

# CityPULSE

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April 21 - 27, 2021

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A newspaper for the rest of us



## The Lansing mayor's race Dunbar in, Bernero out of topsy-turvy campaign

See page 14



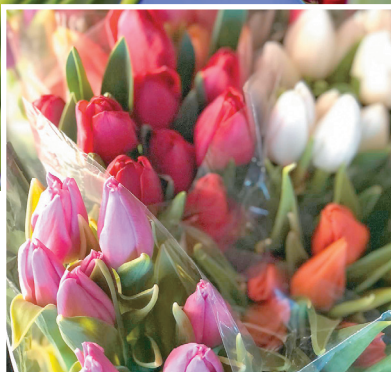
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dine & tap  
East Lansing



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*Presenting the Community Mental Health Authority*  
**2020 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY**

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## KEYNOTE SPEAKER: **SHARI SIMMONS**

Executive Director | Fire Mountain Treatment Center

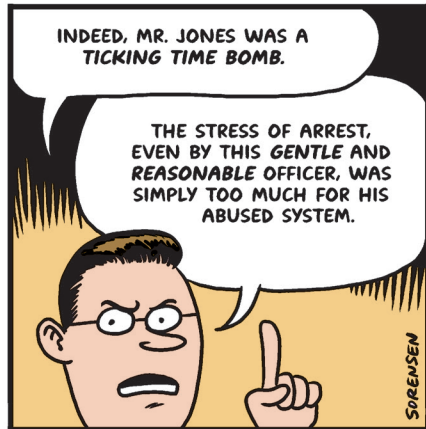
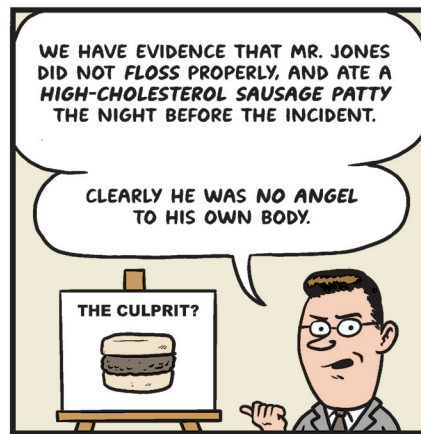
As a clinician, author, and professor, Shari provides an unforgettable story of love and transformation that will resonate with anyone who wants to understand trauma and its impact on the brain.

Shari tells the heart wrenching account of an orphaned child who suffered brutality at the hands of her mother. In this story, the client's mind was closed to the horrors of her abuse, betrayal, and abandonment until the day her memories came flooding back to her conscious mind.

Her search for self-worth was filled with jarring darkness, desperation and hopelessness that almost took her life. Through this case study, Shari helps audiences transform their ideas about clients moving from passive victims to resilient warriors.

To learn more about Shari, visit her website: **thetraumaspeakers.com**





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# CityPULSE

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By Nevin Speerbrecker

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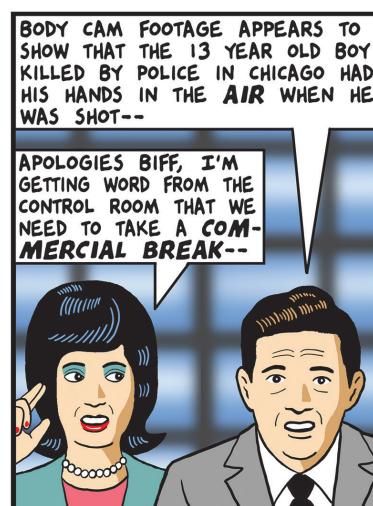
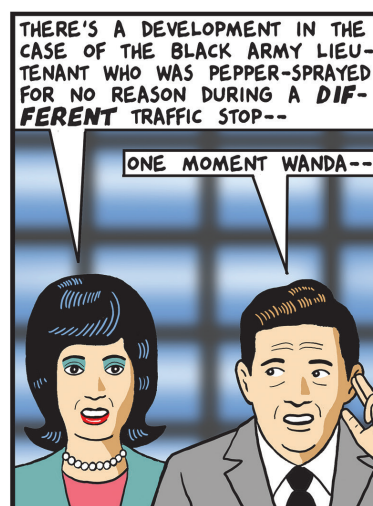
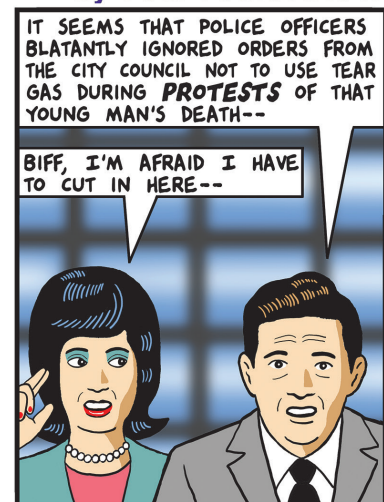
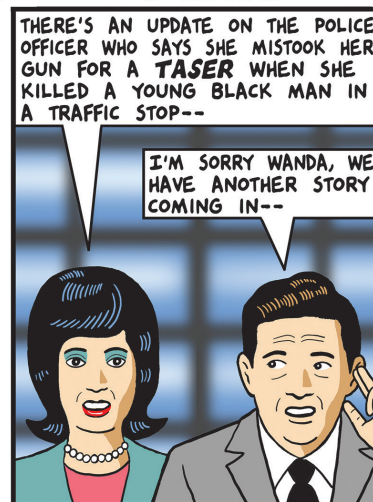
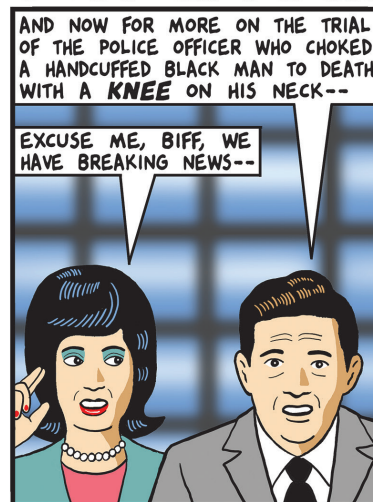
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## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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## PULSE

## NEWS &amp; OPINION

# Mayor's race shakeup

Lansing doesn't have Virg Bernero to kick around anymore. His sudden exit from the 2021 mayor's race this past weekend was somewhat surprising, given that his campaign was charging full steam ahead with fundraising, mailings and Facebook advertisements that highlighted his 12-year tenure as mayor. He seemed willing to take whatever public punishment was coming his way for an apparently lengthy history of sexual harassment, but it wasn't meant to be.

As Bernero was bowing out, longtime At-Large City Councilwoman Kathie Dunbar threw her hat in the ring, joining Council colleague Patricia Spitzley in challenging incumbent Andy Schor for the city's top elected office. Setting aside the smattering of second-tier candidates who have no chance to win — and with the caveat that we are far from making an endorsement — we offer some preliminary thoughts on the presumptive field of mayoral candidates:

Dunbar is a different kind of politician. She's bawdy, bodacious and occasionally inappropriate. To her fans, these are endearing qualities that mark her as a genuine human being, devoid of pretense and, for better or worse, largely without a filter. To her detractors, she's a hot mess whose faults and foibles make her unfit to lead the city. Shortly after announcing her campaign, she was accused of sexual harassment and making allegedly racist remarks in the past. Initially she denied the claims, but she recently posted a lengthy apology on Facebook for any harm her words and actions may have caused.

We know Dunbar as a bright, thoughtful and dedicated leader who gives much to her community. She has served on Council for 16 years and led the way on critical issues like the city's human rights ordinance, promoting affordable housing and energizing Lansing's budding cannabis industry. She's the founder of the popular Hawk Island Triathlon and runs an impactful community nonprofit organization in south Lansing. Dunbar is a bonafide progressive who supports social justice and racial equity. Already, though, she's also under attack as a surrogate for Bernero. We're not convinced that's the case. Although she was a Bernero ally during his mayoral tenure, she stands on her own as a



## The CP Edit

### Opinion

potentially formidable candidate, provided she can raise enough money to be competitive. She would also be the first woman in the city's history to serve as mayor.

At-Large Councilwoman Patricia Spitzley has potential as well, and we're intrigued by the perspective she would bring as Lansing's first Black mayor and first female mayor. But we're concerned that her political ideology leans a bit too far to the right for our taste. Her tendency to waffle on important issues also gives us pause. When the City Council voted to designate Lansing as a sanctuary city in 2017, Spitzley was a yes vote — until Donald Trump threatened to withhold federal funds from cities that made such declarations. Under pressure from Trump and right wingers mewing about illegal immigrants invading Lansing, her tune changed and she voted to rescind the sanctuary city designation. That's not the sort of resolute, principled leadership we prefer to see in the Mayor's Office. To her credit, in two terms on the Council Spitzley has taken a sensible approach to cannabis regulation and she's been supportive of economic development incentives that bring new investment and jobs to Lansing. She's also been a

voice of moderation and reason in a politically charged environment as the Council considered hot button issues like defunding the police department.

As for Mayor Schor, our disappointment in his performance over the past four years hasn't waned. We remain deeply concerned about his administration's penchant for secrecy and lack of transparency, including his failure to disclose the real cause of Anthony Hulon's death at the hands of city jailers. His tone-deaf approach to claims of racial discrimination has dogged his administration for the past year or more, and he doesn't seem to have any answers except forming a secret commission to study the issue. The city now faces multiple lawsuits that could end up costing Lansing taxpayers millions of dollars. On the positive side, Schor has managed to bring a series of

already-in-progress economic development projects across the finish line, including the massive Red Cedar Renaissance, as well as a new hotel and grocery store on Michigan Avenue and significant improvements to the downtown riverfront. His focus on strengthening the quality of life in neighborhoods is noteworthy, and we don't doubt the sincerity of his commitment to the city. We're just not convinced his passive leadership style and frequent bouts of indecision are a good fit for the Mayor's Office, especially at such a challenging time in the city's history.

That said, it's early in the race. We'll see what develops as the mayoral candidates roll out their platforms for Lansing's future. Only two candidates will advance from the August primary to the November general election. Oddsmakers will likely favor Schor to win the primary, since the anti-Schor vote will be split between his challengers. But the allure of two highly qualified, competent female candidates is powerful, so we can't rule out the possibility that Schor could finish third in the primary, leaving Dunbar and Spitzley to battle it out for the chance to serve as Lansing's first woman mayor.

Whatever happens over the next six months, we hope Lansing voters will tune out the negative background noise and focus on the comparative strengths and weaknesses of each candidate and their plans for the city. We'll be doing the same.

Send letters to the editor to [letters@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:letters@lansingcitypulse.com).  
Please limit them to 250 words



# Indigenous on Earth Day

By **NICHOLE BIBER**  
**Opinion**



Biber

*(Nichole Biber lives in East Lansing with her family, grows a home garden and is the librarian at Pinecrest Elementary. She is a tribal member of the LTBB Odawa.)*

The theme for Earth Day 2021, “Restore our Earth,” presents us with our deepest responsibility at this time of ecological peril. If humanity as a

collective focused minds, hands and hearts upon regrowing biodiverse plant life and protecting our waters, we could absolutely heal this ailing planet. The choice to do so is always right before us. The Climate Crisis forecast is dire, and scientific projections warn us of the terrible dangers and loss if we continue on this scorched and burnt and poisoned path. Yet, the baseline fact is that every breath we take proves that the Earth is still able to support our human masses. Despite our emissions and chemical runoffs and deadlands of asphalt and concrete, this amazing planet still manages to perpetually recreate the forces of life. Our

species, utterly dependent upon Earth’s abundance for so long, has now come to a place where she needs our help.

The machines of capital and over-consumption distract us and alienate us from the relationship of our constant reliance upon the living earth. The warped redefining of human beings as consumers demands such severance. The roots of ecological devastation are intertwined with shameful racial and economic exploitation. The extermination of my indigenous ancestors and the enslavement of African peoples were considered necessary to turn a profit. The torturous conditions of factory farms, and the dumping of oil and chemicals, and the loss of millions of animal and insect and plant species, are also all considered necessary to the turning of profit. It is an exploitative mindset, and it relies upon death and destruction and sickness as the easiest way to power and riches that may satisfy greed but can never create the breath of life.

This crumbling of the balance is manifesting in fire and storm and drought across the globe. Still, each breath undeniably asserts the truth of our interconnected survival. The Earth and her systems of forests and creatures and rivers is barely holding on. Some scientific projections say it is already too late, as the measures of pollution and plastics and nonstop development all point to the end of life as we know it. Yet, it may be that the science does not and cannot fully account for the possibility of just how quickly the Earth could heal, were we to tend to her restoration. If we were to work from a stewardship mindset, casting off the miseries wrought by exploitation, we could Restore Our

Earth from a place of love and humility.

I am a jingle dress dancer, and have been wearing the dress for over 20 years. It is a medicine dance that arose from a young Anishinaabekwe (Great Lakes indigenous woman) who had a dreamed vision of the dress and the dance at a time of great sickness and despair. This dark time was after the clearcuts, when the animals were dying and the rivers became unclean and the people could only see death. She made the dress with constant prayers for restoration and healing, each step sending out sounds of peace and hope like the rain. Whenever I dance, the medicine of the jingle dress helps remind of our responsibility to that which remains. The great forests are gone, and we have only the dregs of what once was. But they are our dregs, and small trees grow. The bees are dying and the birds are going away, but if we see them with enough love and care, we can turn our attention to planting flowers for them to invite them back home. We can all return home.

In my indigenous language, the word for humility is dabasendiziwin. It means to think lower of oneself in relation to the whole of creation. As the youngest in the family, humans are meant to honor and serve and protect the elder members of Earth’s creation. We have always been intended to do so. We need to reclaim our role as humble, respectful, grateful caretakers now more than ever. We can heal our wounded hearts and lands; we can Restore Our Earth. The choice and actions we need to take are present with every breath.

## EXHIBIT A

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE WATER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS TO THE ELECTORS RESIDING WITHIN THE EAST LANSING-MERIDIAN WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the East Lansing-Meridian Water and Sewer Authority (the “Authority”) intends to issue bonds in an amount of not to exceed \$4,370,000 in addition to amounts it has previously stated its intent to issue (the “Bonds”). The Bonds may be issued together with bonds the Board of Trustees has previously stated its intent to issue or as one or more separate series of bonds.

The bonds shall be issued for the purpose of defraying the cost to design, purchase, acquire, install and construct improvements to the Authority’s water system, including but not limited to improvements to the Authority’s water plant and facilities including but not limited to replacement and upgrading of HVAC equipment and components and any related appurtenances; pipe paint evaluation and application; and Water Treatment Plant filter additions and controls; as well as all work, and equipment necessary and incidental to these improvements and such other water treatment plant improvements the Authority shall determine to make and to pay the costs of issuing the bonds and capitalized interest, if any.

The bonds of this issue shall mature within the maximum terms permitted by law with interest on the unpaid balance at a rate not to exceed the maximum rate permitted by law payable over not more than thirty (30) years from the date of issuance of the Bonds. The bonds shall be issued pursuant to Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended.

### SOURCE OF PAYMENT

The principal of and interest on the bonds shall be payable from the net revenues derived from the operation of the Water System.

### RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

The bonds will be issued, without submitting such a question to a vote of the electors, unless within 45 days after the date of publication of this notice a petition requesting a referendum upon such question, signed by not less than 10% or 15,000 of the registered electors residing within the boundaries of the Authority, whichever is the lesser, shall have been filed with the undersigned Secretary. In the event that such a petition is filed, the bonds will not be issued unless and until the issuance thereof shall have been approved by the vote of a majority of the electors within the Authority qualified to vote and voting thereon at a general or special election.

This Notice is published pursuant to the requirements of Section 33 of Act 94 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1933, as amended.

Charles Peterson, Board Secretary

CP#21-101

### NOTICE TO RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS CHARTER TOWNSHIP of LANSING

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING OF THE INTENT OF THE TOWNSHIP TO CAUSE THE DESTRUCTION OF NOXIOUS WEEDS IN SUCH CASES WHERE RESIDENTS, AND/OR PROPERTY OWNERS FAIL TO CONTROL OR ERRADICATE SUCH WEEDS ON THEIR PROPERTIES.

This notice is published in lieu of notice to individual property owners. In the event that any property owner shall fail or refuse to destroy any noxious weeds by cutting them or by other means of control before the first day of May, 2021 or fail to keep them cut and/or controlled at any time thereafter during the growing season, the Commissioner of Noxious Weeds of the Township shall have the duty of entering such lands, and such weeds will be caused to be cut or destroyed by the Township. The owner or owners of such lands shall pay the expense incurred in such destruction to the Township. The Township shall have a lien against such lands for such expense, which lien shall be enforced in the manner now provided by for the enforcement of tax liens against the lot to be charged and will be collected as in the case of general property tax against lot or lots in question in the event the charges involved are not paid by the owner, agent, or occupant of said lot within thirty (30) days from the date of billing to said person by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested. Charges will be made in accordance with Section 52.5 of the Code of Ordinances of the Charter Township of Lansing.

This notice appears by authority of Public Act 359 of 1941 of the State of Michigan and the Code of Ordinances, Title V, Chapter 52 of the Charter Township of Lansing.

Maggie Sanders, Clerk  
Charter Township of Lansing

CP#21-097



# There’s nothing like free fed money to unite Michigan’s warring pols

It’s not quite like Scrooge McDuck diving into a mountain of gold coins, but Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, House Speaker Jason Wentworth and Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

**OPINION** have a bunch of new money to play with.

Let’s estimate the state’s annual General Fund is about \$11 billion. Cut that in half and that’s what President Joe Biden is sending our way in COVID-19 relief money with few strings attached.

Coincidentally, for the first time in a year, the governor last week had her first face-to-face meeting with just her and Michigan’s Republican legislative leaders in the room.

Amazing how quickly a once-in-lifetime influx of cash can bring “frenemies” back together again.

It’s time to get along. The Republicans can’t spend this federal COVID unless Whitmer signs off on it. Likewise, she can’t spend any money unless lawmakers give her something she likes.

A prolonged standoff over the money may send it back to Washington, D.C., which neither side wants.

Local governments are getting their own \$4.4 billion. Another \$3.9 billion must be spent on education. Higher education is getting a \$1 billion. Child care \$1.1 billion.

Michigan government is getting \$5.7 billion in free money (until the federal government gets around to start paying off the debt). There’s no shortage of ideas, except they can’t cut taxes or address pension debt.

It can go to help those most impacted by the COVID pandemic. It can pay essential workers more money. It can go to rebuilding water or sewer pipes.

The governor is crafting her to-do list with the assistance of former House Democratic leader Sam Singh and his team at Public Policy Associates.

Inevitably, more money is going to go to help the unemployed or the poor pair their rent, their mortgage and their utility bills. Small businesses that were forced to shut down during the pandemic, like restaurants, are going to get a slice.

Singh said he’s pleased to assist the governor and the State Budget Office navigate through it all. His team is digging into the best practices of other states as part of its research. The goal is to manage the money in a way that Michigan gets the best, most effective benefit of this money.

Behind the scenes, legislative leaders grumbled whether this work with PPA and other stakeholders was laying the groundwork for another legislative work-around.

They played that game during the pandemic with Whitmer’s emergency restrictions. They’re not interested in doing that again.

But that’s not the case, said Budget Office spokesperson Kurt Weiss.

“It’s not uncommon to get outside support to develop policy ideas and this was an opportunity to do that without using any state dollars,” Weiss said. “We think that having this input will be beneficial for the Legislature” as everyone dives into the money.

House Appropriations Committee Chair Tom Albert, R-Lowell, is already staking his ground.

He rolled out a list of preferences today that included sinking \$1.2 billion into roads (\$700 million for pay down bond debt), \$250 million for water and sewer upgrades, \$150 million into rural broadband and \$595 million into erasing the entirety of the Flint Water crisis settlement.

Albert also wants to sink \$350 million into the Rainy Day Fund. He sees putting \$50 million into consolidating office space so more employees can work from home and save the state even more money down the road.

There’s food assistance and COVID testing and vaccine distribution that’s going to be covered, too, by this money under this plan

The kicker is that Albert wants to limit Whitmer from using the State Administrative Board to move money around, like she did in a big way in the fall of 2019 after lawmakers dumped a non-negotiated budget on her desk.

As far as he’s concerned, “Foul me once, shame on you. Foul me twice, shame ...”

Clearly, working together after so much time of both sides doing their own things isn’t going to be that easy.

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

## CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR THE TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2021 SPECIAL ELECTION

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing:  
Please take notice that the City of Lansing will hold an Election on Tuesday, May 4, 2021.

**For the purpose of voting on the following proposals:**

HOLT PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BOND PROPOSAL  
FOR BUILDING AND SITE PURPOSES IN THE AMOUNT OF  
NOT TO EXCEED \$148,000,000

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Holt Public Schools, 5780 W. Holt Road, Holt, Michigan 48842-1197, telephone: (517) 694-0401.

WAVERLY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED TAX BOND PROPOSAL  
FOR BUILDING AND SITE PURPOSES IN THE AMOUNT OF  
NOT TO EXCEED \$125,000,000

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the administrative offices of Waverly Community Schools, 515 Snow Road, Lansing, Michigan 48917-4502, telephone: (517) 321-7265.

**Voting Precincts and Polling Places are:**

- Lansing Ward 2**  
Pct. 20 – North School
- Lansing Ward 3**  
Pct. 22 - Southside Community Center
- Lansing Ward 4**  
Pct. 41 – Cumberland School

To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions will be available in audio format and in Braille. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in these alternative formats can be made by contacting the Clerk’s Office in advance of the election. All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

**To see if you are registered or to find your polling location, check the Secretary of State Voter Information web site at [www.lansingvotes.com](http://www.lansingvotes.com).**

**Photo Identification OR Affidavit Required to Vote:**  
Under a Michigan law upheld by the Michigan Supreme Court, ALL voters will be asked to show photo identification to vote at the polls. Voters without identification will be required to fill out and sign an affidavit in order to receive a ballot.

Anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the following locations and times:

Location	Address	Regular Business Hours
Lansing City Clerk – City Hall	124 W Michigan Ave. Lansing, MI 48933	Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm
Lansing City Clerk – Election Unit	2500 S Washington Ave. Lansing, MI 48910	Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm

Additional times outside of the above listed regular business hours are as follows:

Location	Address	Additional Hours
Lansing City Clerk – City Hall	124 W Michigan Ave. Lansing, MI 48933	Election Day May 4 7am – 8pm
Lansing City Clerk – Election Unit	2500 S Washington Ave. Lansing, MI 48910	Saturday May 1 10am – 2pm  Sunday May 2 12pm - 2pm  Election Day May 4 7am – 8pm

**ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS**  
Any registered voter may request an Absent Voter Ballot. No reason required.

The Lansing City Clerk’s Office must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at the locations referenced in the above table or by visiting our website at [lansingmi.gov/clerk](http://lansingmi.gov/clerk).

Monday, May 3, 2021 at 4:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot except for those who register to vote on Election Day. Ballots issued on Monday, May 3, 2021 must be requested and voted in person at the Lansing City Clerk’s Office, locations referenced in the above table.

Those registering to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, May 4, 2021, are eligible to receive an absent voter ballot at the Lansing City Clerk’s Office, locations referenced in the above table.

**Chris Swope, MMC/MIPMC**  
**Lansing City Clerk**  
**Phone: 517-483-4131**  
**Email: [City.clerk@lansingmi.gov](mailto:City.clerk@lansingmi.gov)**  
**Website: [www.lansingvotes.com](http://www.lansingvotes.com)**  
**[www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope](https://www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope)**





### 314 S. Bingham St., Lansing

This week's eyesore arrives through an indirect recommendation from the Lansing City Council, which recently scheduled a hearing for Monday (April 26) to determine whether to demolish this decaying two-story home on the city's east side. We know what you're thinking: It doesn't look too bad. What's the problem? Well, it's what's inside that counts. And this one is a disaster.

The rental home reportedly became engulfed with "heavy fire" from the back and side in October 2017 after flames burst from the kitchen oven, which was set to run on a self-cleaning cycle. A mother and her four children escaped and the flames were eventually extinguished — but not before the fire caused about \$90,000 in damage, according to recent city estimates.

The exterior doesn't look too shabby from the street aside from a few boarded windows, but code inspection photos show that the interior walls and ceilings are cruste to a black cinder.

The vacant rental property is owned by a scientist living in Germany but managed by Christian Nwobu, of East Lansing. He told City Pulse that he hopes to have repairs finished in June.

"We put a lot of money into this. We're also paying taxes. Part of the roof was completed this week," Nwobo explained. "By next week, we'll have an inspection for plumbing and electrical."

One problem: The city of Lansing isn't buying his story. The home was red tagged in October 2017 and submitted for the make-safe-

See Eyesore, Page 9

"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.

# REWIND

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS



By KYLE KAMINSKI



### Lansing cop fired over Baker Street arrest

Police Officer Alex Rojas was let go for his role in a violent arrest last year. He and officers Morgan Schafer and Alex Slobin were placed on paid leave after they repeatedly struck and later arrested a 25-year-old Black man. Schafer and Slobin were exonerated after an internal probe, but Rojas' interactions were "unprofessional, aggressive and escalated the situation, causing other officers to use higher levels of force," said Police Chief Daryl Green. Prosecutors declined to issue criminal charges last month against all three of the officers. Internal policies remain under review.

### State funding reaches Ingham County

More than \$500,000 in rent and utility assistance has been distributed to families following the launch (and recent renewal) of the state's rental relief program, the Journal reported. The program is designed to provide back rent owed to landlords due to pandemic related hardships. Applications are available at [michigan.gov/mshda](http://michigan.gov/mshda).

### Lansing cops love 'LCGTQ' people

In a misspelled press release, the Lansing Police Department announced its support for the "LCGTQ+" population after local cops recently participated in two training sessions on responsiveness, trust, accountability and understanding in working with diverse populations.



### MSU 'unaware' of EMU scandal ties

President Samuel Stanley Jr. said he was "unaware" of claims that staffer Melody Werner helped cover up rape allegations at Eastern Michigan University, despite an investigation launched by her former university last year. Werner left EMU to oversee MSU's institutional equity office in 2019. Eleven women are now suing EMU and Werner, saying the university covered up some 30 claims of sexual assault, the Journal reports.



### Police search for hit-and-run suspect

Dorothy Jo Ann Verschage, 61, of Lansing, died after she was reportedly hit by a car at about 9 p.m. on Saturday evening near the intersection of Cedar Street and Willoughby Road in Holt. Call the Ingham County Sheriff's Office at 676-2431 with tips.

### CATA changes contracts

The bus company announced several changes to its union contracts for bus drivers and mechanics. Union employees will receive 3% pay raises this year, but new employees will no longer be eligible for retiree health-



care. Additional policies designed to curb overtime were also put into place. The union has worked for about 17 months without a contract.

### Recycling center to open

Lansing and East Lansing are partnering with Emterra Environmental to open a new material recovery facility on South Pennsylvania Avenue, which will serve as a collection point for recyclables that are being hauled to the Detroit area for sorting. The facility is expected to reduce hauling costs and create 20 jobs.



### ELPS 'messed up' with homework

East Lansing Public Schools officials apologized after a homework assignment on slavery drew sharp criticism from at least one local Black family, the Journal reports. The homework assignment reportedly included violent images and descriptions of slaves, slave quarters and rebellions and then asked students to imagine themselves as enslaved people.

### Whitmer seeks marijuana banking reform

The governor urged Congress to pass the Secure and Fair Enforcement Banking Act, which would remove legal limitations and allow financial institutions to bank with state-licensed cannabis businesses. Federal laws prohibit banks from accepting cash, checks or electronic payments from cannabis businesses — leaving pot shops with few banking options.



### Lansing hires police commission investigator

Delveta Moses, former senior investigator of the Board of Police Commission for the Detroit Police Department, has been hired to address and independently investigate citizen complaints made against Lansing officers. Moses is responsible for vetting all complaints against employees made to the Board of Police Commissioners and ensuring that a "complete, concise and fair investigation was conducted."



# New riverfront playground will be ‘regional destination’

It won't be visible from outer space, but the latest attraction on Lansing's resurgent riverfront promises to make a big splash of color and laughter and draw kids and parents from many miles around.

The nonprofit Community Foundation announced plans today to build the first “universally accessible” playground in the tri-county area at Adado Riverfront Park on the west bank of the Grand River, between Shiawassee Street and Oakland Avenue.

Early renderings of the “\$1.5 million-plus” project show a colorful, 66,000-square-foot complex of seesaws, slides, swings, bright paths, purple undulations, a picnic deck and pavilion and universal access to the river via a large platform and new boardwalk.

Overhead are cheerful rainbow umbrellas and underfoot is a giant, poured-in-place surface inlaid with a map of Michigan, perfect for playing Godzilla and crushing Kalamazoo.

The park's designers went beyond compliance with the Americans for Disabilities Act to work with Disability Network, the Mid-Michigan Autism Association and 50 local families who have children with disabilities.

Designers were guided by a vision of kids with disabilities playing alongside other kids, everywhere in the playground and surrounding park.

“It's designed to maximize inclusivity and minimize differences,” according to Laurie Baumer, vice president of the Community Foundation.

Baumer said you'd have to go to Grand Rapids or Commerce Township — more than an hour's distance — to find a universally accessible playground of this scale.

The foundation is on a roll in its mas-



Courtesy Community Foundation

A “universally accessible” riverfront playground is planned for Adado Riverfront Park on the west bank of the Grand River, with work beginning in the fall.

ter plan to “activate” Lansing's downtown riverfront. In fall 2018, work was completed on the wildly successful \$2.5 million Rotary Park, a cluster of play areas, hangouts and attractions that draws bustling, diverse crowds to the east bank of the Grand River.

Baumer said a playground wasn't in the master plan until late 2019, when a Community Foundation member suggested the idea. Baumer looked at the success of Detroit and other cities in building large and creatively designed playgrounds that bring flocks of kids and parents to the river.

“We need this here,” Baumer said. “Fortunately, our board said, ‘Go big or

go home.’ They wanted a place people would drive for an hour to experience.”

A local anonymous donor couple seeded the project with a \$100,000 gift. CASE Credit Union followed up with another \$100,000 gift as part of its “CASE Cares” program. Another \$100,000 donor stepped forward just this week, Baumer said.

Baumer considers the City of Lansing a full partner in the planning and execution of the project, but as with Rotary Park, the project will be fully funded by private donations.

The foundation will match private

donations dollar for dollar, with money from its Leadership Fund, earmarked for projects that are a part of the foundation's strategic plan. There is still time for sponsors to snag naming rights for the pavilion, riverside deck and playground.

“We had some funds that were set aside already,” Baumer said. “We're inching closer to the \$1 million mark in funds raised and matched by the Foundation.”

The final cost will be at least \$1.5 million, but it will likely exceed that figure, depending on how much money is

See Playground, Page 10

## Eyesore

from page 8

or-demolish process in March 2019. Despite pulling permits years ago, city officials reported that none of the work has been finished. And neighbors are growing irritated, recently writing multiple letters in favor of the home's quick demolition.

Councilman Jeremy Garza also recommended the hearing be scheduled, later noting he relied entirely on administrative recommendations.

After I told him about the new windows and roof repairs being done this week, he said he would “circle back” with code enforcement to assess the situation. Nwobu also said he plans to fight the demolition plans at the upcoming hearing.

Still, exterior improvements might not be enough to save the building from demolition. City officials report that the property has been vacant for far more than 180 days and estimated the cost of repairs to be 12 times greater than its taxable value — all the criterion they really need.

— KYLE KAMINSKI



Courtesy Community Foundation

The riverside boardwalks will be wide enough for two wheelchairs, with a gentle grade of less than 5 percent.



# Playground

from page 9

raised. Baumer said the original estimate of \$1.3 million had to be scrapped when construction costs soared in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Several locations were considered for the playground, but Adado Riverfront

Park was the clear favorite because it’s visible to traffic on Grand Avenue yet tucked into a natural berm next to the river, and it’s within biking and walking distance of downtown and surrounding neighborhoods. Even the perennial problem plaguing downtown attractions — parking — will not present a problem. Not only will there be a dedicated parking lot a few steps from the playground, but Lansing Community College President Steve Robinson has

also agreed to let recreating families use LCC’s new parking ramp during off-peak class times, scheduled for completion in 2022, just across the street from the playground.

Shaded shelters, tables and benches are placed all around the playground, giving pooped parents a place to recharge.

Baumer is most proud of the playground’s universally accessible design. Every feature of the playground is accessible to children with disabilities, including children with sensory disabilities such as visual impairment or developmental disabilities such as autism or Down’s syndrome.

A “sensoried climber,” an arched tube where kids can climb to the top and overlook the map of Michigan, is designed in such a way that kids in wheelchairs can hoist themselves up alongside other kids who climbed up the tube on their hands and knees.

The net climber has three sides, each side designed to accommodate a different level of physical challenge. The track ride has a universally accessible seat, with back and neck support, alongside a more rough and ready handle to hang from.

A “linear swing,” favored by many kids with autism, swings side-to-side instead of front-to-back. Kids with disabilities

(and their disabled grandparents) can take a ride in a spinning platform without getting out of their wheelchairs.

The central deck has everything from drums and climbing towers for “sensory seekers” to quiet shaded spaces for “sensory avoiders.”

The riverside boardwalks are wide enough for two wheelchairs, with a gentle grade of less than 5 percent. People seated in wheelchairs are often frustrated to find the thickest part of a fence, railing or other barriers smack in front of whatever is of interest. Baumer and the designers made sure the sightlines to the river from the planned playground, the River Trail and the deck on the river are all clear.

Lansing-based Wieland, the construction manager for Rotary Park, will build the project. Wieland recommended Viridis of Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo, a firm specializing in accessible playgrounds, to handle the design. Holland-based Sinclair Recreation will provide the playground equipment.

Environmental studies on the site are underway, Baumer said. The final design will depend on the amount of money raised. Site work will begin in the fall, with completion scheduled for 2022.

— LAWRENCE COSENTINO

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE  
CITY OF LANSING’S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 BUDGET

The City Council of the City of Lansing will conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM Conferencing, Meeting ID 859 4003 6219., on the proposed City of Lansing budget and capital improvements. **The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**

The proposed budget is available for public inspection on weekdays, in the City Clerk’s Office, 9th floor City Hall, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and online at <https://www.lansingmi.gov/1401/Documents-Placed-on-File>.

All persons desiring to express an opinion about the proposed city budget, the tax rate, or proposed capital improvements are invited to attend this public hearing or submit written comments.

If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk’s Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email [city.clerk@lansingmi.gov](mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov).

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/MiPMC  
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CP#21-094

City of East Lansing  
City Council

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AT ELECTRONIC MEETING  
Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of East Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan (“City”) will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.**, concerning the following:

The purpose of the public hearing is to consider a special use permit application from Collegiate Catering East Lansing, LLC for the property at 133 Evergreen Avenue to allow for restaurants to serve alcoholic beverages. The subject property is zoned B-3, City Center Commercial District.

This meeting will only be held electronically pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Act 267 of 1976, and the capacity restrictions and social distancing requirements set forth in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Director’s Emergency Orders. The purpose of the meeting will be to hold the public hearing described above and consider any other business that comes before the City Council. Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, the City gives notice of the following:

**1. Reason for Electronic Meeting.** The City is holding this meeting by electronic means only due to the restrictions imposed by the MDHHS Director’s Emergency Orders. If the Orders are revised and if an in-person meeting is to be held instead of an electronic meeting, the meeting may be rescheduled to a different date and time. Notice of any such change will be posted at the City Hall and on the City’s website.

**2.Procedures.** The public may participate in the meeting and may make public comment electronically by video/telephone using the following method:

Join Zoom Meeting by Video: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86048911764>

Or Dial In By Telephone\*\* - Call in: 312-626-6799, Toll Free: 888-788-0099  
Meeting ID: 860 4891 1764  
Password: Not required

\*\*To unmute microphone from a cell phone dial \*6 (star 6)  
To raise your hand from a cell phone dial \*9 (star 9)

**3. Contact Information.** For those who desire to contact members of the City Council to provide input or ask questions on the business that will come before the public body at the meeting, please contact Jennifer Shuster, City Clerk, at (517) 319-6881 prior to the start of the meeting.

**4. Persons with Disabilities.** Persons with disabilities may participate in the meeting through the methods set forth in paragraph 2. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services in order to attend electronically should notify City Manager’s Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 319-6920, TDD 1-800-649-377, within a reasonable time in advance of the meeting.

Jennifer Shuster  
City Clerk

CP#21-100

CITY OF LANSING  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
ANNUAL ACTION PLAN  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG),  
HOME AND EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG) PROGRAMS  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

The City Council of the City of Lansing will conduct a public hearing on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. during the regularly schedule City Council Meeting, via ZOOM Conferencing, Meeting ID 859 4003 6219, for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed CDBG resources for the Annual Action Plan submission to HUD for FY 2021-2022.

To mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to provide essential protections to vulnerable Michiganders and this State’s health care system and other critical infrastructure, it is crucial that all Michiganders take steps to-limit in-person contact, particularly in the context of large groups. Therefore, the public hearing will be conducted via audio/video conference.

The public hearing will be electronically in accordance with the Open Meetings Act in an effort to protect the health and safety of the public. Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting may do so by logging into or calling into the meetings using the website <https://zoom.us/j/85940036219> (Note: this option requires downloading Zoom software. If you have not already installed the software, this may take a few minutes) or by calling 646-876-9923 and entering Meeting ID: 859 4003 6219.

Copies of the proposed Annual Action Plan 2020 for the use of funds are available for review in the City Clerk’s Office, downtown Capital Area District Library and in the Development Office of the Department of Economic Development and Planning. In light of the closure of public buildings due to the current state of emergency, the proposed Annual Action Plan 2021-2022 for the use of funds is available for review in the at <https://www.lansingmi.gov/230/Development-Office>. The Plan will be a part of the publicly available Council packet for the April 26, 2020 City Council meeting. If a member of the public wishes to review copies of the Annual Action Plan 2020 in-person, please contact the above listed public facilities to schedule an appointment that ensures the safety of both employees and public.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Council Office at 517-483-4177 (TDD (517) 483-4479) 24 hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.

For more information, please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please view the public hearing via Zoom web conferencing which will provided on the April 26, 2021 City Council Agenda. Written comments will be accepted if received by the close of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk’s Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email [city.clerk@lansingmi.gov](mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov).

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/MiPMC  
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CP#21-091



# MSU opens drive-thru vaccine clinic — for everyone

## State epidemic order extends mask mandate to children

The Ingham County Health Department is scheduling COVID-19 vaccination appointments for all Michigan residents at an ongoing drive-thru clinic at Michigan State University Pavilion.

Health officials hope the expansion — enabled through more staff support through the Federal Emergency Management Agency — will allow for up to 4,000 vaccinations there every day.

“People move across county lines,” Health Officer Linda Vail said Tuesday. “Ensuring that everyone in the state who wants a vaccine can get a vaccine benefits us all. We are seeing the number of new cases soar across the state, and there is a sense of urgency with getting people vaccinated.”

Previously, the clinic was only vaccinating people who live or work in Ingham County. To date, more than 68,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered at the MSU Pavilion.

Visit [hd.ingham.org/coronavirus/r\\_1013.aspx](http://hd.ingham.org/coronavirus/r_1013.aspx) to schedule an appointment online.

“We’re still in the midst of another surge, but that looks like it might plateau,” Vail said, noting that rising caseloads over the last few weeks have tapered down over the last 10 days.

Of those infected in the last 30 days, most are between the ages of 21-29, county data shows. Hospital capacity at McLaren and Sparrow are also reaching capacity, though Vail expects to see the

number of patients decrease over the next week as more shots are put in arms.

“I’m hopeful we’re getting through our last major surge in this pandemic because of the level in which we’re vaccinating. It feels a little bit like the light at the end of the tunnel,” Vail added.

Across Michigan, more than 6 million vaccines have been administered to date. The latest million shots were also distributed in 11 days — a new state record, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced.

“I will not stop until we reach our goal of equitably vaccinating 70% of Michiganders ages 16 and up,” Whitmer said. “Our rollout continues picking up steam. We’ve administered 6 million doses in just over four months, and we went from 5 to 6 million in only 11 days.”

To date, 45% of Michiganders have received at least one dose, with 30% fully vaccinated. The state has also repeatedly hit its dose goal of at least 100,000 shots in arms every day.

“The appointments are there,” Vail said. “It’s as easy as clicking a link and scheduling it.”

**In related news...**

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services moved to extend its epidemic mandate on gatherings and face masks, ordering children ages 2 to 4 to also wear face masks while in gatherings at childcare facilities or camps. The order takes effect on Monday (April 26).

The shifting mandate follows recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and is designed to address increases in cases among younger residents over the last few weeks. The statewide order also continues to limit all indoor residential

CORONAVIRUS IN MICHIGAN

BY THE NUMBERS...

Michigan

	CASES	DEATHS	VACC.
4/13/21	747,697	16,512	5,370,443
4/20/21	799,140	16,986	6,065,254
Weekly Change	↑6.9%	↑2.9%	↑12.9%

Eaton County

	CASES	DEATHS	VACC.
4/13/21	7,657	162	61,834
4/20/21	8,090	166	70,493
Weekly Change	↑5.7%	↑2.5%	↑14%

Greater Lansing

	CASES	DEATHS	VACC.
4/13/21	32,845	540	262,440
4/20/21	34,526	564	303,874
Weekly Change	↑5.1%	↑4.4%	↑15.8%

Ingham County

	CASES	DEATHS	VACC.
4/13/21	19,865	307	155,993
4/20/21	20,881	323	179,281
Weekly Change	↑5.1%	↑5.2%	↑14.9%

Clinton Co.

	CASES	DEATHS	VACC.
4/13/21	5,323	71	44,613
4/20/21	5,555	75	54,100
Weekly Change	↑4.4%	↑5.6%	↑21.3%

The “Vaccines” category refers to the total number of doses administered to patients that reported living within each jurisdiction, according to state data. Patients require two doses.

social gatherings to 15 people from no more than three separate households.

State officials also warned that the continued presence of more infectious COVID-19 variants — like the B.1.1.7 variant — could threaten progress in controlling the pandemic in Michigan.

State data shows overall positivity rates have increased for eight weeks but charted a recent five-day decline to 17.1% — up 390% from mid-February and about 14.4% from December. Overall case rates per population are also up more than 475% from mid-February but they remain below the statewide peak of 737.8 cases per million residents tracked in November.

State officials are also working to expand availability of monoclonal antibodies, a medical intervention designed to significantly reduce hospitalizations and deaths tied to COVID-19. Those laboratory-produced molecules can restore, enhance or mimic the immune system’s attack on cells, targeting different parts of the virus to prevent it from bonding with the body.

Clinical trials suggest the therapy works best among patients who are at high risk of progressing to severe symptoms or hospitalization. To date, more than 6,600 Michigan residents have received this treatment, with 65% reporting feeling better within two days of treatment.

— KYLE KAMINSKI

CITY OF LANSING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM Conferencing, Meeting ID 859 4003 6219 for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to repeal Chapter 622, Section 622.01, a criminal misdemeanor under the General Offenses Code of the Codified Ordinances to eliminate drug paraphernalia.

Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting may do so by logging into or calling into the meeting using the website <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85940036219> or by phone number 312-626-6799 using Meeting ID: 859 4003 6219.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Council Office at 517-483-4177 (TDD (517) 483-4479) 24 hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.

For more information, please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk’s Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email [city.clerk@lansingmi.gov](mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov).

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/MIPMC

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CP#21-095

CITY OF LANSING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM Conferencing, Meeting ID 859 4003 6219 for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to repeal Chapter 630, Section 630.12, a criminal misdemeanor under the General Offenses Code of the Codified Ordinances to eliminate loitering in places where controlled substances or drug paraphernalia is sold, used, etc.

Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting may do so by logging into or calling into the meeting using the website <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85940036219> or by phone number 312-626-6799 using Meeting ID: 859 4003 6219.

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Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/MIPMC

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CP#21-088



<div><div>CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</div><div>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM Conferencing, Meeting ID 859 4003 6219 for the purpose of considering:</div><div>An ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, for the purpose of amending the Lansing codified ordinances by amending Chapter 608, Section 608.04, to allow for consumption of alcoholic beverages within certain locations at Frances Park.</div><div>Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting may do so by logging into or calling into the meeting using the website <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85940036219">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85940036219</a> or by phone number 312-626-6799 using Meeting ID: 859 4003 6219.</div><div>Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Council Office at 517-483-4177 (TDD (517) 483-4479) 24 hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.</div><div>For more information, please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email <a href="mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov">city.clerk@lansingmi.gov</a>.</div><div>Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/MIPMC <a href="http://www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk">www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope">www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope</a></div><div>CP#21-092</div></div>	<div><div>CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING</div><div>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM Conferencing, Meeting ID 859 4003 6219 for the purpose of considering:</div><div>An ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to repeal Chapter 664, Section 664.02, a criminal misdemeanor under the general offenses code of the codified ordinances to eliminate that no person shall disturb, without lawful authority, any public assembly or meeting of persons.</div><div>Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting may do so by logging into or calling into the meeting using the website <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85940036219">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85940036219</a> or by phone number 312-626-6799 using Meeting ID: 859 4003 6219.</div><div>Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Council Office at 517-483-4177 (TDD (517) 483-4479) 24 hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.</div><div>For more information, please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email <a href="mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov">city.clerk@lansingmi.gov</a>.</div><div>Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/MIPMC <a href="http://www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk">www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope">www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope</a></div><div>CP#21-093</div></div>
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<div><div>ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS</div><div>MONTGOMERY DRAIN MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT DIVISION X – 2022 RESTORATION AND PLANTINGS</div><div><b>NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN</b> that I, Patrick Lindemann, Ingham County Drain Commissioner, being Chair of the Montgomery Drain Chapter 20 Drainage Board, will receive bids until <b>Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.</b> Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Social Distancing protocols are being implemented for this Project by conducting a Virtual Bid Letting only and will only accept bids submitted through the QuestCDN website, unless further advised via Addendum. Bids relative to Division X will then be publicly opened and announced on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. and, after a meeting of the Montgomery Drain Drainage Board, will be publicly awarded for work to be undertaken in connection with a drain known and designated as the “Montgomery Drain.” The format of the bid opening will be via a Zoom web conference available through the following link or telephone conference number:</div><div>Link for Bid Opening: <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96582509339">https://zoom.us/j/96582509339</a> Or Dial +1 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 965 8250 9339</div><div><i>The major items of work in connection with construction of the Montgomery Drain and coordination of work for other permitted activities within Division X include the following summarized estimated Bid Quantities:</i></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Install 3,750 Square Yards of 3-Inch Thick C.I.P. Finely-Shredded Dark Walnut Bark Mulch in Wet to Moist Rain Garden areas</li><li>• Install 4,350 Square Yards of 2.5-Inch Thick C.I.P. Finely-Shredded Dark Walnut Bark Mulch in Moist to Semi-Dry Rain Garden areas</li><li>• Install 1.75-acres of Open Water Aquatic Vegetation in Ranney Park Ponds</li><li>• Install 0.85-acres of Fragrant White, Water Pond-Lily &amp; Yellow, Water Pond-Lily (36” Height, 3-Ft. on-center)</li><li>• Furnish, Install &amp; Maintain 205 Deciduous Trees (23 species)</li><li>• Furnish, Install &amp; Maintain 85 Coniferous Trees (12 species)</li><li>• Furnish, Install &amp; Maintain 190 Ornamental Shrubs &amp; Bushes (24 species)</li><li>• Install 3-Each of 5 different Habitat Mitigation Structures</li><li>• Furnish, Install &amp; Maintain 60 different Plug Species (200 Each minimum) in 1.75-Finished Acres of Rain Gardens and 0.35-Finished Acres of Park Planting Areas, with 30 of the 60 Species to be as follows: Black-Eyed Susan, Blue Flag Iris, Bottlebrush Sedge, Butterflyweed, Cardinal Flower, Common Boneset, Common Rush, Coreopsis Gigantea, Great Blue Lobelia, Joe-Pye Weed, Marsh Blazing Star, Monkey Flower, Ornamental Dwarf Fountain Grass, Porcupine Sedge, Purple Coneflower, Rose Fountain Grass, Rough Blazing Star, Swamp Milkweed, Sweet Flag, Sweet Grass, Ted Turtlehead, Torrey's Rush, Virginia Waterleaf, White Swan Coneflower, White Turtlehead, Wild Bergamot, Wild Columbine, Wild Geranium, Wild Ginger, Yellow Sunflower</li></ul></div><div>All quantities listed are approximate and final payment will be made on measured quantities.</div><div>One contract is being let for this work, which will include all material necessary to perform same. This contract will be let in accordance with the Contract Documents and bids will be made and received in accordance with these documents.</div><div>Bidders wishing to download the Plans and Specifications at a cost of \$30.00 (which includes the cost of bid submission) may do so by downloading digital project bidding documents by entering <b>Quest Project Number 7768577</b> on the website's project search</div></div>	<div>page, or by using this link: <a href="https://qap.questcdn.com/qap/projects/prj_browse/ipp_browse_grid.html?projType=all&amp;provider=6901061&amp;group=6901061">https://qap.questcdn.com/qap/projects/prj_browse/ipp_browse_grid.html?projType=all&amp;provider=6901061&amp;group=6901061</a>.</div> <div>Please contact QuestCDN Customer Support at (952) 233-1632 or <a href="mailto:info@questcdn.com">info@questcdn.com</a> for assistance in free membership registration, downloading, and working with the digital project information. Bidding documents are also available at <a href="http://www.geiconsultants.com">www.geiconsultants.com</a> (click on the “GEI Bidding” link).</div> <div><b>A MANDATORY pre-bid conference will be held on Monday, May 3, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 Social Distancing protocols, this pre-bid conference will be conducted via video and/or telephone conference. Please find the zoom link and call-in information below.</b></div> <div>Link for MANDATORY Pre-Bid Conference: <a href="https://zoom.us/j/99351175627">https://zoom.us/j/99351175627</a> Or Dial +1 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 993 5117 5627</div> <div>Representatives of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner and Engineer will be available at the pre-bid conference to discuss the Drain Contract. Prospective Bidders are required to attend and participate in the pre-bid conference. All prospective Bidders must “sign in” by providing the name of the attendee, business represented, and email address. All Prospective Bidders will also be required to submit a certification of compliance with Public Act 517 of 2012 prior to bid award. Only bids from Bidders in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be opened. All other bids will be considered non-responsive and will be disqualified from bidding on the Drain Contract. The Engineer will transmit to all Prospective Bidders of record such Addenda as the Engineer considers necessary in response to questions. Oral statements may not be relied upon and will not be binding or legally effective. Use the Bid Form on QuestCDN for submittal of bids. <b>You must download the Contract Documents from QuestCDN to bid on the project, to be included on the plan holders list, and to receive Addenda.</b> The Contractor is responsible for ensuring all Addenda have been received and acknowledged prior to submittal of the bid. The Contractor is responsible for paying the fee to place a bid via QuestCDN.</div> <div>Bid security in the amount of 5%, for and subject to the conditions provided in the Instructions to Bidders, must be submitted through the QuestCDN site with each Bid. <b>Bids may not be withdrawn for a period of 270 Calendar Days after the actual date of opening thereof.</b> This time period may be extended by mutual agreement of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner and any Bidders.</div> <div>Contracts will be entered into with the successful Bidder giving adequate security for the performance of the work and meeting all conditions represented in the Instructions to Bidders. The Montgomery Drain Chapter 20 Drainage Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids, award the Contract to any Bidder for any reason, and to adjourn the letting to such time and place as it shall publicly announce.</div> <div>Bidders shall comply with the Ingham County policies regarding the payment of Prevailing Wages, and Equal Opportunity/Nondiscrimination, as set forth in Ingham County Board of Commissioners Resolutions #02-263 and #02-283, respectively. <b>This work is all planned for Calendar Year 2022 and a Notice to Proceed will not be given prior to January 1, 2022, at the earliest date. The work must be Substantially Complete by September 1, 2022.</b></div> <div>CP#21-102</div>
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CITY OF LANSING  
PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST  
FOR THE TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2021 SPECIAL ELECTION

**Notice is hereby given** that the public test of the program, which will be used for tabulating the results of the Election to be held Tuesday, May 4, 2021 in the City of Lansing, will be conducted at the Lansing City Clerk’s Election Unit located at the South Washington Office Complex at 2500 South Washington Avenue on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

The public accuracy test is conducted to determine that the program used to tabulate the results of the election counts the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

**ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS**  
Any registered voter may request an Absent Voter Ballot. No reason required.

We must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at [www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk](http://www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk) or by calling 517-483-4131.

The Lansing City Clerk’s Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave., 9th Floor, will be open Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to register and issue absentee ballots to qualified electors.

The Lansing City Clerk’s Election Unit, 2500 S. Washington Ave (rear entrance), will be open:

- Weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.;
- Saturday, May 1, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Sunday, May 2, 2021 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

to register voters and to issue absentee ballots to qualified electors.

Monday, May 3, 2021 at 4:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot except for those who register to vote on Election Day. Ballots issued on Monday, May 3, 2021 must be requested and voted in person at the Lansing City Clerk’s Office or the Lansing City Clerk’s Election Unit.

Those registering to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, May 4, 2021 are eligible to receive an absent voter ballot at the Lansing City Clerk’s Office or the Lansing City Clerk’s Election Unit.

**Chris Swope, MMC/MiPMC**  
**Lansing City Clerk**  
**Phone: 517-483-4131**  
**Email: [City.Clerk@lansingmi.gov](mailto:City.Clerk@lansingmi.gov)**  
**Website: [www.lansingvotes.com](http://www.lansingvotes.com)**  
**[www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope](https://www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope)**

CP#21-098

CITY OF EAST LANSING  
EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING PUBLIC HEARING ON  
PRELIMINARY FY2022 BUDGET AND TAX RATE

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the proposed budget for the City of East Lansing is required by City Charter and the State Budget Law; and,

WHEREAS, a public hearing is required under the provisions of the Truth in Taxation Law; and,

WHEREAS, the general appropriations act must set forth the total number of mills to be levied and the purposes for the millage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of East Lansing does hereby establish the date of Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., held electronically and broadcasted live at <https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/> and on WELG local channel 22, as the date, time, and place for the required public hearing; and be it further resolved that for the purposes of the hearing it shall be assumed that the total tax rate will be **16.3552 mills consisting of 12.5362 mills for operating purposes, 1.8250 mills for solid waste, and 1.9940 mills for the Library pursuant to section 1 of 1877 PA164.**

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

The budget is available for public inspection at the East Lansing Library and City Clerk and Finance Office at City Hall; along with the City’s website: [cityofeastlansing.com](http://cityofeastlansing.com) under Finance.

This meeting and public hearing will be held by electronic means only pursuant to the Open Meetings Act (1) because the City is operating under a local state of emergency declared pursuant to law, charter, and ordinance, (2) because of the gathering restrictions set forth in the MDHHS’s epidemic orders, and (3) to protect the public health, safety, and welfare against the potential spread of COVID-19.

Public comments, either oral or written, are welcome at the Public Hearing. To speak during this public hearing (audio only), call: 312-626-6799 or 888-788-0099 Enter meeting ID: 860-4891-1764. Written comments or questions for City Council members may be emailed to [council@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:council@cityofeastlansing.com) in advance of the meeting.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at this meeting upon seven (7) calendar days’ notice to the City of East Lansing. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should write or call: City Manager’s Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 319-6920, [nmostel@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:nmostel@cityofeastlansing.com).

This notice is published by Jennifer Shuster, City Clerk, City of East Lansing, Michigan, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 319-6881.

CP#21-087

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING  
SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING WAS HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M. IN COMPLIANCE WITH MICHIGAN PUBLIC ACT 254, THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM PLATFORM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hayes, Clerk Sanders, Treasurer McKenzie  
Trustees: Harris, Broughton, Brewer, Ruiz  
MEMBERS ABSENT: None  
ALSO PRESENT: Michael Gresens, Attorney  
Todd Hendy, Fire Chief

ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:  
Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes.  
Approved minutes of meetings held on March 30, 2021.  
Agenda approved as presented.  
Approved recommendation for vacation payout for Fire Chief Hendy.  
Approved recommendation to raise part-time wages as presented.  
Approved publication of annual Noxious Weed Notice.  
Approved Resolution 21-06 as presented.  
Approved moving into Executive Session.  
Approved return to Regular Session.  
Approved claims as presented.  
Meeting adjourned.

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor  
Maggie Sanders, Clerk

CP#21-096

CITY OF LANSING  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM Conferencing, Meeting ID 859 4003 6219 for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to repeal Chapter 650, Section 650.05, a criminal misdemeanor under the General Offenses Code of the Codified Ordinances to eliminate parental responsibility.

Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting may do so by logging into or calling into the meeting using the website <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85940036219> or by phone number 312-626-6799 using Meeting ID: 859 4003 6219.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Council Office at 517-483-4177 (TDD (517) 483-4479) 24 hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.

For more information, please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk’s Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email [city.clerk@lansingmi.gov](mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov).

**Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/MiPMC**  
**[www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk](http://www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk)**  
**[www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope](https://www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope)**

CP#21-089

CITY OF LANSING  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM Conferencing, Meeting ID 859 4003 6219 for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend the City of Lansing Codified Ordinances by amending Chapter 280 Section 280.03, to provide that the Elected Officer Compensation Commission shall meet in even-numbered years to determine the compensation of elected officers in the manner provided in Chapter 280.

Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting may do so by logging into or calling into the meeting using the website <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85940036219> or by phone number 312-626-6799 using Meeting ID: 859 4003 6219.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Council Office at 517-483-4177 (TDD (517) 483-4479) 24 hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.

For more information, please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk’s Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email [city.clerk@lansingmi.gov](mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov).

**Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/MiPMC**  
**[www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk](http://www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk)**  
**[www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope](https://www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope)**

CP#21-090



# Did Bernero's departure set course for Schor's second term?

Challengers lack financial edge amid six-way primary race to defeat Schor

By KYLE KAMINSKI

If cash drives local politics in Lansing, then Mayor Andy Schor is likely feeling fairly comfortable as he stares down a six-way primary race for a second-term with nearly \$200,000 in the bank, having outraised (and outspent) all of his challengers combined by a margin of about 100 to 1.

## ANALYSIS

But other factors, of course, are at play. Racial tensions are still smoldering amid a desire for police reforms. More women are speaking out against a toxic political culture of sexual harassment. And a pandemic has lingered on for more than a year in Lansing and beyond.

By Tuesday's filing deadline, five challengers have emerged against Schor, including Council members Patricia Spitzley and Kathie Dunbar, as well as three relatively unknown candidates: Farhan Sheikh-Omar, Melissa Huber and Larry Hutchinson Jr. The Primary Election on Aug. 3 will whittle that field down to two candidates who will face off in the General Election on Nov. 2.

The latest finance reports show Schor had about \$180,000 left in his campaign account last month. At the same time, Spitzley had about \$1,200; Dunbar and the others had nothing.

And while Schor has faced no shortage of public criticism (and lawsuits) over alleged racial discrimination, his campaign now has the potential to be the loudest in the city after former three-term Mayor Virg Bernero — and his \$106,000 — dropped out of the race on Sunday.

Only time will tell whether a war chest of political cash and recent heavyweight endorsements from local labor unions and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer will pan out for Schor at the polls or whether his campaign will sink amid allegations of racism and a recent reckoning of empowered women.

## Spotlight on Schor

Bernero, 57, fled the mayoral race Sunday amid several sexual harassment allegations that were published last month by City Pulse and this week by MLive. One woman said Bernero groped her in downtown Lansing in 2010. Another said Bernero made unwanted sexual phone calls to her in 2004. Two former Bernero campaign



Schor



Spitzley



Dunbar

staffers also alleged that he propositioned them for a threesome, asked them to expose their breasts and also discussed his foot fetish.

"My wife and family have forgiven me for the mistakes of the past, but politics is less forgiving," Bernero posted in a statement to Facebook on Sunday evening. "With gratitude and love as my compass and with unbound confidence in Lansing's future, I end my quest for mayor."

And with that, Schor, 46, lost what many local insiders had viewed as his only viable challenger — and certainly the only one with money approaching the incumbent's.

But can Schor's campaign survive amid a backdrop of a worsening pandemic, lingering financial uncertainties and several allegations of racial discrimination? And with Lansing losing patience for sexual harassment in politics, will two strong women pose unexpected obstacles for Schor?

That depends on whom you ask.

Several people offered their speculation on this year's mayoral election, most under the condition of anonymity. Many viewed Bernero as Schor's most viable contender, suggesting his departure from the race may have set the mayor on a smooth course toward his reelection.

Most of them also identified racial inequities and public safety reform as the top issues facing the city. And despite recent missteps with segments of the Black community in Lansing, many have suggested that Schor hasn't done any irreparable damage to jeopardize his reelection.

"It was always going to be a two-way dance with Schor and Bernero," said one local political consultant. "Spitzley is not and never has been a real contender. This may be a vanity race, maybe to build up for something else. Everyone else is just too fucking smart to get involved."

Added another high-powered political insider: "This is going to Schor. These racism allegations are really from a very small segment of the pop-

ulation, for better or worse, it's a radical segment. The majority of Lansing doesn't want fewer cops. I think that much is clear. Black Lives Matter doesn't speak for the majority of Lansing, or even the majority of Black Lansing."

In the wake of George Floyd's murder last summer, local residents (and the media) have turned their attention to the systemic overpolicing of Black and brown people in Lansing and across the country. The Lansing Police Department has been no exception to discriminatory trends with Black residents. Schor's administration has also been hit with multiple discrimination lawsuits.

The mayor's subsequent response — which has centered heavily on a secretive alliance with few meaningful reforms — has left more to be desired, particularly among groups like the Lansing chapter of Black Lives Matter and the local branch of the NAACP. Schor's resignation tops the list of BLM's most vocal demands, alongside police divestment. The NAACP also released a statement today denouncing Schor for his perceived inactions.

But plans to actually divest cash from the Police Department budget have largely faced resistance. Schor and Spitzley don't support it. Neither did Bernero. NAACP President Dale Copeedge has also recognized that a "significant number" of members opposed divestment.

A trio of lawsuits will determine whether Schor's administration fostered a more in-depth culture of racial discrimination, but Lansing may not be otherwise convinced of a problem worth solving.

Maxine Hankins-Cain, a longtime leader and prominent educator in Lansing's African American community, wouldn't offer her endorsement last week, before Bernero dropped out — she supported Schor four years ago — but spoke out against police divestment.

"I don't think we need to defund anything," she said. "We need to look at how we spend that money. We need to reallocate more funding to community policing, more programs focused on what's happening on the south side of the city. Reducing funding isn't going to

help stop crime."

Added local civil rights leader Barbara Roberts-Mason: "The Black community — like every other community — is not one voice. It doesn't need to be one voice. We all agree that racial discrimination is wrong. BLM speaks for itself. NAACP speaks for itself. And I speak for myself when I say that I don't at all support the divestment or the elimination of our Police Department."

Schor pledged \$300,000 from his latest budget proposal to support a new permanent "Equity Committee" following a yet-to-be-released plan from his Racial Justice and Equity Alliance. That cash is set to be spent on employee training, assessing the racial landscape in Lansing and soliciting more community input as longer-term plans to eliminate inequities continue to unfold.

The budget also included plans to hire a second social worker to the Police Department and committed \$240,000 to the Advance Peace initiative, a program to curb gun violence. Another \$135,000 will be allocated to organizations that aim to advance racial justice within the city.

Like Schor's campaign, the funding is there. Any only time will tell if it produces results.

## Challenge from City Hall

Spitzley and Dunbar know they're behind on campaign fundraising, but neither is deterred.

At her sparsely attended official announcement at Wentworth Park last week, Spitzley suggested that her "grassroots campaign" would attract voters who were both unwilling to endure four more years of Schor and who refused to revisit another term dealing with Lansing's "Angry Mayor."

With Bernero out of the race, she's relying on frustration with Schor to drive her campaign. Spitzley asked: "Do you want to invest in the future of Lansing or do you want to go back?"

Spitzley, 56, works as a deputy redevelopment manager at Racer Trust, which was created out of the General Motors bankruptcy to clean up and redevelop the automaker's toxic assets, like the old Fisher Body plant in Lansing. She was elected to her second term in 2019. Her current term expires at the end of 2023. Her successful election would trigger an appointment process.

The election of the two-term City Councilwoman could also make Spitzley both the first woman and the



# Second Councilwoman emerges in primary challenge against Schor

Dunbar aligns with Bernero on virtually every issue — except sexual harassment

Lansing City Councilwoman Kathie Dunbar announced plans to run against Mayor Andy Schor on Sunday evening, just moments before former Mayor Virg Bernero bowed out of the race amid several recent allegations of sexual harassment published by City Pulse and MLive.

In an interview with City Pulse on Monday, she explained why she jumped into the race.

*City Pulse: When did you decide that you were going to run for mayor and what inspired you?*

**Kathie Dunbar:** I started seriously thinking about it one month ago. People were asking: How do we justify compromising our values in order to choose a mayor? The two viable options were going to either affect women negatively or affect Black and brown residents negatively, and folks really didn't want to hold their nose and choose the least worst. I heard folks saying how they wanted a candidate that they could



Dunbar

truly support, not one that was only the lesser of two evils.

*CP: Bernero dropped out only a few moments after your announcement. Was it related?*

**KD:** No. I was actually shocked — not shocked that he got out, but shocked by the timing.

*CP: What role did the last four years of the Schor administration play in making that decision?*

**KD:** I have enjoyed a very positive relationship with Andy, and I had high hopes for him as mayor when he came in. I've found that although I've had access to him and have been able to talk to him about issues, he has refused to change and he's defensive. I found that to be problematic on key issues — like the complaints about racism in his office and the steps that he was supposedly taking to address the culture. I also had a huge problem with him tear-gassing our residents during a protest and not being accountable for the decision

that was made there. I still have problems with the lack of transparency surrounding the Hulton death in the jail.

*CP: Did Bernero's candidacy inspire you to run too? Why not just rally behind Bernero?*

**KD:** The community wasn't rallying behind Virg. And Virg has his own issues, as we've seen. The experiences of these women are disturbing and numerous. And I did not get the sense that he understood his role in this. I didn't get the sense he understood the power dynamics. He kept insisting that this was about infidelity and that his wife had forgiven him. But that's not what this was about. It was about a systemic problem, this pervasive thought process — particularly among older white men — that don't get how problematic their behavior is, how degraded women feel when their value is wrapped up in objectification and not in their job performance.

*CP: It's no secret that you and Bernero have been political allies. He and his family have provided some fairly significant support to your political campaigns in the past. You two agreed on a host of issues. I don't think anyone*

*would've been too surprised to see you endorse him. Were the sexual harassment allegations the tipping point for you, or is there more to it?*

**KD:** I'll be clear. His leadership as mayor was strong and decisive. I agreed with his policies 95% of the time. We shared the same political, economic and social views. Outside of the allegations, I would say he was a good choice for mayor. Now knowing what has come forward and watching him flip from apologies to accusations to denials has changed my perspective.

*CP: Given your close relationship over the years: Were you surprised to see these allegations?*

**KD:** Yes. I am his contemporary. I do not fit what appears to be the profile of the women who are coming forward. I have never had this experience with him. And I don't believe I was ever in the presence of him when these things were occurring. I have racked my brain about that. The whispers that I remember were of marital affairs. That was the worst kept secret in City Hall.

*For the remainder of this interview, please visit [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com)*

— **KYLE KAMINSKI**

## Mayor's race

from page 14

first African American to serve as mayor of Lansing. But without having outlined much of a platform, her greatest strength appears to simply be in a low profile. She's among the only mayoral candidates who aren't facing allegations of sexual harassment or racial discrimination.

Her biggest criticism: A lack of name recognition and few political accomplishments to lean on.

"I can point to a track record of accomplishment that I've achieved in 16 years on the Council. I don't believe she can point to anything. I don't believe she has brought forward any legislation, any projects, policies," Dunbar told City Pulse this week. "Many people didn't even know her name or that she was on the Council. Those who did cannot point to anything she has done."

Dunbar, 52, is the director and founder of the South Lansing Community Development Association. Her fourth term ends this year. And her bid for mayor forced her to forego seeking reelection to the Council. The earliest

she could return to the job would be in 2023.

Dunbar criticized Schor for a lack of meaningful progress in bridging a widening racial divide in Lansing, which she said was only accelerated by tear gas deployed at a local protest in May. She also slammed Spitzley for failing to advance "anything of substance" on the Council.

"I know City Hall inside and out. I know the budget. I know the employees. I know the departments. I'm also simultaneously the director of a non-profit that works on the ground alongside people across South Lansing to address community needs that arise," she said.

And while Dunbar's left-leaning mayoral platform includes defunding police and reinvesting in social services, small business support and more, recent allegations of sexual harassment and racist behavior could drown out Dunbar's broader vision for the city before it gains steam.

Rina Risper, publisher of the New Citizens' Press in Lansing, alleged this week that Dunbar once told her that "your little Black newspaper won't make it." She also claimed Dunbar casually used the N-word in conversation, once compared her hairstyle to the young

Black character Buckwheat from "The Little Rascals" and repeatedly tried to proposition her for a threesome.

Former Councilwoman Jody Washington also alleged Dunbar "grabbed" her sister from behind — a situation which she labeled as "predatory behavior and sexual harassment" on Facebook.

In an interview with City Pulse on Monday, Dunbar flatly denied both of the claims against her and suggested they were inspired as a political attack. On Tuesday morning, her tune changed.

"I may not remember saying something, or I may remember it differently, but my recollection doesn't matter. What matters is that 15 years ago, regardless of my intent, my words and actions landed in a way that caused harm," Dunbar said. "I take responsibility for my words and actions, not just from 15 years ago, but any time before now. In advocacy, we strive to do better than we've done, and when we know better, we do better. I'm still striving. I hope we all are."

**Who else is in the race?**

Though they may lack name recognition, four other candidates are also running against Schor.

Sheikh-Omar is a 26-year-old Kenyan refugee who lost an election

to First Ward Councilman Brandon Betz in 2019. He also lost a bid for Michigan's 68th House District against Rep. Sarah Anthony in 2018. He told City Pulse last year that he studied political science at Lansing Community College and was an assistant teacher for Ingham Intermediate School District.

Hutchinson, 48, has run (and lost) political campaigns in virtually every level of government in Michigan, including multiple bids for City Council in Flint and Lansing, the state legislature and against Whitmer in 2018. Fliers list his top campaign priorities as campaign finance reform, school safety, education, taxes, gun control, health-care, human trafficking and immigration.

Huber, 54, is a research assistant at Michigan State University, community organizer with the Averill Woods Neighborhood Association and board member at the Schrodinger Academy. Her campaign — like her advocacy work — is focused on "building healthy communities and infrastructures that support the development of our youth, families" through "research, outreach, advocacy and policy development with an emphasis on diversity, inclusion and equity."



# School Board vice president seeks at-large Council seat

Lansing Public Schools Board of Education Vice President Rachel Willis, 32, joined the Lansing City Council At-Large race Monday, fewer than 24 hours after longtime Councilwoman Kathie Dunbar announced her candidacy for mayor.

Willis said she would not have run if Dunbar hadn't dropped out. "I don't believe in challenging incumbents I support," she explained.

Since a candidate can't run for two posts, Dunbar's decision opened up a rare citywide seat on the eight-member legislative body.

The eight-person field will be narrowed to four in the August primary. The top four vote-getters will proceed to the November general election and the top two will win the at-large seats on Council.

Councilman Peter Spadafore, 36, has filed for reelection. Spadafore has been president of Council since January.

Willis is the director of the division of child welfare licensing at the Michigan



Willis

Department of Health and Human Services. She has previously served as president of the Lansing School Board. Spadafore serves as deputy executive director for the Michigan Association of Superintendents and Administrators.

The two Lansing schools-related candidates are joined in the race by six other hopefuls: Grant Blood II, 34; Jeffrey Brown, 37; Linda Appling; DeMarco Taft, 47; Linda Keefe, 64; and Claretta Duckett-Freeman, 39. Besides Willis, only Keefe, Spadafore, Blood and Taft had responded to requests for interviews. Brown was unavailable for an interview.

Appling had no public contact information or date of birth filed with the City Clerk's Office.

Public safety and law enforcement involvement with the community appeared high on the list of concerns for the candidates interviewed.

Willis said there are two types of policy: "racist and antiracist."

"If a policy is impacting a minority

group more than any others, then it's racist," she said. "That's where you have to change the policy to make the outcomes work."

Taft, who said he is an ordained minister with a church outside of Benton Harbor, has lived in Lansing for six years. He hopes to use a seat on the Council to drive initiatives to lower youth and gang violence issues in the community through alternative dispute resolutions.

He said he was going to be "on the streets," which would allow him to hear what the average citizen was thinking, concerned about and agreeing with. He also wants to host an annual event inviting the community and police as well as their families for a BBQ in the city.

"Maybe then we can begin to get to see each other as people, that we share something in common," he said.

As a corporate security consultant for MSUFCU, Blood said he wants to see more involvement with community police, an idea pioneered at Michigan State University. He said his goal would be to employ community policing in Lansing in order to make it a prime role

model for the country. With cops in the community, he said, there would be less fear.

"We need to get people to be less afraid of law enforcement," Blood said. "There is fear."

Blood, who grew up on a dairy farm in Ionia, noted he would use his white privilege to "benefit" others in the community.

Keefe, a former commissioner in Eaton and Ingham counties, said she jumped into the race with deep concerns about climate change and addressing systemic racism. She is a long-term substitute teacher at the Holt Public Schools.

She and Spadafore both said they need to listen to impacted communities more to find creative solutions to address systemic racism issues, particularly in law enforcement.

"There may need to be changes made in the police department itself," Keefe said. "Whether that's staffing or structural or both, we need to improve in this area sooner rather than later."

Spadafore pointed to initiatives he's led to address diversity initiatives in the city, including expanding funding opportunities for outside organizations to investigate allegations of racial and other discrimination for people who might not feel comfortable engaging with the city.

"I don't have all the answers," Spadafore said. "But I am hoping through listening and learning for people impacted, we can find answers together."

— TODD HEYWOOD

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By **SKYLER ASHLEY**

The chaos of the coronavirus pandemic in the spring of 2020 threw Michigan's summer camp scene into complete flux. Cancellations were common for some of the best camps and confusion on how to handle social distancing and other safety precautions made many question the point of sending their children to summer camp altogether. Luckily, the outlook this year is much more encouraging, and many local summer camps have been able to release clear schedules with simple-to-understand safety guidelines and expectations.

Here's a guide on how to find the best summer camp for your children this year, and make sure they have a cool experience catered to their actual interests and passions.

### For the music geek or budding musician

School of Rock's East Lansing branch has a comprehensive summer camp program for kids who want to learn how to play great rock music. The Rock 101 Camp is actually designed for beginners — no experience necessary — who are hungry to pick up and play an instrument such as the electric guitar or perhaps the drums or microphone.

The five-day crash-course in rock 'n' roll costs \$395 and runs from June 14 to June 18, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily, and culminates in an actual live concert that will be put together for the participant's family and friends.

Children who are more adept at their instruments might be interested in the Green Day, Beatles or Pop Punk Camps, which dive into the mechanics of the musical catalogs of several different bands. More information about the curriculum

and COVID-19 safety precautions is available at [schoolofrock.com](https://schoolofrock.com).

### For the future acting star

Kids who yearn to be on the stage performing in classical plays or musicals have a great option to nurture their growing theatrical and production skills with the various All-Of-Us Express Children's Theatre summer camps.

All-Of-Us Express Children's Theatre is offering classes and sessions based on exciting themes such as Harry Potter, Dungeons & Dragons, Stranger Things or comic book super heroes. Kids can also audition for productions like "Charlotte's Web." Camps are typically one weeklong and are catered for children aged 6-10, 8-11 and 11-14. There are even certain camps available for older teenagers.

You can find all of the information you need, and check up on important updates regarding pricing and which classes and camps will be in-person or virtual at [CityOfEastLansing.com/AllofUs](https://CityOfEastLansing.com/AllofUs).

### For the animal lover

For kids that love to get up close and learn awesome facts about amazing animals, whether that's adorable red pandas and penguins or fierce tigers and lions, Potter Park Zoo's Zookambi Summer Camp has a lot for them to fall in love.

Camps for the youngest age groups include storytelling in the morning and demonstrations with animals in the afternoon. Other interesting classes include learning how lions perceive their environment and learning how animal groups including meerkats and penguins interact with each other in a family structure.

Zookambi is geared for kids in grades 1-7 and has half-day and full-

day programs, which run Monday through Friday. Half-days are priced at \$100 for members and \$115 for non-members, while full days cost \$200 for members and \$230 for non-members. Extended care is a flat cost of \$25.

More information on each camp and pending schedule changes is available at [Potterparkzoo.org/Zookambi-Summer-Camp](https://Potterparkzoo.org/Zookambi-Summer-Camp).

### For the little scientist

Lansing is pretty lucky to have an education center as creative and unique as Impression 5. Each year, its Summer L.A.B.S Camp offers loads of scientific fun with a wide range of activities for children of all ages and grade levels. Each category of the Summer L.A.B.S Camp is designed to heighten kids' interest in the natural world around them, while stimulating curiosity and creativity.

Camps are available for children aged 5-6, 7-8, 9-10 and 11-14. Camps run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., but children who require before and after care can stay from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Enrollment costs \$220 per week for Impression 5 members, and \$280 per week for non-members. To learn about becoming a member or receiving a camp scholarship for your child, visit [impression5.org](https://impression5.org).

### For the next Picasso

The budding artists of Greater Lansing are fortunately situated right next to a world-class art museum that not only puts on amazing exhibits, but hosts awesome camps that help develop and grow young people's artistic abilities. This year, the Broad Art Museum is keeping things virtual with its Sketchbook Club program, which has weeklong classes through June and July that cost \$125 and are designed for chil-

dren ages 6-8 and 9-12.

Classes in the Sketchbook Club range from exploring contemporary art to learning more about the dynamics of biological-themed art. The Sketchbook Club will also dive into how art can sometimes be just weird, or flat out funny sometimes. Kids can also learn about how emotions instruct and influence the work of famous artists.

To learn more, visit [broadmuseum.msu.edu/sketchbook-club](https://broadmuseum.msu.edu/sketchbook-club).

### For the outdoors adventurer

If you think your kid is best fit spending the summer at a classic-style camp, being surrounded by nature and spending the days exploring the woods and having fun checking out rivers and creeks, there's plenty of options for that as well.

The Lansing School District an immersive summer camp schedule at the beautiful Ebersole Center in Wayland, Michigan. There are several options in June, July and August available for kids in grades K-3, 4-6, and 7-8. Activities include exploring the water at Jackson Lake and learning the outdoor survival skills required for a proper adventure. More information is available at [LansingSchools.Net/SummerExplorers](https://LansingSchools.Net/SummerExplorers).

The City of Lansing is also holding awesome outdoor camping options that include fun activities such as gardening, swimming, building DIY toys and games. There are even opportunities to join a field trip to Sleepy Hollow to learn about local wildlife and horticulture. More info can be found at [Facebook.com/LansingParksAndRecreation](https://Facebook.com/LansingParksAndRecreation) and [LansingMI.Gov/Parks](https://LansingMI.Gov/Parks).





# Greater Lansing Summer Camp Directory

**All-Of-Us Express Children's Theatre**  
Camps are held at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center  
819 Abbot Road, East Lansing  
(517) 333-2580, Ext. 0  
Register at [linktr.ee/elhcc](https://linktr.ee/elhcc)  
More information and camp schedules available at [CityOfEastLansing.com/AllofUs](https://CityOfEastLansing.com/AllofUs)

**Broad Art Museum Sketchbook Club**  
\$125  
Virtual only  
Classes begin June 7  
(517) 884-4800  
More information available at [broadmuseum.msu.edu/sketchbook-club](https://broadmuseum.msu.edu/sketchbook-club)

**City of Lansing Summer Camps**  
\$40 per resident, \$60 per non-resident  
Camps begin June 21  
Find out more at [Facebook.com/LansingParksandRecreation](https://Facebook.com/LansingParksandRecreation) and [LansingMI.Gov/Parks](https://LansingMI.Gov/Parks)

**Fenner Nature Center Go Wild Day Camp**  
Camps start at \$190 for non-members  
Camp programs begin June 14  
Day camps go from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
2020 E. Mt. Hope Ave., Lansing  
(517) 483-4224  
More information available at [Mynaturecenter.org](https://Mynaturecenter.org)

**Harris Nature Center Summer Camp**  
Registration for one day camps start at \$25  
Camps begin June 29  
3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos  
(517) 349-3866  
More information available at [Facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter](https://Facebook.com/HarrisNatureCenter) and [Meridian.mi.us](https://Meridian.mi.us)

**Impression 5 Summer L.A.B.S Camp**  
\$220 per week for members, \$280 per day for non-members  
Camps run 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
200 Museum Dr., Lansing  
(517) 485-8116  
More information available at [Impression5.org](https://Impression5.org)

**Lansing School District Summer Camp**  
Camps begin June 21  
Register at [LansingSchools.net/SummerExplorers](https://LansingSchools.net/SummerExplorers)

**Potter Park Zookambi Summer Camp**  
Programs start at \$115 for non-members  
Camps begin June 14  
1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing  
(517) 483-4222  
More information and pending schedule changes available at [Potterparkzoo.org/Zookambi-Summer-Camp](https://Potterparkzoo.org/Zookambi-Summer-Camp)

**School of Rock East Lansing**  
Programs start at \$395  
2037 W. Grand River Ave., Meridian Charter Township  
Rock 101 Camp  
June 14 to June 18, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily  
(517) 220-7625  
More information and camp schedules available at [SchoolOfRock.Com](https://SchoolOfRock.Com)

See Directory, Page 20

Courtesy of the Young Creatives Grant, scholarships are available for qualifying families. Please contact us for details.





Camps will take place at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road.

Participants in performance camps will need to bring a lunch to camp each day.

Due to the popularity of these camps, all cancellations must be made at least five days prior to the first day of camp. No refunds will be issued if canceled less than five days prior.

Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, space in these camps is extremely limited and space may fill up quickly.

To register, go to <https://linktr.ee/elhcc>.



**Children's Theatre**

All-of-us Express

Children's Theatre

East Lansing Hannah Community Center

819 Abbot Road

East Lansing, MI 48823

(517) 333-2580 ext. 0

[www.cityofeastlansing.com/allofus](https://www.cityofeastlansing.com/allofus)

For more information visit [www.cityofeastlansing.com/allofus](https://www.cityofeastlansing.com/allofus)

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Andy Schor, Mayor











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Summer Explorers Course Name	K-3 <sup>rd</sup> Grades	4-6 <sup>th</sup> Grades
<b>Animal Olympics Multi-Night Camp</b> Learning about nature gets competitive.	July 6 - 8	July 19 - 22
<b>Nature's Studio Single Night Camp</b> Art immersion unleashes creativity.	June 21 - 22	June 24-25
<b>One with the Woods Day Camp</b> Learn outdoor skills for adventuring.	June 28	June 30
<b>Wonders of Water Extended Day Camp</b> See what Jackson Lake has to offer!	July 12	July 14

**CAREER PATHWAY OPTIONS FOR 6-8 STUDENTS**

Summer Explorers Course Name	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grae	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
<b>Health Science</b> DRM and LCC HHS Programs	June 21 - July 1	July 5 - 15	July 19 - 29
<b>Human Services</b> Fire & Police Summer Cadet Program	July 5 - 15	June 21 - July 1	August 2 - 13
<b>Information Technology</b> Haptix	July 19 - 29	August 2 - 13	June 21 - July 1
<b>Capital Area Career Labs</b> Health Science, IT, and Manufacturing	August 2 - 13	July 19 - 29	July 5 - 15

**CREDIT RECOVERY PROGRAMS AND INTERNSHIPS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS (GRADES 9 - 12)**

High school students can recover credits using APEX or live instruction this summer. They can also participate in MI Virtual learning computer basics, and employability skills while exploring careers that interest them. There will also be 10 internships per session.

**Sesion A:** June 21 - July 15    **AND    Session B:** July 19 - August 13

**SPACE IS LIMITED! REGISTER NOW AT [LANSINGSCHOOLS.NET/SUMMEREXPLORERS](https://lansingschools.net/summerexplorers)**



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## Greater Lansing Summer Camp Directory

from page 18

### Summer Literacy Camp

\$67  
Virtual Only  
Launches June 21, Suggested for grades 1-3  
[TheLiteracyLadies.net/summer-reading-camp](http://TheLiteracyLadies.net/summer-reading-camp)

### Woldumar Nature Center Summer Camp

Registration starts at \$195/week  
Camp programs begin June 21  
Day camps go from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
(517) 322-0030  
5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing  
More information available at [Woldumar.org](http://Woldumar.org)

### YMCA Day Camps

Registration starts at \$180  
Camps begin June 14  
(517) 827-9670  
3700 Old Lansing Road, Lansing  
More information available at [LansingYMCA.org/Daycamp](http://LansingYMCA.org/Daycamp)

## ThinkTank

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Experience Summer L.A.B.S. Camps for ages 11-14 in our youth maker space, Think Tank! Registration is required. Learn more at [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

#### Make with Wood

June 14–18

#### Sustainable Energy

June 21–25

#### Woven Wonders

June 28–July 2

#### What's in the Box?

July 6–10

#### Music Making

July 12–16

#### Trash to Treasure

July 19–23

#### Escape Artist

July 26–30

#### Ultimate Video Games

August 2–6

#### Inked Up!

August 9–13

#### Pinball & Arcade

August 16–20

#### Sensational Ceramics

August 23–27

#### Location:

Impression 5 Science Center in downtown Lansing

#### Time:

9 a.m.–4 p.m. with before care (8–9 a.m.) and after care (4–5:30 p.m.) included

#### Space:

10 people/camp

#### Cost:

\$220/week (member)  
\$280/week (not-yet member)

Register your youth maker online at [impression5.org](http://impression5.org) or by calling (517) 485-8116 ext. 132!



Join the MSU Broad Art Museum for this virtual summer art camp! We've planned creative adventures for June and July that children can join, no matter where your family happens to be. Register online today!



Photo: Aaron Word/MSU Broad.

[broadmuseum.msu.edu/sketchbook-club](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu/sketchbook-club)

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**Charlotte**  
515 Lansing St.



**Hopkins** is a snuggly little cattle dog mix who is housebroken and not destructive. He would do best in a home with adults/teens and no cats.

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**Berrien** is a fun doberman/rhodesian type mix with lots of energy! Super smart, eager to please and would love a home with energetic older kids.

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**Muir** is a friendly outgoing orange tabby who is super outgoing and loves to get attention. He should be fine with cats and cat savvy kids and possibly a dog.

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**Gussie** is a young tortie with plenty of "tortie-tude"! She loves people, enjoys attention, and would prefer to be the only cat in an adults/older kids home.

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# ARTS & CULTURE

## ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

### Peppermint Creek's 'Songs From the Camps' might make you cry

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

Twenty years ago, Michigan State University music major Matt Eldred frequented the campus library to listen to CDs. That's where he became fascinated with "The Holocaust Cantata: Songs From the Camps."

"I became obsessed with it," Eldred said. "I have had this music memorized for years."

#### View "Holocaust Cantata: Songs From the Camps"

online starting April 23  
Youtube.com/user/  
peppermintcreekth

On Friday (April 23), he directs and conducts a virtual "Holocaust Cantata" for Peppermint Creek Theatre's YouTube channel. The 40-minute mix of singing, music and monologues is a perfect fit for April's "Genocide Awareness and Prevention Month."

The "Holocaust Cantata" origins go back to when Nazis exterminated 6 million documented Jews and also persecuted LGBTQs, non-whites and several other minority groups.

Aleksander Kulisiewicz survived five years in a German concentration camp during World War II. He secretly wrote and sang music to help prisoners cope with their horrific situation. When freed, Kulisiewicz devoted himself to docu-

menting the music of the death camps — eventually collecting over 500 songs from 34 camps.

"It was a real, living, breathing account of people who were there," Eldred said. "I've loved these words and music for so long."

Donald McCullough, music director for the Master Chorale of Washington, adapted the songs into his "Holocaust Cantata" composition. It included readings from the Veterans History Project and debuted at the Kennedy Center in 2005. Eldred said one thing the "Holocaust Cantata" does so powerfully is take an event that feels distant and inconceivable and makes it tangible and personable. "The sheer scale of the tragedy can often make people not want to address or remember it," he said.

Increases in Holocaust ignorance and rising Neo-Nazism helped motivate Eldred to create his personalized version of the tribute to the people of the camps. All participants in the Peppermint Creek Theatre video are visible.

"There is something about a view-



Courtesy

"Holocaust Cantata" is a mix of singing, music and stories.

er having to stare into the eyes of somebody saying or singing a personal story from the Holocaust," Eldred said. "It makes it feel very raw but affecting."

He began work on the production in January. Eldred's duties went well beyond those of most directors — and surely more than when he directed "Elegies" for

a Peppermint Creek Theatre Renegade Festival entry in 2015. Eldred is a Peppermint Creek Theatre board member who has also acted on their stage.

"I also sing, teach the music, mark the scores, edit the initial submissions, hold rehearsals and talk-throughs, provide feedback and lead recordings and re-recordings," Eldred said. "It's a ton of putting people in positions to be successful and trying to best utilize the digital medium."

"First, I would make a video for each movement where I conducted the entire song with verbal notes and cues," he said. From that, instrumentalists made recordings Eldred pieced together. After adding more cues, the singers used the edited music to make their recordings.

"We would edit those videos on top of each other to create a finished product," Eldred said.

"Everything was recorded individually on cellphones and then edited with software," he said. Bill Bartilson from Willow AV Labs was the engineer. "He is my hero, savior and MVP," Eldred said. "This work wouldn't be half as impactful without his help."

"I recruited the musicians by calling in favors from friends around the country," he said. "Places such as New York, Texas, Illinois, Michigan, Florida and more."

They are professionals Eldred worked with when at MSU, or when he was the music director at St. Tomas Aquinas Parish and St. John Student's Center in East Lansing. "Or at various times in my musical career in Greater Lansing," Eldred said.

Peppermint Creek Theatre artistic director Chad Swan-Badgero assembled the seven guests who deliver the monologues from across the country.

Eldred said the finished work was better than anticipated. He underestimated how deeply invested the brilliant collaborators became and how polished submissions would be.

"When we put together the first cut of the video for the fifth movement it made me cry," Eldred said.

### LCC paper The Lookout wins top student journalism prize

By SKYLER ASHLEY

Lansing Community College newspaper The Lookout has captured a prestigious prize for student journalism. Despite having an inexperienced staff during the entry period of April 1, 2019, through March 31, 2020, The Lookout took home the top prize for Division 3 of the 2020 Michigan Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest. The Lookout's staff was also awarded 12 individual awards, including 5 for photo editor Julie Newell.

"We only had one returning staff member, Shauna Stocken, our editor-in-chief. We had all new staff, which usually doesn't happen; usually, it's about half returning people," said The Lookout adviser Larry Hook.

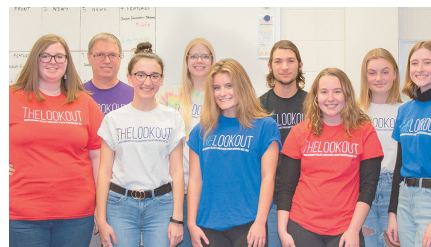
Hook credited the leadership of Stocken and said feature writer Robin Morales was a key difference-maker in

setting the tone for a successful school year. Morales won third place in the Best Feature Story category for his article, "The Incredible Life of a Rock 'n' Roller."

"He was a huge addition. It's hard to find people that want to cover the hard news — everybody wants to do fluffy stuff, but Robin was really into the politics," Hook said.

Hook, who started his long career in journalism at LCC, has been the adviser of The Lookout since 2004. He's the de facto journalism professor and shows the student staff of The Lookout how to get the ball rolling when it comes to managing a news publication. Under his supervision, The Lookout won the MPA's Better Newspaper Contest three times — twice in the last four years.

"I put students in the spot where they'll succeed the most. This year's staff



Courtesy

The Lookout's 2019-2020 staff.

learned fast and had great chemistry," Hook said.

Hook said it is atypical for a green staff to earn first-place honors. But The Lookout managed to capture lightning in a bottle thanks to a team that gelled together well and learned from one another on a weekly basis.

Photography and sports editor Julie Newell earned the most individual awards thanks to her skillful touch

behind the camera. She was enrolled in LCC to study sign language and came to The Lookout with a bit of an edge — already holding a degree in photography from Grand Rapids Community College. Not only did she win Best Photographer, but she also won first place in the Feature Photo and Sports Photo categories.

Due to challenges from the coronavirus pandemic, The Lookout's current staff features only three students, and it ceased print production in March 2020. Hook said once the print edition returns it will likely go from twice monthly to once monthly.

"Switching to online-only has its advantages. I never wanted to do it, even though I knew the day would come, but it's worked out really well. I'm happy with the work we've done," he said.



# Vaudeville and vivisection

Lansing's historic Strand Theatre — what's left of it — turns 100

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

A century ago, on April 21, 1921, a splendid new theater opened in downtown Lansing, at 215 N. Washington Avenue.

Telegrams from around the world, had to be carried in by the bushel, including one from Charlie Chaplin, congratulating owner W. S. Butterfield and his staff.

The Strand Theatre survived the era of vaudeville to become a classic, big-city downtown movie palace, under the rubric of the Michigan Theatre, until its partial demolition in 1982.

Only the ornate terra cotta façade survives — a creamy baroque throwback tucked between empty storefronts, bail bondsmen and cigar stores — along with an arcade of offices inside the building.

Although the Strand/Michigan Theatre spent most of its life as a movie house, a long line of American entertainers, from Al Jolson to Dave Brubeck, appeared there.

"I was the last person on that stage," Chicago architect Thom Greene said. "I read a short poem, long ago, when the building was half torn down and snow was coming through the ceiling. It was quite a night for me."

Two original seats from the Michigan Theatre, and a piece of swirly red Art Deco carpet, are still sitting in his garage.

Greene was part of a plucky but unsuccessful effort to save the theater, Da Capo, that included a fund-raising concert by jazz pianist Dave Brubeck. Greene wrote his fifth-year thesis, at Lawrence Technological University, on the Strand/Michigan Theatre.

"The Lansing Strand Theatre was not built for today only," read the opening night program, "but constructed in the hope that it might be a monument for years to come."

The Strand Theatre was built for Walter Scott Butterfield, who owned 19 theaters in Michigan and several more out of the state. Butterfield hired one of the leading architects of the day, John Ebersson, who specialized in grand theater designs.

Butterfield's granddaughter was the model for a beautiful terra cotta relief by Kristian Schneider, a friend of iconic Chicago architect Louis

Sullivan. Her face still looks down on passersby along Washington Avenue. The identity of the terra-cotta lady whose bosom morphs into a descending column of plaster is unknown.

A golden age of live entertainment was at its height in 1921. The Strand started as a 1,750-seat vaudeville theatre and hosted big attractions like crooner Bing Crosby, singer and dancer Ruby Keeler, folksy comedian-philosopher Will Rogers, opera and spirituals singer Marian Anderson, talkie pioneer Al Jolson and magician Harry Houdini. There were jugglers, dancers, comedians and animal acts. (Animals had their own dedicated "dressing" room.)

Ground was broken March 16, 1920.

The cost was estimated at \$500,000, and local labor and materials were used as much as possible. Young Brothers and Daley, a Lansing firm that is still in business, provided 3,000 barrels of cement, 30,000 feet of gypsum block and 20 tons of stucco. The R.C. Smith Co. of Battle Creek provided 194 tons of structural steel. The 64-foot-long steel truss that supports the balcony — still in place today — weighed 15 tons alone. A state of the art ventilation system changed the air in the cavernous auditorium every six minutes.

The theater's grand scale and lavish décor were a big part of the draw. Opening night reviews in the local press concentrate com-

pletely on the theater and don't even mention the opening night acts, aside from speeches by civic leaders like Lansing Mayor Benjamin Kyes.

To experience an "atmospheric picture palace" similar to the Strand today, you'd have to go to the Kalamazoo State Theatre, also designed by John Ebersson, one of the few in the nation that remain intact.

The unique thing about the Strand was its arcade of 14 shops, an early urban mall that ushered the visitor toward the theater beyond.

Betty Kopit, an MSU Theatre Department student, lovingly described



Photos courtesy Capital Area District Library

(Above) The theater sat over 1,700 people and hosted luminaries such as Bing Crosby, Al Jolson and Marian Anderson before settling into a long life as a movie house.



(Left) The lavish Strand Theatre, later the Michigan Theatre, at 215 N. Washington Ave., opened April 21, 1921. The theater was demolished in 1982, but the façade and arcade still stands.



# Favorite Things

## Eric Newcombe and his late brother's guitar

*Eric Newcombe is primarily a bass player, now performing with the local group No Skull, but his favorite thing is actually an acoustic guitar that belonged to his brother before his death.*

My favorite thing is a Mitchell acoustic that belonged to my brother. He got home from the Iraq War and decided that he wanted to learn how to play guitar. He wanted to be like me — I got my brother into music big time. It was both ways. He got me into some stuff, and I got him into some heavier stuff.

Before he went to Iraq, he bought me a Fender Stratocaster. It's the only guitar I owned before this Mitchell. I ended up selling that one, but now I'm kind of pissed at myself. I wish I still had it. It's the one that got away.

One day, he and I went to Guitar Center and he told me he really wanted to buy a guitar and learn how to play. He asked what's a good cheap guitar, and I said, "I don't know, Mitchell?"

My brother would always do things on the fly, and he bought the guitar and began learning it. It's kind of intense, but my brother eventually went to jail for a year over paraphernalia. About a week after he was released, he passed away due to an overdose. When I talked to his wife, I said there was one thing I wanted and that was his guitar. She granted that wish and handed it down to me. It's been in my possession ever since.

He would always try to learn on his own, but I think if you want to get serious you have to get some



lessons. He was getting lessons at a local music shop, and I still have his gig bag with all of the songs he was trying to learn tabbed out for himself. He had a bunch of classic rock like "Stairway to Heaven" and "Knocking on Heaven's Door" and a Bob Seger song somewhere in there.

I actually haven't touched the guitar since I got it. There's a bit of a vibe to it. It's sentimental and I don't like touching it, I guess. It's kind of a bad reminder to me — we could be hanging out jamming.

I kind of want to learn the songs he was learning, just so I could say, "Hey I completed this for you." One day, I want to pick up where he left off.

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



Courtesy Capital Area District Library

The Strand got an Art Deco remake in 1941, but the old terra cotta façade remained, as it does to this day.

## Strand

from page 23

the theater's visual delights in a thesis on the theater's history in 1976. The arcade had amber skylights, a marble staircase, copper framed windows and a second-floor convention hall-ballroom with a parquet floor. At the far end, patrons passed through four beveled glass doors into the theater lobby, a dreamy layer cake of Roman columns, ornate plaster work and twisting staircases. At the top was a dome and rotunda with a fantastic bronze and glass lamp in the form of a palm tree and a multi-colored parrot, imported from Italy.

Beginning in 1928, an organ dramatically raised out of the pit, to the great excitement of patrons, as a prelude to the entertainment (by then, mostly movies).

The aging frou-frou décor of 1921 got a sharp Art Deco remake in 1941. A classic neon sign rocketed boldly from the façade, proclaiming the theater's name change to the Michigan. Old theatrical names like the Strand, Bijou and Jewel were going out of fashion. The interior was streamlined and side boxes were taken out of the auditorium.

By the 1960s and 1970s, suburban mall theaters and TV were turning America's downtown movie palaces into haunted, sticky-floored mausoleums. Butterfield's burgeoning theater empire had moved on, to malls and campuses like MSU, where Butterfield opened the twin Campus Theater in 1980.

By the 1970s, the basement bowling

alley and other spaces at the Strand were long vacant, as was much of the upper arcade. Other than Monday nights, when admission was discounted to \$2.50, "the partially filled seats on the main floor make the theater seem even more vast than it is," Kopit wrote.

Greene and the Da Capo group thought the arcade had the potential to make the whole theater viable, but no developer came forward to save the auditorium, as the Hinman Co. did for the Kalamazoo State Theatre.

Greene believes that the Strand's commercial arcade, intended as a hedge against the roller-coaster ups and downs of showbiz in 1921, saved the whole building from coming down. The arcade was converted to the Atrium Office Plaza in 1982 and is now home to the Dickinson Wright law firm, among other tenants.

The ghost theater is still visible, if you look for it, in the harsh, sunlit parking lot behind the facade. Motorists and pedestrians on Grand Avenue can still see the distinct outlines of each tier of seats.

"They just tarred over the balcony seating," Greene said. "It was quite an abomination."

Greene soldiered on as an architect in Lansing, later chairing the Lansing Downtown Development Corp. and serving on the Ingham County Historical Commission, but the loss of the Strand was a great disappointment to him and to his fellow Da Capo fighters.

"That is why I ended up relocating my firm to Chicago. Lansing just didn't get it. They didn't have the sensitivity. The City Council was just too backward. I had to go to a more progressive city."



# 'Marigold' author continues to bloom as a writer and illustrator

By **BILL CASTANIER**

The pandemic gave artist and illustrator Kathryn Darnell the opportunity to push her considerable illustration skills in new directions.

Darnell, who has illustrated numerous children's picture books including "Fibblestix," by Devin Scillian, and "The Michigan Reader," by Kathy-Jo Warjin, decided it was time to dust off and self-publish a manuscript that had

## Check out Kathryn Darnell's animations

at [vimeo.com/kldarnell](https://vimeo.com/kldarnell)

"Marigold" is available online at [store.bookbaby.com/book/marigold](https://store.bookbaby.com/book/marigold)

Additional material is available at [katedarnell.com](https://katedarnell.com)

been gathering dust under her desk for 10 years after being rejected by several publishers.

The result is the delightful softcover book "Marigold,"

which follows the lifecycle of the flower from seed to flower and repeating the cycle year after year.

"The book is an expression of the end of winter and how we want hands in dirt," she said.

Inspiration for the book comes from the artist's soul and love of gardening.

One of the features of "Marigold" is a lack of human characters.

"Leaving out human characters side-

steps the issue of a specific gender, age or racial identity and also eliminates any expectations of dialog allowing simple observations to rule the text," she said.

The text of "Marigold" is mostly simple two- or three-word phrases. Sometimes it includes a rhyming scheme for each illustration, but it does not detract from the illustrations.

Darnell said when she first imagined the book it had no words at all.

A simple pair of work gloves stand in for humans on most pages as they plant, water and harvest seeds for next year's crop of marigolds. A field mouse is often found as an observer.

"The gloves are doing the work and play all by themselves without being worn by a person. The mouse character helps, but I deliberately avoided anthropomorphizing the mouse too much, so the gloves and mouse are more equal partners," she said.

Darnell is always looking at things. While gardening, she noticed how a pair of work gloves began to take on a life of their own.

"I like gardening, it's a relaxing thing to do — to be outside and be creative. I have an imperfect garden. It's partly wild with lots of volunteers," she said. "I've always loved marigolds and save the seeds for next season."

In addition to writing and illustrating her own book, Darnell has begun experimenting with animation.

Before the pandemic, Darnell supplemented her illustrations by doing calligraphy for awards and citations, something she has been doing for decades.

When the pandemic struck, there were no more events and it's not happening now. So she began exploring animating her calligraphy, which led



Kathryn Darnell with a copy of "Marigold."

Courtesy

to animation of "Marigold."

"If someone told me 10 years ago I wanted to animate, I would wonder," Darnell said.

Darnell can trace her career as an illustrator to the late-'70s, when she did illustrations for Elderly Instruments' annual catalog. She then began doing illustrations for CDs for folk musicians.

Darnell said she comes from people who made things from sewing to woodworking.

"We didn't sit around with our hands in our lap," she said.

Darnell said the decision to self-publish was an eye-opener for her — especially the "whole commercial part of putting out the book."

"I'm usually doing things for other people and I didn't think about the complexities. I did know I wanted to put the book out as a paperback to make it less precious," she said. "I'm lucky I get to do what I love. I just like making pictures," Darnell said.

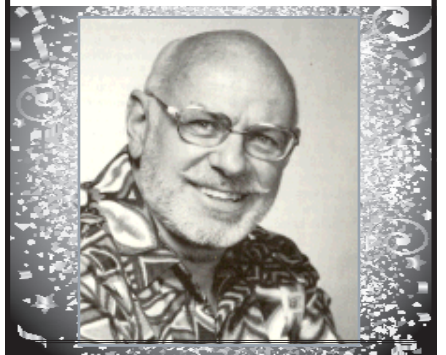
The illustrator said she sees a future

for children's books where they routinely have animated versions.

## Happy 105th Birthday Charles P. "Lash" Larrowe!



MSU Economics Professor  
and Author of several publications  
including Lashing Out (1982)



Party cancelled.  
Stay Safe!



Courtesy

A still-frame from the animated version of "Marigold."

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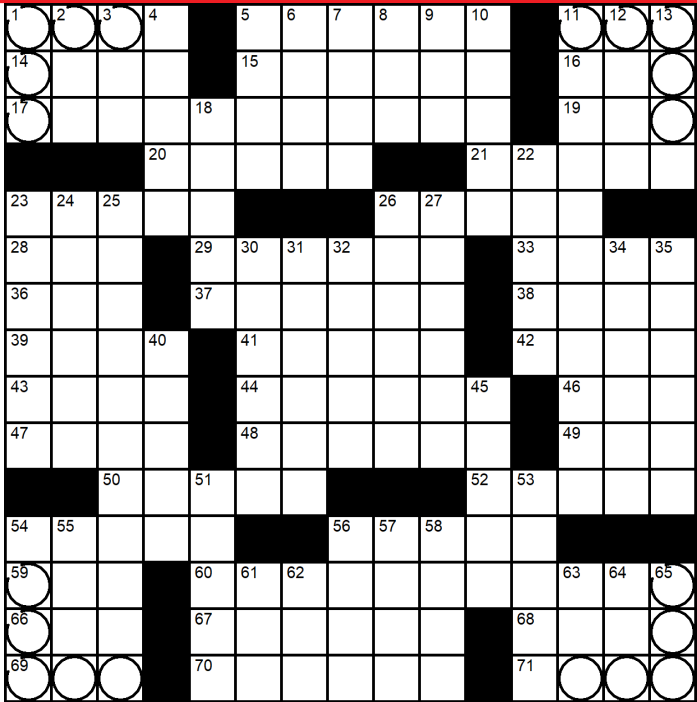


Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Knowing the Angles"—when it's all right.  
by Matt Jones

- Across**
- 1 Hummus scooper  
5 Snarls, like traffic  
11 Pistachio, e.g.  
14 Counting Crows singer Duritz  
15 Prompt  
16 "Suits" ailer  
17 Item of Mario Bros. lore where you can see the angle in the NW corner  
19 Dose, informally  
20 Covered with grime  
21 Hummus brand  
23 Liam Neeson film franchise  
26 \_\_\_ folkIürico (traditional Mexican dances)  
28 Pol. entity that lasted from 962 to 1806  
29 "That was my best effort"  
33 Country singer Paisley  
36 Frigid  
37 "My kingdom for \_\_\_!" (Richard III)  
38 Mount in Greek myth  
39 Apprehends  
41 Sharp-toothed spur wheel  
42 Lo \_\_\_ (Chinese noodles)  
43 Just had a sense  
44 Ab \_\_\_ (from the beginning)  
46 \_\_\_ deferens  
47 Level-headed  
48 Optician's wares  
49 Part of the psyche  
50 In the wee small hours of the morning  
52 Nattered away  
54 Slash on a bowling scoresheet



- 56 Dispatched, as the Jabberwock  
59 Sculpture, paintings, etc.  
60 Intro to a certain cipher that resembles the angle in the SE corner  
66 Homer Simpson outburst  
67 Ferret's cousin  
68 Word before ringer or tired  
69 Music with confessional lyrics  
70 "Interview With the Vampire" vampire  
71 Birds with dark green eggs
- Down**
- 1 Dog's foot  
2 William McKinley's First Lady  
3 "Que \_\_\_?" ("How's it going?")  
4 Cause laughter  
5 Like most restaurant orders, lately  
6 "Put a sock \_\_\_"  
7 Website for craftwork  
8 Word usually put in brackets  
9 Actress Thurman  
10 Drink with a red, white, and blue logo  
11 On a calculator, it looks like the angle in the NE corner  
12 Manufacturer's target  
13 Exclamation after a big finish  
18 Region conquered by Alexander the Great  
22 "The Five People You Meet in Heaven" author Mitch  
23 Speculates  
24 Tarot deck grouping  
25 Where to find the letter that looks like the angle in the SW corner  
26 Surrounds  
27 Antarctic penguin  
30 Adrenaline rush  
31 Mara of "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo"  
32 Late "Crocodile Hunter" Steve  
34 Cheese in some bagels  
35 Ted of "Mr. Mayor"  
40 Pinky \_\_\_  
45 "Hamlet" courtier who oversees a duel  
51 Push away  
53 Pole on a battery  
54 1993 hitmaker with "No Ordinary Love"  
55 Dance with a lot of rentals  
56 Roasting stick  
57 "Girls" creator Dunham  
58 Perform without \_\_\_  
61 Vexation  
62 Ball club VIPs  
63 On the left, for short  
64 It might be free at a French restaurant  
65 Mobile game interruptions

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SUDOKU

Beginner

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

**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 31

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Brezsný

April 21-27, 2021

**ARIES (March 21–April 19):** Blogger Emma Elsworth wrote her "Self-Care List." I'll tell you a few of her 57 action items, in hopes of inspiring you to create your own list. The coming weeks will be a perfect phase to upgrade your focus on doing what makes you feel healthy and holy. Here are Elsworth's ideas: Get in the habit of cooking yourself a beautiful breakfast. Organize your room. Clean your mirror and laptop. Lie in the sunshine. Become the person you would ideally fall in love with. Walk with a straight posture. Stretch your body. Challenge yourself to not judge or ridicule anyone for a whole day. Have a luxurious shower with your favorite music playing. Remember your dreams. Fantasize about the life you would lead if failure didn't exist.

**TAURUS (April 20–May 20):** Some traditional Buddhist monks sit on city streets in Asia with a "begging bowl" in front of them. It's a clay or iron container they use to solicit money and food from passers-by who want to support them. Contemporary American poet Marianne Boruch regards the begging bowl as a metaphor that helps her generate new poems. She adopts the attitude of the empty vessel, awaiting life's instructions and inspiration to guide her creative inquiry. This enables her to "avoid too much self-obsession and navel-gazing" and be receptive—"with no agenda besides the usual wonder and puzzlement." I recommend the begging bowl approach to you as you launch the next phase of your journey, Taurus.

**GEMINI (May 21–June 20):** Gemini-born Paul Gauguin (1848–1903) is today regarded as an innovative and influential painter. But his early years provided few hints that he would ultimately become renowned. As a teenager, he attended naval preparatory school, and later he joined the French navy. At age 23, he became a stockbroker. Although he also began dabbling as a painter at that time, it wasn't until the stock market crashed 11 years later that he made the decision to be a full-time painter. Is there a Gauguin-like turning point in your future, Gemini? If so, its early signs might show itself soon. It won't be as dramatic or stressful as Gauguin's, but I bet it will be quite galvanizing.

**CANCER (June 21–July 22):** A research team found that some people pray for things they are reasonably sure God wouldn't approve of. In a sense, they're trying to trick the Creator into giving them goodies they're not supposed to get. Do you ever do that? Try to bamboozle life into offering you blessings you're not sure you deserve? The coming weeks will be a favorable time for you to dare such plays. I'm not guaranteeing you'll succeed, but the chances are much better than usual that you will. The universe is pretty relaxed and generous toward you right now.

**LEO (July 23–Aug. 22):** In 2013, the New Zealand government decided to rectify the fact that its two main islands had never been assigned formal names. At that time, it gave both an English and Māori-language moniker for each: North Island, or "Te Ika-a-Māui", and South Island, or "Te Waipounamu". In the spirit of correcting for oversights and neglect, and in accordance with current astrological omens, is there any action you'd like to take to make yourself more official or professional or established? The coming weeks will be a favorable time to do so.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22):** Author Grant Morrison observes that our heads are "big enough to contain every god and devil there ever was. Big enough to hold the weight of oceans and the turning stars. Whole universes fit in there!" That's why it's so unfortunate, he says, if we fill up our "magical cabinet" with "little broken things, sad trinkets that we play with over and over." In accordance with astrological potentials, Virgo, I exhort you to dispose of as many of those sad trinkets and little broken things as you can. Make lots of room to hold expansive visions and marvelous dreams and wondrous possibilities. It's time to think bigger and feel wilder.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22):** Libran author bell hooks (who doesn't capitalize her name) has a nuanced perspective on the nature of our pain. She writes, "Contrary to what we may have been taught, unnecessary and unchosen suffering wounds us, but need not scar us for life." She acknowledges that unnecessary and unchosen suffering does indeed "mark us." But we have the power to reshape and transform how it marks us. I think her wisdom will be useful for you to wield in the coming weeks. You now have extra power to reshape and transform the marks of your old pain. You probably won't make it disappear entirely, but you can find new ways to make it serve you, teach you, and ennoble you.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21):** I love people who inspire me to surprise myself. I'm appreciative when an ally provides me with a friendly shock that moves me to question my habitual ways of thinking or doing things. I feel lucky when a person I like offers a compassionate critique that nudges me out of a rut I've been in. Here's a secret: I don't always wait around passively hoping events like these will happen. Now and then I actively seek them out. I encourage them. I ask for them. In the coming weeks, Scorpio, I invite you to be like me in this regard.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21):** "Where did last year's lessons go?" asks Gillian Welch in her song "I Dream a Highway." Now I'm posing the same question to you—just in time for the Remember Last Year's Lessons Phase of your cycle. In my astrological opinion, it's crucial for you to recollect and ruminate deeply on the breakdowns and breakthroughs you experienced in 2020; on every spiritual emergency and spiritual emergence you weathered; on all the scary trials you endured and all the sacred trails you trod.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19):** Capricorn painter Henri Matisse had a revolutionary influence on 20th-century art, in part because of his raucous use of color. Early in his career he belonged to the movement known as Fauvism, derived from the French term for "wild beasts." During his final years, he invented a new genre very different from his previous work: large collages of brightly colored cut-out paper. The subject matter, according to critic Jed Perl, included "jungles, goddesses, oceans, and the heavens," and "ravishing signs and symbols" extracted from the depths of "Matisse's luminosity." I offer him as a role model for you, Capricorn, because I think it's a perfect time to be, as Perl describes Matisse, both "a hard-nosed problem-solver and a feverish dreamer."

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18):** "The guiding motto in the life of every natural philosopher should be, 'Seek simplicity, but distrust it.'" Aquarian philosopher Alfred North Whitehead wrote that, and now I'm proposing that you use it as your motto in the coming weeks, even if you're not a natural philosopher. Why? Because I suspect you'll thrive by uncomplicating your life. You'll enhance your well-being if you put greater trust in your instinctual nature and avoid getting lost in convoluted thoughts. On the other hand, it's important not to plunge so deeply into minimalism that you become shallow, careless, or unimaginative.

**PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20):** In ancient Greek comic theater, there was a stock character known as the "eiron". He was a crafty underdog who outwitted and triumphed over boastful egotists by pretending to be naive. Might I interest you in borrowing from that technique in the coming weeks? I think you're most likely to be successful if you approach victory indirectly or sideways—and don't get bogged down trying to forcefully coax skeptics and resisters. Be cagey, understated, and strategic, Pisces. Let everyone think they're smart and strong if it helps ensure that your vision of how things should be will win out in the end.

Go to [RealAstrology.com](http://RealAstrology.com) to check out Rob Brezsný's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 1-877-873-4888 or 1-900-950-7700.

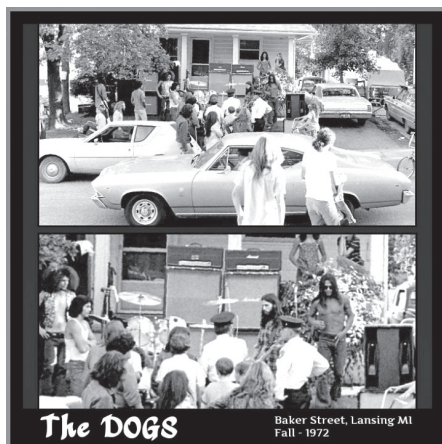


# TURN IT DOWN!

Loud dispatches from Lansing's music scene

BY RICH TUPICA

## A LOOK BACK AT 'SLASH YOUR FACE' BY THE DOGS



The Dogs look on as Lansing Police shut down a Baker Street porch show. (photos by John Lindemann)



The Dogs at The Brewery, later The Silver Dollar. (photo by John Lindemann)



The 2019 reissue of the "Slash Your Face" EP on Almost Ready Records.



The Dogs: Loren Molinare, Tony Matteucci and Mary Kay. (photo by Heather Harris)

## Loren Molinare talks about the 1978 punk classic, and the band's future

The Dogs may have formed in the late '60s, at the height of the electrifying Detroit rock scene that birthed The Stooges, MC5 and Bob Seger, but the band of Lansing natives are best known for its 1978 punk-rock classic: "Slash Your Face."

The menacing song certainly echoes back to Iggy Pop and Wayne Kramer-style rock 'n' roll, but it's amped up with something extra. The track has an added burning vigor that nods to their Motor City inspirations, while simultaneously going off the rails in a totally new direction.

Over the years, aside from periodic hiatuses, the long-running Dogs have stayed quite active playing gigs across the map. But also, having tracks included on notable bootleg compilations, like "Killed by Death: Rare Punk 77-82" and "Bloodstains Across California," have only bolstered the Lansing trio's cult following. As for proper releases, in 2001, Dionysus Records released the comprehensive "Fed Up" LP compilation. In 2019, Almost Ready Records pressed up yet another reissue of the still-beloved "Slash Your Face" EP.

Loren Molinare, guitarist and vocalist of The Dogs, wrote the notorious title track in late 1977, at age 25, after the trio, which also comprised bassist Mary Kay with drummer Ron Wood, relocated from Michigan to Hollywood. It was at High Time Studio, the band's

headquarters where "Slash Your Face" first took shape and Molinare hashed out the commanding riff and bold lyrics.

"The song was inspired by the evolving punk scene in 1976/77 and the alienation we were feeling in a few ways," Molinare said. "For me, I was sensing the pressure of elitist social political racist thinking, of anyone or anybody thinking they are better than his brother or sister. Also, as a band, we started to be shunned by the punk rock scenesters for being too mainstream a la Journey or REO Speedwagon — which is funny since we were so influenced by the MC5 and The Stooges."

The band's earliest days date back to mid-1968, so The Dogs had been around for a solid decade prior to the release of the signature song on the "Slash Your Face" EP, which also includes the anthemic "Fed Up" and a loud-an-snotty cover of "Are You a Boy or Are You a Girl?" By October 1978, the record was pressed up and ready to sell.

"It was pretty exciting times being in The Dogs," Molinare recalled about that era of his long career. "We had been playing great shows in LA, opening for AC/DC, The Ramones and Van Halen. Then, we had the opportunity to tour the UK in 1978 and '79, and we needed a record to promote on the UK tour. So we put together the 'Slash

Your Face' EP, which was recorded live on the Record Plant mobile truck in San Francisco at a punk club called the Mabuhay Gardens. In a classic punk rock move, our producer Jimmy Robinson stole the master mix tapes of the songs from our manager at the time and gave them to us to put out on our own label, Detroit Records, for the tour."

As for the The Dog's mission at the time, Molinare said each band member shared the same goals in life.

"Life was totally dedicated to the music and the band," he said. "Our whole team believed that rock 'n' roll was a vehicle to help make the world a better place through four Marshall stacks ... with a lot of passion and weed."

Today, Molinare lives in California, as does drummer Tony Matteucci. Kay, the other founding member, resides in Las Vegas. Still, the band's Lansing roots live on through classic stories of pounding amplifiers and encounters with the law. They left behind a list of favorite shows they played over the years. However, one hazy day in 1972 sticks out the most.

"I think for Mary and myself, it was the day The Dogs were asked to play the Lansing Mall for a candidate running for Lansing City Council," he recalled. "Well, four Marshall stacks got us kicked out of the mall for being too loud. Then a local hippie

named 'Mouse,' from Baker Street in Lansing, suggested we could come and set up in their front yard and play. We did play, but got arrested before we really even hit a note.

"It was a classic day in the life of The Dogs," he added. "Get kicked out of one place, go somewhere to play rock 'n' roll, and get arrested. Someone has to make a statement for rock 'n' roll, and it was always The Dogs."

As for the future, The Dogs are busier than ever. While they were all "taking the pandemic seriously," in 2020 the trio signed to Chicanery Chick Records, a branch of Die Laughing Records. So far, the imprint has issued two newly cut singles: the timely "Welcome to The Revolution" and "Under the Coast." Give the new tunes a listen. Decades later, and the band hasn't lost a drop of its raw, punk potency. The new vinyl single is coming out in the fall of 2021.

In his free time, Molinare produced and plays in a new Los Angeles band, The Slamdinstas. He also recorded tracks for The Cruzados' new LP, out later this year.

Beyond that, Almost Ready Records is also prepping a 2021 reissue of The Dogs' debut single, "John Rock" (a nod to John Sinclair) to mark its 45th anniversary. Keep listening, the Dogs are still barking louder than ever.



# OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com). Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Suzi at (517) 999-6704.

## Wednesday, April 21

**Allen Farmers Market** - 1629 E. Kalamazoo! 3-6:30 p.m. 517-999-3911.

**Biomedical Engineering Virtual Seminar Series-** Join us for our weekly series. 11 a.m. [events.msu.edu](http://events.msu.edu)

**Cinderella's Closet Prom Dress Giveaway** - through April 24 at Ever After Opportunities in Lansing Mall. 10 am - 7 pm., by appt. only. Call 517-885-5646 or email [info@everafteropportunities.org](mailto:info@everafteropportunities.org)

**Deadline** - Painting Nature fundraiser for Harris Nature Center. Harris Nature Center Foundation is inviting artists of all ages and skill levels to a virtual fundraiser, 517-220-0058. [paintyourpoison.com](http://paintyourpoison.com).

**MSU Science Festival** - a FREE celebration of the many ways science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM) touch our everyday lives. All month. [sciencefestival.msu.edu](http://sciencefestival.msu.edu).

**Spring Rummage and Bake Sale** - 4-7 p.m. St. Michael Church, 345 Edwards St, Grand Ledge.

**Threads of Wisdom:** Fire and Wand. Join us on Zoom for discussion. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Weavers of the Web. [weaversoftheweb.org](http://weaversoftheweb.org).

**Virtual Science on a Sphere: Mystery of the Penguin Feather** - How might a penguin feather end up on a San Francisco beach? 12:30-1:30 p.m. [museum.msu.edu/](http://museum.msu.edu/).

**Wednesday Workdays at CCBS** - Do you enjoy spending time outdoors in nature? 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Capital City Bird Sanctuary, 6001 Delta River Drive, Lansing, Okemos. [michiganaudubon.org](http://michiganaudubon.org).

## Thursday, April 22

**Dinner and Live Music with Mike Skory** - 5-10 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. [urbanbeatevents.com](http://urbanbeatevents.com).

**Spring Rummage and Bake Sale** - 8 a.m.-3 p.m. St. Michael Church, 345 Edwards St, Grand Ledge.

**Studio (in)Conversation: Dornith Doherty (Science Fest)** - Instagram Live as Studio Educator Britta Urness visits the studio of photographer Dornith Doherty. 8-9 p.m. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

## Friday, April 23

**April Take-Home Crafts at GLADL** - Make a fun craft with our kits! 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand Ledge. [gladl.org](http://gladl.org)

**"Holocaust Cantata: Songs from the Camps"** Musical event - 40-minute cantata. 8 p.m. Peppermint Creek Theatre, [peppermintcreek.org](http://peppermintcreek.org).

**Koji Cassetta Connection Quartet** - 7-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St. Old Town, Lansing. [urbanbeatevents.com](http://urbanbeatevents.com)

**Virtual Preschool Family Storytime** - 11-11:30 a.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, Go to [gladl.org](http://gladl.org) for link.

## Saturday, April 24

**Curbside Chicken Dinner** - last one of the season! 3:30-5:30 p.m. Okemos Masonic Center, 2175 Hamilton Rd., Okemos.

**"Holocaust Cantata: Songs from the Camps"** Musical event - 40-minute cantata. 8 p.m. Peppermint Creek Theatre, [peppermintcreek.org](http://peppermintcreek.org).

## Sunday, April 25

**East Lansing Downtown Underground Market** - 10 am-2pm. M.A.C. Avenue Garage, 310 M.A.C., East Lansing.

**"Holocaust Cantata: Songs from the Camps"** Musical event - 40-minute cantata. 8 p.m. Peppermint Creek Theatre, [peppermintcreek.org](http://peppermintcreek.org).

## Monday, April 26

**"Holocaust Cantata: Songs from the Camps"** Musical event - 40-minute cantata. 8 p.m. Peppermint Creek Theatre, [peppermintcreek.org](http://peppermintcreek.org).

**Music Bingo** - at The Crunch! 10 p.m.-12 a.m. Crunchy's, East Lansing. 517-351-2506. [crunchyseastlansing.com](http://crunchyseastlansing.com).

**Refuge Recovery Lansing (Virtual)** - 6-7 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing. [refugerecovery.org](http://refugerecovery.org)

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# FAST FORWARD

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS COMING TO LANSING

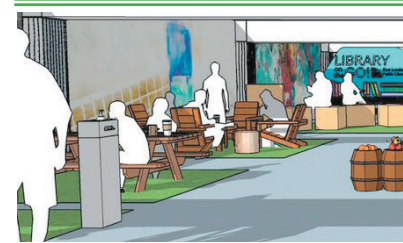
By SKYLER ASHLEY



## Vermontville Maple Syrup Festival

**April 24, Saturday, 9 a.m.**  
**April 25, Sunday, 9 a.m.**  
**148 E. Main St., Vermontville**  
**[Facebook.com/Vermontville](https://www.facebook.com/Vermontville)**

One of Mid-Michigan's largest craft shows comes back this weekend. Visitors will be able to sample delicious and locally produced maple syrup on top of fresh pancakes. There will also be numerous vendors selling artisan goods.



**East Lansing Underground Market**  
**April 25, Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
**310 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing**  
**[Facebook.com/CityofEastLansing](https://www.facebook.com/CityofEastLansing)**

A market of local vendors will gather in downtown East Lansing at the lowest level of the M.A.C. Avenue Parking Garage. On top of great local produce, shoppers will also be able to pick up other great crafts that can make great gifts for friends and family.



**Pop Up Drive-In at Celebration Cinema**  
**April 22-25, Thursday-Sunday**  
**Shows begin at 9 p.m.**  
**200 E. Edgewood Blvd., Lansing**  
**[Celebrationcinema.com](http://Celebrationcinema.com)**

Celebration Cinema is hosting a pop-up drive-in screening of "Mortal Kombat" and "Demon Slayer: The Movie" this weekend. "Demon Slayer" is screening Thursday through Sunday, while "Mortal Kombat" is only showing on Sunday. Be sure to check online to buy tickets in advance.

## Tuesday, April 27

**"Holocaust Cantata: Songs from the Camps"** Musical event - 40-minute cantata. 8 p.m. Peppermint Creek Theatre, [peppermintcreek.org](http://peppermintcreek.org).

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## NOTICE TO VACATE

**Enbridge Line 5 Pipeline, Straits of Mackinac**

Pursuant to the Notice of Revocation and Termination of Easement of November 13, 2020, issued by the Governor of Michigan and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the citizens of Michigan direct Enbridge, a foreign oil company, to cease operating the damaged, dangerous and old Line 5 pipelines in the Straits of Mackinac by 12 p.m. EDT on Thursday, May 13, 2021.

"Line 5 operations are being terminated based on Enbridge's longstanding, persistent, and incurable violations of the Easement's conditions and standard of due care and violations of the public trust doctrine."

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# FOOD & DRINK

## DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

### Garlic chives

By ARI LEVAUX

My farmer friend calls them Chinese chives. She's from China, so she would know. She sells them in painfully cheap bunches that I collect like firewood each week and stack in the fridge next to the eggs.

Nancy's Chinese chives are bigger than any chives I've known. About 14-inches long, they get wider and whiter toward the roots like young onions. I use them like scallions, and they perform like stallions, filling my food with a sweet, green, pungent flavor that seems to encompass everything good about onions, garlic, leeks, ramps, shallots, and all the other members of genus *Allium*, which is the Latin word for garlic.

The most common chive, *Allium schoenoprasum*, has the distinction of being the only *Allium* native to both New and Old World countries in the Eastern and Western hemispheres, and is an important source of nectar for pollinators on many continents.

Nancy's Chinese chives, meanwhile, are called *Allium tuberosum*, which translates from Latin to "root garlic" and goes most commonly by "garlic chive." A native to the Siberian steppes of northern China and Mongolia, the range of A.



tuberosum has expanded its range to gardens and lots throughout the temperate zones of the world. It is easy to start from seed, and spreads by clumping. Nancy cuts her chives as close to those root clumps as she can, to harvest as much of that tender garlicky white part as possible.

As with scallion, the white, succulent lower parts are typically cooked, while the green leaves are used raw. She purports to cook the whole thing, using the white parts to make scallion omelets and the green parts to make ginger/pork/chive dumplings, and the in-between parts to make this other egg dish that they eat late at night. She also uses the leaves as a raw garnish — the way most people use chives.

I love ginger pork dumplings, especially when somebody else makes them. I will surely get around to making those dumplings at some point, but in the meantime I have been hunting for places to sprinkle and toss the mountain of chive



Photo by Ari LeVaux

#### Chive Nest Eggs.

greens that grows every time I make another omelet. In linguine, on rice, atop clam chowder and toast, simmered into ramen, dusted upon scallops, subbed for basil in caprese, scattered over skordalia (potato garlic sauce), or just munched behind a mouthful of something savory, down the hatch with a spicy umami finish.

She told me how to make her omelet, and I have, many times, tried to do it her way. But the language barrier is such that I may never know for sure what she does, and I've come up with something that is absolutely spectacular, based loosely on what I could gather of her process.

#### Chive Nest Eggs

1 tablespoon butter  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
1 tablespoon toasted sesame oil  
1 bunch (100 grams) garlic chives, minced, with white and green parts kept separate  
2 eggs, beaten  
1 tablespoon soy sauce

Heat the fats on high in a lightweight omelet pan. When sputtering, add the minced chive whites. Spread them around in the oil evenly. Add four tablespoons of chopped greens to the beaten egg. For extra fanciness, lay down a few whole leaves in some

kind of pattern among the chopped bits. After about a minute of sizzling, add the eggs, slowly pouring them in a circular motion over the pan. Tilt the pan around for even coverage. Keep shaking the pan to keep the omelet moving so it doesn't stick.

From here the exact cook time will depend upon how hot your burner, how thin your pan, and how well you like your eggs cooked. For me, after about 2 minutes the omelet is ready for flipping — if your wrist has it in it. Or use a spatula to fold it. Or chopsticks to roll it. Or chop it up with a fork at the last minute.

Collect the eggs on a plate and douse with soy sauce. Serve with coffee.

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.



Photo by Ari LeVaux

Chives served with a bowl of ramen.



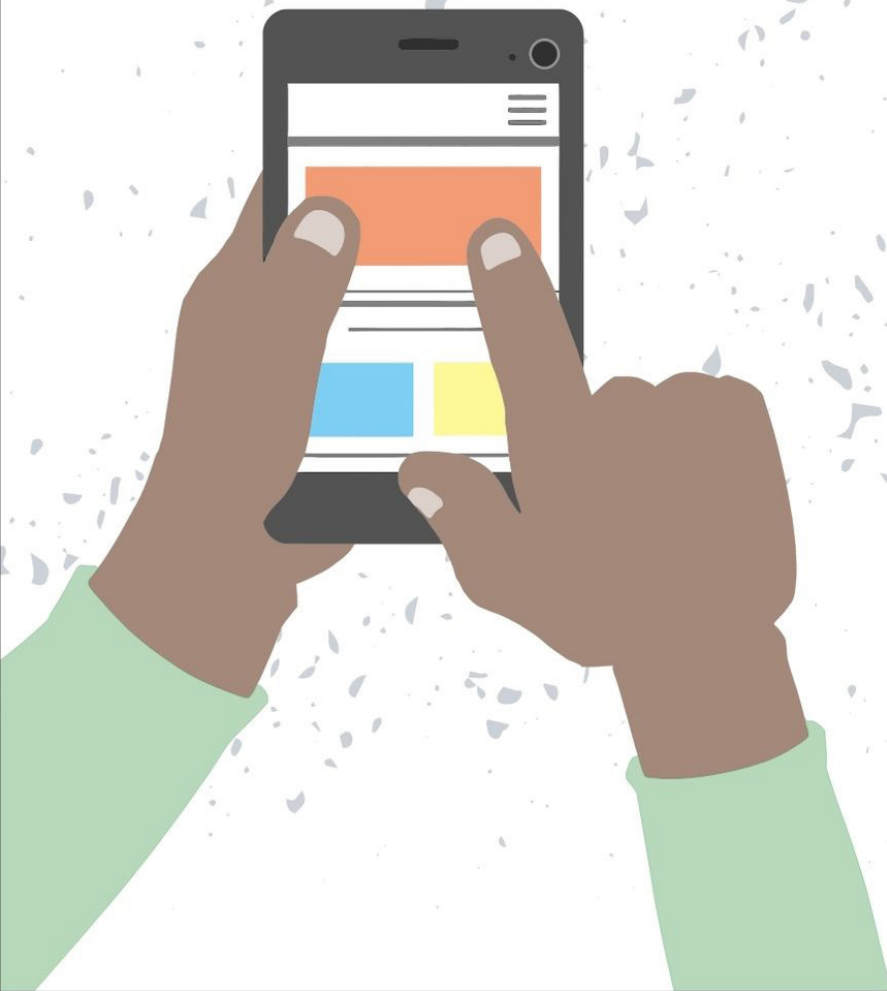


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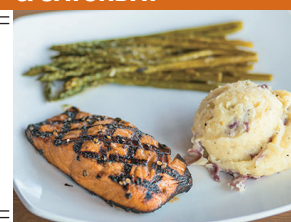
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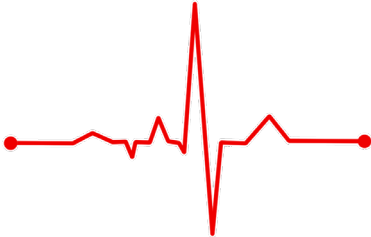
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Scientist/Beam Physicist  
The Michigan State University Facility for Rare Isotope Beams seeks qualified candidates for the following full time position:  
Scientist/Beam Physicist (East Lansing, MI) Conceptual development, implementation, and operation of advanced instrumentation systems, research/development on advanced instrumentation systems. Ensure approved experiments with the reaccelerator (ReA) facility are successful. Prepare requirements for the beam delivered by ReA and verify that they are within ReA specifications for that beam line. Qualified candidates will possess a Ph.D. in Physics or related + 2 years' exp in related position in particle and beam physics. Must have exp in particle detectors and experimental devices, data acquisition and data analysis, and computer coding in python, C++ or equivalent. To apply for this posting, please go to [www.careers.msu.edu](http://www.careers.msu.edu) and search for posting number 697163. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The university actively encourages applications and/or nominations from women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities. MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

Assistant Professor  
The Michigan State University Dept. of Counseling, Educational Psychology, and Special Education seeks qualified candidates for the following full time position:  
Assistant Professor (East Lansing, MI) Classroom teaching of students in Career Counseling and Development, Rehabilitation Counseling, and related courses. Course preparation; review and grade assignments; provide advice to students; conduct/supervise research. Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Counselor Education or closely related field. To apply for this posting, please go to [www.careers.msu.edu](http://www.careers.msu.edu) and search for posting number 698932. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The university actively encourages applications and/or nominations from women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities. MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

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The Michigan State University Facility for Rare Isotope Beams seeks qualified candidates for the following full time position:  
Scientist/Physicist (East Lansing, MI) Contribute to commissioning, development, operation of FRIB accelerator facility, improve facility performance as measured by beam quality, intensity, power, purity and variety. Design, prototype, develop, implement, maintain modern beam dynamics optimization and simulation codes, and high-level physics applications. Qualified candidates will possess a Ph.D. in Physics + 2 years' exp in any related position in accelerator physics. Must have expertise in accelerator beam physics as applied to heavy-ion accelerators and secondary isotope beams. Must have exp with beam dynamics and electrodynamics computer programs, modern programming languages being used in computational physics such as Python, FORTRAN and C++. Must have exp with the development of parallel computational codes, large computational data analysis, and development of higher order beam optics for production, and separation and purification of secondary isotope beams for nuclear physics experiments. To apply for this posting, please go to [www.careers.msu.edu](http://www.careers.msu.edu) and search for posting number 697162. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The university actively encourages applications and/or nominations from women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities. MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.



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