasted months. I go to sleep listening to recorded books.

Our daughter lives an hour away and we started meeting her for dinner. On those days the pieces of the universe fall into place and life is right-side-up again.

It even seems we are winning.

The new kind of winning — living with cancer and not letting it stop me from finding that elusive everyday Better Life. It's a victory measured in horse rides, dog walks, outdoor dinners with our daughter and laughs with the others on FaceTime.

The drugs are working. I am still here.

And every day I find things to be grateful for.

*This story is paid for by readers like you through contributions to the CityPulse Fund for Community Journalism. To contribute, please go to lansingcitypulse.com/donation.*

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2021 INGHAM COUNTY BUDGET

The Ingham County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing on the proposed 2021 Ingham County Budget on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 6:30 PM at the Fairgrounds of Ingham County, Mason, Michigan or and/or virtually by accessing the following link.  
<http://ingham.org/NewsEvents/Events.aspx>

The hearing is for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed budget prior to its adoption. **The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**

The proposed budget may be examined on on-line by accessing the following link.  
[http://cms3.revize.com/revize/inghamcounty/departments\\_and\\_officials/controller/index.php](http://cms3.revize.com/revize/inghamcounty/departments_and_officials/controller/index.php)  
Questions on the proposed budget may be addressed to  
Gregg A. Todd, County Controller/Administrator,  
P.O. Box 319, Mason, Michigan 48854.

CP#20-241

# KIMBERLY KAYE AZIMA FOR LCC TRUSTEE

Transparency  
Community  
Student Success



Find my story on Facebook!

Paid for by Kimberly Kaye Azima for LCC Trustee 1132 Woodwind Trail, Haslett, MI 48840

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

**Notice is hereby given** of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on **Thursday, November 12, 2020** at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

1. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Giuseppe DeRose, for the property located at 340 Oakhill Ave., to replace 8 windows with vinyl equivalents.
2. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Hagan Realty Inc., for the property located at 175 Kedzie St., to replace windows with vinyl equivalents.
3. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Hagan Realty Inc., for the property located at 220 Collingwood Dr., to replace windows with new replacement windows.
4. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Manuel Delgado Jr., for the property located at 836 Huntington Road., to demolish the garage.
5. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Marcella Fox-Brown, for the property located at 627 Evergreen Ave., to replace windows with new replacement windows and replace the roof.

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

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

Note: This hearing is currently scheduled to occur as a regular public hearing at the meeting. If, at the time of this hearing meetings are still not permitted under an Executive Order of the Governor and an Executive Order permitting meetings electronically allows for an electronic meeting, this hearing will occur electronically and a notice of the means of participation in that hearing will be published in compliance with the Open Meetings Act and any relevant Executive Orders.

Jennifer Shuster  
City Clerk

CP#20-244

**B/21/026 ELGIN PELICAN NP STREET SWEEPER** as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids electronically on line at [www.mitn.info](http://www.mitn.info) or at the City of Lansing Purchasing Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave 8th Fl, Lansing, Michigan 48933 until **2:00 PM** local time in effect on **October 22, 2020** at which time bids will be read. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by contacting Shannon Tracy at (517) 483-4128 email: Shannon.Tracy@lansingmi.gov or go to www.mitn.info.** The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

**CP#20-242**

**CITY OF EAST LANSING  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST  
FOR THE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020 ELECTION**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Public Accuracy Test for the November 3, 2020 State General Election for registered voters in the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, has been scheduled for Monday, October 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m., in the City Clerk's Office located at 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the program being used to tabulate the results of the election, counts the votes in the manner that meets the requirements of the law. All interested persons are welcome to attend.

Jennifer Shuster  
East Lansing City Clerk

**CP#20-240**

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

**PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PROPOSED  
2020 MONTGOMERY DRAIN MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT  
PROJECT SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT  
AND THE PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL THEREFOR**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING  
PROPERTY OWNERS AND RESIDENTS**

**TO THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN**, the owners of the land described below within the proposed 2020 Montgomery Drain Maintenance and Improvement Project Special Assessment District, and any other interested persons:

1204 CHESTER RD.	919 N CLIPPERT ST	1043 KIMBERLY DR. #12
2911 WOODRUFF AVE.	931 CLIPPERT ST.	3000 E SAGINAW ST.
2917 WOODRUFF AVE.	935 CLIPPERT ST.	530 N HOMER ST.
2929 WOODRUFF AVE.	2900 E GRAND RIVER AVE	3020 E SAGINAW ST.
2937 WOODRUFF AVE.	2924 E GRAND RIVER AVE	531 N CLIPPERT ST.
3009 WOODRUFF AVE.	3020 E GRAND RIVER AVE	505 N CLIPPERT ST.
3019 WOODRUFF AVE.	3015 E SAGINAW ST	500 N HOMER ST.
1115 CHESTER RD.	1111 KIMBERLY DR.	626 N HOMER ST.
1035 CHESTER RD.	1029 KIMBERLY DR.	529 N CLIPPERT ST.
1007 CHESTER RD.	1019 KIMBERLY DR.	535 N CLIPPERT ST.
1122 CHESTER RD.	1007 KIMBERLY DR.	600 N HOMER ST.
2910 WOODRUFF AVE.	2820 COVINGTON CT.	521 N CLIPPERT ST.
2920 WOODRUFF AVE.	2815 E GRAND RIVER AVE	521 N CLIPPERT ST.
2930 WOODRUFF AVE	919 CHESTER RD.	432 N HOMER ST.
1114 CHESTER RD.	2829 E GRAND RIVER AVE	413 N CLIPPERT ST.
1108 CHESTER RD.	1041 KIMBERLY DR #1	431 N CLIPPERT ST
1032 CHESTER RD.	1041 KIMBERLY DR #2	425 N CLIPPERT ST
2928 KENWICK CR	1041 KIMBERLY DR #3	419 N CLIPPERT ST
2929 COVINGTON CT	1043 KIMBERLY DR #4	415 N CLIPPERT ST
1016 CHESTER RD.	1043 KIMBERLY DR #5	411 N CLIPPERT ST.
3006 WOODRUFF AVE.	1043 KIMBERLY DR #6	402 N HOMER ST.
1110 N HOMER ST.	1041 KIMBERLY DR. #7	405 N CLIPPERT ST.
1000 N HOMER ST.	1031 KIMBERLY DR. #8	401 N CLIPPERT ST.
2909 E GRAND RIVER AVE	1041 KIMBERLY DR. #9	416 N HOMER ST.
3015 E GRAND RIVER AVE	1043 KIMBERLY DR. #10	301 N CLIPPERT ST
	1043 KIMBERLY DR. #11	

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Township Supervisor, or a designee thereof, has reported to the Township Board and filed with the office of the Township Clerk for public examination a proposed special assessment roll related to all properties listed above, and that are within the proposed 2020 Montgomery Drain Maintenance and Improvement Project Special Assessment District, and are benefitted by the drain project generally described as follows:

Cleaning out, relocating, widening, deepening, straightening, tiling, extending, consolidating, adding branches, adding lands, relocating along a highway and/or installing devices to purify the flow of the Montgomery Drain pursuant to Chapter 20 of Act 40 of the Michigan Public Acts of 1956, as amended (the "Drain Project").

Plans and cost estimates for the Drain Project have been prepared and are on file with the office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner for public examination. Further, a proposed special assessment roll has been prepared for the purpose of assessing a portion of the total cost of the Drain Project within the special assessment district. The proposed total assessment to properties in

the proposed special assessment district is \$2,616,603.99.

The special assessment roll may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk during regular business hours of regular business days until the time of the public hearing and will further be available for examination during the public hearing. The special assessment roll is also available on the Township's website at [www.lansingtowship.org](http://www.lansingtowship.org)

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that the Township Supervisor has further reported that the assessment against each parcel of land within the proposed special assessment district is such relative portion of the whole sum levied against all parcels of land in the special assessment district as the benefit to such parcel bears to the total benefit to all parcels of land in the proposed special assessment district.

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that the Township Board will meet on Tuesday, the 27th day of October, 2020, at 7 o'clock, p.m., at the Township's Administration Building, 3209 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48917, for the purpose of reviewing the proposed special assessment roll, and to hear any objections to the Drain Project, the proposed 2020 Montgomery Drain Maintenance and Improvement Project Special Assessment District, and/or the proposed special assessment roll.

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that, due to restrictions on public gatherings related to the COVID-19 pandemic, members of the public wishing to participate in the public hearing should do so virtually/electronically through Zoom. Members of the public may join the public hearing using the following Zoom instructions:

Lansing Township is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Board of Trustees Public Hearing  
**Time: Oct 27, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2315421280>

**Meeting ID: 231 542 1280**  
**Passcode: LansingTwp**  
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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)  
Meeting ID: 231 542 1280

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2315421280>

Written appearances, protests, and/or comments may be submitted to the Township Supervisor via email to [dhayes@lansingtowship.org](mailto:dhayes@lansingtowship.org) or at the following address: 3209 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48917. Appearances and protests submitted in writing must be received by the Township at or before the time of the public hearing. Comments submitted will be read aloud during the public hearing.

Appearance and protest at the public hearing, in person or in writing, are required in order to appeal the action of the Township Board in approving the special assessment district, the special assessment roll, and/or the amount of an assessment, to the Ingham County Circuit Court. A property owner or party in interest, or his or her agent, may appear in person at the public hearing to protest the special assessment proceedings or may file his or her appearance and protest by letter and his or her personal appearance will not be required. The owner or any person having an interest in the real property who protests in person or in writing at the public hearing may file a written appeal of a special assessment with the Ingham County Circuit Court within 35 days after the date the special assessment roll is confirmed by the Township Board.

Dated: October 7, 2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan L. Aten, Township Clerk

**CP#20-243**

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A: Sorry that's not a covered loss

So, this renters insurance policy walks into a bar. On his left is a table seating a long-winded windstorm, a hot-and-bothered fire and a self-entitled theft. They are looking for trouble. On his right sits a table of swell folks. The policy is seated between these two tables. As the evening goes on it's clear that these perils have the illest of intentions. They are loud, and the nice and kind souls are getting nervous. After setting down his Vernors, the renters policy calmly and confidently turns to his new friends and says, "I've got you covered!"

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**3 Points to Consider When Framing**

- Always consider the value of the piece you are going to frame. The value should be considered both emotional and economic. Also consider how easy it would be to replace the piece you wish to frame; and how long you anticipate having the piece. If it is something that can not be replaced, spend more money on the framing. A reputable framer should "do no harm" and everything should be completely reversible for how they handle the piece.

- Use of quality materials. There are various grades of materials on the market today. Chemistry is also very important in framing. "Archival" is a legally regulated term by the Library of Congress and therefore is a better gauge for the quality of materials you are using. Higher quality materials tend to be worth the added cost, in my honest opinion.

- Glass should NEVER touch what's in the frame. Think of glass as being a living thing. Ultimately it will stick to whatever it is touching. There should always be at least a 2mm space between the framed piece and the glass; the larger the piece, the more space that should be allowed as the glass bows toward the artwork in the middle. Acrylic pieces do not require this spacing.



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– THE DAY BEFORE THE ELECTION.

## REGISTERED VOTERS HAVE SEVERAL WAYS TO VOTE.

- Vote at home and put your ballot in the mail before October 20.
- Vote at home and drop your ballot off at your clerk's office or secure drop box by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 3.
- **Vote at your city or township clerk's office or satellite office from September 24th until 4:00 P.M. on November 2.**
- Vote in person at your polling location 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. on November 3.

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# Restaurants gear up for the cold

## Winter poses yet another threat during the coronavirus pandemic

By SKYLER ASHLEY

Seven months into the pandemic, and with winter fast approaching, the restaurant industry finds itself stuck in a harshly precarious position that could see another tidal wave of job loss and permanent closures. Economic data gathered by the Michigan Restaurant and Lodging Association reports that 23% of Michigan operators, which adds up to approximately 4,000 locations, say it is unlikely their restaurant will still be in business six months from now. A September survey by the National Restaurant Association reported that 100,000 restaurants across the United States have closed already.

In Greater Lansing, customers have seen a handful of restaurants that seemed like timeless fixtures close their doors. The surviving restaurants have had to quickly switch up their business model and adapt to many new safety regulations back in the kitchen in order to stay afloat through the unpredictable and challenging times.

Among the innovations helping to dull the wounds are patio seating and curbside pickup. But that raises the obvious question: What will restaurants do when Michigan's harsh winter rolls around? It is highly unlikely that consumers will dine in the snow, or wait for food outside in a storm.

### Adapting to survive

The English Inn, a restaurant and hotel located in Eaton Rapids, was closed with the exception of curbside pickup for three months, reopening for dine-in at 50% capacity back in June. To make up for the lost revenue, owner Erik Nelson said outdoor seating quickly became a focal point for the restaurant.

"We really expanded our outdoor seating and that became probably the biggest element of the business throughout the summer," Nelson said.

Now, English Inn is being equipped with heated, greenhouse-style seating arrangements that keep diners comfortable as outdoor temperatures begin to dip. The outdoor conservatories have individual tabletop fireplaces and electric heaters. Each unit can be booked for a single party of two to six. Upon entry, patrons must be masked but they may remove their masks once seated in the enclosure. The enclo-



Courtesy

One of English Inn's heated greenhouse-style outdoor booths. They can accommodate parties of two to six.

sures are private, so groups of guests do not intermingle. Guests are limited to a window of two hours, which Nelson said reduces cumulative contact with customers and staff.

"With colder temperatures looming, we wanted to find a way to continue outdoor dining in a comfortable, unique way," Nelson said. "They've been incredibly well-received. It's something that is a real game-changer, being able to have that many more additional seats."

Nelson said the idea came about from a viral video of a restaurant in the Netherlands that was running a similar operation with socially distanced, greenhouse-style booths. "Discussing the idea with our general manager, David, he helped come up with an idea for how we could really set them up and market them," Nelson said.

English Inn purchased the booths as ready-to-assemble kits. "It was like building a giant LEGO set," Nelson said. The

booths' popularity has led to enough bookings for the English Inn to cover the cost.

Regardless of the pick-me-up from the creative outdoor seating, Nelson said English Inn is operating at a loss in 2020. Enhanced safety precautions, prolonged closures — all of that ultimately translates to financial hardship. "Everything we do to maintain operating safely cuts into our margins immensely, it's just the truth." Nelson acknowledges that English Inn has been able to brave the cost; others have not been in the same fortunate situation. Business Insider reports that, on median, small restaurants can only sustain 16 days without bringing in any money.

The Michigan Restaurant and Lodging Association, a proponent of educating, guiding and assisting restaurants since the beginning of the pandemic, is pushing for measures that will help restaurants find solutions for accommodating customers during the winter months, such as advocat-

See Restaurants, Page 17

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A newspaper for the rest of us

## Restaurants

from page 16

ing for the state to allow for expanded indoor capacity if data reported by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services falls below a 3% positive test rate over an extended period.

“One of our top priorities right now is to establish a list of suppliers of things such as heating lamps, tenting, and igloos,” said Emily Daunt, vice president of communications and operations at the Michigan Restaurant and Lodging Association.

The association is also advocating for the creation of winterization grants, that would help restaurants fund necessary upgrades to accommodate customers throughout winter.

### Freezing in the chow line

Despite the pandemic, Goodfellas Bagel Deli co-owner Adrian Joseph said his restaurant actually received a noticeable uptick in business — thanks to his ability to sell food through a pickup window with minimal contact between staff and customers.

“Business has increased pretty drastically. The windows in the front make it pretty easy and secure for those who have fears about COVID-19,” Joseph said. “It’s good for places that don’t have a lot of sit-down potential. I don’t have to limit myself to 50% capacity because we’re grab-and-go.”

But while customers have no problem lining up around the block for bagels

and sandwiches when it’s a brisk 60 or 70 degrees out, Joseph fears what might happen to business if customers have to put up with bitter winter weather. Goodfellas’ small lobby can only accommodate 10 people at a time. Joseph said his primary concern is pursuing options with the city to construct a heated area where his customers can wait in line.

“When it comes time for it to be colder, that’s going to be tricky for me. I don’t want people to have to wait outside in the cold,” Joseph said. “I’m in talks with the city to structure some sort of waiting area outside that will be heated, so I don’t have to pack a bunch of people inside.”

If such a waiting area can’t be constructed, Joseph said he Goodfellas must figure out to deal with the number of customers that won’t be able to wait inside. “Maybe something changes by then. Maybe we get a vaccine and everybody will be cool to wait inside,” Joseph said.

Joseph said he hates watching close friends of his lose their business.

“I wish there was more help to keep these people going. The Brunch House, Leo Farhat, has known my family forever. He was out of the game like that — through something like this, that’s crazy to me,” Joseph said.

### Changing the business model

Cleats Bar and Grille, a seasonal restaurant located inside of the Hope Sports Complex, was shut down in March immediately after it had just opened for the spring. Owner Julie Mullin said Cleats did a 180 in just

24 hours and turned its entire focus toward delivering food and offering takeout through services such as DoorDash and GrubHub.

“I brought in two or three of my staff members; we had a meeting and decided this is what we wanted to do. We dug right into it; we started to help feed frontline workers through a group called FLAG — the Front Line Appreciation Group,” Mullin said.

Mullin said she applied for every single grant available and was rewarded with several, including a \$4,000 one from Farm Bureau Insurance due to Cleats’ efforts aiding essential workers. “The glimmers of generosity gave us the hope to keep putting one foot in front of the other one.”

Mullin added that Cleats was discovered by many new customers, thanks to an influx of people searching for outdoor dining. Though winter looms, Cleats will not have to address the cold weather problem because it will close in November and reopen in March. Mullin said Cleats is not staying open for catering jobs.

“We could have had an amazing year. I am hoping to survive, and I think we will,” Mullin said.

Others were not as successful with making rapid changes to their restaurants’ format. Airport Tavern owner Peter Sinadinos said his restaurant initially made an effort to ramp up curbside pickup and takeout but found his business was not well suited to that model. Instead, he opted to close down and wait until he could return to indoor seating. Airport

See Restaurants, Page 20



Courtesy

A springtime photo of Airport Tavern's patio.



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District Court Judge

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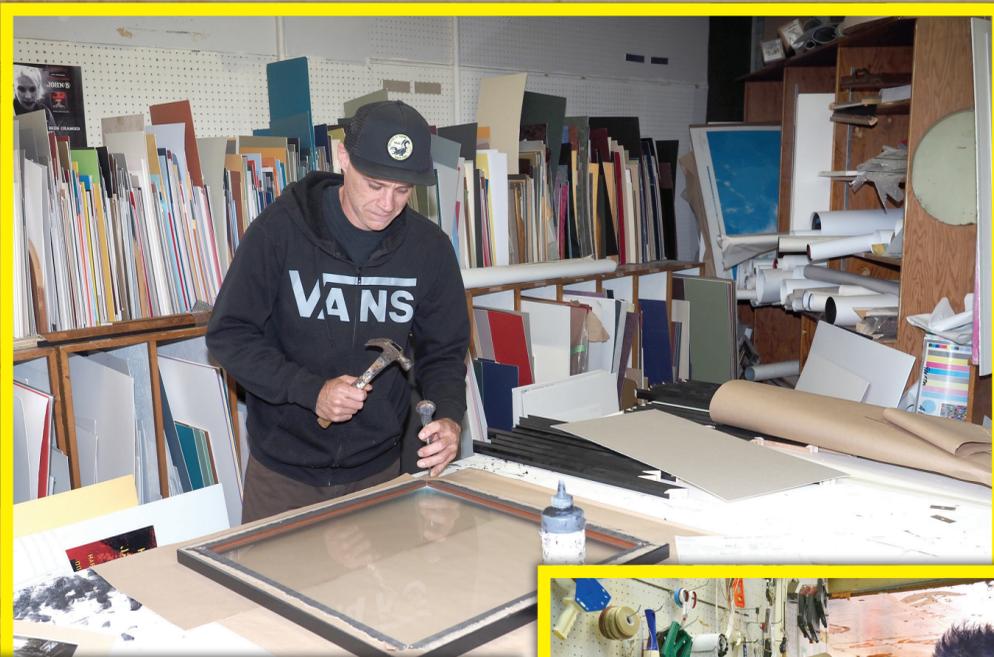
Paid for by CTE Kelly Morton District Court Judge, PO Box 156, Charlotte, MI 48813 Visit us @ mortonforjudge.com

Don't forget to wear your mask. Goodfellas Bagel Deli owner Adrian Joseph assists a customer.



Skylar Ashley/City Pulse

# ROCKING FRAMES BY WHEATON'S FRAMING AND ART GALLERY



Wheaton's Framing and Art Gallery isn't your grandma's framing shop. Originally opened in 1964 as Bob Jones' Paint and Picture Frames and then re-opened in 1979 under its current namesake, Wheaton's offers top-notch custom picture framing with wholesale prices in a retail setting, crating, shipping, installations and just about anything else you could dream of when it comes to framing.

"When you hear Wheaton's you think about picture framing. But we've got guitars hanging on the wall; we've got Ghost playing when you come in. We've got a big poster of Kurt Cobain in the back. It is rock 'n' roll," owner Bernie Camp said.

Want a picture frame that doubles as a secret door to your man cave? Wheaton's has you totally covered. Have an enormous historic flag that needs a new home on your wall? Or how about a series of fliers from concerts you attended during the good old days? Again, Wheaton's can get the job done for you.

"We've framed full-on wedding dresses; 10 foot by 5 foot oversized United States flags. That's our specialty — big stuff," Bernie said.

Wheaton's has even made frames for some of the most important movers and shakers in Greater Lansing. Framing jobs done by Wheaton's are also hanging in famous locations such as the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. "All of those people know me," Bernie said. "It's pretty crazy."

The rocking approach to framing first began when Bernie took over the shop in 1993. Bernie took over the shop after spending a few years learning the ins-and-outs of the framing industry, not only is he the owner but he is a hands-on expert that knows everything it takes to get the job done right.

"I said, 'Yeah I'll take it!' I came in and I just started running it. I was a '90s long hair rocker guy," Bernie recalls. "I took orders in and helped people design their framing. I'd get the frames, make the frames, cut them and assemble them."

Bernie is in the store 24/7 and is always happy to help out a customer who is experiencing a problem. When Bernie isn't working his tail off creating the best custom frames in Michigan, he can be found rocking the electric six-string — he prefers a Gibson Les Paul.

"When you come to my store, and you've got a problem, it's not like you have to go to customer service," Bernie said. "You talk to me and I'll say, 'Oh, yeah no problem! I'll fix that right up.' In my thirty years, we've never had an issue."

What is the secret to creating frames that are the best of the best in the business? Well, Bernie will tell you that it comes down to time spent. He added up all of the time he's spent working in the trade and discovered that he has 93,000 hours through 32 years of framing experience under his belt. On top of that, his lone shop assistant has been framing for 36 years. That's the immense level of care and experience when you receive when you hire Wheaton's for your framing needs.

"You don't want to ruin a beautiful water color painting somebody created 40 years ago," Bernie said.

Wheaton's is a business that stays connected with the local community. It is a small business in Mason, and Bernie couldn't be happier about it.

"It's great. You don't have to lock your doors. Everybody knows each other. When you go into a business around here, chances are the owner is going to be in there working," Bernie said.

So, now that you know the full rundown about Wheaton's — you're probably wondering, "What is this guy going to do next?" Get ready, because there is a lot to be excited for. The entire shop is moving over next door to open up a brand new storefront that will streamline the business and modernize Wheaton's for the future.

**"We're the best, just ask a friend," Bernie said.**

*Wheaton's*

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## Restaurants

from page 17

Tavern reopened in June after closing its doors for two months and three weeks.

“We’re struggling with the half capacity. I think a lot of people are still scared of COVID-19. The number of people we’re able to feed is working with the amount of seating we have, but it’s very hard to survive on half of the business because that’s what we’re doing,” Sinadinos said.

Sinadinos said takeout was not feasible for Airport Tavern because curbside orders distracted from seated customers’ orders and the lack of a pick-up window complicated the process of handing food off to customers.

As it stands right now, Airport Tavern is continuing on with the only real change being its outdoor patio. Sinadinos said the restaurant is still developing a solution for the

colder months.

“Losing those extra seats is going to be a big blow to us. We’re only going to have 12 tables to deal with once the patio shuts down,” Sinadinos said. “Now, people will come in and we’ll have to create another system so they aren’t standing side by side.”

### Staying safe at your favorite restaurant

Though confusion was rife among the public as the Michigan Supreme Court overturned Gov. Gretchen Whitmer’s emergency powers on Oct. 2, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services stepped in on Friday (Oct. 9) with orders of its own under the Public Health Code to keep COVID-19 mitigation orders intact statewide; these rules are not affected by the Supreme Court’s decision. The Ingham County Health Department also issued emergency orders under the Public Health Code on Oct. 4 that continue to limit indoor and outdoor gatherings, keep restaurant and bar seating at 50% capacity, require mandatory employee health screenings and require the usage of face coverings.

“Health and science experts agree that facial coverings, social distancing and health screenings are critical to controlling the virus,” Vail said in a statement when the emergency orders were announced. “We have made too much progress to regress. We are working hard to get our young people back to school, keep

our businesses and government open, and make progress in our economic recovery.”

Though diners must be masked upon entrance, masks may be removed once parties are seated and are eating food or drinking a beverage. Tables have to be kept 6 feet apart and crowded mingling in common areas must be avoided. Vail said the risk of coronavirus transmission in restaurants doesn’t come from the food, but from physical interaction that doesn’t follow safety precautions.

“The safety measures restaurants have always had to take are still the very same measures they need they need to take to stay safe,” Vail said. “When cooking food back in the kitchen, obviously masking when they can protects the staff from each other. But the food in the kitchen is not what we’re concerned about, it’s basically close contact and crowds in the dining area that is the concern.”

Vail said right now it is hard to answer whether frequenting sit-down restaurants, specifically, is especially high-risk behavior. “That’s hard to say right now. Those are huge questions. We know that crowded indoor interactions is one of the highest risk things to do — that places bars, generally, in a very high-risk category.”



Vail

Vail said that restaurants that have upgraded their infrastructure to improve their ventilation are making an important step forward in making their establishment safer. “Ventilation is important, absolutely,” Vail said.

Soup Spoon Café owner Nick Gavrilides posted a pledge to his restaurant’s Facebook page stating that no matter what happens with decisions handed from either the health department or state government, Soup Spoon Café is committed to staying ahead of the coronavirus with numerous rigorous safety guidelines. He said all restaurant owners should take on similar responsibilities, regardless of any legal requirements.

“I wanted to make sure everybody was clear that we’re not changing anything with how we deal with social distancing, cleaning and face mask-wearing until the majority of scientific consensus says we’re all clear,” Gavrilides said.

Gavrilides said that Soup Spoon Café and other restaurants are already so heavily regulated that rigorous decontamination is already a well-established way of life for the staff.

Nelson echoed Gavrilides’ commitment to coronavirus safety regardless of any legal obligations. English Inn’s staff is masked at all times, receive a health screening and fill out a questionnaire at the beginning of each shift. He also affirmed that surfaces in the restaurant are sanitized between touches.

“We’re doing everything to make sure our guests and our employees are safe,” Nelson said. “If we all work together as a community, we will ensure that we do not get shut down again. It’s all of our responsibility as restaurant operators.”

Both agreed that doing the right thing now, as far as safety precautions are concerned, is vital to ensuring that customers will feel safe enough to return once the restrictions finally relax. “We have the opportunity to grow guest confidence during this time. It will pay off in the future by making sure that guests understand that we truly care,” Nelson said.

And as far as winter is concerned, Gavrilides is trying to keep his head up.

“Restaurants are one of the first places people stop going to and one of the last places they come back to. It could be very challenging, but I also have a lot of hope and faith the winter will be OK.”

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## Take a look inside Meijer's Capital City Market

Meijer's long awaited downtown Capital City Market, a part of The Gillespie Group's BLOCK600 development, has finally opened its doors. City Pulse visited the store Monday and captured photographs of the unique features it is bringing to downtown.

Photos by Skyler Ashley

### Capital City Market

Grand Opening: 8 a.m.,  
Wednesday, Oct. 14

Regular hours:

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capitalcitymarket.com



The front entrance to Meijer's Capital City Market. The 37,000-square-foot store was scheduled to open at 8 a.m. today.



The produce section of Capital City Market is 4,500 square feet. It features and promotes Michigan-produced goods. It is restocked with fresh food seven days a week and boasts 3,500 products that are unique to Michigan.



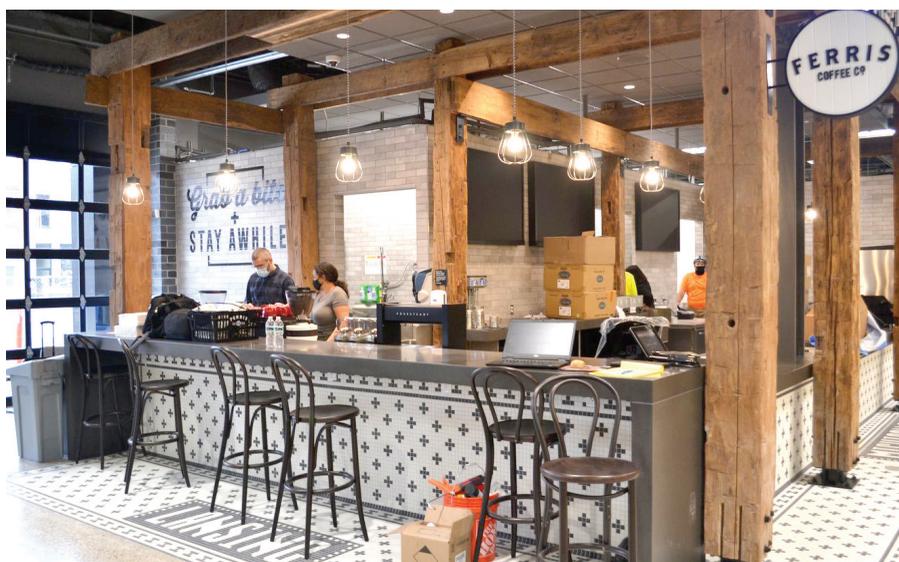
Capital City Market has six full aisles of food goods, and several aisles of home, health and beauty supplies. Prices at the new store will mirror that of other Meijer locations.



Capital City Market's back entrance has a 100-spot parking lot with a wall covered with a massive, colorful mural painted by local artist Brian Whitfield.



Customers can pick their favorite bottles from a 14-foot-high liquor wall (right). The adjoining beer cave (above), which has a wide array of local choices, is decorated with the neon signage of Lansing and Michigan-based breweries, such as Ellison Brewery + Spirits, Lansing Brewing Co. and Bell's Brewery.



Capital City Market includes a café that features vendors Ferris Coffee Co., Capital City Deli, as well as a full sushi bar. Six garage-style doors will be open the weather is warm enough.

# Williamston Theatre rises from the ashes

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

With reasonable coronavirus restrictions making indoor theater extremely difficult, Williamston Theatre is taking it to the streets — literally. It has produced a self-directed, audio walking tour along the streets of downtown Williamston.

The focus of the tour is five major fires the town endured between the late 1800s and early 1900s. “Williamston Theatre Presents The Fire Tour” is 43 minutes of interesting local history conveyed in a refined manner. Although not meant to substitute for a live play, the free stream or download is a safe alternative to a gathering inside the intimate, Williamston Theatre.

Going to [williamstontheatre.org/fire-tour](http://williamstontheatre.org/fire-tour) on a smart phone or other portable device provides directions and information for an easy, walking excursion that starts at Williamston’s “Four Corners” — the intersection of Grand River Avenue and Putnam Road. A four-block area is covered and benches are available at each stopping point.

Emily Sutton-Smith smoothly narrates the informative tour. She was last seen on stage in April as the central character in Williamston Theatre’s “These Mortal Hosts.” The video production was the final play Williamston Theatre was able to complete since the pandemic restrictions.

Sutton-Smith’s professional and comforting voice is the foundation of the auditory documentary. Her flawless delivery demonstrates why Sutton-Smith has been asked to record over 160 audio books.

Mitch Lutzke provides the factual commentary. As a former radio reporter, he is well suited to the task. Lutzke has a bachelor’s in telecommunications from Michigan State University and one in history from Western Illinois University. He has written three books, including “Stories From Williamston’s Past.” He is the president of Williamston’s Depot Museum and writes historical pieces for the local paper.



Courtesy photo

A photograph from 1938 of Williamston firefighters blasting water on a burning building.

When anyone asks Lutzke about his theater experience, he says, “I was in one play in my life.” He starred in the lead role in “Oliver” in a community production in the seventh grade. “As I have told people,” Lutzke joked, “I started and ended at the top.”



Lutzke

Lutzke is an athletic coach and history and video production teacher at Williamston High School. He has been a resident of the town since 1992.

“How do I know so much about Williamston history when I wasn’t born and raised here? Well, I read old newspapers on microfilm at the State of Michigan Library and local history books and I talk to people,” he explained. “Any quotes from the time of the event came from newspaper articles.”

Lutzke spent about two hours recording his parts of “The Fire Tour” sitting on a couch at the theater on Putnam Road. “I think everything was in one take,” he said. “I was in radio for about eight years so goofing-up usually isn’t an option.”

Lutzke said being the voice of the historian for “The Fire Tour” was fun to do. “As a high school history teacher, I am always looking for ways to connect our history with the current people and current times,” he said. “I like to talk — as my students in class and my kids on the track and field team, and my family will attest.”

Lutzke asked Cloyce O’Dell to record his firsthand recollection of

See Theatre, Page 24

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# Theatre

from page 23

a 1938 fire that burned the Enterprise Newspaper Building. Another local historian, David Jones, adds his voice and memories of Williamston's past.

Williamston Theatre's executive director, John Lepard, produced the program. "I wrote the narration, edited, added sound, interviewed and did a little research," Lepard said.

Sounds of horse carriages, old car horns, chaos, period music and more enhance "The Fire Tour," and add much to the authenticity of the soundtrack. "I learned a lot about producing a documentary-style recording," Lepard said. "I have a new respect for Ken Burns."

Like a radio play, "The Fire Tour" elicits an imagination to visualize events of the last 150 years. The voices and sound effects help make that easy to do — enough so, that an actual trip to Williamston is not required. And although a listener can see the various spots of the five disasters in person, the remains of none of the original structures discussed still exist.

But to not travel to Williamston defeats an important goal of the production. "The Williamston Theatre recognizes its role in the economic health of Williamston's downtown business district," Chris Purchis, the company's managing director, said.

Prior to the pandemic closures, about 11,000 patrons a year would attend Williamston Theatre shows. Their plays significantly impacted

local restaurants and businesses. "The founders recognize the importance of the presence of some kind of programming, even though the theater remains closed to the public," Purchis said.

Besides, missing the self-directed tour would mean missing "a hot time in the old town, tonight."

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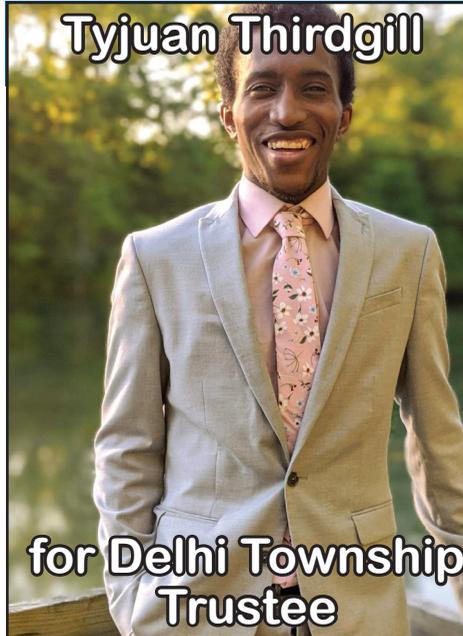


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# All recreational pot is clearly not created equal in Lansing

New top-shelf strains offer premium effects at a premium price

By **KYLE KAMINSKI**

Amsterdam-based DNA Genetics for more than a decade has built a reputation around high-quality seeds. Its proprietary strains make it one of the most highly regarded cannabis brands in the world, which includes a list of more than 200 national and international awards.

Last week, in a collaboration with DNA, Skymint launched seven of DNA's most sought-after strains — including Clementine, Kosher Kush, LA Confidential and Strawberry Banana. I wanted a variety, so I picked up Clementine, a sativa, and Kosher Kush, known to be a powerful indica.

And at \$70 an eighter, I'm not sure I had much room left in my budget to sample more anyway.

**DNA x Skymint — Clementine (Sativa)**

**Price — \$70/3.5g**

**THC content — 25.1%**

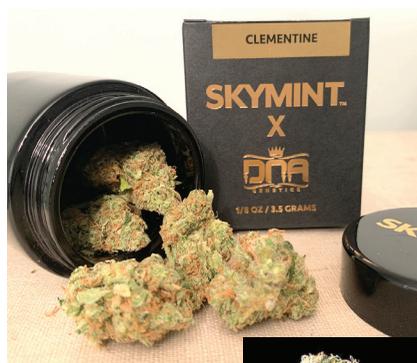
This sativa-dominant strain is a cross between Tangie and Lemon Skunk and was awarded the High Times Cannabis Cup in 2015 for its balanced and citrusy flavor profile and its euphoric, uplifting and energizing effects. And believe me: This is a whole new level of stoner energy.

As expected, this strain packs a pungent citrus smell that tingles the nose and carries straight through into

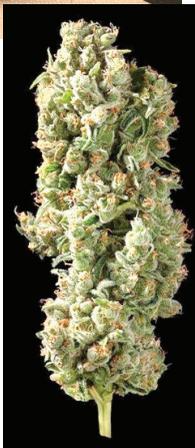


**Lansterdam in Review: Skymint**

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skymint.com



an almost tart yet still smooth and balanced flavor profile. The buds were large, coated with bright orange pistils and ground up perfectly into a few Saturday morning joints.

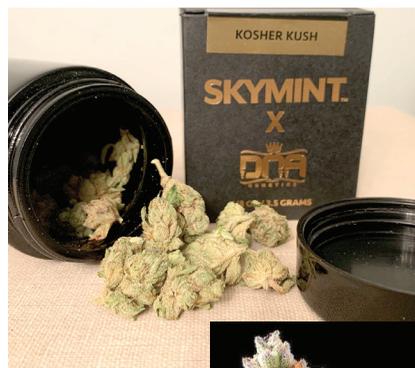


With an innocuous name like Clementine, you might not expect to run mental marathons after just a few tokes, but this stuff kicked my brain and body into insanely potent sativa stimulation.

My dog and I played fetch while I finished the joint, and we were run-

ning sprints together by the time it was finished. My coffee got cold while I proceeded to rake both my front and back lawns. Then, I organized my garage for 45 minutes and carefully color coordinated my entire closet.

Later than evening, I smoked another Clementine joint toward (what I thought was) the end of the night after a few beers with some friends. I ended up walking my dog to Moores Park at midnight, preparing dinner for the following day and watching a documentary until about 3 a.m.



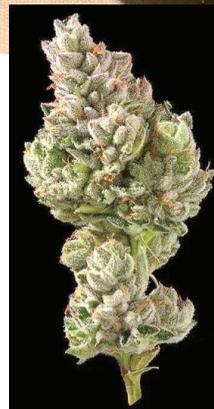
**DNA x Skymint — Kosher Kush (Indica)**

**Price —**

**\$70/3.5g**

**THC content — 25.93%**

Kosher Kush is labeled as the cousin of indica-dominant OG Kush and was awarded the High Times Cannabis Cup in both 2010 and 2011 for its rich, earthy flavor profile and for its ability to induce a heavy hitting sense of peace and relaxation. I think it's the perfect bedtime bowl.



These Kosher Kush buds were much smaller than the Clementine, but they were still absolutely caked with crystals. I picked this peppery flavored blend based on a staff recommendation, and was blown away by its powerful stress relieving effects. I tend to lean on indica varieties for unwinding after work or for kicking back and watching murder mysteries or shows about aliens, and this stuff provided just the right amount of couchlock to spend an entire Sunday at home.

Flavor usually isn't a big deal to me, but it's worth noting that this was a particularly tasty smoke. Exceptionally smooth with just the right amount of full-bodied earthiness and some subdued fruit notes to help tie it all together. Herby and peppery without too much bite. Virtually no aftertaste.

A weighted blanket of euphoria seemed to wrap over me after just a few tokes. My natural desire to "feel productive" often prevents me from checking out on Sunday afternoons, even if I have nothing to get done. That feeling completely disappeared after a half-joint of Kosher Kush.

Back-to-back movies were interrupted only by an unnecessary amount of snacks and frozen pizza. If you don't have plans to be productive, the only downside to this strain might be dry mouth and munchies. Then again, maybe I was just too relaxed to get up and refill my drink.

*Kyle Kaminski is a City Pulse staff writer and cannabis enthusiast who has been smoking marijuana just about every day for the last decade. Every week, Kaminski samples some of the best cannabis products available in Greater Lansing, gets real high and writes about them.*



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# Twin brothers open safe haven for sneaker heads

By SEAN BRADLEY

In July, Lennie and Lonnie Smith found a way to channel their passion for things such as shoes, athletics and fandom for athletes into a unique business.

The 16-year-old twins and Haslett residents conceived of the idea then to host a store to buy and sell gently worn or never-worn athletic shoes and apparel from brands such as Air Jordan and Nike. That store became House of Soles, which held its grand opening Saturday in Okemos.

"I do a lot of things with shoes," said Lonnie Smith, who plays basketball and football as a junior at Haslett High School. Lennie is also a football player and a junior at Haslett High School who wears a size 16 shoe, which he said were hard to find.

Before the business existed, the brothers had sold shoes on the secondary market starting when they were 14 years old. They each have approximately 15 pairs of shoes of their own.

But their mother, Nadia Sellers, provided words of encouragement that made them strike out on their own.

"She told me, 'you shouldn't want to



## House of Soles

1737 W. Grand River Ave.,  
Okemos  
To purchase or sell with the shop, contact: (517) 619-9915  
More info available at:  
Facebook.com/  
HouseofSolesUS

work for somebody else. You should want people to work for you," Lennie Smith said after he told his mother he wanted to find employment of his own.

Sellers also came up with the main version of the store's logo, while Lennie came up with a version of the logo in a triangle formation. Both logos are on merchandise such as shirts and hats. Additionally, Sellers and others in their circle of family and friends will help run the store when the brothers are busy with school or sports practice.

"There's not really places in this area to get this stuff," Lonnie Smith said.

In the Lansing area, there are several consignment shops but not specifically to buy and re-sell name brand shoes.

The brothers work in an industry that could be worth \$95 billion worldwide by 2025, according to a 2018 report by



Sean Bradley/City Pulse

Lonnie (left) and Lennie Smith show off a shoe at the House of Soles grand opening.

market research company Grand View Research.

This industry is also dominated by youth; Benjamin "Kickz" Kapelushnik, from Brooklyn, New York, started buying and reselling shoes at just 16 years old. Now 21, Kapelushnik's business is worth millions of dollars and counts hip-hop artists such as DJ Khaled as customers.

Approximately 90% of the customers at the House of Soles' grand opening were teens, Sellers said.

Additionally, the store held the "Cash for Kicks" event a week before opening and bought shoes from people in the community; all of the shoes on sale during the grand opening were bought during this event.

But the industry has also been a way for people to find themselves in trouble such as being robbed, ripped off, or even killed.

Last month, a teenage friend of the family purchased several hundreds of dollars' worth of Air Jordan shoes from a buyer in a face-to-face meeting only to find out the shoes were fake, Sellers said. The teen was able to get some of his money back, however, she said.

"You're meeting someone who knows you have \$200, \$300, \$400 in cash. Kids need to be very, very careful," she said.

In 2017, Grosse Pointe Woods resident Corey Harris-Thomas, 17, was shot and killed by Dante Tyrell Fordt while attempting to sell a pair of Air Jordan Nike shoes, according to a Detroit News report. Ford, then 20, was arrested and sentenced to 28 to 50 years in prison for the crime.

Sellers said she had no idea her sons were selling shoes to strangers until earlier this year when they began researching the business venture and she asked them about it.

"Talk to your kids. Pay attention to what your kids are doing," she said.

The store's location, which Seller said is a safe place for people to buy and sell shoes, was formerly home to a gym called Formula 12 Fitness, according to Meridian Township property records. Sellers helped her sons find their store's location and renovate it.

Many of the twins' friends and family are employees of the business, including Keith Whitfield, a 16-year-old Lansing resident who is a cousin to the twins, and who is the store's vice president of sales.

He said he bought a pair of Nike brand running shoes from the store on opening day.

"Nobody really gave up on the idea. We're still trying," Whitfield said.

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# A raw look at the history of Detroit's race riots

By **BILL CASTANIER**

The hundreds of thousands of African Americans who made their way North during the Great Migration came looking for a promised land, where the jobs were plentiful and the ways of the Jim Crow South were in the rear-view mirror.

In his new book, "Detroit's Sojourner Truth Housing Riot of 1942," Gerald Van Dusen tells the rest of the story — one of squalid housing, a Northern version of Jim Crow attitudes, simmering shop floors and segregation.

In his book, Van Dusen writes: "An average of 10,000 job seekers entered Detroit each month during the early war years. By 1943, Detroit's population had increased by more than 400,000 as a direct consequence of the Great Migration from the South." In 1940, census data shows there were 149,000 Black residents in Detroit; by the end of the decade that number doubled.

He details in the book how systemic real estate policies forced African Americans to live in only certain neighborhoods within the city, and how the suburbs used restrictive covenants in collusion with realtors to keep the newcomers from locating there.

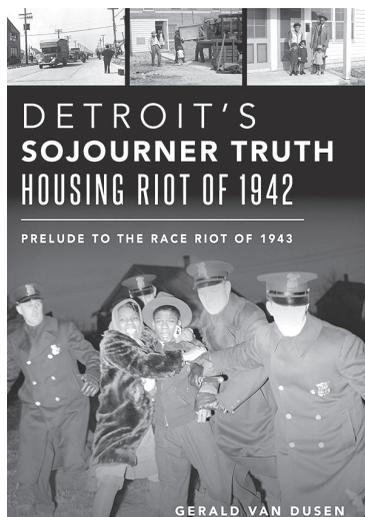
The book also teaches about the "Neighborhood Composition Rule," which was included in New Deal housing legislation at the behest of Dixie Democrats and required any new public housing to respect the "racial composition of an existing neighborhood."

Detroit officials recognizing the conundrum looked to building a public housing unit in what Van Dusen describes as "a sparsely settled mixed neighborhood of twenty acres on the city's northeast side." Nearby was Conant Gardens, where middle class Black homeowners were already living.

When the construction of the Sojourner Truth Housing Project became reality, Van Dusen makes the case that it was "the prelude to the dangerous and deadly Detroit race riot of 1943."

Frankly, due to the passage of time, most readers will have not heard of the Sojourner Truth Riot or the race riot of 1943. This new book helps close that loop and creates a direct relationship to the 1967 rebellion with its raw memories.

Van Dusen said he became aware of the housing riot while conducting research for his previous book on the Birwood Wall in Detroit — a remnant of Jim Crow segregation and a literal wall,



which still stands in the city.

"I soon learned the housing riot was a dramatically different situation and the story was not fully told. While I was doing research for Birwood, I started to collect everything on the side about Sojourner," he said. "The Sojourner Housing project turned out to be a dangerous experiment with racialized housing, and it blew up into a national and international crisis."

For context, Van Dusen writes about how African Americans saw hypocrisy on the home front. They witnessed a propaganda machine that denounced the claim of German and Aryan racial superiority, even though racism was pervasive in the United States.

He also points to the Double V slogan, a take off on the V for Victory campaign, which was found in storefronts across the U.S.

In African American neighborhoods, the Double V campaign created by the Pittsburgh Courier, an African American newspaper, began showing up in black businesses. The two V's represented victory against discrimination and segregation. The Double V campaign is often

pointed to as the progenitor of the modern Civil Rights campaign, and it was surprisingly the idea of a 26-year-old Wichita defense worker.

In Detroit, these dual frustrations came to a head. In February of 1942, the first African American renters moving into Sojourner Truth were met head on by a mob of more than 1,000 who blocked their entrance. A riot ensued, resulting in scores of injuries and arrests. Of the more than 100 arrested, only two were white.

Van Dusen said the riot "had a lingering effect with and a build-up in resentment."

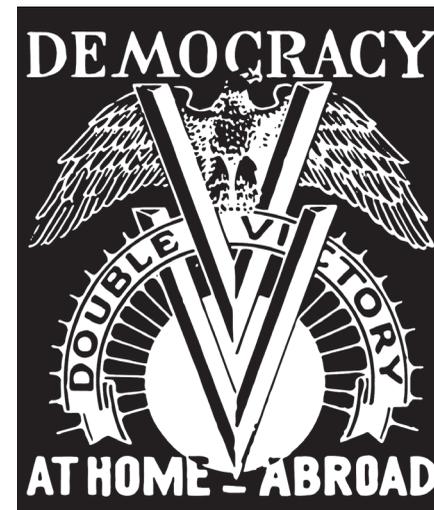
The resentment and conflict would soon move to the factory floor.

Hate strikes at plants began to break out, creating a tension that would lead to the June 1943 riot resulting in 34 dead. The match to light the fire was a confrontation between Black and white revelers on Belle Isle, which spilled over into the streets until it was squelched by the military

Van Dusen said compiling the history of the Sojourner Truth riot was difficult compared to his Birwood book because of the transitory characteristic of the tenants. "They were renters," he said.

In his book, the author also delves into the transportation problems created by the burgeoning population, where whites and African Americans were forced to share the same buses often with violent repercussions.

Van Dusen is now working on a book on the infamous Detroit Police Department STRESS Unit. STRESS, which stood for "Stop the Robberies Enjoy Safe Streets," ran rampant on Detroit streets from 1971 to 1974, and used deceptive tactics to target African American men. Ultimately, the unit's operations resulted in two dozen deaths, mostly African Americans.



Courtesy

The Double V campaign was launched by the African American newspaper the Pittsburgh Courier.

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Virtual Scary Storytime  
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Read if you dare! Did you know that *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark* has a history of library challenges and bans? To celebrate Banned Books week and Halloween, we will be reading several of the short stories. Tune in on Facebook Thursday nights at 9PM this October to delight in *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark*.

### AN EVENING WITH JENNIFER ARMENTROUT

Virtual Author Talk  
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Jennifer L. Armentrout stops by virtually to talk about *The Brightest Night*. We return to the world of the Lux with this steamy, shocking third installment of the Origin series that will leave you reeling. This event is free however spots are limited. Please register via Eventbrite. [armentrout.eventbrite.com](http://armentrout.eventbrite.com)

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# Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Mew Coup"---  
didn't see that  
one coming.  
[#711, Jan. 2015]  
By Matt Jones

**Across**

- 1 "American Horror Story" actress Lily
- 5 Outdo by a little
- 10 Get droopy
- 13 Just slightly
- 14 Vice \_\_\_\_
- 15 "Gunfight at the O.K. Corral" lawyer
- 17 Quip, part 1
- 19 2007 A.L. MVP, familiarly
- 20 Feller's warning
- 21 Quip, part 2
- 23 Do master
- 25 High chairs?
- 26 Get in
- 28 "\_\_\_\_ Can Cook" (former cooking show)
- 29 Dog's foot
- 32 Floor space
- 34 Metamorphic stage
- 38 Quip, part 3
- 42 Bat maker's tool
- 43 "I'll take 'Cartoons' for \$200, \_\_\_\_"
- 44 Control
- 45 Elusive swimmer
- 47 3/17 honoree, for short
- 50 "Nuts!"
- 54 Actress Mira
- 58 Quip, part 4
- 60 Of a pelvic bone
- 61 2012 Best Picture Oscar winner
- 62 Quip, part 5
- 64 Bit of sarcasm

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61					62			63						
64						65						66		
		67					68					69		

- 65 Theater seater
- 66 "\_\_\_\_perpetua" (Idaho's motto)
- 67 Beats by \_\_\_\_ (brand of audio equipment)
- 68 Add fuel to
- 69 Explanations
- 70 Theater seater
- 71 "Fanfare for the Common Man" composer Copland
- 72 "Grand Canyon Suite" composer Ferde
- 73 Adobe creations?
- 74 D. S. Seldorf denial
- 75 Jazz pianist-singer Diana (and wife of Elvis Costello)
- 76 Our planet
- 77 Cassette parts
- 78 Good buddy
- 79 Abbr. on a rap sheet
- 80 Feature of Algonquin Round Table discussions
- 81 Acts as accomplice
- 82 City in 2016 sports news
- 83 Solemn words
- 84 Writer Beattie
- 85 Words after "know" or "settle"
- 86 Pearly whites
- 87 "Reward" offered by those who hire artists for no pay
- 88 Dye used by chemists
- 89 Get \_\_\_\_ on the knuckles
- 90 Reporters and their entourage, e.g.
- 91 Key using all the black keys, for short
- 92 Drew in
- 93 Deadly sin
- 94 Citrus peel in a mixed drink
- 95 Like U2
- 96 More than mean
- 97 Non-dairy spreads
- 98 Cuatro y cuatro
- 99 "A spider!!"

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Answers Page30

# SUDOKU

## Basic

4				5	2			
2			7				1	3
				1		4	7	
	7					6	2	1
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		8	5				3	9
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### 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 30

# Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsy

October 14 - 20, 2020

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Would you be willing to meditate on how you might become more skilled in the arts of intimacy? Would you consider reading books and websites that offer guidance about strategies for being the best partner and ally you can be? Are you receptive to becoming more devoted to practicing empathy and deep listening? I'm not saying you're deficient in these matters, nor am I implying that you need to improve your mastery of them any more than the rest of us. I simply want you to know that now is an especially favorable time for you to make progress.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** \*Entre chien et loup\* is a French idiom that literally means "between dog and wolf." It's used to describe twilight or dusk, when the light is faint and it's tough to distinguish between a dog and a wolf. But it may also suggest a situation that is a blend of the familiar and the unknown, or even a moment when what's ordinary and routine is becoming unruly or wild. \*Entre chien et loup\* suggests an intermediary state that's unpredictable or beyond our ability to define. In accordance with astrological omens, I propose you regard it as one of your main themes for now. Don't fight it; enjoy it! Thrive on it!

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** For 34 years, the beloved American TV personality Mr. Rogers did a show for children. He's now widely acknowledged as having been a powerful teacher of goodness and morality. Here's a fun fact: His actual middle name was "McFeely." I propose that you use that as a nickname for yourself. If McFeely doesn't quite appeal to you, maybe try "Feel Maestro" or "Emotion Adept" or "Sensitivity Genius." Doing so might help inspire you to fulfill your astrological assignment in the coming weeks, which is to allow yourself to experience more deep feelings than usual—and thereby enhance your heart intelligence. That's crucial! In the coming weeks, your head intelligence needs your heart intelligence to be working at peak capacity.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** A blogger named Dr. Lovellama writes, "You may think I am walking around the house with a blanket around my shoulders because I am cold, but in fact the 'blanket' is my cloak and I am on a fantasy adventure." I approve of such behavior during our ongoing struggles with COVID-19, and I especially recommend it to you in the coming days. You'll be wise to supercharge your imagination, giving it permission to dream up heroic adventures and epic exploits that you may or may not actually undertake someday. It's time to become braver and more playful in the inner realms.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** According to author Rev. Dr. Marilyn Sewell, "The body has its own way of knowing, a knowing that has little to do with logic, and much to do with truth." I recommend that you meditate on that perspective. Make it your keynote. Your physical organism always has wisdom to impart, and you can always benefit from tuning in to it—and that's especially important for you right now. So let me ask you: How much skill do you have in listening to what your body tells you? How receptive are you to its unique and sometimes subtle forms of expression? I hope you'll enhance your ability to commune with it during the next four weeks.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** In his fictional memoir "Running in the Family", Virgo author Michael Ondaatje returns to Sri Lanka, the land where he spent his childhood, after many years away. At one point he enthuses that he would sometimes wake up in the morning and "just smell things for the whole day." I'd love for you to try a similar experiment, Virgo: Treat yourself to a festival of aromas. Give yourself freely to consorting with the sensual joy of the world's many scents. Does that sound frivolous? I don't think it is. I believe it would have a deeply calming and grounding effect on you. It would anchor you more thoroughly in the here and now of your actual life, and inspire you to shed any fantasies that you should be different from who you are.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** "The hardest thing you will ever do is trust yourself," says Libran journalist Barbara Walters. Really? I don't think so. In my experience, the hardest thing to do is to consistently treat ourselves with the loving care we need to be mentally and physically healthy. But I do acknowledge that trusting ourselves is also an iffy task for many of us. And yet that's often because we don't habitually give ourselves the loving care we need to be healthy. How can we trust ourselves if we don't put in the work necessary to ensure our vitality? But here's the good news, Libra: In the coming weeks, you're likely to be extra motivated and intuitively astute whenever you improve the way you nurture yourself.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** "You can't learn anything when you're trying to look like the smartest person in the room," writes author Barbara Kingsolver. That's a useful message for you right now. Why? Because you will soon be exposed to teachings that could change your life for the better. And if you hope to be fully available for those teachings, you must be extra receptive and curious and open-minded—which means you shouldn't try to seem like you already know everything you need to know.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** I've decided not to use quotes by famous writers who've endorsed bigoted ideas. In the future, my horoscopes won't mention the work of T. S. Eliot, Roald Dahl, V. S. Naipaul, Edith Wharton, Kingsley Amis, H. P. Lovecraft, Flannery O'Connor, Rudyard Kipling, and Louis-Ferdinand Celine. I'm sorry to see them go, because I've learned a lot from some of them. And I understand that many were reflecting attitudes that were widespread in their era and milieu. But as I've deepened my commitment to fighting prejudice, I've come to the conclusion that I personally don't want to engage with past perpetrators. Now, in accordance with current astrological omens, I invite you to take an inventory of your own relationship with bigoted influences—and consider making some shifts in your behavior. (More info: [tinyurl.com/BigotedAuthors1](http://tinyurl.com/BigotedAuthors1) and [tinyurl.com/BigotedAuthors2](http://tinyurl.com/BigotedAuthors2))

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Capricorn chemist Tu Youyou doesn't have a medical degree or PhD. Yet she discovered a treatment for malaria that has saved millions of lives. The drug was derived from an ancient herbal medicine that she spent years tracking down. In part because of her lack of credentials, she remained virtually unsung from the time she helped come up with the cure in 1977 until she won a Nobel Prize in 2015. What's most unsung about your accomplishments, Capricorn? There's a much better chance than usual that it will finally be appreciated in the coming months.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** "Luck is what happens to you when fate gets tired of waiting," says author Gregory David Roberts. If that's true, I expect that a surge of luck will flow your way soon. According to my astrological analysis, fate has grown impatient waiting for you to take the actions that would launch your life story's next chapter. Hopefully, a series of propitious flukes will precipitate the postponed but necessary transformations. My advice? Don't question the unexpected perks. Don't get in their way. Allow them to work their magic.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Have you formulated wily plans and crafty maneuvers to help you navigate through the labyrinthine tests and trials up ahead? I hope so. If you hope to solve the dicey riddles and elude the deceptive temptations, you'll need to use one of your best old tricks—and come up with a new trick, as well. But please keep this important caveat in mind: To succeed, you won't necessarily have to break the rules. It may be sufficient merely to make the rules more supple and flexible.

# TURN IT DOWN!

BY RICH TUPICA

## TURN IT DOWN!: LANSING'S CONNECTION TO DETROIT'S GHETTO RECORDERS



-Jim Diamond operated Ghetto Recorders in Detroit during the height of the garage-rock resurgence. (courtesy photo)



The now-demolished Ghetto Recorders was stocked with vintage gear.



A 1997 print ad for the studio.

### Jim Diamond recorded countless garage rock classics at his Detroit studio

Since the onset of blues, pop and rock 'n roll, Michigan has been internationally known and lauded for its musical output. Just like we're an automotive state, we're also a music state – and it's not just one kind of music. Michigan's sonic universe spans all genres, and we've done them all well.

But it's not just about the musicians. It's also about the studios where the melodies were laid down. And it's not just about the iconic rooms like United Sound Systems and Motown Studios, there are dozens of other recording facilities that've become widely known for etching out their own distinct sound. A record cut in Michigan often has a Michigan sound. It's hard to describe, but you know it when you hear it.

One of those facilities was Ghetto Recorders in Detroit. While it ceased operations in 2014, prior to that, the room drew bands from not only across the state, but from across the world. For 18 years, the man behind the board was Lansing-area native Jim Diamond, who continues to produce to this day. Diamond also spent years playing bass in The Wayouts and The Dirtbombs.

Back in his Ghetto Recorders heyday ('90s through the mid-'00s), he engineered records for The White Stripes

and countless other then-emerging rock bands. All of them recorded on two-inch tape with vintage machines. When I spoke with Diamond back in 2007, the Trenton-born producer told me how a job at Harvest Productions (a Lansing fixture) led him into forming his own business.

"I was at Harvest in 1995, and I think I was about to turn 30," Diamond said. "I did a lot of car commercials and Christian metal. That's when I said to myself, 'What the hell are you doing here? There's got to be something more.' So, I quit and moved in with my parents at age 30. They live in a suburb of Detroit, and started calling studios in the area trying to get my foot in the door to do some freelance engineering. An old friend, John Linardos, lived downtown and had a huge loft apartment space and a little 8-track recording setup. I ended up moving in with him after over a year with my parents and that's where Ghetto Recorders is today."

After things got cooking at the studio, Lansing's own garage-punk duo Bantam Rooster christened the room. Led by vocalist/guitarist Tom Potter, the pair would be the first to lay down tracks at the makeshift analog studio.

"I knew Tom back in 1994," Diamond recalled. "He had a band in Lansing, Michigan where we both lived at the

time. It was called Kill Devil Hill — a three-piece. I recorded them at this studio I worked at back then called Harvest Productions. But Bantam Rooster was the first official release from Ghetto Recorders."

Another group that recorded at Ghetto Recorders was (my favorite band) The Compulsive Gamblers. The Memphis band rolled into town primarily to play as a back-up band for Detroit R&B legend Andre Williams—but the band also decided to cut a record with Diamond while they were in the Motor City. The LP, "Crystal Gazing Luck Amazing" was issued in 2000 by Sympathy For the Record Industry.

Led by Greg Cartwright and Jack Yarber (who also front The Oblivians), the band of Memphians also picked up Michigan musicians Dale Beavers and Jeff Meier to play on "Crystal Gazing." The result? A soulful explosion of garage-rock masterpieces. Google "Stop and Think It Over" to hear some of the magic Diamond caught on tape.

"I loved making that record," Diamond recalled. "Most of it was done live. Greg sang through this crappy PA system I had, but he was such a good singer. It was a lot of fun and I think we did it in four or five days."

Like the now-demolished Ghetto Recorders, the Compulsive Gamblers have also folded. Luckily, they all left behind those reels of tape before they did.

#### CITY PULSE

#### MITTEN MUSIC QUIZ:

1. This smaller music venue is located in the same building as The Majestic Theatre in Detroit.
2. From 1964-1966, this venue hosted folk acts at 3000 1/2 E. Kalamazoo St. in Lansing.
3. In 1955, this 6,500-capacity venue opened at 525 W. Allegan Street in Lansing.
4. On July 11, 2020, this famous Detroit area sports complex and concert facility was demolished.
5. Located in an alley behind The Loft, this now-defunct Lansing venue hosted donation-only shows.

Answers on page 30

# ONLINE REAL ESTATE AUCTION

**TUESDAY, NOV. 10, 2020 @ 10:00 AM**

*By Order of the County Treasurer of Ingham County*

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# OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://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 Suzi at (517) 999-6704.

## Wednesday, October 14

**2020 East Lansing Kiwanis "Virtual BBQ"** - 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. For info and tickets: [elkiwanis.org](http://elkiwanis.org).

**Allen Farmers Market** - 2:30-7 p.m. Allen Farmers Market 2020, 2100 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

**Family History Workshop:** [Michiganology.org](http://Michiganology.org) - October is Family History Month! 7-8:30 p.m. [facebook.com/MichiganHistoryCenter](http://facebook.com/MichiganHistoryCenter)

**Open Call:** Virtual Community Sculpture - 7-8 p.m. [broadmuseum.msu.edu/artlab](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu/artlab)

**Outdoor Pop Up Art Shop** - 11 a.m.-3 p.m. all week. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 119 N Washington Sq. 517-374-6400.

**Special Collections Look Club:** - Our theme this week is Future Visions! 2-2:45 p.m. [bookings.lib.msu.edu](http://bookings.lib.msu.edu).

**Wednesday Workdays at CCBS** - 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Capital City Bird Sanctuary. [michiganaudubon.org](http://michiganaudubon.org).

## Thursday, October 15

**Dimondale Farmers' Market** - 3-7 p.m. Village Square, 136 N Bridge St, Dimondale. 517-646-0230. [villageofdimondale.org](http://villageofdimondale.org).

### MITTEN MUSIC QUIZ ANSWERS

1. The Magic Stick
2. Fat Black Pussy Cat
3. Lansing Civic Center
4. The Palace of Auburn Hills
5. Basement 414

### SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 28

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

### CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 28

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

**Refuge Recovery Lansing (Virtual)** - 6-7 p.m. [facebook.com/refugerecoverylansing](http://facebook.com/refugerecoverylansing)

**South Lansing Farmers Market** - 3-7 p.m. St. Casimir Catholic Church, 800 W Barnes Ave, Lansing. 517-374-5700.

**Studio (in)Process at Home** 9-10 p.m. MSU Broad Art Lab, 565 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. [broad.msu.edu](http://broad.msu.edu)

## Friday, October 16

**Refuge Recovery Lansing (Virtual)** - 7:30-8:30 p.m. [facebook.com/refugerecoverylansing](http://facebook.com/refugerecoverylansing)

## Saturday, October 17

**BBQ Order/Curbside Pick-up** - \$10. 4:30-6 p.m. Okemos Masonic Center, 4310 Kenosha Trail, Okemos.

**Boo at the Zoo/Fall Zootacular** - come in your costume! Oct. 10 & 11 - Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave. [potterparkzoo.org](http://potterparkzoo.org).

**Printmaking Workshop:** Autumn Shapes and Layers. Virtual. 2-5 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu)

**Refuge Recovery Lansing (Virtual)** - 7:30-8:30 p.m. [facebook.com/refugerecoverylansing](http://facebook.com/refugerecoverylansing)

**Take Out Dinner:** Sauerkraut, pork roast, potatoes, green beans and spatzle, applesauce, bread and butter and dessert. 4:30-6:30 p.m. Lansing Liederkrantz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania.

## Sunday, October 18

**Boo at the Zoo/Fall Zootacular** - come in your costume! Oct. 10 & 11 - Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave. [potterparkzoo.org](http://potterparkzoo.org).

**East Lansing Farmers Market** - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Valley Court Park, 300 Valley Court, East Lansing. [cityofeastlansing.com](http://cityofeastlansing.com).

**Girls on the Run of Mid-Michigan Virtual 5k** - 11 a.m. [gotrmidmichigan.org](http://gotrmidmichigan.org).

## Monday, October 19

**Cristo Rey Church On-Line Silent Auction** fundraiser online. [cristoreycommunity.org](http://cristoreycommunity.org)

**Refuge Recovery Lansing (Virtual)** - 6-7 p.m. [facebook.com/refugerecoverylansing](http://facebook.com/refugerecoverylansing)

## Tuesday, October 20

**People's Law School** - 7-8 p.m. Virtual - Zoom, [sinasdramis.com](http://sinasdramis.com).

**Special Collections Virtual Pop-up:** The Legacy of Frankenstein 1-2 p.m. Online, MSU Libraries, East Lansing. [bookings.lib.msu.edu](http://bookings.lib.msu.edu).

# FOOD & DRINK

## DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

### Strange Matter installs Lansing's first zero emissions coffee roaster

By **COLE TUNNINGLEY**

Late last year, Strange Matter Coffee Co. owner Cara Nader made a plan to expand into roasting. She had a space selected, a shiny new roaster picked out and she was fully prepared to spend long hours every day roasting and sampling coffee.

#### Strange Matter

8 a.m. to 4 p.m.,  
Tuesday-Sunday  
2010 E. Michigan Ave.  
#103, Lansing  
(517) 224-5495, strange-  
matterco.square.site

and sampling coffee.

"Someone had to do the hard work, and I was ready for it," Nader said.

Over time, the details of the project changed.

"We weren't planning to roast downtown, and we were not initially planning to use this particular roaster," Nader said. "We were going to go into a much larger space that was going to be built for us." Eventually, Nader decided that Strange Matter was going to install the first zero emissions, clean-tech, ventless coffee roaster in the Lansing area.

Then, the COVID-19 pandemic hit

in early March and forced Nader to postpone her work on the roasting project. She said that she was more concerned with just treading water and keeping the folks at Strange Matter employed, safe and well-paid.

The shop evolved to survive these strange times, adding new services specifically tailored for customers worried about their safety in the midst of a pandemic.

At the end of March, Strange Matter began offering local whole bean bag delivery. In May, it began bottling a small line of drinks that went out for delivery once a week. Those changes helped the shop stay open through the spring and summer.

Finally, a year after Nader initially made plans to start working on setting up the roaster, she had the opportunity to complete work on the project.

After a mild incident that resulted in a call to the fire department, the roaster was ready to go. "If you've seen the fire trucks, you know we installed the roaster," Nader joked. "Sorry, Lan-



Cole Tunningley/City Pulse

Strange Matter's now roasts its own coffee beans with a zero emissions roaster.

sing Fire Department."

Bags of Strange Matter's locally roasted coffee beans are available for

delivery or pickup at its Michigan Avenue location. You can order online at its website, strangematterco.square.site. The shop kindly encourages customers to wear masks when picking up their orders.

Nader is particularly excited to offer coffee from Rwanda Nyampinga, a female-owned cooperative based out of Southern Rwanda's Nyaruguru district. "Coffee is a very male-dominated industry from farming to the roasting process to being a barista," Nader said. "So, I was really, really pumped to serve their coffee."

Strange Matter's bakery, which launched two years ago, was yet another way that Nader ensured the shop could stay afloat during difficult times.

"Evolution is essential for creating reliable employment for our employees and the chain of folks employed indirectly in making our business run, including farmers, food distributors, coffee importers, and delivery drivers," Nader explained.

## Depression food to take away your blues

By **ARI LEVAUX**

I somehow made it through childhood with minimal exposure to what I now realize was, for many, a cherished part of many a growth spurt: a grilled cheese sandwich alongside a bowl of tomato soup.

This iconic lunch combo, as American as a burger, wasn't in my parents' cooking rotation, and my friends were hippies or Korean and it wasn't on their menus either. And forget about school lunch. It only took a sloppy Joe or two, and one of those reddish dry slabs they shamelessly called "pizza." I learned at that early age the importance of packing a lunch, and remember being dimly aware that the school lunch eaters sometimes had grilled cheese and tomato soup, but never intrigued.

Not that I could have learned at school the joy of biting into the glistening edge of a dunked grilled cheese, at once crusty and soggy, dry and wet, acidic and fatty, melty and cheesy. But I can now see how for many, this dish was eye-opening.

It's also a hearty meal, a complete



source of protein and Vitamin C, which is why during the Great Depression school cafeterias stockpiled cans of tomato soup and grilled cheese materials. I knew none of this until a Los Angeles-based client reached out, asking if I would investigate a certain Depression-era meal from southwest Montana.

"My Grandma Fay, who lived in the Bitterroot Valley up the Burnt Fork, used to prepare tomato toast, which was basically a piece of toast smothered with a creamy tomato sauce. She probably used real cream back in the day, topped with a cooked egg if you had 'em."

I never did track down out Aunt Fay's recipe, but the research process, and the keywords involved, occasionally brought me to corners of the web

occupied by crusty grilled cheese sandwiches and smooth, tangy tomato soup.

The archetypes and keywords were on my mind when friend of the column and noted novelist Chad Dundas (most recently: *The Blaze*), tweeted despairingly, "Perhaps my biggest disappointment as a father so far is my children's unwillingness to recognize the splendor of pairing grilled cheese sandwiches & tomato soup. They could take or leave it & I'm considering petitioning for a DNA test."

The nuance of the discussions in the comments to his Tweet included topics like how best to cut the sandwich (corner to corner), and spirited spat over chunky tomato soup.

Dundas may not be Aunt Fay up the Burnt Fork, but I knew I needed this man of letters as my guide, like Dante needed Virgil, with his unconscious understanding of the goal. He's not looking for angles to improve upon perfection. The soup is Campbell's. The bread is white. The cheese is orange.

I brought those ingredients home, and the next thing you know I'm mak-

ing out the combo for my kids, all wolfing it down like it was their first taste of food. Soon my kids' hungry, unmasked friends were over, also wanting food. When the dust settled, I had stuffed six little bellies for about \$7.

See Flash, Page 32

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# Flash

from page 31

Alone to my own devices, and in honor of Aunt Fay's tomato toast, I worked on cooking an egg in the middle of the grilled cheese, which turns out to be pretty tasty, like a cheesy egg-in-a-nest. Then I turned my attention to the soup.

The Campbell's label suggests mixing the contents with a can of milk or water, which if done right also salvages whatever soup clings to the can — an important Depression-era trick. But I found milk dulled the tomatoey sharpness, which lessened the dramatic contrast between soup and sandwich. The soup already has bread mixed in, which adds a certain bisque-like creaminess, even without cream.

If you have serious soup eaters that can of water is the way to go, but I kept finding leftover soup after the sandwiches were long gone. Now I leave it thick. With added garlic and black pepper. And I add hot sauce in the tomato bisque.

## Grilled Cheese and Egg Sandwich

This time of year, when the heirlooms taste like soup and are so ripe you can suck the juice out of them through their own skin, like a spider feasting on a hornet, consider using fresh tomatoes in the sandwich. Just now, while you still can. And then, back to the Campbell's.

1 14-ounce can Campbell's Tomato Soup

4 tablespoons olive oil

1/2 teaspoon black pepper

1 large clove garlic, pressed, mashed or minced

2 pieces sliced bread, preferably white

The equivalent of two Kraft Singles-worth of cheese, preferably cut from a finer, if similarly-hued block of cheese. Cut each slice into long rectangles the width of a chopstick.

1 egg

Optional: hot sauce

In a heavy-bottomed saucepan, heat two tablespoons of oil on medi-

um. When the oil is hot, add the garlic and pepper. After about a minute of fragrant stir-frying, add the soup to the sizzling garlic oil, mixing it quickly. After a minute of heat, turn it off and make the sandwich.

To a heavy-bottomed pan pre-heated to medium, add a tablespoon of oil. Swish a piece of bread around the pan like you're mopping up gravy, and then add the cheese. Make a frame with your thin rectangles of cheese around the edge of the bread, and crack the egg in the middle. Add the second piece of bread. Pour the last tablespoon of olive oil to the top of the upper slice. When you smell the bottom start to burn, flip the sandwich and cook the same amount of time on the other side. Allow it to cool to a safe temperature, and slice corner to corner.

*Flash in the Pan is food writer Ari LeVaux's weekly recipe column. It runs in about 100 newspapers nationwide, nourishing food sections large and small with complete protein for the belly brain.*

*This story is paid for by readers like you through contributions to the CityPulse Fund for Community Journalism. To contribute, please go to lansingcitypulse.com/donation.*

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