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A newspaper for the rest of us



## Grand comeback and last hurrah

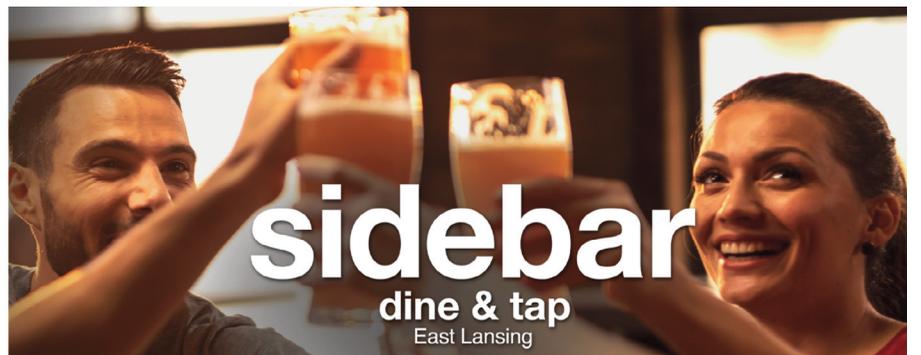
Freddie Cunningham and Root Doctor launch farewell tour

See page 10

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## sidebar

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ONLINE  
Fall 2021**



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**PUBLIC NOTICE  
Of Vehicle Auction  
July 23 2021 - 12 p.m.**  
2011 Chevrolet Traverse 299210  
2016 BMW X1 885695  
Moped 167455  
Moped 050383

P.J.'s Towing  
1425 Rensen St.  
Lansing, MI 48910  
NO PHONE CALLS

CP#21-161

### STATE OF MICHIGAN OFFICE OF THE INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

In the Matter of:  
**Okemos Consolidated Drain**

#### NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DETERMINATION

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** to you as a person liable for an assessment that the Board of Determination, composed of Paulette Hatchett, John Leonard, Cheryl Risner, and Dennis Williams (Alternate), will meet on **Thursday, July 29, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at the Meridian Township Hall, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864** to hear all interested persons and evidence and to determine whether it is necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience or welfare to consolidate the following Drains and Drainage Districts, all of which are located and established within Meridian Charter Township, Ingham County, Michigan:

- Grettenberger Drain and Grettenberger Drain Drainage District
- Meijers Drain and Meijers Drain Drainage District

Said drainage districts once consolidated to be known collectively as the Okemos Consolidated Drain Drainage District, and the Drain to be known as the Okemos Consolidated Drain, as prayed for in the petition dated June 1, 2021 filed with the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, in accordance with Section 441 of 1956 PA 40, as amended.

And further, the Board of Determination is to determine whether the maintenance and improvement prayed for in the Petition dated June 1, 2021, to clean out, relocate, widen, deepen, straighten, tile, extend, provide structures, add lands not within the existing drainage districts, add branches and relief drains, relocate along a highway, add structures and mechanical devices that will properly purify or improve the flow of the drain to be known and designated as the Okemos Consolidated Drain are necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience or welfare of Meridian Charter Township, County of Ingham, State of Michigan, in accordance with Sections 72 and 191 of Act No. 40, PA 1956, as amended.

Information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the Ingham County Drain Commissioner. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Ingham County Drain Commissioner at the number noted below (voice) or through the Michigan Relay Center at 711 (TTY) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance. Minutes of the meeting will be on file in the following office: Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office, 707 Buhl Avenue, Mason, Michigan 48854.

**YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED** that persons aggrieved by the decisions of the Board of Determination may seek judicial review in the Circuit Court for the County of Ingham within ten (10) days of the determination. If the actions prayed for in the Petition are determined to be necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience or welfare, a special assessment may be levied against properties that benefit from the project. A landowner of or party of interest to property to be assessed, or their agent, may appear in person to comment on the necessity of the project.

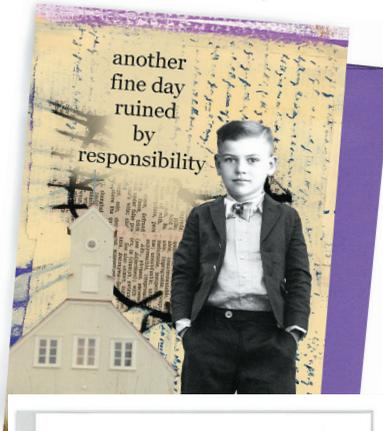
Dated: June 24, 2021 Patrick E. Lindemann, Ingham County Drain Commissioner  
Phone: (517) 676-8395

CP#21-160

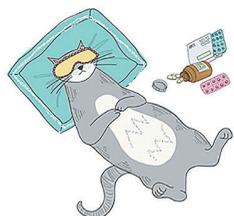
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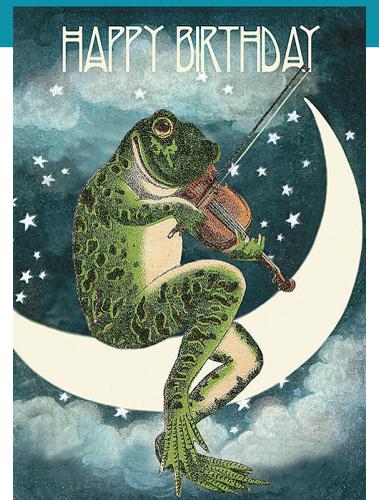
# Make someone feel special Send a greeting card!



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you have officially reached the age where you whisper to yourself 'you are still a rock star' as you take your multivitamin and climb into bed at 9pm...



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IN A RECENT RULING ON ARIZONA'S RESTRICTIVE VOTING LAWS, SUPREME COURT JUSTICE ALITO ARGUED:

"THE MERE FACT THAT THERE IS *SOME* DISPARITY IN IMPACT DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT A SYSTEM IS NOT EQUALLY OPEN."

"MERE INCONVENIENCE CANNOT BE ENOUGH TO DEMONSTRATE A VIOLATION."

NEXT ELECTION, ALITO IS INEXPLICABLY DROPPED INTO A RESERVATION IN THE ARIZONA DESERT!

WOW, IT'S HOT IN THESE ROBES.

WHERE'S A CAR? I NEED TO GO VOTE.

SORRY, A LOT OF PEOPLE CAN'T AFFORD CARS HERE.

FINE, I'LL WALK. WHERE'S THE NEAREST POLLING STATION?

ABOUT 60 MILES THAT WAY.

I'M GOING TO TOWN TO CAST MY BALLOT. BUT I CAN'T DELIVER YOURS BECAUSE THE STATE AND SUPREME COURT MADE IT ILLEGAL.

HEY, YOU LOOK FAMILIAR.

DAYS LATER...

OKAY, HERE'S MY BALLOT.

LOOKS LIKE YOU GOT THE WRONG PRECINCT, SO YOUR VOTE IS INVALID.

SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIENCE.

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# CityPULSE

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**PAGE 8**

Addict recovery during a global pandemic



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Dam Jam is back



**PAGE 21**

Flash in the Pan: Tandy's coleslaw



**Cover Art**

Photo by Lawrence Cosentino

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## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

MORE THAN 230 PEOPLE WERE KILLED IN SHOOTINGS OVER THE FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND AND IT WAS BARELY EVEN A BLIP IN THE NEWS.

I DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR CULT-LIKE DEVOTION TO THE SECOND HALF OF THE SECOND AMENDMENT-- WE HAVE A **SERIOUS** GUN PROBLEM IN THIS COUNTRY.

NO WE DON'T. --BEG YOUR PARDON?

YOU'RE OVERLOOKING AN IMPORTANT POINT HERE--THOSE SHOOTINGS WERE CLEARLY THE WORK OF **IRRESPONSIBLE** GUN OWNERS-- AND/OR **CRIMINALS!**

IF YOU FACTOR IN THE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS WHO **WEREN'T** KILLED BY **RESPONSIBLE, LAW-ABIDING** GUN OWNERS, YOU'LL SEE THAT STATISTICALLY, WE DON'T HAVE A GUN PROBLEM AT ALL! IT'S BARELY AN **INCONVENIENCE!**

SO "NO TRUE SCOTSMAN," BUT FOR GUNS, IS WHAT WE'RE GOING WITH HERE.

YEP! THAT'S MY STORY AND I'M STICKING TO IT!

AND YET SOMEHOW THIS DOES NOT ASSUAGE MY ANXIETY.

DO I LOOK LIKE YOUR SHRINK?

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# The Republican assault on voting rights

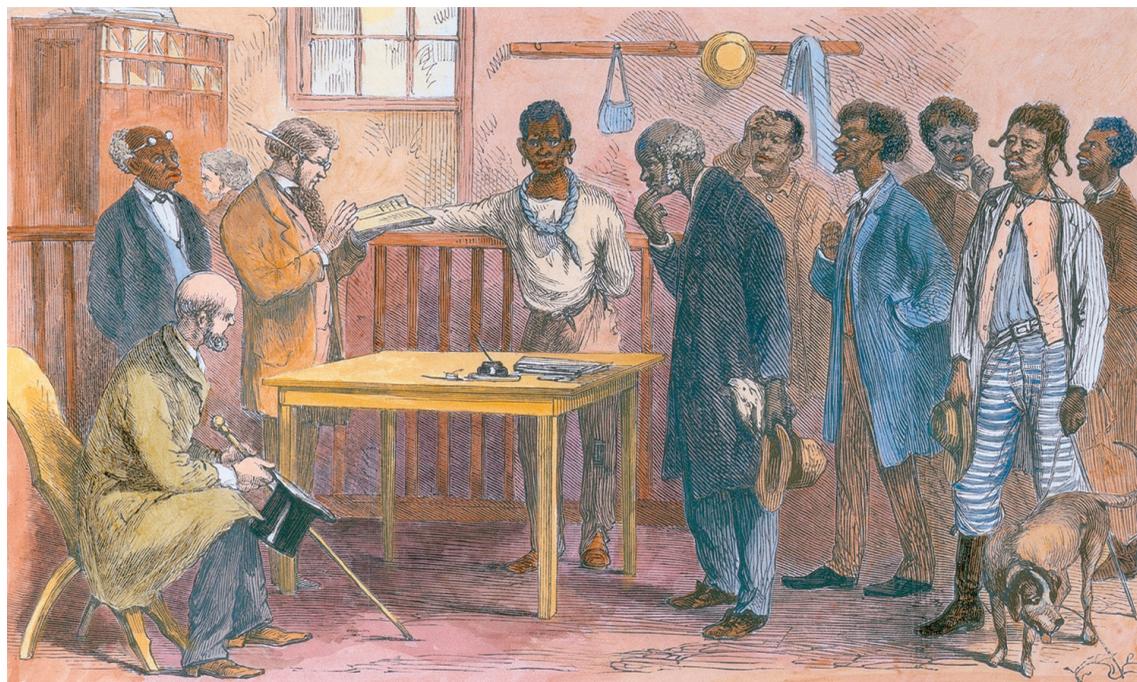
Vice President Kamala Harris, during her stop in Detroit this week, took aim at Republican voter suppression efforts in Michigan and elsewhere, calling the fight for the right to vote “as American as apple pie.” We’ll have a slice of that. Those who would make it harder to participate in our elections are at best unpatriotic and at worst partisan connivers looking to tip the scales of our democracy toward themselves by disenfranchising voters who tend to cast their ballots for Democrats.

Which brings us to Senate Republicans in the Michigan Legislature, who last week took another swing at advancing their package of 39 so-called “election security” bills. For the most part, the bills are a farce masquerading as serious concern for the integrity of our elections. Taken as a whole, it’s easy to discern the intent behind the package, which is clearly the result of a brainstorming session among Republican strategists whose mission was to dream up as many ways as possible to muck up the voting process in Michigan.

Having promoted the lie that the presidential election was stolen amid rampant voter fraud, the Grand Old Party now has to work overtime to assuage a still-agitated base that drank copious amounts of orange Kool Aid last year, gleefully dispensed by folks like Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey and his colleagues. Evidently, failing to embrace the voter fraud meme remains one of the Seven Deadly Sins of today’s Republican Party. Cowardice and mendacity easily supplant courage and conviction among those who fear being branded as co-conspirators with devilish Democrats looking to steal future elections. Even worse, they might be run off the Republican ranch altogether by a primary challenger shouting “stop the steal” while waving a MAGA 2024 banner.

The Republican proposals range from the innocuous and the inane to the downright dangerous, at least insofar as any attempt to suppress the vote is a grave hazard to our democracy. Among the worst of the bunch is a bill that would require signature verification at the polls, a surefire recipe for chaos and confusion on Election Day. While we appreciate and honor the hard work of the citizen poll workers who help make the voting process run smoothly, asking them to validate signatures for every voter who walks through the door is a bridge too far.

A related measure would require voters to present photo IDs in order to vote at the polls. If you don’t have a photo ID or forgot it at home, instead of signing an affidavit attesting to your identity, your vote would be considered provisional, which would then require you to visit your local clerk’s office within six days to prove your identity. Adopting these bills would make Michigan the only state in the nation to require



## The CP Edit

### Opinion

both photo ID and signature verification at the polls.

Taking special aim at suppressing the absentee vote, which is generally thought to favor Democrats, the Republicans at first floated the idea that absentee voters must send a photocopy of their driver’s license or state ID along with their ballot. They’ve since come to understand that most people think that’s a really dumb idea, so they shifted gears to writing your ID number or the last four digits of your Social Security number on your ballot. Of course, none of this is necessary to ensure safe elections. Absentee ballots are already subject to rigorous validation to ensure that the voter in question is on the rolls, alive and eligible to vote.

Another bill would prohibit the secretary of state and local clerks from mailing unsolicited absentee ballot applications to eligible voters. This bit of malarkey goes hand-in-hand with the attempt to mislead gullible people into believing that many voters — some of them no longer among the living — were sent actual ballots they never requested. Of course, both major political parties and numerous candidates on both sides of the aisle routinely send out absentee ballot applications to encourage their preferred voters to vote by mail.

And God forbid that anyone uses one of the fleet of drop boxes deployed in communities across the state, including here in Lansing, to make it more convenient to vote. Despite zero validated claims of ballot box stuffing or other nefarious abuses, Republicans want clerks to install expensive video surveillance cameras to monitor each one — just in case.

Even the most trivial of the bills — especially the one that prohibits the secretary of state and local clerks from putting their name or likeness on any publicly funded election communications — reeks of hypocrisy, coming as it does from the same Capitol gang that routinely spends your tax dollars promoting themselves with glossy mailers.

City and county clerks across the state, at least the ones who take their jobs as neutral election administrators seriously, are understandably aghast at many of the proposals. To their credit, they are working in good faith with legislators to ferret out the proposals that make sense, tweak the ones that need work and discard those that make it harder for citizens to vote and for administrators to run smooth elections. We applaud their efforts.

What can you do to help stop the voter suppression crazy train at the Capitol? Call your state legislators to let them know you are watching, especially if you live in a district represented by a Republican. Above all, exercise your right to vote. As the old saying goes, in a democracy we get the government we deserve.

# CityPULSE



## LOCAL EXPERTS

### GIFTS

#### Basics of framing

**You don't have to turn your home into a museum.**

The pieces you want to frame well most likely aren't expensive masterpieces. They still deserve preservation and love. They're posters, children's paintings and art pieces bought on special vacations.

#### Frame for the future.

Matting should always be acid-free. Acrylic or glass on the front should be treated to protect from UV rays.

#### Canvases don't need UV protection.

Oil paintings generally won't need glass or acrylic. And besides, you'll want to be able to see the texture of the piece. But a frame will help protect the art itself.

#### Lighting matters to the life of your art.

Some mediums – watercolors, textiles, even some photographs – should be hung in indirect light. Even with UV protection in the glass, these mediums need to stay in a well-shaded area. Canvases can be hung in indirect sunlight, as well.



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## Chasm growing between Trump, MI Republicans

Donald Trump is digging the trench between himself and any critical-thinking Michigan Republican a little deeper.

Elected Republicans who aren't buying his complaint that the 2020 election was stolen from him are no longer just "weak." They need to face a primary election, according to Trump.

This now includes the entire 20-member Michigan Republican Senate caucus, which is standing behind a fellow member who concluded no substantial fraud existed in Michigan's 2020 election.

"Hopefully, American Republican Patriots will primary the RINO State Senators in Michigan who refuse to properly look into the election irregularities and fraud, which took place in Detroit and much of the rest of Wayne County, in the 2020 Presidential election. The challengers will have great and powerful MAGA support," Trump wrote Monday.

The former president has ambushed the pejorative "RINO" (Republicans in Name Only) — originally used by right wing conservatives to describe moderate or center-right Republicans — to mean anyone who doesn't buy his disjointed conspiracy claim.

This presumably means state Sen. Ed McBroom, R-Vulcan, a teetotaling church choir leader who spent a half year looking into the conspiracy claims. He's a RINO?

In Trump's eyes, yes, because McBroom, with a critical eye, found out:

— Those boxes of absentee ballots pulled into the TCF Center in Detroit at 3 p.m.? They were just ballots picked up at various Detroit drop boxes that hadn't been tallied yet. A picture circulated allegedly showing ballots being secretly delivered late at night was, in reality, a WXYZ-TV photographer hauling his equipment.

— Computers connected to the Internet? To the extent any of the computers at the TCF Center in Detroit were connected to the Internet, no evidence has been produced showing any computers were tampered with.

— Simple numbers dispute claims that more people in Detroit voted than are registered voters in the city. The 250,138 votes in Detroit is less than



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

50% of the registered voters in the city. — Antrim County? First of all, more people live in Delta Township than in Antrim County.

Second, to blow up the clerk's well-documented screwups in a rural Michigan county as the smoking gun of a national conspiracy involving Dominion software is like claiming McBroom's report is bad because of a typo or two (not that I found one).

This probably means Sen. Lana Theis, too. She's on the committee that put its name to the McBroom report.

She penned legislation to ban critical race theory in schools and transgender women from participating with women high school sports. She's now a RINO?

Sure, election workers didn't follow the rules 100%. But to get from here to widespread voter fraud — when the results and the pollbooks, by and large, match — takes a logical leap that can only be bridged by a government skeptic's over-imagination.

Yet, Trump wrote this weekend about "mass evidence that has been accumulated which shows voter fraud at a level that is virtually beyond comprehension."

Could he have meant at a level so small, that it can't be comprehended?

Judges across the state has thrown out these claims for lack of any proof. In fact, U.S. District Judge Linda Parker may sanction the attorneys who brought the flimsy claims into her federal courtroom.

Slowly, non-lemming Republicans are coming around on Trump for overplaying the sore loser card.

Take Tony Daunt, a Republican member of the Board of State Canvassers, and one of the most conservative people you're ever going to meet, for example. After hearing McBroom explain his report Tuesday, Daunt said it's unfortunate Trump continues to "spout lies" that the election was rigged.

"I just want to thank you, the committee, for having the courage to do this report, to put the information out there without leaning on the scales, for having the courage to stand up against the malignancy that is Donald Trump and the people who lacked the courage to stand up to him for the last six months," Daunt said.

More Republicans may slowly do the same.

(Kyle Melinn of the Capitol news service MIRS is at melinnk7@gmail.com.)

# REWIND

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS



By KYLE KAMINSKI



### Ranked choice voting heads to ballot

The Lansing City Council advanced plans to eliminate primary elections and fundamentally shift the way local voters elect their mayors, clerks and Council members. The proposal on the November ballot would allow voters to rank order candidates by preference rather than just voting for a single candidate in 2022, possibly triggering a series of runoff elections.

### East Lansing searches for volunteers

City officials are looking to fill several vacancies on various advisory boards and commissions and are actively encouraging local residents to apply online at [cityofeastlansing.com/vacancies](http://cityofeastlansing.com/vacancies). Most of the boards with vacancies meet monthly and do not require experience.

### Art gallery reopens in Lansing

The Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center announced free and publicly open hours with no advance appointments needed from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Face masks are also no longer required. Visit [lansingartgallery.org](http://lansingartgallery.org) for more information.

### Shooting leaves one teen dead

Cashad Jerry Pops, 19, of Lansing, died after being shot near the intersection of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and St. Joseph Highway. Police said Pops had been shot in the head following reports of shots being fired between two vehicles. No arrests have been made. Those with information about the incident are encouraged to call authorities at 517-483-4600.

### Teenager killed in traffic crash

Police said Janessa Renee Batholomew-Hayter, 18, was killed in a two-car crash near the intersection of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Northrup Street. The 18-year-old female driver of her car, an 18-year-old female passenger and a 9-year-old passenger were also hospitalized, as was the 24-year-old female driver of the other car, the Journal reported. Authorities expect high speeds and alcohol were factors.

### In-person Council meetings resume

The Lansing City Council hosted its first in-person meeting in more than a year. The East Lansing City Council — as well as all other boards and commissions — plans to resume in-person meetings in August. Live streams of meetings are still available online.



### Local gun range makes changes

Total Firearms in Mason has agreed to implement policy reforms in response to a lawsuit filed by the mother of a woman killed by her ex-boyfriend with a gun he rented, then stole, from the store, the Journal reports. In exchange for dismissing the lawsuit, the gun range has reportedly agreed to add staff training and suicide and mental health screenings.

### Catalytic converter thefts rise in Lansing

A spokesman for the Lansing Police Department said there has been an uptick in catalytic converter thefts in the city. Additional details were not immediately available. Experts recommend installing anti-theft devices or setting up security cameras to mitigate concerns.



### Fundraiser supports Lansing Makers Network

A new crowdfunding campaign from the Michigan Economic Development Corp. could allow the Lansing Makers Network to grow into a larger space and continue to expand its programming. If the campaign reaches its \$50,000 goal by Sept. 10, the funds will be matched by the MEDC. The Makers Network provides collaborative work space for hobbyists, entrepreneurs and artists. Visit [patronicity.com/lansingmakers](http://patronicity.com/lansingmakers) for more information about the new crowdfunding campaign.

### Liquor coming to old City Market

The Lansing City Council approved a liquor license request from the Lansing Shuffleboard and Social Club, which plans to move into the old City Market building this winter and open in 2022. The new business is now accepting applications for food and vendors at [lansingshuffle.com](http://lansingshuffle.com).



1412 W. Ionia St., Lansing

This owner of this week's eyesore has until mid-August to make an estimated \$124,000 in repairs or the city will be cleared to tear down this Westside Neighborhood home before the fall.

And perhaps it'll be for the best. It might not look all too shabby on the outside, but city officials reported "hazardous" electrical wiring inside, along with plumbing and HVAC work completed without a permit or inspection; no utilities or sanitary service; missing guardrails; an accumulation of debris in the basement; a deteriorating concrete porch and much more.

The home, owned by Erin Robert-Wolfgang Schultz, was considered too dangerous to remain standing in early 2019. An order from the City Council gives him about 37 days to fix the place up or city contractors will tear the place down and bill him at least \$10,000 for the demolition.

Schultz told City Council members last month that he pulled "more than a few" permits for repairs and plans to have the home totally renovated as soon as possible. Councilwoman Carol Wood said the Council could grant an extension if Schultz can demonstrate why he deserves it.

"The house is fine," Schultz insisted. "We fixed everything."

City officials didn't respond to questions about the pending demolition process. Records show that taxes haven't been paid on the property since 2019, with a balance of more than \$4,000.

Schultz was on Lansing's most wanted list in 2009, according to reports in MLive. Court records show he has been charged with multiple felonies, including drug and weapon charges and a felony count of assaulting a pregnant woman. He pleaded guilty to drug and gun charges as well as third-offense domestic violence and was sentenced to four years in prison.

Attempts to reach Schultz for this column were unsuccessful.

—KYLE KAMINSKI

"Eyesore of the Week" is our look at some of the seedier properties in Lansing. It rotates with Eye Candy of the Week and Eye for Design. Have a suggestion? Email [eye@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:eye@lansingcitypulse.com) or call it in at 517-999-6715.

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
PROBATE COURT  
INGHAM COUNTY  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Trust  
Case 21-812-DE  
Estate of Elizabeth Myerson  
Tableman. Date of birth: June 12,  
1922.  
TO ALL CREDITORS:  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The  
decedent, Elizabeth Myerson  
Tableman, died April 28, 2021.  
Creditors of the decedent are  
notified that all claims against the  
estate will be forever barred unless  
presented to Kenneth P. Tableman,  
personal representative, or to  
both the probate court at 313  
West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing,  
MI 48933 and the personal  
representative within 4 months  
after the date of publication of this  
notice.  
July 12, 2021  
Robert E. Refior II P43374  
1515 W. Mt. Hope Ave., Ste 5  
Lansing, MI 48910  
517-374-8890  
Kenneth P. Tableman  
71 Maryland Avenue, southeast  
Grand Rapids, MI 49506  
616-233-0455  
CP#21-163

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
Decedent's Trust  
Elizabeth Tableman Revocable  
Living Trust w/d August 6, 2002  
Date of Birth: June 12, 1922  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The  
decedent, Elizabeth Myerson  
Tableman, died April 28, 2021.  
Creditors of the decedent are  
notified that all claims against the  
decedent and the trust described  
below will be forever barred unless  
presented to Kenneth P. Tableman,  
Successor Trustee of the Elizabeth  
Tableman Revocable Living Trust  
Agreement dated August 6, 2002,  
71 Maryland, Southeast, Grand  
Rapids, MI 49506 within 4 months  
after the date of publication of this  
notice.  
July 12, 2021  
Robert E. Refior II P43374  
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Lansing, MI 48910  
517-374-8890  
Kenneth P. Tableman  
71 Maryland Avenue, southeast  
Grand Rapids, MI 49506  
616-233-0455  
CP#21-164

# Pandemic hits different for recovering drug addicts in Lansing

Kristen Janecke remembers seeing faces of strangers in uniforms when she came back to consciousness. Cops and firefighters were yelling at her to wake up as she lay sprawled on the floor of a local McDonald's. Her 5-year-old daughter told staff that she could not wake mom up.

"It was terrible," Janecke recounted.

The 42-year-old Lansing resident had overdosed on an injection of heroin laced with fentanyl. Officials were forced to revive her with the drug naloxone, a strong anti-opioid drug that reverses the effects of the drug and can work to revive a person after an opiate overdose.

"I immediately asked for help," she said.

For addicts, recovery is difficult enough normally. The pandemic only worsened the experience.

Janecke's case manager at a local homeless shelter was able to connect to her with inpatient services. It was February 2020. COVID-19 was looming, but it hadn't been detected in Michigan.

But by the time Kristen entered an inpatient recovery facility, the virus had arrived. Her recovery would be marred by both the struggles to overcome dependency to heroin and also the isolation of state health orders that shut down the city and the many in-person support groups.

"It was difficult," she



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Kristen Janecke is turning her life around after overdosing on heroin, but doing so during the pandemic has only made a difficult process even harder.

said. "We were kind of all locked down together and there were struggles."

After inpatient care, Janecke went to transitional living. All meetings and contact were via Zoom.

"We were in our rooms, on our phones, doing meetings and people were there, but they blacked out their cameras and weren't talking," she said. "It was a very weird thing."

Since February, Janecke has been enrolled in medical assisted therapy, which slowly replaces a heroin with measured doses of methadone until the user is no longer dependent on either drug.

But the pandemic lockdowns only worked to make the recovery process harder, she explained.

"I hadn't had much support in my life. All of a sudden this envelope of support was gone," she said.

Janecke now helps others through their recovery efforts through a new nonprofit called Lifeboat, where she can again connect with people in-person for meaningful recovery conversations.

Nick DeMott, 32, is the network center coordinator for Lifeboat. The program serves as a wraparound community center for those in recovery. It offers meetings related to various forms of recovery — not just the traditional 12-step program. It also offers access to computers for participants to access schooling, support meetings and apply for state benefits.

"Recovery is a journey," DeMott said

can lead to seeking assistance down the road, he explained.

Finnerty watched from his position at the hospital as the nature of those showing up for assistance changed. Early in the pandemic as people got their checks from the federal government, there was an uptick in overdoses.

"People had money, and not much else to do," he said. "So there were overdoses."

Last year was a deadly year for opioid users in Ingham County. Preliminary county data shows at least 84 people (including 78 locals) died from opioid overdoses in Ingham County last year.

But then, it shifted. The drugs on the street dried up as the pandemic lockdown continued. Finnerty suspects drug transportation lines had been hampered by the pandemic. Hospitals started to see more people with withdrawal symptoms who went into involuntary detox, he said.

Now that the lockdowns and restrictions have lifted, Finnerty said he is — once again — seeing more overdoses related to heroin. He estimates about one a day at his local emergency room.

But they are also seeing an influx of methamphetamine overdoses, characterized largely by extreme psychiatric manifestations that include psychotic breaks. There is not much he and his team can do to support those folks, but they certainly haven't stopped trying, Finnerty explained.

Janecke has joined the Lifeboat team as peer support advocate. She's rebuilding her life and is no longer homeless. Her children are back by her side. But she and her husband have separated as he continues to spiral into addiction. When the two sought refuge during homelessness, she went to a shelter and he stayed on the streets.

"I am hoping by telling my story, my truth, I can reach and help at least one person," she said.

— TODD HEYWOOD

## CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, a criminal conviction against mayoral candidate Larry Hutchinson Jr. was improperly identified in a story about the city election candidates in last week's print edition. Hutchinson is still paying fines on a recent OWI conviction in Clinton County.

### STATE OF MICHIGAN INGHAM COUNTY PROBATE COURT NOTICE OF HEARING WITH REMOTE PARTICIPATION CASE# 20-001092-GA-P33 RICHARD J. GARCIA 313 W. Kalamazoo, Lansing, MI 48933

In the matter of Duane Petosky  
TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on July 22, 2021 at 10:45 a.m., before Richard J. Garcia using the remote access technology explained below, for the following purpose: Guardianship Hearing.

Technical instructions for participating in the remote hearing: Judge Garcia's Personal Meeting Room ID Number: 7801262544. (you may attend the hearing live at the courthouse if you can; pass screening, wear a mask and observe social distancing.)

1. If you are using a desktop or laptop, go to zoom.us and click "join a call" and when prompted, enter the PMR number.  
2. If you are using a tablet or phone, open Zoom app and join meeting with PMR.  
3. If you are using a cell phone or landline phone, call 646-876-9923 or 669-900-6833 and enter the PMR when prompted.

If you are unable to participate by telephone or Zoom, please immediately contact the Judge's Judicial Assistant at 517-483-6339 for further information/direction.

Please do not call Judge's Office unless you are unable to participate by Zoom or phone.

If you require accommodations to use the court because of a disability, or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.

General guidelines for participation in a remote court hearing:

- Download and become familiar with the program being used for the hearing, and test the video, microphone, and speaker controls.
- If you are having technical issues, please review any technical support provided by the program or application.
- Find a space that will have as few interruptions as possible. If you will be using video, make sure there is good lighting.

- The remote court hearing is a court proceeding and therefore an extension of the courtroom - appropriate conduct and attire is required. The judge has control over the proceedings and participants as if they were present in the actual courtroom.
- The information on this form to join the hearing may only be used by you to participate in the hearing.

Gene Mellon  
Adult Protective Services  
5303 S. Cedar  
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CP#21-162

# Lansing needs a new top cop. The last one regrets taking the job.

Former Police Chief Daryl Green regrets becoming a cop. If he could do it all over, he said he would have never joined the Lansing Police Department at all — especially after watching political tensions boil over locally last summer after George Floyd's murder. The job is just too different.

"It's a new era of policing. Post-George Floyd is totally different. It's a whole different world," Green said in a recent interview on the 1320 WILS "Morning Wake-up," with Dave Akerly. "Then you throw in the politics and defund the police narratives — which I totally do not agree with."



Green

He told Akerly: "I absolutely would not join the Police Department from what I know now. Why would a police officer come into this profession if every day you're hearing about defunding them? Why would you go into a profession like that if you're a grown adult? You wouldn't."

Green, 53, announced his retirement on June 9 after fewer than two years as chief. He accepted an offer as chief of staff for Michigan State University Police Chief Marlon Lynch.

His parting words are now a task for Mayor Andy Schor, who could have fewer than six months to find a replacement before the selection could be handed over next year to one of his five challengers — most of whom said they would rather Schor tap the brakes on the hiring process.

Schor declined to answer several questions this week about his hiring plans, except to note that a "thorough and aggressive" nationwide search will be conducted without any estimated timeline. He also wouldn't elaborate on how local residents would be involved in the process.

The search, however, may prove to be challenging during a tense election year centered on racial justice, social equity and public safety reforms. Green's recent remarks have been echoed in statistics that bear out in Lansing and other police agencies across the country: It's a growing challenge to recruit and retain qualified cops (including chiefs) just about everywhere in the U.S.

In June, a survey of nearly 200 departments by the Police Executive Research Forum showed a 45% increase in the retirement rate and a nearly 20% increase in police resignations so far

this year, according to NPR reporting. Green's departure marks 20 positions vacant at LPD.

The Wall Street Journal also reported that at least 18 chiefs from 69 cities that saw protests last summer had resigned, retired, been pushed out or fired between May and October last year.

"For me, it just became a challenge. I just buckled down and put my head down," Green said.

Green first pondered retirement last summer, according to text messages obtained by City Pulse. In the year that followed, he said he was "beat up" for failing to retain and recruit officers — problems that Green also blamed on widespread demands for police reforms in Lansing. By last month, he was ready to leave the "politically charged" city for greener pastures at MSU.

Schor's plans to cast a nationwide net is a first for his administration. When former Chief Mike Yankowski announced his retirement on July 9, 2019, Schor then said he opted against hiring a costly search firm and appointed Green to the position exactly two weeks later.

While Schor won't elaborate on his process, it's clear that his perspective has changed. The national search — if a firm is hired to assist the city — could also come at a significant cost.

Officials at Public Sector Search & Consulting have helped 35 municipalities pick police chiefs in the last four years, including an attempt to recruit Yankowski to the chief job in Grand Rapids. CEO Gary Peterson said those can cost an estimated \$40,000 to \$60,000 and take about 90-120 days.

Peterson said those searches have included an increased emphasis on public safety reforms — including efforts to curb discrimination — in the wake of George Floyd's murder. And while staffing issues have plagued police agencies for years, there's no measurable shortage of talented candidates who are interested in guiding police departments toward the future, he said.

"Are there people out there looking for these jobs? Yes. Absolutely. Are there people still waiting for the pendulum to swing? Yes, but they're not getting the jobs. These issues are here to stay. In some cases, it's actually bringing in the very best candidates to address them," he added.

The mayor's appointment of the police chief also requires the approval of the city's Police Board of Commissioners. Its chairwoman, Patty Farhat, as well as City Council President Peter Spadafore

said they haven't received details from the Mayor's Office on the hiring plans but both expect Schor to search far and wide for a qualified replacement to take the helm.

"It should be a nationwide search, but it shouldn't exclude local candidates," Spadafore said.

Spadafore said expanding the search nationwide could allow for Schor to hire outside expertise that simply doesn't exist within the Police Department, but he also worries it could ruffle internal feathers from high-ranking captains that may be waiting in the seniority line behind Green.

He added: "Either way, I think it will be a challenge to fill this position. Whether they're leaving a job or staying put, it's a big ask to have someone step away from their current job and start something new in a climate like this — especially with these record rates of gun violence."

Regardless of how the hiring process plays out, Lansing's next police chief will have a full plate, including a responsibility to find ways to reduce the rising number of shootings and homicides in Lansing. As of this week, more than 50 shootings and at least 15 homicides have been tallied in 2021 — putting the city on pace to double last year's decades-long annual high of 21 homicides.

As Green was coming on as chief, LPD was launching an internal investigation after eyewitness videos showed a white officer repeatedly striking a Black teenager on Dakin Street. That officer received a 30-hour suspension, which was quietly reversed last year without any announcement.

Alleged racial discrimination among police officers has been a focal issue in Lansing since.

Last April, 54-year-old Anthony Hulon was killed by officers in a jail cell beneath City Hall. The details of his death went on to remain largely undiscovered until a lawsuit was filed in October. Green stayed mostly silent on his death, refusing interviews on the topic until his last day.

And while some public safety reforms have been enacted since, they haven't had much impact.

Last July, Green prohibited officers from initiating traffic stops for defective equipment, which he said disproportionately impacted people of color. In the six months that followed, Black drivers still accounted for about 35% of traffic stops despite making up 22% of the city's population.

Another "reform" included prohibiting officers from busting down doors without knocking when performing search warrants. Only three of those were conducted between 2015 and 2020.

"The next leader of our Police Department has to protect public trust and operate from a place of integrity," said mayoral challenger and activist Farhan Sheikh-Omar. "They have to be honest, transparent and, most importantly, accept accountability for their actions. Lansing needs a leader who will be tasked with restoring faith both inside the department and among residents."

Sheikh-Omar said he wants local cops to have "first crack" at the job opening. Mayoral candidate Melissa Huber said she supports the concept of a nationwide search. Another mayor candidate, Larry Hutchinson Jr., said he wants local voters to decide who becomes the next police chief along with the rest of his cabinet.

All three would also rather Schor delay picking a permanent replacement until after the results of the November election are tallied. If he doesn't, Hutchinson and Sheikh-Omar said they'd fire the next chief in January. City Councilwoman Kathie Dunbar said she backs a national search. Councilwoman Patricia Spitzley did not return calls. Both women are running for mayor in the Aug. 3 primary election.

Added Huber: "I would not purposefully or revengefully seek to fire any cabinet member just because of who hired them. However, strong ties or alliances to past policies and practices that I view as unethical would certainly be a reason to replace an existing cabinet member."

Ingham County Prosecuting Attorney Carol Siemon also supports a nationwide search, but she doesn't expect any city can adequately accomplish that task within the next six months.

"It makes sense to cast the net widely and make it a nationwide search," she said. "This is a very fraught time in policing locally and nationally. There likely will be no 'perfect' candidate who can bring to the position local policing experience; buy-in from the officers, government officials and the community; leadership experience; a diplomatic personality to work with very diverse interests; a large body of academic and research-based knowledge to expand what Lansing can aspire to do; and a willingness to stick it out for a while to provide stable, consistent leadership."

— KYLE KAMINSKI



"He engulfs you into that song," guitarist Bill Malone said of singer Freddie Cunningham.

Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

# 'Soul Shine' and sunshine

## Freddie Cunningham and Root Doctor launch one last summer of soul

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

Around 8:30 p.m. last Friday, the setting sun beamed straight into singer Freddie Cunningham's eyes.

In a pinstriped shirt and gray fedora, the veteran frontman of Lansing's Root Doctor blues band was etched in black and white on a hazy wash of blue sky and green grass. The rustic planks of Laingsburg's new McClintock Park band shell seemed worlds away from Root Doctor's beginnings in smoky downtown bars over 30 years ago.

But Cunningham was soul-deep in his element. The July sun was no match for Root Doctor's soaring anthem, "Soul Shine."

This summer's tour is a post-pandemic comeback and a last hurrah, all in one. At 77, Cunningham is ready to give his body a rest. Every minute he spends inside the music

counts more than ever.

"I've had my run," Cunningham said. "It's getting harder to maintain, and I wanted to close on a good note. I'll still sit in every once in a while, maybe do a night at Mort's. It's just that I can't sustain it every week. It's a good thing to pull the plug while you still have a good taste in your mouth."

"Yes, it's true," guitarist Bill Malone told the Laingsburg audience Friday night to a chorus of groans. "The Root Doctor band is retiring after this year. But we're going out with a blast, just like we came in 32 years ago."

### Rock stars

When Root Doctor came to Docker's Fish House in Muskegon July 5, nearly 2,000 people waited an hour and a half to pack the deck and surrounding beach.

"We just did this four-hour gig because of the energy of the people," Malone said. "They're out there dancing, it's packed, and when that happens, Fred steps it up a notch. His voice becomes stronger and, and when you think he's gassed out, he brings it out from deep inside. We never take him for granted."

Root Doctor's appeal goes far beyond hardcore blues fans. People drive for hours to hear them play in tiny rural towns in northern and western Michigan.

In the movie "The Blues Brothers," an angry mob of regulars at Bob's Country Bunker throws bottles at a Chicago blues band.

"This is the opposite of that," Malone said. "We're treated like rock stars."

A Root Doctor show is a community event,

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## Root

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even in towns GPS can't find.

"It's not just like playing in a bar, where you're just background music," Malone said. "These people come out for a show. They buy CDs, T-shirts, bring us food, invite us to their homes, have a party, call their neighbors. They make us feel like we're the Rolling Stones. I can't remember what happened last week, but those things, you never forget."

Cunningham, an expansive spirit, never bothered much about blues "authenticity." Aching balladry, thumping dance grooves, slashing rock riffs and suspended moments of gospel grace are all part of the Root Doctor mix.

"You can take the songs and change the key, change the tempo," he said. "There's a lot of stuff we did that can make it your own."

"Rainy Night in Georgia," Brook Benton's melancholy 1970 ballad, is not a blues standard, but Cunningham loves the song so much he insisted on including it in the earliest sets, when Root Doctor was still the Downtown Blues Band, in 1989.

It's still his signature song. Cunningham's "Rainy Night in Georgia" is a universal soaker, the human condition distilled into one repeated refrain.

"He is one of the best story tellers I know," Malone said. "He engulfs you into that song."

Friday night in Lainsgburg, Cunningham kept himself, and the audience, in the moment, by dropping small ice cubes of pain into his mellow, 17-year-Scotch vibrato. He broke off a gently hummed reverie, as if a cop told him to move on, and brought the verse back with a shout: "FIND ME a place in a box car."

In the coda, he reached for the inexpressible: "Did you fee-ee-eel it was rainin' all over the world?" The word "feel" forked like lightning over 500 heads and shimmied down every spine.

Cunningham's verbs are the most active verbs ever heard. Singing the simple statement "I did what I had to do," from Keb' Mo's song "Dangerous Mood," he fired the word "did" like a mortar shell.

Several years ago, at a pool party in Bath, Cunningham spontaneously acceded to a barrage of requests from the crowd for country songs.

"He sang the crap out of them," Malone said. "We kidded him about it — Root Doctor featuring Country Fred."

When Malone's mother-in-law, a Tennessee native, asked the band to

play "Tennessee Waltz," Malone fended her off: "Well, maybe, if the piano player knows it."

Keyboardist Chris Corey knew it. Cunningham was game. As they played, Malone glanced at his mother-in-law and saw tears on her face.

"It was so smooth," he said. "It was beautiful. The man can sing anything and make it his interpretation. I've known him 25 years, and every show we do, he just surprises me."

In true Lansing style, Cunningham compared his vocal art to manual work in a tool shop. "It's the same machine, but you change the die and make different things," he said. "When I was younger, singing Temptations songs and things like that, I always had the blues in the back of my mind."

### Roots and fireworks

Freddie Cunningham met bassist James Williams in the 1980s, when both musicians were navigating Lansing's busy blues scene. After dozens of changes in personnel, the two men are still at the core of Root Doctor.

Both men were steeped in music from a young age, especially gospel music. Williams' father was a member of Deep South, a gospel group that worked with The Mighty Clouds of Joy and broadcast on the radio every Sunday morning. Cunningham sang in his cousin's gospel group as a youngster, touring the Midwest and parts of the South, getting their take from the collection plate.

The roots of 1970s R&B, soul music and Motown are not hard to find in the gospel harmonies and rhythms of groups like the Mighty Clouds of Joy, the Dixie Hummingbirds and the Soul Stirrers, all favorites of Cunningham's.

"A lot of teachers and ministers used to give Ray Charles a lot of crap, because it's basically gospel music with different words," Cunningham said.

Cunningham came to Michigan at



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Guitarist Bill Malone (left) and bassist James Williams back Cunningham's lead vocals. Williams and Cunningham have been the nucleus of Root Doctor since its beginnings, in 1989.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Root Doctor on its 2021 farewell tour Friday in Laingsburg. Left to right: Bill Malone on guitar, Austin Howard on drums, James Williams on bass, Freddie Cunningham and keyboardist Clif Metcalf subbing for regular keyboardist Chris Corey.

## Root Doctor Farewell Tour

6-10 p.m. July 17

Michigan Princess • Grand River Park, Lansing

7:30-9 p.m. July 20

Grand Ledge Music in the Park • Jaycee Park, 525 E. River St.

6-8 p.m. Aug. 19

Downtown Tecumseh Music in the Park • Tecumseh, Michigan

9 p.m. Aug. 28

Sundried Music Festival • 148 E. Ash St., Mason

10-11 p.m. Sept. 11

Brighton Smokin' Jazz & Blues Festival

6:30-10 p.m. Oct. 29

Halloween Blues Cruise – Michigan Princess • Grand River Park, Lansing

For more info, visit [rootdoctorband.com](http://rootdoctorband.com)

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# Root

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the age of 3, when his dad got a job at one of the city's many drop forges. He sang all through school, in choirs and gospel groups. After a stint in the Army, he worked at Brody Hall, washing pots and pans for \$1.65 an hour.

He became a porter and then a cook, then went into the bake shop, and then got a job at WKAR-TV, where he worked 35 years before retiring.

He put his singing aside for many years before the Root Doctor era.

"I had a wife and two kids and wanted to be there for them, not going on the road and doing this and doing that," he said.

By the late 1980s, Cunningham was divorced, the children were older and a new source of inspiration came along. While working as a studio supervisor at WKAR, he met an intern, Marge Mooney, who is now his wife, band manager and muse.

In 1989, Cunningham heard that Lansing keyboard stalwart Mike Skory was putting a band together. Mooney encouraged Cunningham to get back to singing.

Meanwhile, Williams had moved to Lansing after two apartment break-ins and a holdup at gunpoint near his old digs in Flint, where he worked at General Motors.

"Lansing was in that blues mode anyway, so it worked out good," he said.

Cunningham and Williams complement each other perfectly. Williams quietly holds the music together, spicing the stew with a terse solo or a backing vocal, giving Cunningham the springboard to do his thing. Friday night, on a dirty roll through Delbert McClinton's "Standing on Shaky Ground," Williams' belly-bouncing bass compressed and ricocheted every note like rubber.

For all his elasticity, Williams drops every note at dead center. He recalled learning from his older brother, Lamar Williams, known to rock fans as the bassist for the Allman Brothers Band.



Courtesy Root Doctor

The 1990s Root Doctor lineup featured (left to right) John Barrera on drums, James Williams on bass and vocals, Freddie Cunningham on vocals, and John Fitzgerald and Scott Allman on guitar.

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Courtesy Root Doctor

Root Doctor began in 1989 as the Downtown Blues Band.

"Lamar used to say, 'Can you hum what you play?'" Williams recalled. "That helped me get in tune with my ear. I learned there was more to it than I realized."

The first Root Doctor lineup was Cunningham, Williams, guitarist Scott Allman, keyboardist Mike Skory and drummer Dick Rosemont. To everyone's surprise, the first gig, "all the way live" at the long-defunct Tango's club in the Knapp's Office Centre in downtown Lansing, led to others.

"There was such a positive response," Cunningham said. "I figured six months, maybe a year."

"It was supposed to be short-term," Williams, who is 70, said with a laugh. "Here I am, 32 and a half years later."

Williams pushed the band toward funky, danceable grooves.

"Blues is cool, but it doesn't always have to be that sad, unhappy stuff," Williams said. "Let's get people involved who want to dance to some Top 40, some old hits."

The mix didn't always go down smoothly. Allman wasn't comfortable with doing Michael Jackson covers and dance tracks like The Commodores' "Brick House" and walked off the stage at one point. Keyboard players came and went.

"We had Skory and John Fitzgerald, then Skory again, and now Chris," Cunningham ticked them off, ending with current keyboardist Chris Corey. "Oh, Doug Decker - that's five different keyboard players. And Jim Alfredson was with us for 10 years."

After Allman left the group, several guitarists came and went, including journeyman axeman Steve Frary.

"It kept us fresh, that's for sure," Cunningham said.

Alfredson, the B-3 virtuoso of the organ trio Organissimo, along with guitarist

Greg Nagy, helped the group reach its long-sought goal of recording in the studio, ushering in a golden age of awards, tours and broader recognition in the 2000s.

A gig in Winnipeg, Manitoba, stands out in Cunningham's memory.

"There aren't many black blues bands in Manitoba," he said. "The people were so receptive to the music. It was fresh to them because most of them never heard that kind of music before."

One memorable night, the band was playing its last song when Cunningham saw fireworks going off. "I walked off stage, I looked to my right and the northern lights were going, and it was the real Aurora Borealis, not this flicker we get now and then," he said. "It was amazing."

## Beautiful journey

In 2009, Root Doctor got an infusion of Detroit energy in the tall, commanding frame of guitarist Bill Malone.

Friday night in Laingsburg, Malone was the chief instigator of a blistering cover of "The Letter." Halfway through the tune, he put his sandaled foot on the wah-wah pedal and fluttered into the blue like a psychedelic moth.

Malone got a lifetime thrill with Root Doctor, opening for reggae legend Jimmy Cliff at Common Ground and meeting Cliff.

"I've been in places and done shows I've never have been able to do if it hadn't been for Root Doctor," Malone said. "It's been a beautiful journey for me."

Malone, 64, grew up in Detroit in the heyday of Motown. When he was 13, his father came back from a vacation in New York with a gift: a Telecaster guitar and a 6-inch amp. Around that same time, Malone experienced Jimi Hendrix, in person, at Olympia. He threw away the saxophone he was playing and concentrated obsessively on guitar, morning to night, joining several rock groups at school.

He got a job at a metal shop at Chrysler in 1975 and sent a drill through his hand soon after. He didn't play for 15 years. Then, one day, while sitting on his sister's front porch, he learned that blues-rock guitar icon Stevie Ray Vaughan was killed in a helicopter crash.

"They were playing his music all over the radio," Malone said. "It just pierced my soul, and I started playing the blues." He took a job as a network engineer with the state of Michigan, moved to Lansing in 1997 and plunged into a thriving blues scene.

The Lansing area clubs in those days were legion: Grandmother's, The Silver Dollar, Rick's American Café, Capital Hill Station. Malone caught up with Root Doctor at Tango's.

He recalls gigging until 2 a.m. and making it back to the office at 7:30 the next morning.

"Never was late, never missed a day," he said. "Now I'm an old man and I can't do it anymore. We've been doing it a long time, and Freddie's been doing it a LOOONGGG time."

There are things Cunningham won't miss about touring with Root Doctor. At Friday's gig in Laingsburg, he fought not only with the sun, but with a recalcitrant microphone that distorted his voice at high volumes and lacked power at low volumes. He sang over, under and through the problems so deftly that people stopped noticing.

"To tell you the truth, it's a lot of anxiety before you get there, especially places where you haven't been," Cunningham said. "Are they going to like us? How's this going to go, how's that going to work? Are we going to get there on time? How's the weather?"

At the July 5 Muskegon gig, Cunningham temporarily lost track of two of his bandmates, Williams and Malone. They were unprepared for the cold wind off the lake and rushed off to buy long-sleeve shirts.

"You have a lot of anxiety," Cunningham repeated, "but you get there, it's OK, and you say, 'What was I worried about?'"

# ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

## After the rain

Rodney Whitaker's "Outrospection" processes the pandemic

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

A lone trombone casts a shard of song onto the waves, a bottle with a note inside: Is anybody out there?

"Outrospection," the title track of bassist Rodney Whitaker's latest CD, bares the scars from the lonely year of 2020, along with hopes for a better future together.

Whitaker recalled the momentous day last August when he convened an all-star ensemble of musicians who hadn't played for months.

"People felt like crying after the first tune," Whitaker said. "There was a point in the pandemic where you just felt no hope, nobody knew whether we were going to play again."

Whitaker being Whitaker, the album is overwhelmingly life affirming, but it has an alert, off-kilter intensity, even at its most optimistic. The last track, "Peace Song," soothes the soul while leaving plenty of room for questions.

"People were afraid to be in the studio with other people," Whitaker said. "We were in separate booths. We were on edge and I hear all of that in the music. They played at a different level of sensitivity."

"Outrospection" continues the fruitful association between Whitaker and composer Gregg Hill, a longtime patron of jazz in Lansing, that began with their 2019 album, "Common Ground."

Hill's tunes, arranged by Whitaker, go through a lot of phases, but not to show

off. The music follows elusive emotional arcs and intellectual labyrinths, grasping on to the work of jazz greats like Thelonious Monk, Wayne Shorter and Duke Ellington's musical partner, Billy Strayhorn, as a thread in the darkness.

"Gregg told a good story with the compositions," Whitaker said. "All I did was organize it."

In the title tune, trombonist Michael Dease's aching solo is subjected to a series of brisk bumps, in the style of Monk. Suddenly, a waltz groove as warm as a lover's breath answers Dease's note in the bottle: "Don't fear. We're here." When Dease returns for a second solo, he sounds as if he's washed ashore and breathing again, like Ulysses.

"For me, that tune summed up what everybody was feeling, the sadness of that time and the joy to come," Whitaker said.

Whitaker's original personnel picks for the session, trumpeter Terrell Stafford and saxophonist Tim Warfield, didn't want to travel because of the pandemic.

Fortunately, Whitaker could draw on his fellow MSU Professors of Jazz, including Dease, trumpeter Etienne Charles, saxophonist Diego Rivera, pianist Xavier Davis and drummer Randy Gelispie. (Last week, Dease was named 2021 Trombonist of the Year in *DownBeat* magazine's Critics' Poll.) Guitarist Randy Napoleon also pops in for a track, meshing beautifully with Davis.

Rivera soars from languid romance to vein-bursting urgency with equal conviction, Charles is nimble as a butterfly and vocalist Rockelle Fortin pushes her swinging art into the rarefied, exposed atmosphere of 20th-century art song. Fortin also wrote lyrics to several of the tunes.



Courtesy

Rodney Whitaker's new album, "Outrospection," continues his creative partnership with composer Gregg Hill.

Anchoring the music's phases and moods, Whitaker is a volcanic boulder that barely obtrudes above the waves. When he does take center stage, he doesn't waste a second. His solo on the Utopian ballad "New Sunday" is like rain dripping from leaves when a storm has past. It sums up the hopeful tone of the entire album.

Whitaker's optimism is all the more remarkable, considering the impact of the pandemic on jazz world, and his own circle.

"For about 30 days, you kept hearing news about some jazz icon dying," he said. "I know a lot of people who lost their apartments and had to leave New York City, or sell insurance or real estate."

Fresh from a series of gigs of Australia, the peripatetic bassist had to put the brakes on touring in March 2020. He laid low in East Lansing and kept busy running the jazz studies program, teaching students, doing a lot of recording and catching up with his family.

"We ate a meal together as a family six or seven nights a week, and I got more rest than I ever did," he said. "I started taking better care of my health, my diet."

Now he's traveling again, but only one weekend or so every month — "a better balance than I had before."

"Everybody's calling for recordings, club dates, concerts — a lot of international calls. People are trying to pick up where they left off, starting to plan tours again."

## Dam Jam expands into three-day music festival

By SKYLAR ASHLEY

Lansing 5:01's Dam Jam, an annual free-to-attend concert series and networking party that hopes to connect local young professionals and celebrate Lansing's unique culture, is getting bigger and better.

Originally a single-day show at Adado Riverfront Park called Bridge Fest, Dam Jam has now grown into a

### Lansing 5:01 Dam Jam

Free w/ registration at [lansing501.com/events/dam-jam](https://lansing501.com/events/dam-jam)  
Music starts at 5 p.m. each night  
Thursday, July 15 through  
Saturday, July 17  
Brenke Fish Ladder in Old Town  
216 E. Grand River Road, Lansing  
[lansing501.com](https://lansing501.com)

three-day music festival complete with food vendors and an artisan village at

the Brenke Fish Ladder in Old Town. Attendees will also have the opportunity to book kayak trips down the Grand River with Rivertown Adventures or relax in a pop-up hammock park put together by Moosejaw.

"The original themes are still there. We are showcasing cultural attractions, local music, artists, food and the differ-



Courtesy

Frontier Ruckus headlines Saturday's concert at Dam Jam.

ent forms of mobility along downtown," Lansing 5:01 director Chris Sell said.

The concert's multi-day lineup features a diverse blend of genres. Three groups will perform per day starting at 5 p.m. Friday's headliner MikeyyAustin

and the Soulcial Club is a neo-soul-inspired hip-hop band, while Saturday's headliner Frontier Ruckus has its own fresh take on rootsy folk rock and the Ben Daniels Band, which has top billing on Thursday, blends indie rock

with country.

"We're turning the bottom of Brenke Fish Ladder into a makeshift concert venue, which is an incredible space for that. We're working with Message Makers to create really dynamic staging, lighting and sound," Sell said. "All of the music is Michigan-based."

The artisan village joins together several vendors from Greater Lansing that will be selling original artwork and a wide range of goods that will make great gifts for friends and loved ones. Dam Jam's close proximity to Old Town also means attendees can check out a number of local restaurants and shops.

Sell founded the Lansing 5:01 nonprofit in 2016 to help attract and retain young, talented professionals to the Greater Lansing area and connect them with local businesses and organizations. Sell said Lansing 5:01 is supported by grant funding and corporate sponsorships and works toward its mission through robust marketing and events and programs like Dam Jam.

"We encourage everyone to come out and enjoy one or multiple days of fun and entertainment," Sell said.

# Gage nabs licensing deal to bring 'Khalifa Kush' to Michigan

## Rapper's premium cannabis lineup heading to Lansing by December

By KYLE KAMINSKI

There's no shortage of cannabis brands inspired, endorsed or created by celebrities and recording artists — particularly in the hip-hop world, which aligns especially well with pot culture.

We have Leafs by Snoop, Trees by Game, Monogram from Jay-Z and Lil Wayne's GKUA Ultra Premium lineup. Jim Belushi also runs Belushi's Farm. Seth Rogen has Houseplant. And of course, Willie Nelson and Tommy Chong are both cashing in with their own weed brands.

Last week, another heavy hitter in stoner culture announced plans to arrive in Michigan before the end of the year: multi-platinum selling Taylor Gang rapper and U.S. Jointmaster General Wiz Khalifa and his dank lineup of Khalifa Kush flower, pre-rolls, vapes, edibles and concentrates.

Gage Cannabis — which launched in Lansing last May — will work to develop and commercialize the products under a five-year licensing agreement announced last week. That deal also makes Gage the exclusive retailer of Khalifa Kush products across the state of Michigan. Currently, the Khalifa Kush brand is only available in Nevada, Arizona and Utah.

"Wiz is a globally recognized cannabis connoisseur," said Gage CEO Fabian Monaco. "We are confident that this partnership will allow Michigan to become a unique cannabis destination."

Khalifa also released a brief statement: "From day one, we have only partnered with people we align with,

who focus on customer and quality over everything, and Gage is one of the best."

Gage's provisioning center on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard marked the company's fourth shop in Michigan. Ten more have opened since then. Gage also has state approval for 19 cultivation licenses and three processing licenses with plans to continue its expansion.

Khalifa Kush — which first launched in 2014 — is reportedly tailored specifically for Khalifa's personal tastes, which include some potent indica strains that have routinely scored top reviews on the West Coast weed market. City Pulse wouldn't cover my plane ticket to sample some products before they arrive in Lansing, so I'll be waiting until later this year like the rest of you. Here's hoping it's better than Lil Wayne's brand, which I found to be particularly underwhelming.

One thing is certain: Khalifa's pot will most definitely taste better rolled up in a joint than a blunt. The Grammy-winning rapper has made it very clear that he wouldn't have it any other way.

P.S. If anyone out there wants to pay me to put my name on your pot brand, just give me a call.

*Kyle Kaminski is City Pulse's managing editor and a cannabis enthusiast who has been smoking marijuana just about every day for the last decade. Almost weekly, Kaminski samples some of the best cannabis products available in Greater Lansing, gets real high and writes about them.*



Courtesy/Instagram @wizkhalifa

Wiz Khalifa is a Grammy-Award-winning rapper, singer and songwriter. His cannabis line "Khalifa Kush" will be available in Michigan exclusively at Gage Cannabis Co. later this year.

### Lansterdam in Review:

Gage Cannabis  
3425 S. MLK Jr Blvd. Lansing  
888-424-3463  
gageusa.com



## Favorite Things Crystal Mioner and her cast iron pan

*Crystal Mioner, a DJ who performs as ETTA, helps promote other artists' creative endeavors with her organization, the Mioner Agency.*

My favorite thing is my cast iron pan. I got it from my mom, who got it from her mom. It's been in our family for 30 years. It saw a lot of food. It fed us really well during my childhood.

It's one of those items I couldn't imagine cooking without just because it's so versatile. I remember when I was kid I got in a lot of trouble, because my mom misplaced it. For some reason, she thought I had misplaced it. I remember being 11 years old and being told, "Crystal, I know you took the pan." And I was just thinking, "I literally have no idea where this pan is." I did end up finding it, because just the week before we had got a new oven. She mostly stored her pans in the oven, and she had never taken the pan out of the old oven. Luckily, it was still in our backyard area. That was quite a moment in our family.

I use it every day, if not every other day. I use it for my breakfast. I roasted chicken with it last night. My mom passed away about six years ago, and it's one of the few things I have left from her possessions. There was a bit of a mishap when I was cleaning out her house. There was a lot of stuff I got rid of that I was supposed to keep, but I made sure I kept the cast iron pan in a safe place.

She was Midwestern and a big proponent of fried food. My favorite meal she would cook for me was her fried pork chops. She would usually serve it with corn and white bread. I could eat that meal every day. Even though my better-self says, "Hey, that's probably not



super great for you." I would still eat it every day.

I definitely feel like there is a lineage within the item. It was hard for me to conceptualize what my favorite thing is. I don't assign too much value to most material possessions. I DJ, so I thought, "Should I say my record player, or a record?" I thought about what I actually use in my everyday life; what has utility to me. I ended up choosing the pan, possibly because I don't think about it at all, because it's always there and present. That's also kind of true about family, we can take it for granted. We can forget about how their presence impacts us and how much we rely on it, until it's not there anymore. I recalled the history of the pan — my mom got it from her mom right before I was born. I've always had it, and it's really special to me.

*Interview edited and condensed by Skyler Ashley. If you have a suggestion for Favorite Things, please email Skyler@Lansingcitypulse.com*

## Recall Alert

A line of marijuana-infused edibles called "Covert Cups" that came from a Bay City processing facility was recalled last week due to unapproved testing and sampling methods. During an inspection at 3843 Euclid LLC, state officials said they discovered thousands of Covert Cups in silver packaging when the company was only licensed to put its products in yellow packaging.

As a result, the sample was not representative of the entire production batch and thousands of products have been recalled. Jars Lansing was the only local store to carry those products, which were sold between April 9 and May 13. If anyone still has them, refunds are available. Those who experienced symptoms after ingesting these products are also encouraged to contact the Marijuana Regulatory Agency at [mra-enforcement@michigan.gov](mailto:mra-enforcement@michigan.gov) or 517-284-8599.

State officials also took emergency action to suspend the company's processor licenses this week following a series of other health and safety violations. Among them: Unwashed hands and edibles consumed on site by staff. On at least eight occasions, one employee had also placed her gloved finger into the product and then stuck her finger in her mouth, officials said.

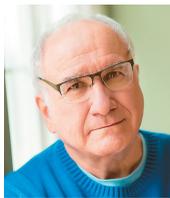
3843 Euclid LLC also brands some of its products under the HYMAN brand. Somewhat ironically, the company's newly rebranded labels for pre-rolled joints proudly declare "No saliva."

# Michigan alternative media legend tells all in new memoir

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Detroit media personality Harvey Ovshinsky's memoir "Scratching the Surface: Adventures in Storytelling" is a cathartic journey.

While attempting to scratch the surface of his life, Ovshinsky navigates the muddy waters of his career, his family and the history of his famous father, Stanley Ovshinsky, a scientist



Ovshinsky

who was an important trailblazer for alternative news sources.

In his earliest days in Detroit as co-founder of the city's underground newspaper The Fifth Estate, Harvey was as a leader in alternative media. Ovshinsky was inspired to start the newspaper, which continues to this day, as the result of one of his less fond experiences when he was shipped off to California to live with his newly married mother.

In his book, he writes: "Before discovering The Los Angeles Free Press, I had all but given up hope. It was a zoo. But it was my kind of zoo, and for the first time since being yanked away from the mother planet, it finally felt like home."

Returning home, he gathered enough news and advertising, along with a \$300 loan from his father, to print a first edition in November 1965. His time at The Fifth Estate would set the tone for the rest of his adult passions, where he would rush in to complete a film or a complex project with no fear.

In his book, Ovshinsky explains that he was inspired by his father's own career, which had its own number of

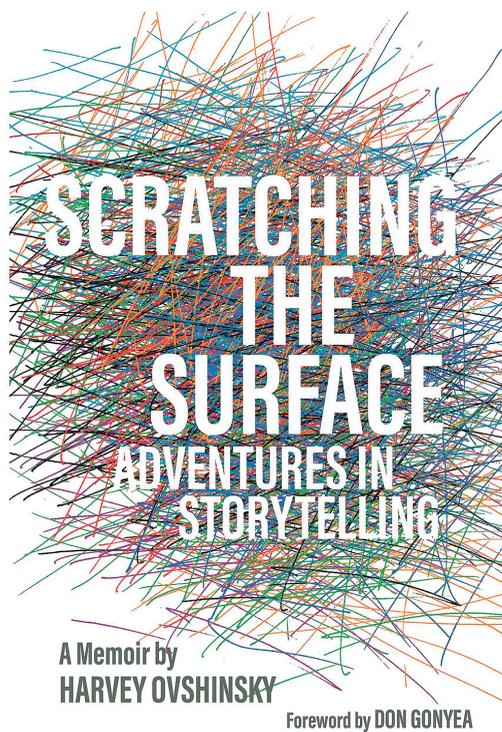
failed enterprises.

"My father would say, 'There are no failed experiments,'" Ovshinsky said.

Ovshinsky admits the first edition of the newspaper was horrid, but he quickly enlisted the aid of the Detroit's underground creative couple John and Leni Sinclair, who added their credibility and writing and photographic skills. Later, Peter Werbe would come on board and lead the paper.

Ovshinsky, a consummate storyteller, said he uses examples from his own life to illustrate how everything is a story waiting to be told. While publishing The Fifth Estate, Ovshinsky and thousands of other Michiganders came under the watchful eye of The Red Squad, a secret police operation which collected information on radicals.

He laughs about those police files today, and in his memoir, he recounts how decades later he drew on details in his police own files to recall lost dates, time and places.



A hard dose of reality in the form of a draft notice would soon impinge on Ovshinsky's plans. He was granted conscientious objector status and went to work at a local mental institution. His draft status, coupled with him tiring of the politics of The Fifth Estate, would lead to his next job at WABX,

not communicate his ideas.

In 1976, Ovshinsky said he "sold out" by taking a job at WXYZ as a producer with "training wheels." With his sights on becoming a documentary videographer, he moved to WDIV-TV and then to WTVS, where he would produce local content, which would later lead to his creating documentaries such as "Who Killed Vincent Chin?"

Despite his on again-off again relationship with his mother, she would leave him a legacy, which enabled him to start his own film company in 1986 called HKO Media. The company produced commercials and short docs for Chrysler and Blue Cross Blue Shield.

When boiled down, Ovshinsky's memoir centers on the importance of going whole hog and telling your clients' stories. One of his most satisfying projects was the Regional Emmy Award-Winning documentary about Detroit outsider artist Tyree Guyton, "The Voodoo Man of Heidelberg Street." He would also produce a documentary about racial topics, including housing discrimination in Grosse Pointe and Martin Luther King Jr.'s visit to Detroit. The capstone of his career is spent teaching at Grosse Pointe Academy, where he would teach poetry. Among the parents at the time was punk legend Patti Smith.

Now about the memoir's title. "Scratching" refers to the process a creative person must put into any project. Scratching the itch is something Ovshinsky has been doing his entire life. "I spilled the beans," as he likes to call it.

one of the original underground rock radio stations.

He also would co-host a show on WXYZ-FM. As he writes in his book, he had no experience writing or delivering the news. "I never knew what I didn't know," Ovshinsky said. It was in radio where he began not just reporting but telling stories while interviewing luminaries in the music industry.

His next venture would be with a small video production group, where he had a hand in producing the cult classic "Barrington Bunny." After spinning off into his own production company in 1975, he would go to work for his father, who, although a genius level researcher and inventor, could

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thearchivesbookshop@gmail.com

# Punks With Lunch provides meals and more for those in need

By COLE TUNNINGLEY

Punks With Lunch Lansing has more to offer than just a free meal. At a typical food distribution event you can find harm reduction supplies, hula-hooping lessons, free clothing and even live music. The vibe is lively and welcoming. The organization tries to help out the community in every way it can.

Julia Anne Miller started up the Lansing chapter of Punks With Lunch after discovering the organization, which first came to life in Oakland, California. Inspired by their efforts, Miller found a group of willing volunteers and founded Punks With Lunch Lansing.

"I had already been volunteering and working at different food pantries and food banks," said Miller. "I just needed a group of people to do it with on a regularly scheduled basis. And I wanted to add harm reduction into the mix."

She collaborated with members of a local chapter of Food Not Bombs back in 2017 and created Punks With Lunch.

Mixing harm reduction with food distribution was important to her. The organization initially just gave out food, but within a month of its founding, Punks With Lunch began offering support for addicts.

"The harm reduction aspect was a big reason for starting the organization," said Miller. "I got in touch with organizations like Harm Reduction Michigan and the Red Project to help get that going. We've got narcen and safe use supplies for them."

## Nonprofit News



This occasional feature highlights events and milestones at local nonprofits. If you would like

to submit a suggestion please email [skyller@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:skyller@lansingcitypulse.com)

**You can connect with Punks With Lunch Lansing on Instagram @punkswithlunchlansing or through Facebook by visiting [Facebook.com/PunksWithLunchLansing](https://www.facebook.com/PunksWithLunchLansing).**

Beyond narcen and safe-use supplies, Punks With Lunch also provides resources for addicts looking to detox or get into a rehabilitation facility.

Since the weather started warming up and panic around the pandemic has been dying down, the group has been able to expand its services and better connect with the community.

"We've been able to offer entertainment and more interesting things recently, more activities for our participants," said Miller. "We're going beyond the basic, 'Here's some food and stuff.' It brings an added connection to the people in the neighborhood."

Punks With Lunch operated throughout the pandemic. With a few adjustments to its typical operating procedures, the group managed to stay afloat and continue lending a helping



Cole Tunningley/City Pulse

A Punks With Lunch banner proudly displayed at a food distribution event in Reutter Park.

hand to the community.

"We had to stop setting up at the park for a while. We were still going out, mainly directly to shelters and different camps we came across. We were driving around and actively seeking out people," said Miller. "That way, there wasn't as much of a crowd drawn. We weren't trying to start a super spreader event."

By adjusting its methods and asking participants to socially distance, Punks With Lunch survived through the pandemic. The group handed out free face masks and provided hand sanitizer, anything to prevent the spread of

COVID.

Getting involved with Punks With Lunch is as easy as sending an email or a Facebook message. The organization is always looking for more volunteers. As long as you're willing and open-minded, you are welcome to volunteer.

"Just get in contact with us! We have Facebook, Instagram, a G-Mail account," said Miller. "People are more than welcome to come hang out, volunteer, man a table. We're always happy to have more people involved!"

# Neva Lee's plants its roots in downtown Lansing

By COLE TUNNINGLEY

Nurturing a houseplant is a soothing hobby. You get to watch your plant thrive and positively respond to the love that you give it. Many people took to gardening during the pandemic as a way to distract themselves from the chaos of the outside world.

Neva Lee's, a flower shop that just opened up in the heart of Lansing, is the perfect place to go if you're an amateur gardener looking for your first plant or a seasoned pro shopping for an exotic addition to add to your roster.

"I've worked with plants basically since I graduated high school," said Faun Donald, co-founder of Neva Lee's. "It's been about 20 years since then. My boyfriend and I decided to open the shop because Lansing is a good place that's supportive of small businesses."

Donald has worked in nurseries,



Faun Donald and her partner, Luke Trusnovac, co-owners of Neva Lee's.

greenhouses and plant companies since she was old enough to hold a job. Neva Lee's is the culmination of a lifetime spent around plants.

"I just like working with living things. Plants are very forgiving," Donald explained. "They just want to survive.



## Neva Lee's

123 E. Kalamazoo St.,  
Lansing  
Thursday and Friday,  
11 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
[Facebook.com/neva.lees](https://www.facebook.com/neva.lees)

They're strong-willed. You put a little time and energy into them and you get a reward out of it. Every time a new leaf pops up, you get so excited!"

The pandemic presented no issues for Donald. Opening up shop was a spontaneous decision that she made with her boyfriend, Luke Trusnovac. Once they decided to open up Neva Lee's, everything fell into place.

"We were selling online, and then we just decided that we wanted to open up a fun place for people in the community to come and shop for plants," said Donald.

"It all happened so fast."

Donald did no advertising in advance for Neva Lee's. For her soft opening, she decided that she would be content if just five customers showed up. Within the first hour, she got her wish. She saw a steady stream of customers the whole day, thanks to word-of-mouth support in local Facebook groups for plant lovers.

"We just blew up on our first two days," said Donald. "We got hundreds of shares and likes and comments. We were so grateful and overwhelmed."

Amateur gardeners often fret over whether they're capable of keeping a plant alive. If you're worried that you don't have a green thumb, Neva Lee's has you covered. At Neva Lee's, you can find a plant that's easy to nurture, even for the most inexperienced caretaker.

"We have a lot of easy-care plants," said Donald. "If you're new and trying to get into it, we have plants that you simply won't fail to take care of."

# Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

**"Get It Together"—it's a tie game.**  
by Matt Jones

**Across**

- 1 Italian pies, if you're a Scrabble player (and trapped in the 1980s)
- 4 Backtalk
- 8 Fastener with a slotted head
- 13 Kappa predecessor
- 15 Hardly any
- 16 TV intro music
- 17 Election Day day (abbr.)
- 18 Scruff of the neck
- 19 Gulf of Aden country
- 20 Disinfected / Completely wasted attempt to make angry?
- 23 Hospital section
- 24 "Star Wars" character who kills Jabba
- 25 Yodeler's mountain
- 26 Jigsaw puzzle starting point, often
- 27 Furious state
- 29 1970s guerrilla org.
- 31 Positively
- 33 Catch a wave
- 35 Toy racer on a track
- 38 Electric car company
- 40 Yes, in France
- 41 Total prize money
- 45 Blogger's personal bio section
- 48 Floating harbor marker
- 49 Bed grower
- 52 \_\_\_ Paulo, Brazil
- 54 "Catch ya later!"
- 55 Bowling alley rental
- 56 Group with the #1 hit

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
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17					18			19				
20				21				22		23		
		24				25			26			
27	28			29		30		31	32			
33			34		35		36	37				
38				39		40			41	42	43	44
			45		46			47		48		
49	50	51					52		53		54	
55					56	57	58		59		60	
61					62			63			64	65
66					67					69		
70						71				72		
73						74					75	

- "Butter"
  - 59 Abbr. on a letter to Spain
  - 61 Like some coffee or tea
  - 62 Stabilizing, with "up" / Got out a piece of jewelry?
  - 66 Horse noise
  - 68 Japanese sashes
  - 69 "Is that \_\_\_ or nay?"
  - 70 English royal house after York
  - 71 Delhi garment
  - 72 Sleep in a tent
  - 73 Bridge measurements
  - 74 Biblical garden
  - 75 Foot feature
- Down**
- 1 Trouble spots for teens
  - 2 August, in Paris
  - 3 Pittsburgh players
  - 4 Some beachwear
  - 5 To the ends of the earth
  - 6 Old photo tinge
  - 7 Hunky-dory
  - 8 Pig pen
  - 9 Angelic figure / Ate the spice mix before preparing the meat?
  - 10 Did a cover of
  - 11 Come into existence
  - 12 Proceeded
  - 14 "... long \_\_\_ both shall live"
  - 21 Ice, in a Berlin bar
  - 22 Huge, story-wise
  - 27 Suffix for art or humor
  - 28 Regret deeply
  - 30 Surname of three baseball brothers
  - 32 A few Z's
  - 34 Drinking vessel at Renaissance Fairs / Imperfect geometric shape?
  - 36 Gay and lesbian lifestyle magazine
  - 37 Curry and Rice, for two
  - 39 Homer's father, on "The Simpsons"
  - 42 Omar Khayyam's poetry collection
  - 43 \_\_\_ latte
  - 44 Needle opening
  - 46 Spheres
  - 47 Enters carefully
  - 49 Fire-striking stones
  - 50 Tie, as sneakers
  - 51 Flatware company named after a New York tribe
  - 53 Airport code for O'Hare
  - 57 "\_\_\_ Were the Days"
  - 58 "It's \_\_\_ it's good"
  - 60 \_\_\_ Fone Wireless (prepaid mobile phone provider)
  - 63 Down to the \_\_\_
  - 64 Lost fish in a Pixar film
  - 65 Open-mouthed stare
  - 67 Divs. of days

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Answers on page 20

# SUDOKU

## Beginner

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

### 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 20

# Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

July 14-20, 2021

**ARIES (March 21–April 19):** In his poem "Litany," Aries poet Billy Collins testifies that he is "the sound of rain on the roof." He also claims to be "the moon in the trees, the paper blowing down an alley, the basket of chestnuts on the kitchen table, and the shooting star." He does make it clear, however, that he is not "the bread and the knife" on the table, nor the "crystal goblet and the wine." What about you, Aries? What are all the earthy and fiery phenomena that you are? Are you, as Billy Collins suggests, "the dew on the morning grass and the burning wheel of the sun and the marsh birds suddenly in flight"? Now would be an excellent time to dream up your own version of such colorful biographical details.

**TAURUS (April 20–May 20):** "Why else keep a journal, if not to examine your own filth?" wrote poet Anne Sexton. And yes, Sexton did have a lot of filth to explore, including the physical abuse of her daughters. But most of us don't need to focus so obsessively on our unlovely aspects. Keeping a journal can also be about identifying our ripening potentials and unused riches. This approach would be especially fun and wise for you Tauruses right now. The coming weeks will be an auspicious time for deep introspection that frees capacities and powers you have only partially activated up until now.

**GEMINI (May 21–June 20):** Journalist Sam Anderson marvels at his young daughter's project: a small plastic dome-like structure that houses a community of ladybugs. All they need to consume, for weeks at a time, are "two water-soaked raisins." I don't think you'll need to be forever as efficient and hardy as those ladybugs, Gemini, but you may have to be like that temporarily. My advice? Don't regard it as a hardship. Instead, see it as an opportunity to find out how exquisitely resourceful and resilient you can be. The skills you learn and refine now will be priceless in the long run.

**CANCER (June 21–July 22):** Cancerian poet Linda Hogan says she doesn't like to be parched. She wants to be like "a tree drinking the rain." I think every Cancerian has similar dreams: to be steadily immersed in engrossing feelings, awash with intimate longings, flowing along in rhythm with the soul's songs. The coming weeks will be prime time for you to relish these primal pleasures. It's probably best to avoid an outright flood, but I think it's wise to invite a cascade.

**LEO (July 23–Aug. 22):** Actor Lupita Nyong'o had a starring role in Steve McQueen's film "12 Years a Slave". She praised his directorial skills. She loved the fact that he told her, "Fail, and then fail better." Why? "That kind of environment, where failure is an option, is magical," she said. It allowed her to experiment freely, push herself beyond her previous limits, and focus on being true to the character she was playing rather than trying to be a "good actor." I think these are excellent principles for you to keep in mind during the coming weeks.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22):** Virgo-born Wayne Shorter is a legendary jazz composer and saxophonist. He has been making music for over 60 years, often with other legendary creators like Miles Davis and Herbie Hancock. \*The New York Times\* described Shorter as "jazz's greatest living small-group composer and a contender for greatest living improviser." Bass prodigy Tal Wilkenfeld, who is 53 years younger than Shorter, tells the story of a show she performed with him. Just before going on stage, Shorter came up to her, sensing she was nervous, and whispered some advice: "Play eternity." Now I'm offering that same counsel to you as you carry out your tasks in the coming days. Be as timeless as you dare to be. Immerse yourself in the most expansive feelings you can imagine. Authorize your immortal soul to be in charge of everything you do.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22):** Libran author Paula McLain says the word "paradise" is derived from the ancient Persian word "pairidaeza", meaning "walled garden." For her, this association suggests that making promises and being faithful to our

intentions are keys to creating happiness with those we care for. Paradise requires walls! To scrupulously cultivate freedom, we need discipline. If we hope to thrive in joyous self-expression, we must focus on specific goals. I bring these thoughts to your attention because now is a pivotal time to work on building, refining, and bolstering your own personal version of paradise.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21):** Thousands of 28-pound bars of 24-carat gold are stored in the Bank of England's underground vault. To gain entry to the treasure trove, bankers use metal keys that are three feet long. They must also utter a secret password into a microphone. According to my reading of the astrological omens, you Scorpios can now gain access to a more metaphorical but nevertheless substantial source of riches. How? The key is a particular scene in your imagination that has recently begun to coalesce. It is an emblem of a future triumph or breakthrough that you will accomplish. As for the password, which you will also need, it's "vigorous rigor".

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21):** Somehow, I have lived all these years without ever coming across the rare English word "selcouth." Today, as I meditated on the exotic astrological portents coming up for you, that word appeared—arriving on my phone via text message from my Sagittarius friend Lila. She told me, "I have a feeling that life is about to get intensely SELCOUTH for us Sagittarians." I looked up the unfamiliar word and found these synonyms: unusual, marvelous, strange, magnificent, scarce, wondrous, weird, rare, and exotic. Those terms do indeed coincide with my interpretation of your immediate future. So Happy Selcouth to you, dear Centaur! Celebrate with awed appreciation!

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19):** Lexicographer Jonathon Green provides us with the following 19th-century slang words for the sex act: horizontal refreshment, strumming, playing at romps, cully-shangie, taking a turn at Mount Pleasant, dancing the blanket hornpipe, honeyfugle, giving a hot poultice for the Irish toothache, and—my favorite—fandango de pokum. In accordance with astrological potentials, I recommend that you consider trying them all out in the next four weeks. In other words, experiment with shifting your approach to belly-bumping and libido-gratifying. If you don't have a human partner, do it alone or with an angel or in your fantasy life.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18):** If a lover or spouse is perpetually churning out fantasies of you in their imagination, they may be less than totally tuned in to the real you. Instead, they may be focused on the images they have of you—maybe so much so that they lose sight of who you genuinely are and what you are actually doing. The same possibility exists for other allies, not only lovers and spouses. They may be so entranced by their stories about you that they are out of touch with the ever-changing marvel you are. That's the bad news, Aquarius. Here's the good news: The coming weeks will be a decisive time to correct such distortions—and reveal in the raw truth about you.

**PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20):** Here's how art critic Walter Pater characterized the work of Piscean artist Michelangelo: "sweetness and strength, pleasure with surprise, an energy of conception which seems to break through all the conditions of comely form, recovering, touch by touch, a loveliness found usually only in the simplest natural things." I've been waiting for the arrival of astrological aspects that would mean you'd be an embodiment of that description. And now they are here. Congrats! For the next 13 days, I will visualize you as a fount of ever-refreshing grace—as a fluid treasure that emanates refined beauty and wild innocence.

# TURN IT DOWN!

Loud dispatches from Lansing's music scene

BY RICH TUPICA

Q&A: TOMMY STINSON OF THE REPLACEMENTS, GUNS N' ROSES  
PLAYS BACKYARD IN CHARLOTTE



Cowboys in the Campfire features Tommy Stinson and Chip Roberts. (Photo By: Devvon Simpson)

## 'Cowboys in the Campfire' duo plays intimate, local show

Tommy Stinson's Cowboys in the Campfire tour is just another feather in the cap of a legendary rock 'n' roll pioneer with a laundry list of plaudits — from The Replacements to his time as bassist with Guns N' Roses.

In the wake of COVID, he and his longtime collaborator, Chip Roberts, are touring the country as Cowboys in the Campfire, a duo currently only playing stripped-down backyard shows, including a gig Saturday in Charlotte. From his home in Hudson, New York, Stinson chatted with City Pulse.

**What sparked the idea for you and Chip to book shows in people's backyards as a duo?**

Tommy Stinson: With COVID-19 and all that stuff, a lot of the clubs that were the right size for us were closed down. We decided it'd be smart to just get out and do the social distancing stuff that we could. We wanted to get out and play shows, but be smart about it. We don't want to be a super-spreader event or anything like that. We're doing it this way, for now, because it's summer and beautiful out.

**It's just you two? No other backing members?**

It's just me and Chip Roberts. We're a duo. We've been writing together for

about 13 years. We wrote songs that are on my "One Man Mutiny" album, and "Anything Could Happen," the Bash and Pop record. This will be a combination of a bunch of those songs we've compiled and wrote over the last few years. We just want to get out and play them. We will hopefully put out a new Cowboys and the Campfire record in the late summer or early fall, too. We've already recorded the album at my studio in New York.

**How did you choose the setlist for this tour?**

We start with things that Chip and I wrote together, with a cover or two here and there and some other things from my past. For the most part, we're sticking to things we wrote together over the years.

**These days, do you write new tunes on your electric or acoustic guitar?**

Mostly on acoustic. All of my electric stuff is at my studio, which is a different place from where I live.

Every couple days, I'm over there. Sometimes for days on end. To write songs, I have to be pretty solitary and alone, be in the booth with the guitar in my hand. It can come any time of the day or night. Sometimes I'll wake up

really early in the morning, or it could be in the middle of the night, and I'll grab my guitar and start hacking songs out.

**During COVID, did you keep up with songwriting?**

For a good portion of it we were working on our stuff, but other than that I was kind of dormant. I was in a bit of a cocoon waiting for the spring to come. It's been hard on everyone ... Depression. Being confined while everyone tried to stay healthy was kind of a nightmare. Not so inspirational, if you know what I mean. We did what we could. Chip and I played a couple of socially distanced shows in the middle of it, but we were just hunkered down.

**Where do you buy and discover music these days?**

I hear about stuff and I buy it off Apple or whatever. My last turntable got wrecked by the kids, so I haven't gotten around to getting back into that yet. I keep meaning to because I've got a stereo and all this cool, old vintage crap in my storage space, but since they tried to play Legos on my turntable I kind of gave up on it.

**You've played in so many bands, including Guns N' Roses. Looking back, what band had the most rewarding moments — the most "holy shit,**

**that was amazing" moments?**

That sort of thought process would definitely go along with The Replacements, or even Bash and Pop, for that matter.

**Speaking of The Replacements, how was that reunion tour a few years back? How did that feel?**

It was good. It was fun. I think the only complaint I had was that we probably did it too much. We did it longer than we should have. We can handle each other in short spurts and then it gets like, "Ok, it's time to move on again!" (laughs)

**Of course, The Replacements' history was amazingly documented in "Trouble Boys," the New York Times bestseller written by Bob Mehr. How was it having your band so heavily chronicled? Did you have any strong feelings about it either way?**

Not really. I know he did a good job, but to be honest with you, I never read it because I helped write it — with my anecdotes and all that and I know Paul's anecdotes. I knew the story. Everyone I know that I trust said it's a good read. He did a great job on it.

**For more information, visit [tomstinson.com](http://tomstinson.com).**

# OUT on the TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

Events must be entered through the calendar at [lansingcitypulse.com](https://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.

## Lansing Alive

Starts at 10 a.m.

Saturday, July 17

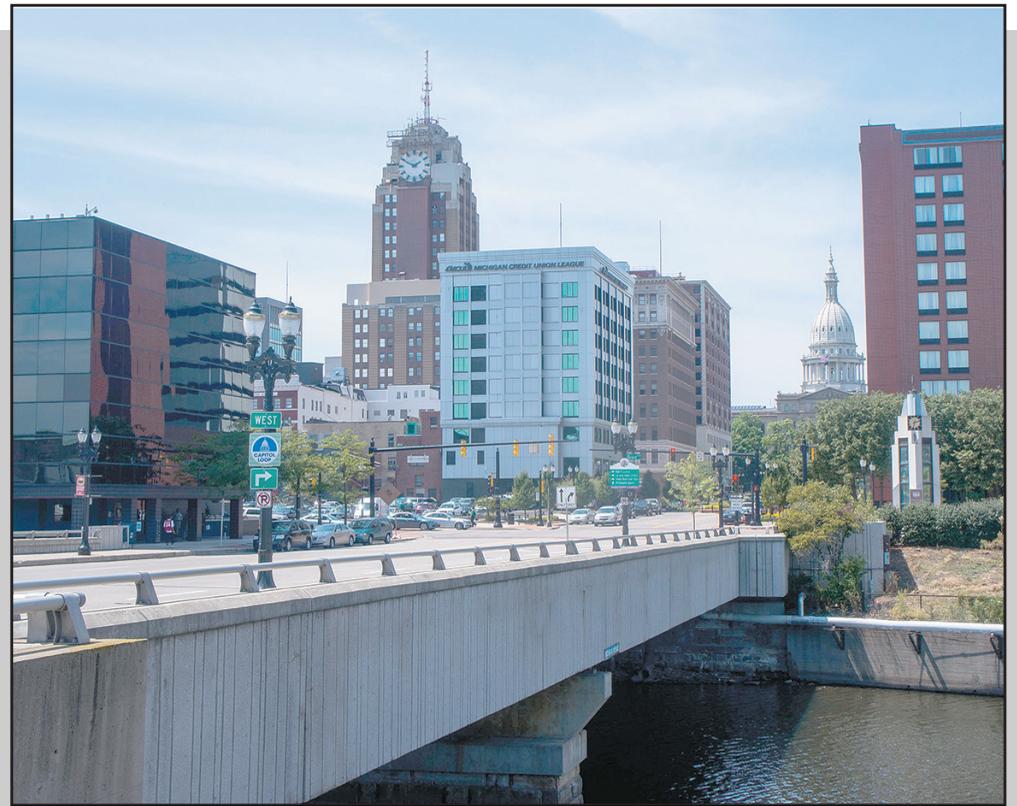
Downtown Lansing • Washington Square

[Facebook.com/downtownlansing](https://www.facebook.com/downtownlansing)

Local organizations Downtown Lansing Inc. and Capital Point Investments have organized a fun day of unique activities spread out all across Downtown Lansing this Saturday. Those who venture downtown this weekend will be able to check out a food truck rally serving all sorts of delicious grub, a 3v3 half-court basketball tournament, exclusive pop-up shops put together by downtown businesses, interactive live exercises and an exclusive scavenger hunt.

But that's only scratching the surface. If none of that will get you down to Washington Square,

there is also an art fair where you can purchase work from local creatives, a one-time farmers market complete with vendors selling fresh produce, a live concert performance and even a boat rally on the Grand River. Attendees will also be able to make use of the new social district refreshment areas, meaning you can enjoy an alcoholic drink as you stroll down the street with your friends and check out all the different events and activities. Just don't get too carried away, after all — the Police Department is downtown too.



### Wednesday, July 14

**2021 Michigan Young Birders Camp** - Michigan Audubon, 2310 Science Pkwy. #200, Okemos. [michiganaudubon.org](https://michiganaudubon.org).

**Allen Farmers Market** - Open 2:30-7 p.m. May-September at 2100 E Michigan Ave. Lansing. 517-999-3911.

**ArtPath 2021** - through August 31. 20 works by Michigan artists! Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 119 N Washington Sq, Ste 101, Lansing. 517-374-6400. [lansingartgallery.org](https://lansingartgallery.org).

**Book Group** - Our Book Group is moving outside! 1-2 p.m. Playground Of Dreams, 100 Howe Drive, Eaton Rapids. [eradl.org](https://eradl.org).

**Elite Club Sangria Party** - Day 2 - Elite Club members - Join us July 14 for the second night of our Sangria Party! 5-7:30 p.m. Haslett. [burgdorfwinery.com](https://burgdorfwinery.com).

**Shark Awareness Day** - Join MSU Museum in discussing sharks. 12-12:30 p.m. MSU Museum, 409 W. Circle Dr., East Lansing. 517-355-2370. [museum.msu.edu](https://museum.msu.edu)

**Summer Reading Program at GLADL** - Enjoy summer activities and earn prizes for reading! Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St. All summer. [gladl.org](https://gladl.org).

**Symbiosis and Interspecies Collaborations Exhibition** - 11am-6pm. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Lansing. [lansingartgallery.org](https://lansingartgallery.org)

**Wednesday Workdays at CCBS** - 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Capital City Bird Sanctuary, 6001 Delta River Dr., Lansing. [michiganaudubon.org](https://michiganaudubon.org).

### Thursday, July 15

**Bath Farmers Market** - 3-7 p.m. James Couzens Memorial Park, 13753 Main St, Bath. [shopbfm.org](https://shopbfm.org).

**Dimondale Farmers' Market** - 3-7 p.m. 136 N Bridge St, Dimondale. 517-230-0520. [villageofdimondale.org](https://villageofdimondale.org).

**Eaton County Fair Youth Livestock & Small Animal Auction** - 10 a.m. Eaton County Fairgrounds, 1025 Cochran Ave., Charlotte. [eatoncountyfair.com](https://eatoncountyfair.com)

**Fire Station Tour at City of Eaton Rapids Fire Dept.** - Join us for stories, a tour, and a look at the fire trucks! 1-2 p.m. 101 Line St., Eaton Rapids. [eradl.org](https://eradl.org).

**In-Person Picnic Playdate at the Playground: Wacousta.** Families may bring chairs and a lunch too. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Wacousta Community United Methodist Church, 9180 Herbison Rd., Eagle.

**Lansing 5:01 Dam Jam** - 3-day event, July 15-17, along the riverfront in Old Town at Brenke Fish Ladder. 216 E. Grand River.

**Moonlight Film Festival** - an outdoor film series. 9:30 p.m.-12 a.m. Valley Court Park, 280 Valley Court, East Lansing. [cityofeastlansing.com](https://cityofeastlansing.com).

**REACH Virtual Meet-up: Arts Incubator for Young People** - 4-5 p.m. via Zoom. For link: [reachstudioart.org](https://reachstudioart.org).

**South Lansing Farmers Market** - 3-7 p.m. 800 W. Barnes Ave. 517-374-5700.

**Thornapple Beekeeping:** The Details are in the Bee Tales! See and learn about honeybees at the Jaycee Park Picnic

Pavilion 6-7 p.m. [gladl.org](https://gladl.org).

**Weekly Hiring Fair** - 12-4 p.m. Community Mental Health, 812 E Jolly Rd. Lansing. [ceicmh.org](https://ceicmh.org)

**Williamston Summer Concert Series** - Big Riggs Band Concert. 7-9 p.m. Free. McCormick Park, 300 N. Putnam, Williamston.

### Friday, July 16

**Avon Bomb** - 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. The Exchange, 314 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. 517-319-4500. [lansingexchange.com](https://lansingexchange.com).

**Charlotte Fire Flow Jam Series** - 9 p.m. 125 Cochran Avenue, Charlotte. [michigan.org](https://michigan.org).

**Eaton County Fair Youth Livestock & Small Animal Auction** - 10 a.m. Eaton County Fairgrounds, 1025 Cochran Ave., Charlotte. [eatoncountyfair.com](https://eatoncountyfair.com)

# Events

from page 19

**In-Person Picnic Playdate at the Playground:** Strange School. Stories, songs & activities. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Strange School, 8981 Oneida Rd., Grand Ledge.

**Inside Me!** - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**Louder Than Words Cabaret** - 7-9 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com).

**Making Music** - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**Paper Airplane Contest** - 2-3 p.m. Playground Of Dreams, 100 Howe Drive, Eaton Rapids. [eradi.org](http://eradi.org).

**Secret Formulas** - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**Summer Concert Series** - 7 p.m. Ann Street Plaza, Albert & M.A.C., East Lansing. [cityofeastlansing.com](http://cityofeastlansing.com).

**Techno City** - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**TGIF Weekly Friday Dance** - Everyone welcome. 7 p.m.-midnight. Hawk Hollow Golf Banquet Center, 15101 Chandler Rd., Bath. 734-604-5095. [tgifdance.com](http://tgifdance.com).

**Summer Take-Home Crafts at GLADL** - kits available 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand Ledge. [gladl.org](http://gladl.org)

**What's in the Box?** - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

## Saturday, July 17

**Avon Bomb** - 9:30 p.m.-1 a.m. The Exchange, 314 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. 517-319-4500. [lansingexchange.com](http://lansingexchange.com).

**Louder Than Words Cabaret** - 7-9 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com).

# Memorial service set for The dt's Tom Taylor

The late Thomas Louis Taylor Jr., better known in the Michigan music scene as simply Tom Taylor, was a pivotal figure in Lansing's thriving '90s rock scene thanks to his majestic power-pop band, The dt's.

Taylor passed away April 17 at age 52, and since then an outpouring of tributes from former bandmates and fans have popped up across social media, remembering the composer for his well-crafted rock 'n' roll records, including 1992's "Cinch" LP and 1996's "Widow of an All American."

Thomas was born Aug. 17, 1968, at Mt. Carmel Hospital in Detroit, the son of Thomas Louis Taylor Sr. and Rosemary Jean Isabell. In his elementary years, he and his sister, Jennifer, put on musical shows at home — but his love for music didn't stop there.

Taylor, a Hartland native, attend-

ed Michigan State University, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in telecommunications. It was during those pivotal college years he taught himself how to play guitar and write songs. From there, he formed his first

East Lansing-based band, The Front — a precursor to The dt's. Over the years, he continued to perform music with other local bands like Tiny Murders and The Fang. He also issued amazing solo recordings, including his most recent album, 2021's "Love is in the Smog," which is available to stream at [tomtaylor2.bandcamp.com](http://tomtaylor2.bandcamp.com).

A memorial visitation for Taylor is set for Tuesday (July 20) from 4-8 p.m. at Sharp Funeral Home, Fenton Chapel at 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton. A funeral mass follows July 21 at 11 a.m. at St. Mary



Taylor

Magdalen Catholic Church, 2201 S. Old 23 Highway, Brighton. Memorial visitation before the mass begins at 10 a.m. In lieu of flowers, those desiring to make contributions, please make them to the Thomas L. Taylor, Jr. Memorial Music Fund. Tributes may be shared at [sharpfuneralhomes.com](http://sharpfuneralhomes.com).



## Sunday, July 18

**East Lansing Farmers Market** - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Valley Court Park, 280 Valley Court, East Lansing. [cityofeastlansing.com](http://cityofeastlansing.com)

**Louder Than Words Cabaret** - 7-9 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com).

## Monday, July 19

**Cardboard Arcade** - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**Comedy Night** - 9-11:30 p.m. Crunchy's, 254 W Grand River Ave, East Lansing. 517-351-2506. [crunchyseastlansing.com](http://crunchyseastlansing.com).

**Eco Explorers** - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**Jump Into Reading** - Join Ms. Anna for stories, songs, and activities. 11-11:30 a.m. Playground Of Dreams, 100 Howe Drive, Eaton Rapids. [eradi.org](http://eradi.org).

**LEGO Robotics** - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**Refuge Recovery Lansing** - 6:30 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing. [refugerecoverymeetings.org](http://refugerecoverymeetings.org)

## Tuesday, July 20

**2021 Michigan Young Birders Camp** - Michigan Audubon, 2310 Science Parkway, Suite 200, Okemos. [michiganaudubon.org](http://michiganaudubon.org).

**Board Game Meet Up** - for ages 18 & up. Everyone welcome! 6:30-10 p.m. Spare Time Bowling Alley, 3101 E. Grand River, Lansing.

**Games In The Park** - All ages. 1-2 p.m. Playground Of Dreams, 100 Howe Drive, Eaton Rapids. [eradi.org](http://eradi.org).

**In-Person Picnic Playdate:** for kids of all ages. 11-11:30 a.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson. [gladl.org](http://gladl.org)

### SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 17

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### CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 17

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# FOOD & DRINK

## DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

### Tandy's coleslaw

By ARI LeVAUX

When I ask a chef for a recipe to print in this column, I know it is a big request. It is the core blueprint of their business. A storehouse of value and trade secret all in one.

Amazingly, most do. But when I showed up at Tia's Big Sky Artisanal Mexican Restaurant, in Missoula, Montana, to pick up an order of take-out, I had already concluded that Tia would not be cooperating.

The counter girl looked up at me from my order: one tamale, one hibiscus aguafresca and two large sides of coleslaw.

"Are you the guy who called earlier today?" She asked.

"Yup."

"Kim says no."

"I had a feeling," I said. "That's why I ordered all this coleslaw."

Back when I was a restaurant critic for an Albuquerque newspaper, I used to dream about a restaurant like Tia's that would serve Mexican food made with high-quality, local ingredients. You can make a fine meal out of anything on the menu, even a side order of beans — flavored so enticingly with coriander and pork. Every dish at Tia's bears the marks of many little tricks.

So, when Kim, or "Tia," as I call her, shot me down, I could hardly blame



her. It is her intellectual property, her choice. Plus, it makes for a more interesting story if she will not talk.

"She once traded the recipe for \$500 worth of art," said the counter girl, Kari, who is a partner in the business, as I paid the bill.

I had barely pulled out of my parking spot when Kari appeared in the parking lot with a whistle that would stop traffic.

I had left without my aguafresca, and so I went inside to claim it. "I thought you came out to tell me Tia had changed her mind," I joked. That is when Tia, shiny with sweat, appeared behind the counter.

"You're the one who wants to know how to make the sauce?" she asked.

I nodded.

"Got 500 bucks?" She joked.

"I'm not saying it isn't worth it. But I don't pay for recipes, and I don't marry them. I only date recipes."

At home, I got to work on it with my wife, who is my secret weapon. She is a better taster than I, with a particular talent for salad dressings. We ate Tia's coleslaw and wondered what it was, beyond the obvious cumin and lime. There was sweetness, obviously, and chile spice. But was there also garlic? And vinegar, in addition to the lime? Was there mustard powder, perhaps a drop of fish sauce, or maybe a sprinkle of brewer's yeast behind that subtle umami? Was it Thousand Islands dressing? A drop of ketchup?

A few days later, I showed up at Tia's for an order of takeout. She was behind the counter.

"How's it going?" Tia asked, sweetly.

"We kind of wonder if there's a bit of tomato," I tried.

Tia looked thoughtful. "Well maybe a bird flew over the sauce with a tomato in its mouth," she speculated.

At home, I asked my wife if she thought Tia was omitting the part



Ari LeVaux

Cole slaw made with Ari LeVaux's special recipe, which is based on one of his favorite restaurants in New Mexico.

where the bird drops the tomato into the sauce. "No. I think she's giving us a hint," said my external salad-sleuthing sensor.

She kept munching on the slaw. "It's just a little nutty," she concluded.

We got to wondering. Sesame oil? Peanut oil?

"Almond butter," she announced. "No. Tahini. Of course, it's tahini. It's in millions of salad dressing recipes."

We started with almond butter because we had it on hand. My salad detector chewed slowly. Then she sent me to the store for tahini.

We concluded they both work, as both support the cumin like a stage, amplifying the cumin flavor without calling for obscene amounts.

Everything about this slaw is understated, like the creator of the original secret sauce. And that is why it works. Did we decode the slaw? Only one or two people know for sure, but this peanut gallery is happy with where we ended up.

#### Tia-wannabe Slaw

A light, almost mayo-free slaw. I use Vegenaise, an egg-free mayo, but whatever you use, the key is to just add the smallest amount possible. This is not a creamy coleslaw, but it does have creamy little secrets.

#### The Sauce

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup safflower or other neutral light oil

$\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon tahini

1 teaspoon Vegenaise (or mayo of

choice)

2 teaspoons cumin powder (preferably toasted and home ground)

1 teaspoon celery salt

1-2 teaspoons chile pepper of your desired spice level

1 teaspoon soy sauce or Maggi (Mexican soy sauce)

2 teaspoons honey

Juice of a good lime, about 4 tablespoons

1 teaspoon rice vinegar

#### The Salad

1 pound cabbage (I like a mix of 2/3 pounds green cabbage, 1/3 pound red cabbage), grated on the largest setting into thin sheets, with the remaining heels chopped as best you can

1 medium sized carrot, grated in different coarseness

2 leaves of curly kale, ribs removed, chopped or ripped into small pieces

First, make the sauce. Add the oil to a jar with a tight-fitting lid, followed by the tahini and Vegenaise. Stir and then shake vigorously to combine. Add the cumin, celery salt, chile, soy sauce and honey. Stir in the honey until it dissolves and shake again. Add the lime juice and vinegar, shake again and set aside.

(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.)

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# Omi Sushi's Tiger Roll

By SKYLER ASHLEY

The Tiger Roll is one of my all-time favorite sushi roll creations. It blends spicy tuna with eel, shrimp, avocado and, of course, eel sauce. The spicy tuna provides a hefty amount of kick, and the eel, which is



**Omi Sushi**  
 Monday-Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
 Sunday, noon to 9 p.m.  
 210 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing  
 (517) 337-2222  
 OmiSushi.com

a rather gamey fish, counterbalances it with an excellent blend of savoriness and saltiness. This combination is a match made in whichever version of heaven these underwater creatures might believe in. The shrimp also pairs excellently with the eel in both flavor and texture. But let's be honest, shrimp is a welcome addition in just about any dish.

That said, my favorite part of the Tiger Roll just might be that delicious eel sauce. Don't let the name fool you, eel sauce is named for how well it

goes with eel, it's not actually made from eel. It's actually made by blending soy sauce with sugar and mirin, a Japanese sweet wine. It's high time I made my own, or purchased some, so I can begin drizzling it on just about everything I eat.



# Appetizers

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 107 S. Bridge St., Dewitt  
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- 2. Red Haven Farm to Table Restaurant**  
 4480 Hagadorn Rd. #103, Okemos  
 517-679-6309 • eatedredhaven.com
- 3. English Inn**  
 677 S. Michigan Rd., Eaton Rapids  
 517-663-2500 • englishinn.com
- 4. Bowdies Chophouse**  
 320 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing  
 517-580-4792 • bowdieschophouse.com
- 5. Soup Spoon Cafe**  
 1419 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing  
 517-316-2377 • soupspooncafe.com

# THE PULSIFIEDS

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