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ARTS NIGHT OUT

AUGUST 13

- Absolute Gallery
- Arts Council of Greater Lansing
- Elderly Instruments
- Great Lakes Art and Gifts
- Katalyst Gallery
- Kellie's Old Town
- MICA Gallery
- Mother & Earth Baby Boutique
- The Neighborhood Empowerment Center
- Odd Nodd Art Supply
- Preuss Pets
- And More!

Arts Night Out 2021

Arts Night Out returns to Old Town Lansing on August 13, 2021 from 5-8pm! Experience a variety of unique venues — from one block to the next — alive with music, art, demos and a whole lot more. Come explore, meet the artists, wine and dine. Arts Night Out has something for everyone!

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LONG-TERM RENTERS FOUND THEMSELVES PRICED OUT OF NEIGHBORHOODS.



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CITY PULSE
on the
AIR

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SUNDAYS on

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THIS MODERN WORLD

PANDEMIC TALK

WELCOME BACK TO THE **BASEMENT PATRIOT** PODCAST! YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD THAT THE **DELTA** VARIANT SUPPOSEDLY MEANS WE ALL HAVE TO MASK UP AGAIN!

SO WHAT'S **NEXT**? THE **JET BLUE** VARIANT? THE **SPIRIT AIR** VARIANT? WHERE DOES THE MADNESS END?

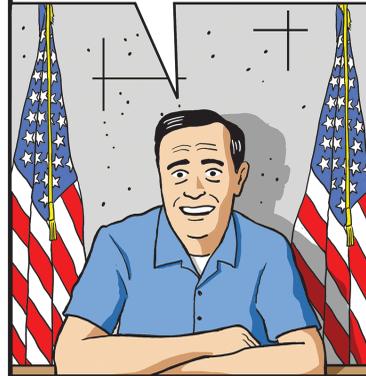


TO YIELD **ANY** GROUND IS TO IMPLICITLY CONCEDE THAT PRESIDENT TRUMP COMPLETELY **MISHANDLED** THE PANDEMIC--AND OBVIOUSLY **THAT** CANNOT BE TRUE! DONALD TRUMP CANNOT **FAIL**--HE CAN ONLY **BE FAILED**!

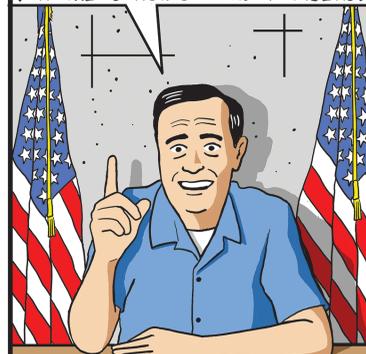
THIS IS THE HILL I WILL **DIE** ON! OF COVID, IF NECESSARY.



YOU **PATRIOTS** KNOW THAT DONALD TRUMP HAD IT FIGURED OUT FROM THE START--THE ONLY WAY TO DEAL WITH COVID IS TO **IGNORE** IT AND HOPE IT **GOES AWAY**!



OUR ONLY OPTION IS TO **DOUBLE DOWN** AND RESIST **ALL** MASK AND VACCINE MANDATES! IT'S WORKING OUT **GREAT** IN STATES LIKE FLORIDA AND MISSOURI, EXCEPT FOR THE SURGING COVID NUMBERS!



WE MUST FIGHT THIS VIRUS WHERE IT **MATTERS**--ON THE **CULTURAL BATTLEGROUND**! VACCINES AND MASKS ARE AN INFRINGEMENT OF OUR CIVIL RIGHTS! IT'S EXACTLY LIKE **NAZI GERMANY** IF YOU ASK ME, A PERSON WITH A POOR GRASP OF HISTORICAL ANALOGIES!



IF LIBERALS REFUSE TO RESPECT OUR **BELIEFS**, THEN THEY HAVE ONLY **THEMSELVES** TO BLAME FOR THE CONSEQUENCES OF OUR **ACTIONS**!

ANYWAY, WHO NEEDS **VACCINES** WHEN WE STILL HAVE **HYDROXY-CHLOROQUINE**?

NOT TO MENTION THAT HORSE DEWORMING STUFF I READ ABOUT ON **FACE-BOOK**!

NEXT WEEK: PODCASTING LIVE FROM THE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT!

Tom Tomorrow © 2021...www.thismodernworld.com...twitter.com/tomtomorrow

CityPULSE

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A return to our first Eyesore of the Week

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Celebrating 20 years of arts & culture in Lansing

PAGE 21



Lansing's food scene has a bright future

PAGE 33



Cover Art

By Abby Sumbler

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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Taking the pulse of Lansing

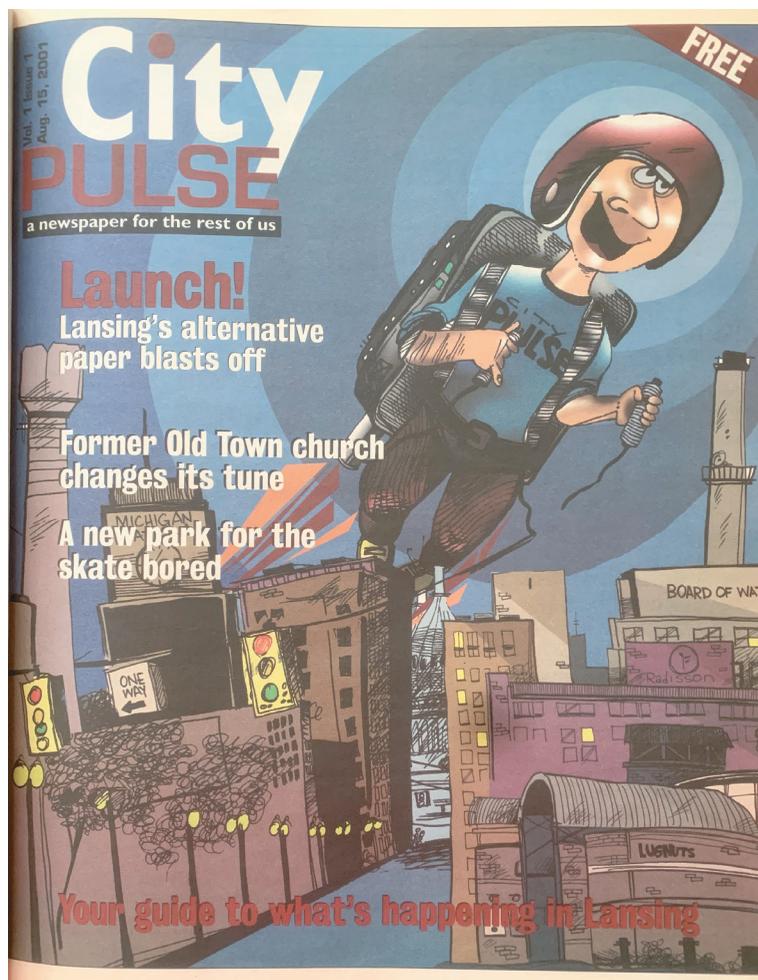
The year was 2001. A new weekly publication hit the streets of Lansing that promised to be “a newspaper for the rest of us.” Driven by the mantra that “objectivity is bullshit,” the publisher of this subversive new venture, veteran journalist Berl Schwartz, was on a mission to seek the truth, to illuminate the heart and soul of a community, but with a decidedly progressive bent that unapologetically eschewed the staid conventions of the corporate press.

Two decades hence, this vicennial edition of City Pulse provides a retrospective on the events that shaped our city and its people through the lens of the major stories we’ve covered in these pages. Heeding George Santanaya’s ageless aphorism that those who fail to understand history are doomed to repeat it, we pause to reflect on Lansing’s recent past and to look forward: What’s in store for our fair city over the next two decades?

Twenty years ago, Lansing was wrapping up an era of progress with Mayor David Hollister at the helm. His focus on downtown development — acknowledging that a vibrant core business district is the economic engine of any successful city — became a hallmark of his legacy, thanks to the construction of a minor league baseball stadium and the demolition of the Michigan Avenue “sin strip” that made the entrance to Lansing’s downtown look and feel dilapidated and dangerous. Hollister also emphasized regional cooperation toward a greater collective good, marked especially by his collaborative work to keep and expand General Motors’ presence in the region. His leadership and vision laid the foundation for what would follow over the next two decades.

Some of the seeds Hollister planted took root and blossomed under the hard-charging tutelage of Mayor Virg Bernero. Cooley Law School’s meteoric growth gave new life to Washington Square. Streetscape enhancements and the construction of BWL’s new power plant sparked a major resurgence in REO Town. Old Town continued to grow and thrive, thanks to gritty risk takers like Robert Busby and Rick Preuss. Pat Gillespie, Lansing’s home-grown development dynamo, made massive investments in and around downtown, bringing new residents, new businesses and new energy to the center of the city. Sparrow Health System and McLaren embarked on major expansions. And the redevelopment of the Ottawa Power Station on the banks of the Grand River gave the city new hope that big dilemmas could be turned into even bigger opportunities.

Hollister’s focus on regionalism hasn’t fared as well.



The CP Edit

Opinion

Notwithstanding the ebbs and flows that one might expect over time, a discouraging theme has emerged: the almost complete lack of interest in any meaningful form of regional cooperation by Lansing’s suburban neighbors, who seem quite content to live on the periphery of a challenged urban environment and casually disclaim any responsibility to be part of the solution.

There have been exceptions, of course — mostly the mutually beneficial tax-sharing agreements between the city and neighboring townships to support the growth of GM, Jackson National Life and the airport — but we’re talking about the Big Ideas: a truly regional vision for what Greater Lansing can become; the possibilities for regional governance capable of implementing that vision; the pros-

pects for regional taxation that could finance big-ticket items like a performing arts center; all of which can turn a disjointed collection of independent communities into a nationally relevant metropolis in the mold of Indianapolis, Kansas City, or Louisville. And none of which have ever been seriously on the table in Lansing.

It’s up to today’s civic leaders, and those who follow, to deconstruct the pervasive power of parochialism, to be brave enough and bold enough to step forward and spark the conversations that could lead to real change. We see very little of the visionary leadership that drove significant progress in Lansing under Mayor Hollister and, like it or not, Mayor Bernero. We’re certainly not getting it from our current mayor, but neither have our elected officials at any level of government made a meaningful effort to articulate what real regionalism could look like, the transformational impact it could have on all of us, and the pathways that could make it a reality. The status quo remains a powerful force, indeed.

Outside the downtown sphere, we’ve seen impactful progress in uplifting neighborhoods and the people who live there, thanks to the relentless work of bonafide community builders like the east side’s Joan Nelson, south Lansing’s Kathie Dunbar and the Northwest Initiative’s Peggy Vaughn-Payne. Despite their herculean efforts to improve the city’s quality of life, one family at a time and one block at a time, the underlying dynamic in Lansing remains a tale of two cities: One that looks

more like Moores River Drive and another that looks more like Baker Street; one populated by folks who make a comfortable living that affords them a middle-class lifestyle, the other by people who struggle on the margins of poverty, barely scraping by on subsistence wages in substandard rental housing. Lansing is no different than most older cities in this regard, and simple fixes aren’t in the cards because poverty, racial inequity and the lack of economic opportunity are complex issues that require systemic solutions.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the ongoing struggles of the Lansing School District, where student achievement still ranks in the bottom half of districts statewide. Graduation rates have improved from just 54% to nearly 70% over the past five years — a sure sign of progress — but persistent poverty limits the potential of urban school districts across the nation, which in turn limits the prospects for a successful city. Lansing is no exception. Equalized funding between urban and subur-

As the Capitol world evolves in 20 years, City Pulse thrives

The light on my landline telephone answering machine was blinking.

It was summer 2001.

My new wife and I had moved back

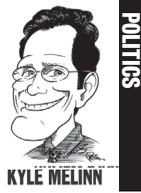
to Lansing from Boston. We hadn't gotten our phone number more than a week or so prior. We had both started our new jobs. Few people had our new home number. Surely, telemarketers hadn't gotten a hold of our information, yet.

Who could possibly be calling?

"Hello, Kyle, it's Berl ..."

My old general manager at The State News, Michigan State University's college newspaper. He'd left The State News. It turns out he was starting out a new weekly publication and needed some help. He had heard I was back in town and ...

Twenty years later, I'm still here. My role with City Pulse has changed over time. Sometimes I was a contributor,



POLITICS
KYLE MELINN

writing numerous election previews. Sometimes with a byline. Sometimes not. I provided commentary on the paper's weekly radio show on 88.9 p.m. for a spell.

We took a hiatus every now and again, but my weekly column on state and local politics has made the paper for a few years now.

More important, City Pulse is still here, even when — at times it appeared it wouldn't be.

Early on, the Lansing State Journal tried with its own entertainment-based weekly. Originally advertised as providing fresh content wrapped in a snazzy layout, the product fizzled out.

Kroger's decision not to stock the paper while letting other corporate media keep their publications on the racks near the exit was hypocrisy.

And, yet, City Pulse survives. The consistency of the newspaper coming out every Wednesday morning — rain or shine — in this rapidly changing industry is a notable accomplishment. Other newspaper racks are disap-

pearing. If City Pulse's are empty, it's because interested readers have wiped out the recent editions.

For 20 years. So much has changed in that time.

In 2002, my full-time job at the Capitol news service MIRS required I walk to the media room in the Capitol every evening to check the press boxes. Did anyone slip in a late news release?

E-mail? Press releases came in by FAX machine. Our own publication stopped going to a printed version in 2004.

Back then, The Associated Press had four full-time reporters covering the state Capitol. Until recently, they were operating with only one. The Lansing State Journal had a pair of Capitol reporters 20 years ago. A columnist opined on the goings-on inside the dome. As of today, no reporter on their staff list is assigned full time to the Capitol.

Twenty years ago, I clipped all my stories and stuffed them (along with the press releases) into manila folders. Last month, I unboxed those files after moving my office. First time I'd touched them in years.

Apparently, there was a time when I didn't rely on my iPhone to connect with everyone. I relied on my Franklin

Covey to keep appointments and remember phone numbers.

The computer at my office didn't move back in 2001. Laptops were clunky, unwieldy and used only in emergencies. Today, my office is wherever I put my laptop and my bag. At the moment, it's my breakfast nook. Tomorrow, it could be just about anywhere with a cell signal.

Twenty years ago, I was the new kid on the block. Reporters with decades of experience seemed to know everyone in town. How would I ever accumulate so many sources and experiences?

Today, outside of my publisher, the venerable Tim Skubick and public radio personality Rick Pluta, fellow State News alum Zach Gorchow and I are at the top of the seniority food chain in terms of Capitol reporters.

To me it makes 20 years of City Pulse that much more exciting. Seeing the churn and progress made in our profession, there are so many reasons a Lansing weekly wouldn't survive.

And, yet, it does. Thanks to you.

For me, I'll do my part to keep it going another 20.

(Kyle Melinn of the Capitol news service MIRS can be emailed at melinn-ky@gmail.com.)

CP Edit

from page 5

ban schools will make a difference, as will the district's new free pre-K program. But student achievement is driven as much or more by the support students receive at home than in the classroom. Erasing the structural inequities that perpetuate generational poverty is the key to putting today's young people — and the city itself — on the path to future success.

Lest we dwell too much on the negatives, one of the bright spots over the past 20 years is Lansing's surging arts and culture scene, surely a major factor in attracting and retaining the young talent that will drive Lansing forward in the decades to come. Another is the city's remarkable parks and recreational assets, where natural wonders like Scott Woods and Hunter's Ridge are readily accessible for walking and biking. So, too, is the coming of age of a new generation of activists demanding fair and equal treatment of Lansing's LGBTQ+ community and insisting on real progress to close the equity gap that still leaves people of color at a comparative disadvantage.

It bears repeating that Lansing will only reach its full potential when we fig-

ure out how to lift up every family so we can all share in the prosperity that many of us take for granted. We will truly thrive when we create economic and educational systems capable of eradicating the disparities that lurk beneath nearly all of our most vexing challenges.

Once upon a time not so long ago, Lansing was a blue collar town where GM and state government were the beginning and the end of our identity. Today, we're ever more diverse, ever more sophisticated, and blessed with an increasingly optimistic sense of our potential as a community. In the city's modern era, the transformation began with Dave Hollister's vision for a "world class city" and continued with Virg Bernero's insistence that we could make just about anything happen through sheer force of will.

Now, a growing community of grassroots leaders, activists and entrepreneurs are providing the purpose and passion that will power our ongoing evolution. They understand that if we can just replicate our small-scale wins across the cityscape, remember the lessons of our recent history, and hold a shared vision for the future, we can create the community we all know Lansing can be. We don't have billionaires to finance our dreams, like Grand Rapids or Kalamazoo, but we have grit and determination and boatloads of creativity. Where can we be 20 years from now? Anywhere we want to be.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

EAST LANSING BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS

Thursday, August 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
East Lansing City Hall, 2nd Floor
410 Abbot Road, Conference Room A

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

1. Appeal of DTN Management (owner) requesting a variation for the property at 1050 Waters Edge Drive from the following requirement of Chapter 4 of the International Property Maintenance Code (2006 edition).

Section 403.2 Bathroom and Toilet Rooms

403.2 Bathroom and Toilet Rooms. Every bathroom and toilet room shall comply with the ventilation requirements for habitable spaces as required by section 403.1, except that a window shall not be required in such spaces equipped with a mechanical ventilation system. Air exhausted by a mechanical ventilation system from a bathroom or toilet room shall discharge to the outdoors and shall not be recirculated.

All persons interested in this appeal will be given the opportunity to be heard.

Call (517) 319-6871, the Department of Planning, Building and Community Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, for additional information. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon request received by the City seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring aids or services should write or call the Building Department, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823. Phone: (517) 319-6871. TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777.

Scott Weaver
Building Official

CP#21-180

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING
SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES**

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING WAS HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES LOCATED AT 3209 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN ON TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hayes, Treasurer McKenzie
Trustees: Harris, Brewer, Broughton, Ruiz
MEMBERS ABSENT: Clerk Sanders
ALSO PRESENT: Michael Gresens, Attorney

ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:
Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes.
Approved minutes of meeting held on June 30, 2021 and July 6, 2021 as presented.
Agenda approved as amended.
Approved bid from Bracklin Heating and Cooling to replace furnace and air conditioner.
Approved budget increase of \$2,500.00 for Police Chief.
Approved revision to budget for sidewalks being done this year.
Approved Independent Contractor agreement as amended.
Approved I.T. Right quote at \$18,000/year for three years.
Approved Driven Collision quote in entire amount for repairs to the Detective vehicle.
Approved claims as presented.
Meeting adjourned.

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor
Maggie Sanders, Clerk

CP#21-179

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First friday sale
Once a month the whole store is 20% off \$25 and over Excludes firm.

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Eyesore: 20th anniversary edition

This week's eyesore arrives through a deep dive in our archives and takes a look back at the very first blighted home featured in City Pulse's Eyesore of the Week, way back in July 2004.

Good news: The home no longer exists. The neighbors bought the land in 2010 after the city ordered the decaying home on the property to be demolished in 2005. In its place is a freshly mowed lawn and a cute little vegetable garden, which looks like it's just about ready for harvest.

The three-story Tudor-style home that once sat on the property between Martin Luther King Jr. and Butler boulevards west of the Capitol was owned by MSU alumnus and former NFL player Duane Young. Empty since 1988, the boarded-up windows, peeling paint, precarious downspouts, overgrown bushes and busted roof was enough for the city to have the place demolished in 2005. The address no longer exists. Nothing has been built there since.

The land now serves as a way to give the neighboring lot a bit more breathing room — with a picturesque garden to boot. The property no longer poses a safety risk, so that's a bonus too.

Young — who spent five years with the Chargers and won a SuperBowl ring in 1994 — had owned as many as 20 homes across Lansing by the early 2000s. The city of Lansing filed suit to gain control of 13 of those dilapidated properties by 2006. Young's family publicly recognized that their rentals had not been kept in great condition but still pleaded with the City Council for a second chance. At one point, they even offered to make them available to Hurricane Katrina evacuees. The Council still voted to demolish at least three more of the homes before 2007.

A search of Ingham County parcel records show that Young no longer owns property in Lansing.

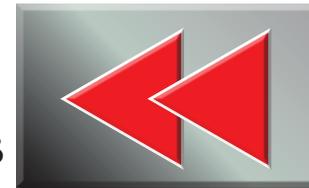
City Pulse went on to feature at least one more of Young's properties in this column, as well as hundreds of other seedy properties across Greater Lansing for the next 17 years (and counting).

— KYLE KAMINSKI

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

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS



By KYLE KAMINSKI

Prosecutor changes policy on guns

People arrested in Ingham County for crimes that involve guns will no longer be charged with a separate two-year felony count for possession of a firearm in commission of a crime — except in "the most extreme circumstances," according to a new policy from Prosecutor Carol Siemon. The change is designed to reduce the racially disparate impact that felony firearm charges have had on Black people; About 80% of those sentenced for the charge in Ingham County are Black. Underlying charges (like robbery) will still be approved.



Siemon

Cops turn to feds for criminal charges

Lansing cops seem to have found a workaround to another new prosecutorial policy in Ingham County that prohibits the authorization of certain criminal charges that stem from low-level traffic infractions. For example: Authorities said Tyrun Williams, 35, of Grand Ledge, was found with five guns and several types of drugs in a traffic stop this week. A subsequent investigation also led to the seizure of 12 more guns and more than 200g of cocaine. Instead of bringing the case in a county courtroom, however, those charges are expected to be filed by federal prosecutors.



Lansing calls for end to gun violence

Several dozen activists marched through South Lansing on Saturday alongside politicians and police officers to call for an end to rising levels of gun violence in the capital city. So far this year, at least 17 people have been shot and killed in the city — the most reported in decades.



Lansing could be on the hook for jail death

A federal appeals judge reversed a ruling that found four officers in the Lansing Police Department lock-up could not be held liable for the 2015 drug overdose death of inmate Christopher Phillips, reports the Lansing State Journal. Phillips reportedly died hours after he was arrested for driving on a suspended license. Under the ruling, a lawsuit against the city that was dismissed last year could potentially resurface against former detention officer Brian Kelley.

Malcolm X memorial set for repairs

A state historical marker memorializing Malcolm X's childhood home on South Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard will be repaired after it was damaged this year. City Councilman Adam Hussain said the fall reinstatement will be coupled with a celebration in tribute of Malcolm X.



Concerns fuel changes to art project

A portion of an art installation at the corner of Pleasant Grove and Holmes roads will be reworked following concerns from Black residents over what some have perceived to be offensive imagery. Councilman Adam Hussain said one panel, which appeared to show a Black woman lying on her back, has been removed. A replacement panel will be installed in four to six weeks.

AG: Potheads eligible for unemployment

People fired for smoking marijuana outside of the workplace are still eligible for unemployment benefits, according to an amicus brief filed by Attorney General Dana Nessel. Her stance pointed to the legalization of recreational pot in 2018 and affirms an employee's right to maintain unemployment benefits if the sole reason for dismissal was for smoking weed off the clock.



Retired judge faces assault charge

Former Ingham County Circuit Chief Judge William Collette, 76, was charged with a misdemeanor assault charge after authorities said he pulled a woman's hair in May at Dusty's Cellar in Okemos. Collette is due back in court Aug. 31 for a pretrial conference.

Former Ingham County Circuit Court Judge Laura Baird has also alleged that Collette repeatedly berated her in front of colleagues, and in one instance made a fist and drew back as if to punch her. She alleges she was so frightened of Collette, she sought a concealed pistol permit in order to protect herself. *Read more at lansing-citypulse.com.*

Lansing funds athletic events

In response to rising levels of gun violence in the city, Mayor Andy Schor rerouted \$100,000 in city funding to support a "Youth Athlete Interaction Program" through the Police Department, among other sports programs for local kids. Another \$80,000 will head to local nonprofit organizations to bolster mentorship and educational opportunities for teenagers in Lansing — including a new fund in which nonprofit groups can apply for additional support from the city.



Schor

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ARTS NIGHT OUT

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 13
5-8 P.M.

Jeff Johnson uses historical techniques and found wood to create beautiful, interesting and functional brooms.

He will be demonstrating broom making during the event at Absolute Gallery!



Join us for Old Town's **Shop Hop**

Friday, August 13 • 5 to 8 PM
And the second Friday of every month!

Come explore all that Old Town has to offer. Hop around to multiple participating businesses for specials, make and takes, pop up shops, local artists, and more. Each participating location will have a different offering each month. You are sure to find it fun and exciting!

Featured artist this month

Come fly with brooms by Jeff Johnson



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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING

NOTICE OF THE PASSAGE OF ORDINANCE NO. 31.240 and ORDINANCE NO. 31.241

I, Maggie Sanders, Clerk of the Charter Township of Lansing, Michigan, do hereby certify that the following Ordinance is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance passed by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Lansing at a regular meeting held on Tuesday August 3, 2021

ORDINANCE NO. 31.240 and ORDINANCE NO. 31.241
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING MAP BEING A PART OF
ORDINANCE NO. 31 OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING ORDAINS:

Sec. 1. THE ZONING MAP, which by Section 302 of Ordinance No. 31 of the Charter Township of Lansing is made a part of said Ordinance and which Section reads as follows:
Section 302. ZONING MAPS. The boundaries of said zones are shown upon the map or maps attached hereto and designated as Zoning Maps. The zoning maps and all notations, references, and other information appearing thereon are hereby declared to be a part of this Ordinance and of the same force and effect as if the zones therein designed were fully set forth by metes and bounds herein. References, notations, and other information shown thereon are likewise incorporated herein with like force and effect.

Shall be so amended as to fix the zoning classification of properties described as follows:

Ord. 31.240, Case R-21-04: The property is located at 3707 W. Michigan Avenue (Formerly the dental office of Mr. Tom Randall) has been rezoned from "D" Administrative and Professional to "A" Residential.

Ord. 31.241, Case R-21-05: The property is located at 3326 W. Saginaw St. (Formerly a real estate office) has been rezoned from "D" Administrative and Professional to "A" Residential.

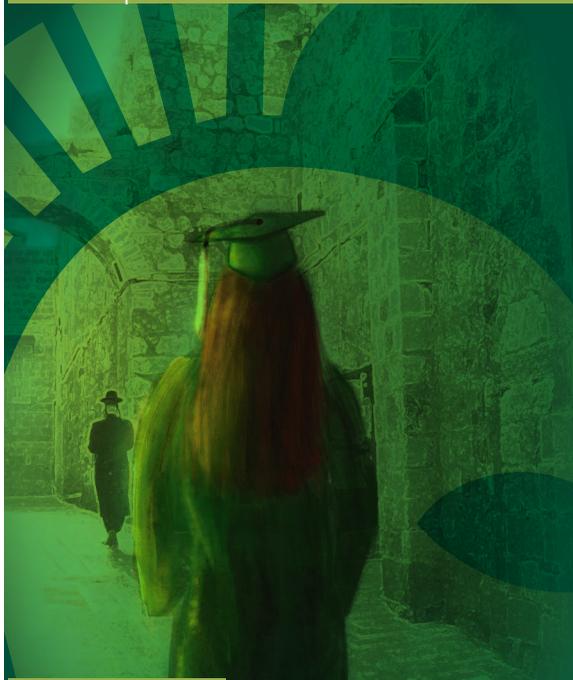
Sec. 2. This Ordinance shall take effect and be enforced 7 days after publication.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Township Clerk is hereby instructed to publish this Ordinance once in the City Pulse, a newspaper of general circulation in this Township.

Maggie Sanders, Clerk
Charter Township of Lansing

CP#21-181

The Michael and Elaine Serling Institute
for Jewish Studies and Modern Israel
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



Please visit
WWW.JSP.MSU.EDU
for more information
Contact us at
jewishst@msu.edu

UPCOMING FALL EVENTS

- » **SEPTEMBER 19TH 11:00AM-12:30PM**
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE MIDDLE EAST GETS EVEN HOTTER? ISRAEL'S RESPONSE TO THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CRISIS
ALON TAL
- » **OCTOBER 1ST 10:00AM-12:00PM**
PANEL ON ROMANIOTE JEWS/ GREEK JEWS
MARCIA HADDAD
IKONOMOPOULOS
FROM THE COBBLESTONE STREETS OF IOANNINA TO THE SIDEWALKS OF NEW YORK
ZANET BATTINO THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF IOANNINA: A JOURNEY IN TIME THROUGH THE COLLECTIONS OF THE JEWISH MUSEUM OF GREECE
MOSES ELISAF ROMANIOTE
JEWRY: PAST-PRESENT-FUTURE
- » **OCTOBER 8TH 10:00AM-3:00PM**
SYMPOSIUM ON ANTISEMITISM
DAVID NIRENBERG DOES ANTI-JUDAISM'S PAST TELL US ANYTHING ABOUT ITS FUTURE?
ERIC WARD SKIN IN THE GAME: HOW ANTISEMITISM ANIMATES WHITE NATIONALISM
ETHAN KATZ FROM JEWISH STUDIES EDUCATOR TO ANTI-BIAS TRAINING FILMMAKER: HOW THE CHANGING REALITIES OF CAMPUS POLITICS LED ME TO THE FIGHT AGAINST ANTISEMITISM
CARY NELSON
THE ACADEMIC MANDATE FOR ANTISEMITISM
DAVID SCHRAUB WHITE
JEWS: AN INTERSECTIONAL APPROACH
SABA SOOMEKH FROM THE CLASSROOM TO THE QUAD: THE RISE OF ANTISEMITISM AND A HOSTILE CAMPUS CLIMATE
- » **OCTOBER 12TH 7:00-8:30PM**
THE HUMAN FACE OF THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS: DISABILITY AS A COMMON STRUGGLE
MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT JUSTICE RICHARD BERNSTEIN
- » **NOVEMBER 2ND TIME TBA**
THE SOUL OF JUDAISM: JEWS OF AFRICAN DESCENT
BRUCE HAYNES
- » **NOVEMBER 16TH 7:00-8:30PM**
THE STRUGGLE OVER ISRAEL'S LEGITIMACY: A STATUS REPORT AND ANALYSIS
ILAN TROEN

You belong here

Free* or reduced tuition for ages 25 and older.

lcc.edu/reconnect



*STUDENTS WILL STILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COURSE FEES AND BOOKS.
LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION/EMPLOYER.

CityPULSE Celebrates 20 Years

What made headlines over the last two decades?

City Pulse celebrates 20 years of news coverage in Lansing

By KYLE KAMINSKI

The Capital City was home to about 5,000 more people back in August 2001. Malcolm X Street was still Main Street. Cesar Chavez Avenue was still Grand River Avenue. Boji Tower was still the Michigan National Bank Tower. REO Town — well, REO Town didn't even really exist.

That summer, GM was only just ramping up operations at its Grand River assembly plant. Sparrow was still years away from building its 10-story tower on Michigan Avenue. The Ottawa Power Station, which was shut down only about a decade earlier, was still empty. The iconic triple stacks at the coal-powered Eckert Power Plant were still churning out smoke.

The Lansing Lugnuts had just wrapped up their fifth season. Eastern High School was still booming. Weed wasn't yet legal for medical use, much less available on every street corner.

Biggby was Beamer's. The railroad dining car had only recently opened at Clara's Restaurant.

Gov. John Engler and former Lansing Mayor David Hollister were rounding off some of their last years in office. Mark Grebner was still only in his 20th year of serving on the Ingham County Board of Commissioners. Virg Bernero was only a first-term state representative. And on the warm summer morning of Wednesday, Aug. 15, City Pulse sent out its first print edition.

The "newspaper for the rest of us" launched with a simple stated mission: Fill a gap in informative news coverage by providing a journal of news and opinion on civic, social and political issues — as well as arts and events listings. And that same game plan has helped to guide City Pulse's coverage now for 20 years and exactly 1,038 print editions this week.

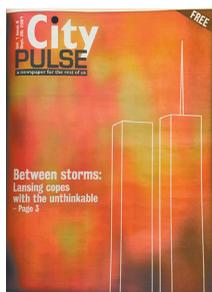
As we celebrate the milestone and look forward to another two decades, we're also looking back at some of the most momentous headlines in Greater Lansing from over the last 20 years:

2001

A contentious City Council race between Geneva Smith and civil rights activist the Rev. Lester D. Stone to represent the Fourth Ward was picking up steam. Developers were looking at early plans to renovate the Bethlehem Temple Church in Old Town, as well as most of East Lansing.

Then, the world abruptly screeched to a halt as the World Trade Center towers crumbled and a militarization in the Middle East ensued. Several Muslims then told City Pulse that they had been forced to tread carefully, particularly in the wake of two off-campus shootings and several reports of verbal and phys-

City Pulse printed its first issue less than a month before the 9/11 attacks.



The historic Bethlehem Temple Church was opened as The Temple Club in 2001. Two decades later, it is being repurposed into residences.

in Michigan — Ranney Park — was nearing completion. And to cap the year off, the Catholic Diocese of Lansing decided to ban a gay-themed play set for Catholic Central High School.

2002

Opposition to war with Iraq continued to grow in Lansing A controversy ensued over worsening air pollution from GM plants. While the Lansing State Journal pushed for an early compromise that would have made the situation worse, City Pulse probed Hollister's handling of the issue.

That led to Hollister's order to city staff not to speak to City Pulse over — an edict that was later reversed after the ACLU cautioned him it violated the 1st Amendment.

Speaking of blackouts: The "Northeast Blackout" — as it would later become known — plunged Lansing and millions of people in Michigan and beyond into the dark for a week that summer.

Population loss was identified as a key problem in the Capital City after nearly 8,200 residents moved elsewhere between 1990 and 2000. Smokers across Lansing cried foul after the Ingham County Board of Commissioners voted to ban smoking in public and private workplaces.

Tensions also started to flare after Wolverine Pipe Line Co. announced plans to construct a highly controversial gasoline pipeline through south Lansing along the I-96 easement.

Expansion continued on the Lansing River Trail — including a crucial new extension to MSU. East

ical abuse at Michigan State University. Fifteen women were also forced to strip in front of first responders over an anthrax scare on campus.

The Temple Club opened. Smith defeated Stone. Hollister slid into his third term. City Pulse caricatured him on the cover of a November print edition as a king with a robe and scepter.

The Michigan Vietnam Monument was unveiled west of the Capitol. The then-largest skatepark

Lansing's Hannah Community Center opened to the public after a \$7 million renovation.

Former Lansing Councilman Lou Adado Jr. resigned in the face of a harassment lawsuit that alleged that he sent a staffer inappropriate emails and touched her "on the ass." A total of 37 people applied to fill his slot; Saturnino Rodriguez was appointed to the job.

City Pulse also sent a reporter to stay three nights at the City Rescue Mission as city officials counted nearly 600 homeless people living in Lansing. Then-Vice President Dick Cheney gave the keynote speech to MSU's graduating class that summer. The forced resignation of top city executive Genice Rhodes-Reed triggered a firestorm of criticism from Black residents against Hollister over the sudden dismissals and alleged mistreatment of minority city employees.

The State Journal launched a City Pulse-esque "Faux alt" weekly called NOISE that failed to catch on. Five gunshots tore into a crowd exiting Spiral Dance and Video in August, pushing its owner to pull the plug on hip-hop night after its eight-month run at the Old Town club. Lansing Community College became one of the first community colleges in the state to adopt same-sex domestic partner health benefits. Gov. Jennifer Granholm was elected in November.

2003

Hollister took a job with the new Granholm administration, elevating Council President Tony Benavides



Inspired by a famous cover of Ramparts magazine, City Pulse turned Condoleezza Rice into a cheerleader ahead of her commencement speech at MSU.

to the Mayor's Office. He went on to defeat Bernero in November to fill the remaining two years of Hollister's term. Future City Councilwoman Kathie Dunbar told City Pulse that Benavides' campaign created a rumor that Bernero pulled his daughter out of Lansing schools for dating a Black teenager.

Council members Carol Wood and Joan Bauer were elected to their second and third terms. Harold Leeman Jr. was elected in the 1st

Ward; Randy Williams was elected in the 3rd Ward.

An antiwar rally gathered a crowd of 2,000 people in Lansing. The City Council and the LCC Board of Trustees voted to oppose the war in Iraq, calling on President George Bush to pursue peaceful diplomacy. Hip-hop shows returned to the Temple Club — if only temporarily.

Lansing paid out a \$200,000 settlement to avoid litigation with the owners of the southside L.A. Globe nightclub, which was allegedly shut down because of its Black ownership.

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Reports showed that Black people only accounted for 6% of the business owners in the region. Even worse, less than 1% of businesses that contracted with Lansing were Black-owned.

A riot also broke out at MSU after the men's basketball team lost to the University of Texas.

2004

The DARE program was canceled at Lansing schools. The sexual harassment lawsuit against Adado ended with a \$200,000 settlement from the city of Lansing. LCC began \$32 million in construction on several new buildings. A \$41 million renovation began on the Boji Complex.

The Fleetwood Diner opened and immediately became a southside staple for its "Hippie Hash."

The choice to bring in Condoleezza Rice as a graduation speaker at MSU garnered criticism.

A campaign began to bring a grocery store to downtown Lansing. A homecoming celebration was hosted in REO Town following several major infrastructure fixes.

City Pulse's Eyesore of the Week launched over the summer. The first feature: A boarded-up house at 912 W. Ionia St. between Marin Luther King Jr. and Butler boulevards, west of the State Capitol.

A top MSU official quit after Provost Lou Anna Simon was appointed as the university's first female president.

City Pulse moved to an eastside office on Michigan Avenue after three years in Old Town. The last Oldsmobile rolled off the line at the Lansing plant.

Developer Pat Gillespie pitched three ambiguous downtown projects — the start of what would later become a long series of residential and commercial construction in the Stadium District.

A brutal attack at Eastern High School was reportedly an act of gay bashing.

City Pulse snagged an exclusive interview with Robert F. Kennedy Jr. in October. The city of Lansing also paid out another six-figure settlement following allegations that Police Officer Darren Duso had used his police status to persuade two women to have sex with him.

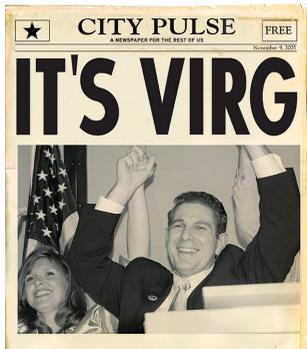
Troppo opened its doors on the corner of Washington and Michigan avenues. A state bill once again greased the skids for the proposed Wolverine petroleum pipeline plan in South Lansing. An anti-same-sex-marriage amendment was passed by Michigan voters in November.

2005

City officials began reviewing its sidewalk snow removal policies after a 7-year-old who was walking in the street was struck by a car on the side of Saginaw Street. Four women were fired from Okemos-based Weyco Inc. for smoking cigarettes on the clock, leading to an appearance on ABC's "Good Morning, America."

The Lansing School District moved to close five elementary schools, displacing more than 1,000 students. The UAW took to the streets in protest after Benavides sought \$2.5 million in labor concessions. GM announced the closure of its Lansing Car Assembly plant at the end of May.

The city began working with the state to initiate a long-awaited redevelopment of the landmark Ottawa Power Station on the banks of the Grand River. East Lansing cops used hundreds of tear gas canisters, dozens of sting ball grenades and rubber bullets to break



Virg Bernero defeated former Lansing Mayor Tony Benavides in a contentious election in 2005.

celebrated its 10th year at the Lansing Center.

Preuss Pets announced plans to move from Haslett to its current location in Old Town.

Concerns resurface over hip-hop nights in Lansing after a 23-year-old was shot and killed.

A survey labeled Bernero as among the State Senate's least effective lawmakers — perhaps attributed to his intense focus on his successful rematch with Benavides for mayor. He went on to earn a reputation as "America's Angriest Mayor" with more insults to elected officials.

Councilman Larry Meyer resigned after it was discovered he no longer lived in the city.

Chris Swope was elected to his first term as city clerk and Dunbar to her first term as Councilwoman alongside Brian Jeffries, Sandy Allen and Tim Kaltenbach — which notably composed an entirely white leadership roster of elected officials in the Capital City. Both Swope and Dunbar also made local history: Swope was the first openly gay man elected in Lansing. Dunbar was the city's first openly bisexual leader to be elected to office.

2006

Expectations were high as Bernero was sworn in as mayor. The honeymoon between the Bernero administration and the City Council ended when Bernero called Council President Brian Jeffries a "pathetic piece of shit." LCC President Paula Cunningham resigned following months of tensions between her and the newly elected Board of Trustees — namely after software issues led to 2,000 students losing their financial aid in 2005.

Onondaga's Highfields' Youth Opportunity Camp closed after several complaints of staff abuse.

Ingham County commissioners signed onto a plan to take over the city-owned Potter Park Zoo, which was hit with several significant budget cuts and had the potential to lose its national accreditation. The cash-strapped Temple Club, a key venue for touring rock bands and other events, closed.

Bernero's first budget proposed cutting 56 jobs and closing two of the city's four golf courses — neither of which happened after the Council put up a two-month fight with the mayor. A petition drive that launched in August fell short of enough names to recall Bernero from office. CATA launched the "Entertainment Express" from downtown Lansing to East Lansing. Granholm kept her job in November. Bauer and former (and future) East Lansing Mayor Mark Meadows crushed their GOP opponents in state house races. Barb Byrum was elected to the legislature too.

The Council also amended a human rights ordinance crafted by Dunbar that prohibits discrimination against the LGBTQ community.

The controversial Young Americans for Freedom

up raucous crowds of up to 2,000 people after the men's basketball team lost in the Final Four to North Carolina.

Former Lansing Council Officer Tina Gallante sued Lansing for \$1.6 million over claims that multiple Council members had retaliated against her for being a whistleblower.

The Board of Water & Light's Chili Cookoff

group at MSU, meanwhile, organized a "straight power" demonstration in Lansing to oppose the ordinance, one of the first in a long series of racist and offensive interactions that would make headlines over the next few years — and eventually land them on the hate group list from the Southern Poverty Law Center.

2007

Derrick Quinney was appointed to the City Council vacancy created by Bauer's election to the state House.

Creole Gallery owner Robert Busby was murdered by a handyman, who later killed himself. In August, Lansing cops also found the beaten body of 46-year-old Debra Renfors — the third woman to be bludgeoned to death in two weeks by serial killer Matthew Macon. Macon was convicted of the two murders and confessed to killing Carol Wood's mother, Ruth Hallman.

The events that unfolded that summer would be described as Lansing's "Summer or Terror." In response, Bernero mounted a controversial campaign to install \$350,000 in security cameras.

The Wharton Center announced plans for an \$11 million expansion on its 26th birthday. Concepts were finalized for \$182 million investment in what would become the future headquarters for the Accident Fund insurance company. Gillespie rolled out plans to bring housing, dining, offices and a new City Market to the ever-expanding Stadium District.

Wood and Quinney were reelected to the City Council, joined by newcomers Eric Hewitt and ALynne Robinson.

Early plans began to form in November to construct a permanent amphitheater at Adado Park — a concept that would continue to start and stall for the next 14 years without much progress.

2008

MSU unveiled the winning design for the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, endowed by what was then the biggest gift in the university's history. Barack Obama visited Lansing and spoke to 2,000 people at the Lansing Center ahead of what became a historic election in November.

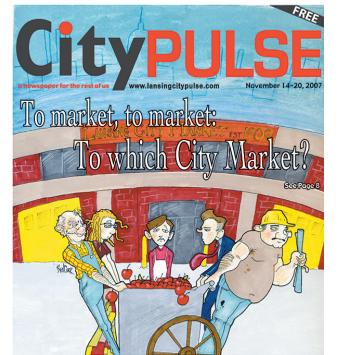
Voters also approved the legalization of medical marijuana in Michigan by a margin of 63%.

As the housing crisis hit Lansing, City Pulse sent a reporter to two Ingham County foreclosure auctions, where a record-breaking 35 to 60 homes were being auctioned off about every week.

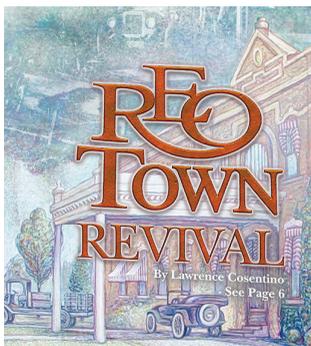
James Rutter resigned as associate superintendent at the Lansing School District "for personal reasons" shortly after City Pulse had provided two documents to the school system that showed Rutter repeatedly plagiarized and signed his name on nationally circulated education articles.

Bernero apologized to a Councilman for calling him a "motherfucking idiot," among other things. City plans resurfaced (and quickly fell apart) for a performing arts center to be built in Lansing.

East Lansing cops arrested 52 people — including



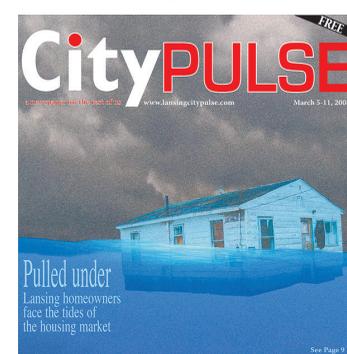
The redevelopment of the City Market into a pole barn disappointed many residents in Lansing.



The term "REO Town" was coined in 2001 by the REO Town Commercial Association.



The neo-Nazi National Socialist Movement came to Lansing in 2006 for a rally at the Capitol.



Predatory lending practices plummeted Lansing (and the country) into a housing crisis in 2008.

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28 students — after raucous crowds started to throw bottles at police officers and set several dumpster fires at the return of Cedar Fest. City Pulse launched its Top of the Town Awards in Lansing, which go on to become an annual hit.

2009

Obama took office. The rulemaking process for medical marijuana in Michigan was off to a rocky start. City Pulse quickly planted its flag on leading the coverage with a weekly weed journal. Wood announced plans to challenge Bernero in the November mayoral election.



Councilwoman Carol Wood ran an unsuccessful mayoral campaign against Bernero in 2009.

Concerns over the H1N1 virus dominated headlines, as well as prompted some local concern.

Several development projects folded under an economic downturn, including The Lenawee, Capitol Club Tower, Ball Park, City Center Studios, Lansing Gateway, Sobi Square and Market Place. Bernero defeated Wood in a landslide for a second term as mayor in Lansing. Jessica Yorke was elected to the Council in the Fourth Ward. Dunbar was picked for a second term.

The new City Market also neared completion. For some, it was a disappointing “pole barn.”

2010

More than 5,000 people attended a Tea Party rally at the Capitol steps. A history of LGBTQ nightlife published in City Pulse showed that Lansing’s gay bar scene has never been stronger. Dozens of pot shops started to crop up across Lansing, largely operating in a legally gray area.



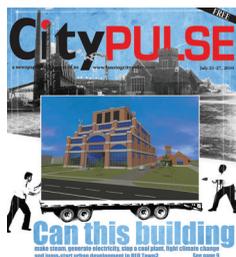
Thousands of people arrived at the Capitol for a Tea Party rally in 2010.

BWL scrapped a concept to build a \$1 billion coal plant and announced a three-year plan to construct a \$182 million natural gas-powered co-generating plant in REO Town.

Construction officially started on the Broad Museum at MSU with plans for a 2012 opening. Plans were also announced for a restoration of the Knapp’s building in downtown Lansing. The Ottawa Street Power Station renovation was inching closer to completion. And bars and restaurants changed forever after a statewide indoor cigarette smoking ban took effect in May.

A joint investigation between City Pulse and WLNS revealed that at least four appointees to city boards and commissions had violated charter requirements, making them ineligible to serve.

After assuring voters in 2009 that he was not interested in a gubernatorial race, Bernero launches a bid for governor and goes on to crush primary challenger Andy Dillon by about 90,000



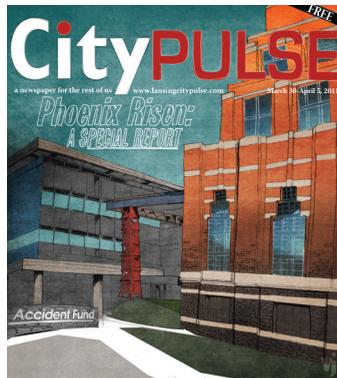
The renovation of the Ottawa Street Power Station made big news in Lansing.

votes. Gov. Rick Snyder sailed past him with 58% of the general election vote. That same year, Bernero also “groped” a woman downtown, according to recent accusations.

Main Street was renamed Malcolm X Street. Drain Commissioner Pat Lindemann offered City Pulse his first glimpse into what would eventually become the ongoing Montgomery Drain project to help reduce pollution along the Red Cedar River near the Frandor Shopping Center.

2011

City Pulse published one of its biggest print issues to date, a 52-pager featuring “Phoenix Risen,” a 28-page section on the completed restoration of the Ottawa Street Power Station. A defeated millage request led to widespread layoffs of Lansing cops and firefighters. GM announced plans to invest \$190 million at the Grand River Assembly Plant in Lansing.



In 2011, City Pulse featured the redevelopment of the Ottawa Power Station. It was one of its largest print editions.

Neighbors rallied for another grocery store to move into the Colonial Village Shopping Center. And it looks like they’ll have to do so again after Valuland switched to nonperishable goods only.

In August, City Pulse celebrated its 10th year of publication. Bernero opined: “Can we survive ten more years of Berl Schwartz’s occasionally peculiar brand of public punditry?” The answer: Yes. City Pulse can survive, though it turned out 10 more years of Bernero would be far too much. He’s in public purgatory after several sexual harassment claims surfaced in 2021.

2012

Thousands converged on Lansing to protest right-to-work legislation. Lansing earned a spot in the FBI’s list of top five most dangerous cities in Michigan. Production of the Cadillac ATS began. The Camaro was soon to be en route. Gymnast Jordyn Webber, of Dewitt, led the U.S. Olympic team to gold. Bernero received some criticism after he called a tribal spokesperson “Chief Chicken Little” at a fundraising event. The Broad Art Museum opened in November.



Plans to build a casino in Lansing during the Bernero administration never came to fruition.

2013

Delta, Delhi and Meridian townships joined Lansing and East Lansing with ordinances barring discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodation based on sexual orientation.

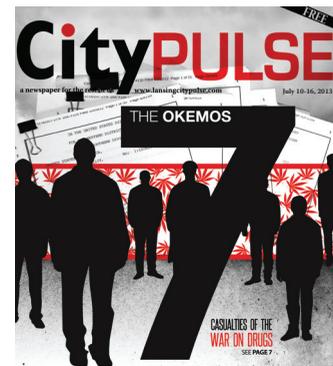
And with another year, another batch of victims in the war on drugs. Seven local men — who later became known as the “Okemos 7” — were sentenced for their role in a pot growing operation. Among them: Ryan Basore, who went on to launch the Redemption Cannabis brand.

Following a City Pulse story about disorganization at the Lansing Police Department, Bernero created a new police position dedicated to solving cold cases in the city. He would go on to be elected in November to his third and final term, with no plans to seek re-election in 2017. Whole Foods announced plans to open in Meridian Township. Niowave Inc. broke ground on a \$10 million expansion in Lansing’s Walnut Neighborhood to much fanfare — though not too much of it came from the neighborhood itself: The expansion included the much criticized “pole barn” building, first reported by City Pulse. BWL opened a

natural gas plant in REO Town.

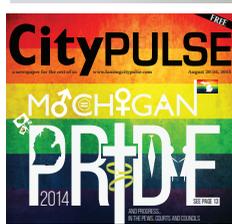
MSU defeated Ohio State University. Dozens were arrested for setting fires in East Lansing.

Nearly 40,000 residents lost power for more than a week after an ice storm gripped the region. BWL executive Peter Lark faced criticism for the handling of the situation — particularly for vacationing in New York during the crisis. And though Bernero stood in his defense, he would go on to pressure board members to fire him. That shift resulted in a controversial, taxpayer-funded severance payout valued at about \$650,000.



Seven local men were sentenced for their role in a pot growing operation in 2007.

2014



A major court ruling gave rise to hundreds of same-sex weddings in Lansing in 2014.

BWL officials scrambled to trim trees and implement policy changes to prevent another blackout in Lansing. Hundreds of local gay couples got hitched after a major Court of Appeals ruling. MSU began construction on its nearly \$1 billion Facility for Rare Isotope Beams in East Lansing. The Knapp’s Centre finally opened after about \$36 million in renovations in November.

2015

Same-sex marriages continued locally after a historic ruling in the Supreme Court. Camaros pour out of GM’s Grand River Assembly Plant. Developers broke ground at the former Story Oldsmobile property near Frandor on what would become one of the ugliest buildings in Lansing: SkyVue. Gillespie announced plans for the East Town Flats. Behind the scenes, developers were working on a “ground-breaking” project at the former Red Cedar Golf Course



The Supreme Court also sided in favor of marriage equality in a historic ruling in 2015.

Dick Peffley took over as BWL manager after Lark’s firing. He remains in the position today.

2016

City Attorney Janine McIntyre left Lansing with a \$160,000 golden parachute without much explanation. Even to this day, we still don’t know all the details over why her attorney had threatened a sexual harassment lawsuit days before that payout.

Disgraced MSU sports doctor Larry Nassar first faced several charges in Ingham County in what would eventually become one of the most sickening criminal cases in U.S. history. Dozens of women spoke out against him, leading to a powerful and lasting empowerment movement.

Ingham County Prosecutor Stuart Dunning III was also hit with dozens of criminal charges after news broke that he had allegedly coerced women into sex. He resigned in July, future Gov. Gretchen Whitmer took over the job and Dunning was sentenced to a year behind bars.

Progressive Democrat Carol Siemon was elected prosecutor in November. President Donald Trump also took the state (and the presidency) following multiple trips to Michigan — including a stop in Dimondale. His election triggered a wave of bigotry that still permeates the country.

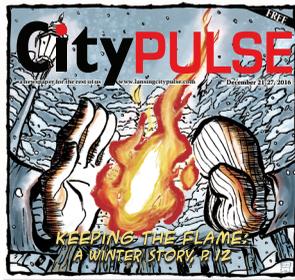
In Lansing, a “housing emergency,” as Bernero called

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it, triggered by the eviction of Homeless Angels, threatened to displace nearly 100 people before an anonymous donation saved the day. BWL paid out a \$25,000 ransom to hackers who had essentially hijacked their internal networks.



Lansing had tallied more than 600 homeless people living in Lansing in the mid 2010s.

2017

Nassar pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting women under the guise of medical treatment and MSU became embroiled in a lasting scandal over which top officials knew what — and when.

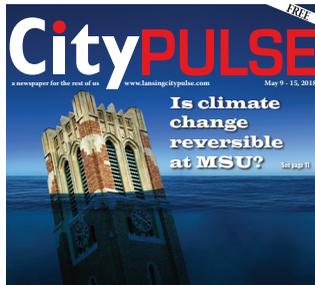


Lansing Mayor Andy Schor defeated challenger Judi Brown Clarke by a landslide in 2017.

Bernero stepped away from the Mayor's Office to focus on struggles with his marriage. Mayor Andy Schor was elected, defeating Olympic Silver Medalist Judi Brown Clarke with 72% of the vote. Prior to the election, City Pulse took some heat from Clarke over the dark color of her skin in a cover illustration. A printing error had caused her and others to appear slightly darker than intended.

2018

Proposal One passed, enabling legal possession and adult use of marijuana following several dogged years of advocacy efforts across the nation. Nassar was sentenced to 40-175 years in prison for sexual assault involving hundreds of women and girls. The same day, Simon resigned as university president and was later charged with lying to cops. Former Republican Gov. John Engler replaced her in a move orchestrated by Trustee Joel Ferguson.



Since its inception in 2001, City Pulse has always kept a close watch on sustainability efforts.

A portion of Grand River Avenue was renamed by city officials to memorialize Cesar Chavez.

Development boomed across the Capital City with plans announced for a grocery store connected to a new hotel on Michigan Avenue. City officials sold the Red Cedar and Waverly golf courses for developments that are still being built. Discussions began (and ultimately stalled) over consolidating 54A and 54B district courts in Lansing and East Lansing.

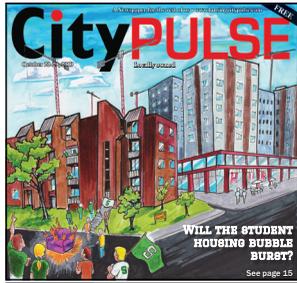
A recall election at Williamston Community Schools stripped the district of its board president and ignited a community debate over policies to protect transgender students. Electric scooter rentals took Lansing by force. Waterfront Bar & Grill was booted from the old City Market.

Ingham County launched a Public Defender's Office and appointed Russel Church to the helm. Gretchen Whitmer was elected, bringing a Democrat back to the Governor's Office. And Lugnuts owner Tom Dickson announced the formation of the Lansing Ignite soccer team.

The Democrats regained the 8th Congressional District seat held by Republicans since 2001 with the upset election of Elissa Slotkin.

2019

More apartments popped up in East Lansing — including the Center City District and the Hub, a 10-story mixed-use building on the corner of Grand River Avenue and Bogue Street. Another developer announced plans to renovate the historic temple in Old Town. McLaren laid the groundwork on a \$450 million hospital on the edge of MSU's campus.



Development in Greater Lansing during 2019 — especially near Michigan State University.

Eastern High School closed its 101-year-old building and handed over the keys to Sparrow. Slotkin voted to impeach Trump. Councilman Brandon Betz defeated Jody Washington in the First Ward. Lansing officers sparked a citywide controversy after video footage surfaced that showed a cop repeatedly striking a teenage girl who resisted arrest.

Sparrow failed a key accreditation inspection and subsequent reports revealed scores of deficiencies at the hospital. Those were ultimately corrected after another inspection, but not before staff quietly removed all copies of City Pulse from its hospital and Michigan Athletic Club that covered the issues. Engler resigned as president of MSU after making insensitive statements about Nassar victims.

Black firefighter Michael Lynn Jr. filed a racial discrimination suit against the city. The Lansing Ignite folded after its inaugural season. And after a lengthy dispute with the Waterfront Bar & Grill, the former City Market was vacated.

A reckless driver plowed over Lansing's red holiday ornaments in the downtown roundabout, but they were quickly replaced through a last-minute \$7,000 donation from a local businessman.

A community fight erupted over BWL's plan to tear down a historic house and relocate a sunken garden to make room for a power station. BWL won.

2020

Homegrown Cannabis Co. made history as the first recreational pot shop to open in Lansing.

The coronavirus also arrived locally, and along with it Lansing's most violent year on record with 21 homicides. George Floyd's murder in Minneapolis also ignited a nationwide uprising against police brutality and the disproportionate rate in which police systematically target, ticket and kill people of color. Lansing was no exception to the fervor. A May 31 protest in downtown Lansing ended with a torched car downtown and canisters of tear gas deployed to break up the crowds.

Black Lives Matter called for Schor to resign. Anthony Hulon was killed by four officers beneath City Hall. In one of the least transparent moments of Schor's administration, officials pointed to "medical complications" to explain his death when county records had labeled it a homicide. Attempts to reduce funding to the Police Department ended with a budget increase — and two in-house social workers embedded at both the Lansing and East Lansing police departments.

Greater Lansing joined America in blocking Trump from a second term. Peter Spadafore was elected as City Council president. East Lansing Mayor Ruth Beier and Councilman Mark Meadows resigned. Commissioner Thomas Morgan was taken out in the primary by Bob Pena. Former Commissioner Carol Koenig was also installed as judge in the 30th Circuit Court. Ferguson, besmirched by his support

for Engler and his own insensitivity to Nassar victims, was forced off the MSU Board of Trustees by the Democratic Party.

Dozens of businesses closed amid the pandemic. Capitol City Market opened in the fall. Across the street, the City Rescue Mission announced plans to expand its men's shelter. Schor also announced plans to revitalize the City Market with a new shuffleboard and social club concept.

The controversial Red Cedar project also secured its final round of state financing, and plans were once again underway to redevelop the Bethlehem Temple Building into the Temple Lofts.

City leaders pushed forward with plans to reduce Lansing's carbon footprint. Joan Jackson Johnson, former department director of Human Relations and Community Services retired after being ousted by the Schor administration for alleged financial improprieties — none of which have actually netted any criminal charges amid a yearlong federal investigation. All told, at least a dozen city officials (either by will or force) have departed Schor's administration.

An eleventh-hour compromise with the Schor administration allowed city retirees to escape any "long-term cost increases" while also saving the city about \$3.5 million annually in legacy costs. Schor continued to defend himself from several allegations of racism following recent lawsuits — mostly from Black former firefighters who alleged that they had been discriminated against.

2021

It's already another big year for news at City Pulse. Misinformation spewed from Trump supporters who opposed "election fraud" at the State Capitol. Meridian Township revived its plans for recreational pot shops. The city of Lansing tried to shut down a longstanding encampment of homeless people off Larch Street. Schor is still trying to jumpstart plans to rebuild City Hall — a plan that he inherited from Bernero that has stalled for several years. More social workers and cops are headed to the Police Department after yearlong efforts to "defund" law enforcement collapsed at City Hall. Schor was caught cutting the line for an early dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. City Pulse was also among the first to report allegations of sexual harassment against Vanguard Public Affairs CEO TJ Bucholz, as well as claims against Bernero that pushed him out of the mayoral race. Dunbar ran ahead of Patricia Spitzley and three other contenders in the primary election to be pitted against Schor for mayor in the General Election. Supporters also turned on Betz after he sent a series of profane text messages to a local activist. Multiple reports also revealed that racial inequities have continued to plague Greater Lansing — evidenced in part by a series of ongoing discrimination lawsuits against the city administration. Plenty more pot shops have also opened in the city — nearly all of which have been featured in City Pulse's "Lansterdam in Review" column, which has been published weekly since last July.

What's our next story? You tell us. Call Managing Editor Kyle Kaminski at 517-999-6710.

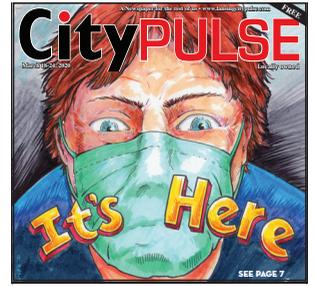
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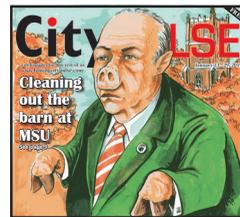
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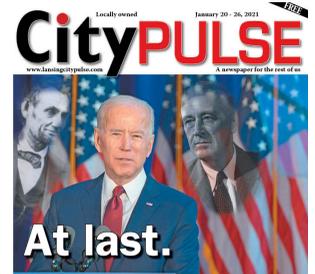
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The pandemic dominated headlines after the COVID-19 virus arrived in Michigan in March.



Former Gov. John Engler was portrayed as a pig in a cover story after his resignation at MSU.



President Joe Biden's election didn't do much to curb conspiracy theories over election fraud.

CityPULSE Celebrates 20 Years

‘The best of times, the worst of times’

A panel of Lansing lifers looks at the past 20 years — and the next

Edited and condensed by Lawrence Cosentino
City Pulse’s 20th anniversary panel

David Hollister, mayor of Lansing from 1992 to 2003, put together the private-public partnership that kept General Motors in Lansing and spearheaded the city’s downtown revitalization, with the minor league Lansing Lugnuts and downtown ball-park as the centerpiece.



Hollister

Chad Badgero fused hometown passion with high artistic standards in 2002 as founder and artistic director of the Peppermint Creek Theatre Co., part of an era of performing arts excellence that blossomed in greater Lansing in the past 20 years.



Badgero

Joan Nelson has developed and carried out dozens of community building programs on Lansing’s east side as director of the Allen Neighborhood Center, from a thriving farmers market to incubator kitchens, refugee services, a greenhouse and walking trail in Hunter Park, adult classes and many more.



Nelson

Rep. Sarah Anthony, a Lansing native, is serving her second term as state representative of Michigan’s 68th district, encompassing Lansing and Lansing Township. She is the first African-American woman to serve as state representative from Lansing. She was elected to the Ingham County Board of Commissioners in 2012, becoming the youngest African-American woman to serve on a county board in the United States.



Anthony

Bob Trezise, president and CEO of the Lansing Economic Area Partnership, was a key player in many of Lansing’s most significant economic development coups of the past 20 years, including the redevelopment of the Ottawa Power Station.



Trezise

Dedria Humphries Barker, journalist, editor, public speaker, former professor of English at Lansing Community College, is a columnist for the City Pulse. Two of her essays are featured in the anthologies “The Beiging of America” (2017) and “Black Lives Have Always Mattered.” (2017). She is also the author of “Mother of Orphans: The True and Curious Story of Irish Alice, a Colored Man’s Widow.”

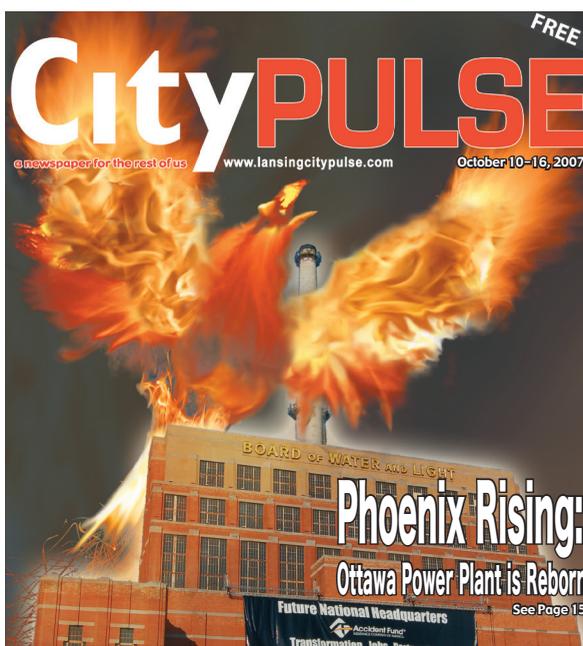


Barker

The moderators are Lawrence Cosentino, a writer for City Pulse for all of its 20 years, and editor and publisher Berl Schwartz.

Lansing pride

Lawrence Cosentino: This is a distinguished and diverse group, but you all have something in com-



City Pulse learned of plans to repurpose the Ottawa Power Station but agreed to sit on the story in exchange for exclusive information on how it came about.

mon: You could have taken your talents and energy elsewhere, to a bigger city or a bigger market, but you lived and worked in Lansing for all or most of the past 20 years. Why? How would you compare Lansing today to the Lansing of 20 years ago, when City Pulse began?

Bob Trezise: I’m a Lansing kid — Cumberland Elementary, Otto Middle School, Sexton High, all of that. In the ‘70s and ‘80s, I just felt in my gut, as a young person then, that Lansing had really low self-esteem. And I always saw the empty power station downtown with the smokestack on our skyline — it became symbolic of what wasn’t possible, what we couldn’t do together. Of course, it was redeveloped, and now I think it’s a symbol on our skyline of all that is possible.

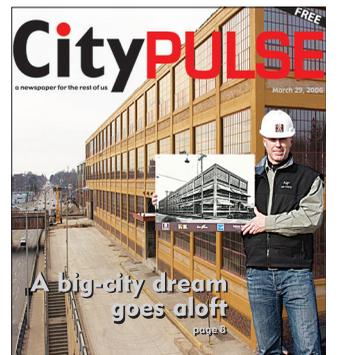
Rep. Sarah Anthony: Lansing Pride, right? Whether it’s on T-shirts or using the Love Lansing hash tag — there is the sense of pride of either being born here, or blooming here. Twenty years ago, people would say, ‘Oh yeah, I work for state government but I drive home to DeWitt or wherever.’ People are excited about being in Lansing. You see it when folks are branding their events and activities around Lansing. We have a 517 Day that the city lights up. I’ve introduced a Love Lansing resolution at the state House. People are excited about being here and want to identify as being from Lansing. We have all of these different folks who are taking pride in our region in a way that I didn’t, even growing up here.

One more thing: Putting my political hat on, we have seen an increase in diverse political leadership. Look at our City Council, our county commission, our judges. Even here, at the state House, I’m the first Black woman to do this. I don’t know if we imagined that

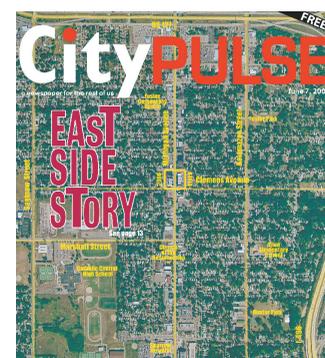
for Lansing, particularly given the actual sheer numbers. We’re still a majority white community, and yet so many of our judges are people of color and so many folks are women, or from the LGBTQ + community. We take that for granted.

Chad Badgero: I’m really pumped about the fact that Lansing just accepts that. We’re not trumpeting it, but we expect that in our leadership, and I really appreciate that.

Rep. Sarah Anthony: When folks look at who is leading in the spaces in our city, from City Council rooms and the county commission, they see themselves. You can see yourselves in the folks who are making decisions. And I

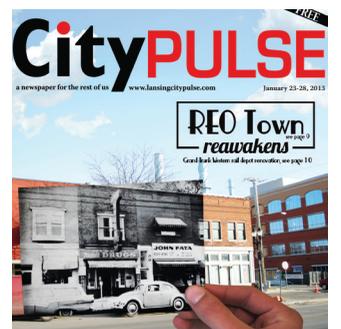


think sometimes we take that for granted, but that’s something pretty special about our region that we have amplified diverse voices to make decisions on behalf of all of us.



Another story City Pulse got the break on was Harry Hepler’s plans for converting the old Motor Wheel factory into apartments.

Rep. Sarah Anthony: It is remarkable what has happened to the city of Lansing and our region in the last 20 years. The diversification of our local city and regional economy is incredible. Twenty years ago, we were mainly an auto town. It’s a little bit of an overstatement but it’s mostly true. The high tech and entrepreneurial business startups, and all the incubators on the east side and elsewhere — none of that existed 20 years ago. Literally, zero. Old Town, REO Town, the east side and Michigan Avenue — the progress has been unbelievable. What about Sparrow and McLaren? The amount of projects and buildings that



REO Town was starting to gel when City Pulse published this cover in 2013.

CityPULSE Celebrates 20 Years

20 years in Lansing

from page 17

they have done along Michigan Avenue and out of the MSU Foundation, and then there's Rotary Park, the River Trail and people enjoying the river. Regional cooperation was atrocious 20 years ago. I've never seen better regional cooperation than it is right now.

David Hollister: In the middle '90s it was a different city than it is now. There was just no activity; there was no vitality. If you looked downtown at night, there was no traffic. But there was such a potential. There was no sense of collegiality between the regional leaders. I thought we had all the assets to be a world-class city, with Michigan State, which is world class, and General Motors. I put together a viable plan I thought we could turn around relatively quickly. We had just \$1.2 million in Community Development Block Grant funds [a federal program] and decided to concentrate on three areas: Michigan Avenue, from Sparrow Hospital to the Capitol, and the Washington Mall, which is our commercial district downtown, and Old Town. The development started and people started working together. And we began building a world-class city. We never really achieved it.

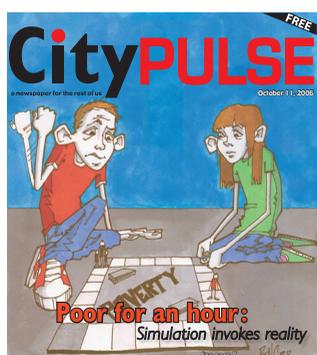
Bob Trezise: The city of Lansing has done the unthinkable — actual population growth. The city proper, an urban core in the State of Michigan — the only state that did not have population growth in the 2010 census — but not Lansing. That is amazing, and that is by intentional economic development efforts. Honestly, I would defy any urban core city or a region the size of ours to match that. I compare us to, damn, anybody in the entire United States.

Rep. Sarah Anthony: I was an elementary school student when Mayor Hollister was casting that world-class vision. And that actually took hold with many folks like me. Like Bob, I'm a Lansing kid, born and raised on the south side, Everett High School. And in many ways, my story is a very Lansing one. My dad worked at the Fisher Body plant, my mom's a state employee. And the fact that we could have some kind of working middle-class lifestyle — that is because of the formula that is Lansing. I started to see Lansing as a world-class city, as a city in a community that was bigger than just a small town. And I think that that has driven the public service that I started to have really a passion for.

Chad Badgero: I'm from this area, but a short stint living in New York gave me a really great juxtaposition about what life in other places could be like. Lansing is a place that lifts you up to support your opportunities or your ideas, and is excited to see about what you're going to do, and is not so large that you feel swallowed up in the city, but is big enough to have big dreams. That's been really thrilling and exciting to be so supported in that way.

Persistent problems

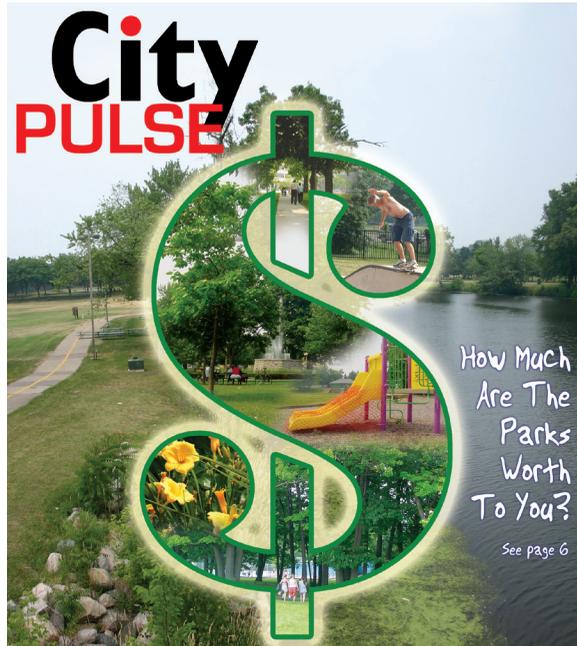
Lawrence Cosentino: In spite of the dramatic progress you all are describing, a host of persistent problems have dogged the city for the past 20 years, including a poverty rate that seems to be stuck at around 25 percent, bad health outcomes for lower income residents and an unequal allocation of resources and overall quality of life across the city and the region.



Lansing's 25% poverty rate led to this cover story.

Rep. Sarah Anthony: Unfortunately, so many folks in many parts of our community do not see the progress, cannot feel the progress, and feel left behind there.

That poverty rate — that is real. I have folks that had never stepped foot in downtown Lansing, do not



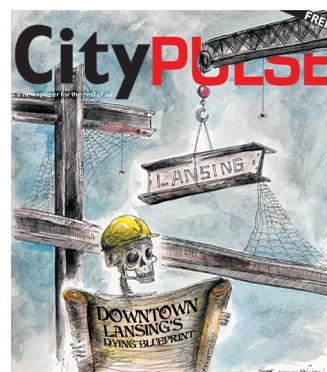
City Pulse encouraged voters to support more funds for the parks.

go to our new Rotary Park or some of the restaurants and bars. They don't see Eastwood Towne Center as a part of our community. They don't see some of the bright and shiny new objects as theirs. And a part of my role as someone who feels just as comfortable in a church basement or a community center, or some of our grittier parts of our community as well as the country club and some of our upper crust areas in our community — being that bridge is one of my roles and responsibilities to say, 'Look, when we have an arts fair, that's for you too. The Lugnuts Stadium, that's for you too.' There should be no parts of our community that are off limits, because it's all ours.

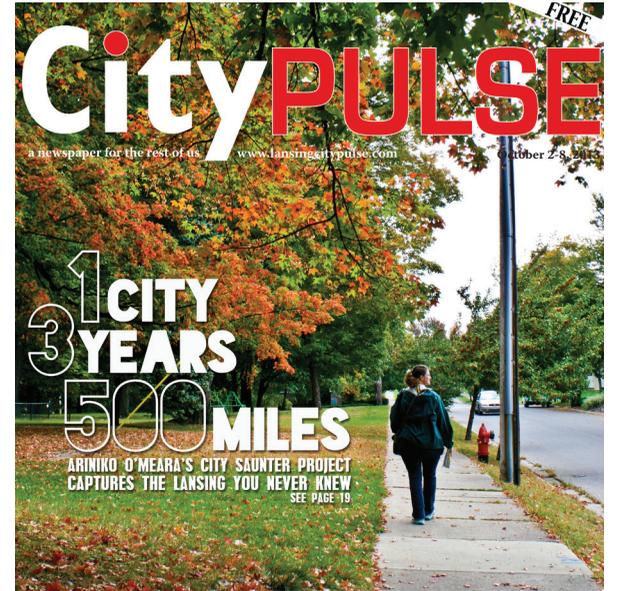
Bob Trezise: I totally agree with Sarah. Every day, every hour, we need to think about how all of this — business and entrepreneurs and developers — are a means to an end. All of this is about people in our community. And in diversity, equity, inclusion efforts, must be profoundly continued to be worked on, and done better every day.

Rep. Sarah Anthony: What Mayor Hollister did is cast a vision. But that vision should not just be about the brick and mortar and the infrastructure and the high buildings. When we talk about areas of economic development, we would be remiss if we didn't talk about human infrastructure and human development. I'm in my office and I love the fact that, yes, I have a great view of the Capitol, but I also see the neighborhoods that I represent. And it gives a balanced perspective. And so when we're looking at success for the region, I hope we're not just looking at the economic drivers and the businesses we're retaining and how we're going to re-imagine downtown, but how are we lowering that poverty rate? How are we ensuring that kids aren't going to bed hungry? How do we lower infant mortality for folks like me, right? The chances of me carrying a child to full term, in Ingham County, are the worst in the entire State. Those are problems we need to tackle if we really want to attract folks from all over the globe to our capital city. To sum it all up, I think it's the best of times in Lansing and, for many folks, it's also the worst of times.

Bob Trezise: I would add that I'm very concerned right now about downtown. The downtown came back a little bit, but it is without question facing an existential threat over the next five to 10 years. I had big meetings this morning with some offices. It's a roller coaster. The lesson is, there is no beginning to end of these things.



This cover story questioned how much progress was being made in bringing downtown back to life.



City Pulse helped encourage development outside of downtown.

You keep at it and keep at it and keep at it and never give up.

Neighborhood life

Lawrence Cosentino: Big development projects get a lot of attention, but what about the grass roots work on improving life in the neighborhoods that has been done in the past 20 years?

Dedria Humphries Barker: I'm so proud to be living here on the east side. We lived in East Lansing for many years. But then after our children went away to college, that half-acre land wasn't so attractive anymore. And being in a place for me that didn't have public transportation — that wasn't very attractive to me. So we moved to the east side of Lansing, where it looks more like Detroit, which is where we're from. But it is just so exciting over here to have Hunter Park with a greenhouse and a large garden and a new building going up. [Allen Place, with 21 apartments, a health clinic, the East Lansing Food Co-op and the new home of the Allen Neighborhood Center, is scheduled for completion next year.]

David Hollister: One of the reasons Lansing thrives is it has such vibrant community organizations, neighborhood associations. When you come to town, one of the first things I tell people, 'Go visit Joan Nelson. She'll tell you what's going on day to day, or go to the neighborhood associations.'

Joan Nelson: I came here in 1967 after graduating from MSU and I got my first job with Lansing Model Cities, an urban anti-poverty program, and worked there as a community organizer for three years. During that time, I worked with [state Rep.] Dave Hollister. I learned that the neighborhood is an essential unit — maybe the essential unit of change. Fast-forward 20 years. The Ingham County Health Department, with a Kellogg grant, began to hold Healthy Community summits in different quadrants of the city. 'Health' was defined broadly, to include housing and access to good food, access to health care, commercial corridor redevelopment, all sorts of things. These little entities emerged in all parts of Lansing that tried to implement those goals, and they morphed into nonprofit organizations — no longer little old volunteer-driven civic groups, but 501s who could hire staff and get funding. That made all the difference in terms of dealing with housing, health, food access, senior support, and so on — the whole spate of issues that affects quality of life in neighborhoods. Three of these groups — the Allen Neighborhood Center, the Northwest Initiative and the South Lansing Community Development Association — have survived over these 20 years. I've come to believe that if you're trying to improve lives, an effective way to do it is, a neighborhood at a time, by continuously engaging neighbors.

Dedria Humphries Barker: All boats rise with the Allen Neighborhood Center. How much pressure did

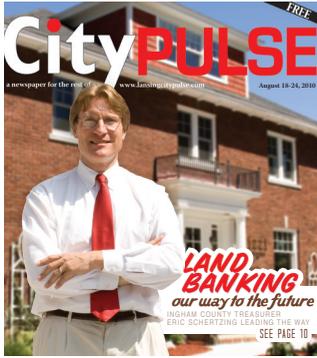
CityPULSE Celebrates 20 Years

20 years in Lansing

from page 18

Joan get to put her new building up on Michigan Avenue? But it's just so awesome to have it back on Kalamazoo Street.

Joan Nelson: If we look at what's happened in the last 20 years around food, in 20 years this region has developed 26 farmer's markets — 26 — and several of those are year round. We have pantries all over town, farm



Joan Nelson cited the Ingham County Land Bank as an important instrument for change in the last 20 years.

stands popping up in neighborhoods. When the Land Bank began to give out land 10 years ago, community-based organizations worked closely with them to give parcels to urban farmers and gardeners. When you pay attention to developing robust social infrastructure in a place-based way, on a neighborhood scale, it often translates to better access and improved lives for under-resourced neighbors.

Dedria Humphries Barker: A lot of people come in, and they work with one of the major institutions in the area and then they're on with their career. But the people like Joan, who stay and continue to work and have a vision — those are the people who really make a difference. And you can have all the money that you want, but if you don't have those people who stay and work on a vision, for the area for everybody then really it's just a bank.

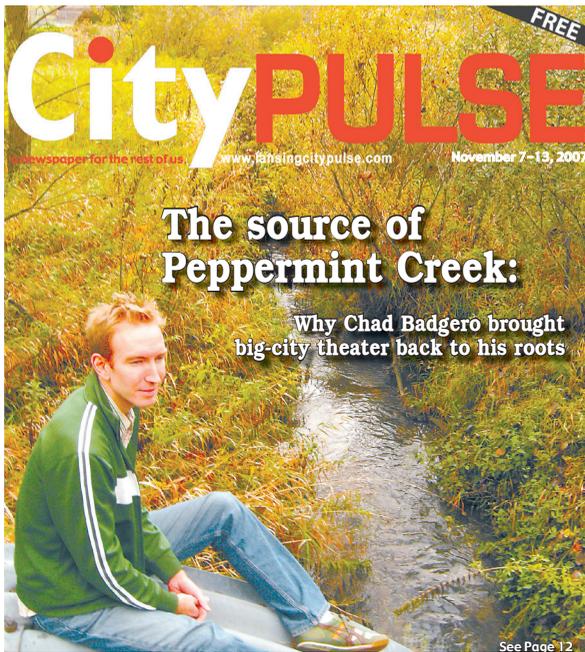
Arts center blues

Lawrence Cosentino: One of the most sadly consistent arts stories in City Pulse over its entire 20 years has been the on-and-off performing arts center. Why is it so elusive and what does that say about Lansing?

David Hollister: We were thrilled when we pulled off the Lugnuts. That was a real coup, and it really brought vitality. And then our focus turned to the arts. We wanted to get an arts center, and were really close to getting one. We hired a consultant who persuaded Gov. John Engler, who was not exactly my friend, to put \$500,000 in the budget to do some preliminary work. The wheels came off the buggy in the Great Recession. That got put off. But the plan and the study are still there, and it's a framework for discussions that are going on even today, so that, while there's been ups and downs. I think we have kept our eyes on the big picture and not to be discouraged. I've often said that progress is not a straight line.

Chad Badgero: What we're really lacking in Lansing is a vibrant, supported arts and culture sector. What we have is lots of people doing lots of work. When I started Peppermint Creek in 1995 as a theater company, there were three, four theater companies. Now there's more than 20 — but only two of them have permanent homes.

It is really remarkable for me to hear Mayor Hollister talk about how the conversation about an arts center has been had, over and over and over, and has never come to fruition. I agree with Bob — from the arts and culture perspective, our communication in Lansing and in this region has gone through the roof from what it was in 2000. We were just small little groups of people, just being completely scrappy to make anything happen — festivals, music, events, theater. We still remain a lot of small groups, even down to Lansing 501, who are doing some really awesome cultural events around our city, but they're doing it in spaces that are not typically considered arts and culture spaces. From an economic perspective of retaining those people, they can create things, but if they're not given space to do that, or the infrastructure to do

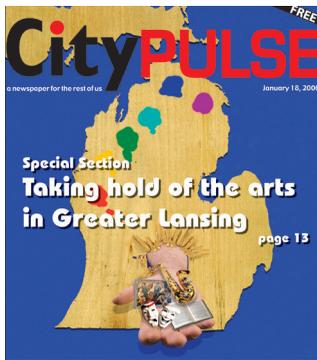


“Scrappy” Chad Badgero organized one of the many theater companies that arose in Greater Lansing in the last two decades.

that, that makes it hard to keep them around.

Lawrence Cosentino: But, Chad, aren't you at your best when you're scrappy?

Chad Badgero: I am, and I'm proud of that. But at the end of the day, a performing arts space is going to take more than scrappy. We have to build a bridge between the everyday person who doesn't feel they have a voice to be featured in the newspaper, or be on a Zoom call like this, right up to all the people on this call. So those people are bridged in a way that then we can envision and dream about what could be, in a way that actually happens.



Coverage of the arts has been one of City Pulse's objectives from the beginning.

David Hollister: We were the winner of a worldwide competition for the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams at the university. So, Chad, they might not have gotten the arts building. I was disappointed, but it's still alive. If we can win a world competition that's going to bring researchers from around the world here, we sure as hell can solve those others. You just have to work together, be patient, persistent and follow the vision.

Chad Badgero: Hallelujah, I say.

Berl Schwartz: Bob Trezise told me about going to the Ottawa Power Station with people from Blue Cross interested in using it. Everyone up till that point looked at it as 'it's too big,' and they looked at it as 'too small.' How do we get our leaders, not necessarily our elected leaders, but the ones who have money or access to money, to look at this performing arts center as being important enough to commit to \$40 million to \$60 million? What is lacking here in our community that this problem continues to be so difficult?

Bob Trezise: I actually know the answer to that. I say this in a positive way, but Lansing and the Lansing area is an institutional town. We're fortunate to have very large Fortune 500 headquarters. We have a significant set of financial institutions. There's Michigan State University, state government, GM. But what we lack, and has always been our Achilles heel for 100 plus years, really, is significant, locally grown, locally owned wealth. In other words, billionaires who actually own their own money and thus can make their own decisions. There is a very big difference between asking Mr. Devos for \$10 million and asking Auto-Owners Insurance for \$10 million, because Auto-Owners is a publicly owned company with a board of directors and shareholders and it's not just the president and CEO's money. He or she can't just say

“yes,” and this is the fundamental problem when you talk about something like a performing arts center that costs \$40, \$60, \$80 million, and so many other big ideas that we all have. How about a million-dollar incubator in south Lansing? That'd be my dream along with everything else. But the issue of money is Lansing's eternal Achilles heel.

Dedria Humphries Barker: I would like to hear David Hollister talk about how you bring people together on big projects, because he's done that and done it successfully.

David Hollister: I call it “VP3.” You start with a vision. The vision I had was a world-class city. And once you got the vision, then you need three ‘P’s.’ The first ‘P’ is a plan, and we had a plan that started with Michigan Avenue, Washington Square and Old Town. And then you have to have partners who are really committed to the vision. Once you have that, you can move together, and that takes time. You have to educate people, talk about what this stuff means, what's behind the scenes and the complexity of it all. So we've got a plan, we've got partners, and then you need the most important ‘P:’ processes. I was in the legislature and I introduced a bill on the right to die. It took me 16 years to get that passed. We lost year after year. We just kept educating and coming back and getting more people around and it just is a matter of having a clear vision, having engaged partners and being persistent.

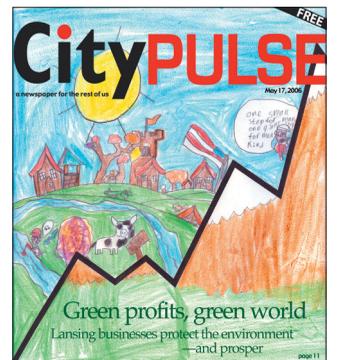
Rep. Sarah Anthony: I was taking notes about Mayor Hollister's “VP3.” You're going to hear it on the campaign trail.

Dedria Humphries Barker: Look what happened with the library system. So many cities don't have libraries that are really functioning, but some people came together and pulled together the Capitol Area District Library, and that made it possible for all the small communities to keep their libraries and for Lansing to be the hub of that. So these things are all possible. It's just as David Hollister said: vision, plan, partners and persistence. Just keep believing in it. You need all of those factors to come into play for Lansing because we do have some big projects that need to be done. It's a good place to live and it's exciting.

Climate change and social change

Lawrence Cosentino: How would you evaluate greater Lansing's overall record on stewardship of the environment and its response to the biggest cloud looming over everything these past 20 years, climate change?

Bob Trezise: I'm not sure you can even look at the issue as in Lansing. It's a completely global issue. I do not relish saying this, but part of the reason I'm so bullish on our future here is, that the south and California — people keep talking in terms of drought. No, it's evolving into a desert. That's what's happening. There's going to be a mass migration from the coast and the South. I'm really, really afraid. I don't relish saying that. And they're going to move to the Great Lakes area and further north, and I mean soon — 10, 20 years, maybe faster. So when you talk about planning — maybe we should be planning to double or triple our population size in a very short time span by people arriving here, migrating from the United States, because we have water in a relatively safe environment.



Bob Trezise predicts that Michigan will become a destination for people fleeing the coasts as global warming continues to disrupt lives.

David Hollister: When I was mayor, you couldn't eat a fish out of the Grand River, you couldn't get people to fish or recreate and get on their kayak, and now

CityPULSE Celebrates 20 Years

20 years in Lansing

from page 19

that's changed. It took a united community coming together but here it is, 30 years later, and the river is a major asset and canoeing down the river is an event you can celebrate and enjoy. So, it's bad on the national and international level, but this community is showing they're willing to pay the bill.

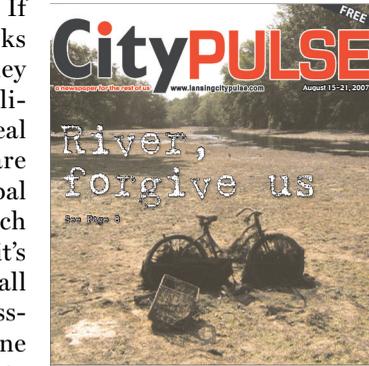
Rep. Sarah Anthony: The Board of Water and Light and Consumers Energy have taken a cue from the national and international movements to be greener and to be more sustainable partners. If you surveyed folks in our region, they would say that climate change is real and it doesn't care about our municipal boundaries or which state you're in — it's going to impact all of us. We are blessed to have someone like [Ingham County Drain Commissioner] Pat Lindemann, who is world renowned in terms of his environmental lens he uses when he is thinking about every new building. So I do think that Lansing in many ways is ahead of the curve, but we can be doing so much more. Every business incorporation, every house that is built, everything should be seen through a lens of sustainability.

Berl Schwartz: There are some big changes we saw in the last 20 years as far as social change goes. In the '90s, voters said "no" to gay rights. They said "no" to turning Grand Avenue into Cesar Chavez Avenue. Those things turned around in Lansing. What hasn't been turned around, that you think is accomplishable, in the next 20 years?

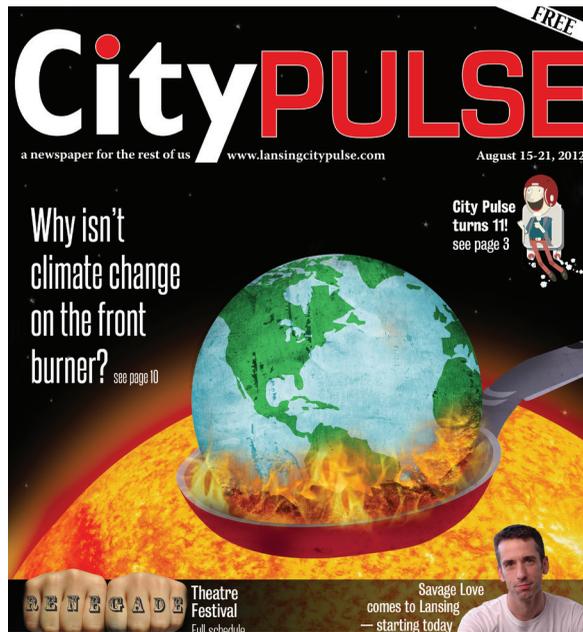
Dedria Humphries Barker: I think that public transportation can definitely be improved over the next 20 years. We saw CATA under Sandy Dragoo [who retired as CEO in 2018] apply for some really ambitious funds to improve the Michigan Avenue corridor. It didn't come to pass, but it would be great to see the new administration show some persistence there and improve public transportation up and down Michigan and, quite frankly, through the whole city.

Joan Nelson:

There's been a lot of discussion recently about the fact that Lansing has had a housing shortage for 20 years. And then the 2008 crash didn't help at all. We worry here about affordable housing, but we also worry about well-maintained affordable housing. Not only the east side, but the west side and parts of the south side have a lot of older housing stock, much of which has been on the rental market for a couple of decades or more and is in pretty dramatic need of improvements, and particularly improvements that have to do with the health and safety of the house. Also, we need more diversity of housing. I love the development going all up and down Michigan Avenue, but what I really think needs more attention are all of those single-family homes all over the east side. I'm encouraged by people who live in the neighborhood and begin to buy houses, fix them up, rent them, sell them. The [Ingham County] Land Bank



Efforts to make Michigan Avenue more mass-transit friendly were rebuffed.

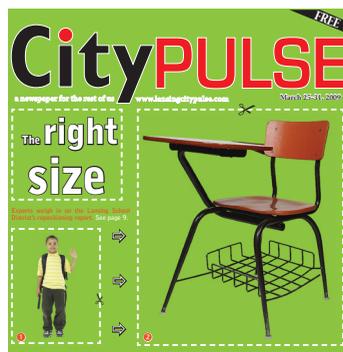


(Above and left) Two of the many covers City Pulse has published over 20 years on environmental issues.

recently began to try to develop a support group around those folks. They're talking about improving old housing stock and accommodating some of it to a more diverse population, including more duplexes and triplexes and quads. Housing is an area that is really ripe for creative improvement. We all need a place to live.

Dedria Humphries Barker: Dave Muylle's project — it's awesome. [Muylle has been rehabbing East Side homes for 30 years and recently finished Cottage Row, a cluster of tiny homes tucked into the neighborhood.] He got his inspiration from San Francisco, where they've been doing this for years, and now, I'm starting to show people from Detroit when they come up here: 'You need to come across the street here and look at this.' Those brightly colored houses — it makes you happy. Talk about having a long distance vision and the persistence to go forward with it. It's just so clear in Lansing that there are people who know how to do that, and it would be great to get them together and generate more energy around them.

Rep. Sarah Anthony: One of the things that, Lord, if we could shore up, it would be transformational, is closing our educational achievement gap. It is criminal, the fact that when you dis-aggregate our data in Ingham County and you point your finger at one part of Lansing versus Okemos or Haslett — it is criminal how unprepared we are in terms of educating our kids and preparing them for the next step in life. We are passing along generational poverty and setting entire generations up for failure if we don't actually begin to really get serious about closing those educational gaps. We have to get creative and it can't just be, 'Well, the Lansing School District will figure it out.' I don't care how much money we throw into economic development and the arts, we have to wrap our arms around closing these gaps in education. We have too many world-class institutions like LCC and MSU for us to see the numbers that we're seeing in our school



City Pulse has left spot education coverage to the daily paper but has occasionally looked at the big picture, as the two covers above demonstrate.

districts.

Chad Badgero: I started my career as an educator, supporting and listening to teachers and believing in them and their expertise and their education. I think we've come really far away from that. And I think that that is a step one — really listening to what teachers need in the classroom.

Secondly, with my arts hat on, I really believe and hope that in the next 20 years, Lansing will continue to invest in and support and partner more with the arts and culture sector and understand that that is an economic driver and a sense of place as far as people feeling that they want to come to a city, stay in a city.

Bob Trezise: Rep. Anthony is absolutely correct. The single indicator of a more prosperous future for all is educational attainment. Period. If you have a degree certification, let alone a four-year degree above high school graduation, you are going to make far more money through your life. That's indisputable. A secret weapon of ours might be diversity, equity and inclusion. If we can really make sure that we are an absolutely profoundly welcoming community, better than anybody else in the United States, we will have quite robust population growth, which is critical to make everything work, because that's actually the only way you can generate revenue to pay for all this stuff that we want.

So I think our future is very bullish. The unknowns are that being a capital city, there could be political violence here. I'm very worried about that over the next number of years. And with global warming, ironically, we could be overwhelmed with huge population migration, which is a different kind of danger for us. But we're Goldilocks. We're very, very affordable. We are a perfect balance in life. And if we're intentional about diversity, equity and inclusion, education and economic development, we're going to be an incredible community.

David Hollister: Jefferson said that the best cure for an ailing democracy is more democracy. So people must get involved and stay hopeful.

Final benediction

Berl Schwartz: That is an excellent note to end on. It was wonderful seeing all of you again and I want to just thank you all for all you do and have done for our community. I started at City Pulse with the hope that we would create a dialogue among people who really had not been talking to each other, and it's been great to see City Pulse succeed in that regard, and it's helpful when all of you may put aside whatever occasional disagreement you may have with us to come together at City Pulse's request. And I hope that continues for a good long time.

Bob Trezise: I want to say congratulations to the City Pulse on its 20th anniversary. What you've done for the arts and culture community is unbelievable. It's a thriving, robust part of our community and you guys are the showcase of that, every single week, and then your really hardcore investigative reporters who have written a lot of important material and been hard on all of us — correctly, so, at times — but you guys really get after it. And to have a local newspaper for 20 years — the sustainability of that business model is amazing, so congratulations to you.

Rep. Sarah Anthony: I think one thing that the City Pulse has done a good job at is lifting up the diverse voices, from the developers to the activists to the folks who are in and around the Capitol building, and folks who are doing neighborhood engagement work — bringing those voices to the forefront, sometimes in concert, sometimes in conflict. Having a space to amplify all of those different voices is really a powerful mechanism, because it's all a part of Lansing. That is the reason many of us who are from Lansing either left but came back or stayed here to invest — because that diversity of people and incomes and thoughts and just community has really created an environment that is sometimes messy, but it's always really beautiful. And so I think that that is really the legacy, not just of the paper, for the 20 years, but our community.

ARTS & CULTURE ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

CityPULSE Celebrates 20 Years of art!

A 20-year time capsule

A timeline of Lansing told through City Pulse's Arts & Entertainment section

By SKYLER ASHLEY

When we discussed this special 20th anniversary issue, I was given the difficult assignment of crafting an easily digestible retrospective of the major cultural developments in Lansing that have been covered by City Pulse. Obviously, it would be impossible to include absolutely everything, but I began to rack my mind for the things that really mattered.

As I began my research, flipping through the thousands of newspaper pages City Pulse has produced in the past two decades, I realized what a brilliant time capsule this publication truly is. I am only 26, the stories form a timeline and narrative that run parallel to my own memories of growing up here in Mid-Michigan.

I can flip to any of the weekly issues published in the past 20 years and figure out what exactly was happening in Greater Lansing at the time. Whether it's through the many features on local indie rock bands that seemed poised to one day take over the Billboard charts, or in-depth reports on developments that signaled major sea changes, such as the construction of the Broad Art Museum, the pages of City Pulse are a definitive modern chronology for the culture of Michigan's capital city.

2001-2006

City Pulse's basic weekly formula hasn't deviated much since its inception – if it isn't broke, why fix it? The debut issue of City Pulse pledged that Lansing's cultural world was going to be a major focus of its coverage. The first article ever published in the Arts & Entertainment section provided a crash course on the different venues, art galleries and music scenes that were operating within the city, declaring that "the Lansing arts scene is alive and well."

Coverage of local theater began with an introductory profile on Tom Helma, who continues to write critiques and rate productions for City Pulse to this day. Also making its first appearance was Out on the Town, City Pulse's



The Temple Club was the subject of many early City Pulse stories. It opened in 2001 and closed in 2006.

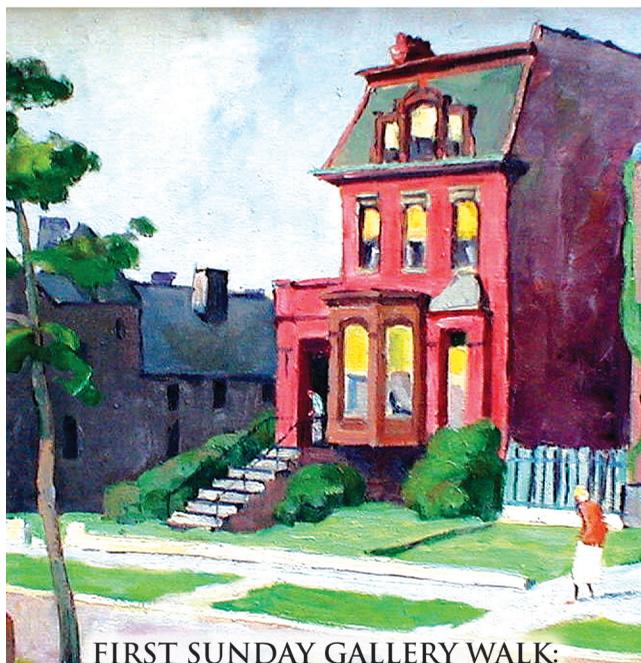
events calendar that has run weekly ever since. And just a few issues later, Lawrence Cosentino would write his first symphony review, marking the arrival of City Pulse's most acclaimed writer.

An early City Pulse cover story previewed the Temple Club in Old Town, which opened its doors in October 2001 and hosted concerts by groups such as Wu-Tang Clan and Clutch.

It was a cornerstone of the Lansing music scene, and articles about its concerts regularly popped up in City Pulse until its ultimate closure in 2006 due to financial troubles. The Temple Club is now a pleasant but increasingly distant memory. The old church, which has sat empty since the club closed, is being renovated into residences.

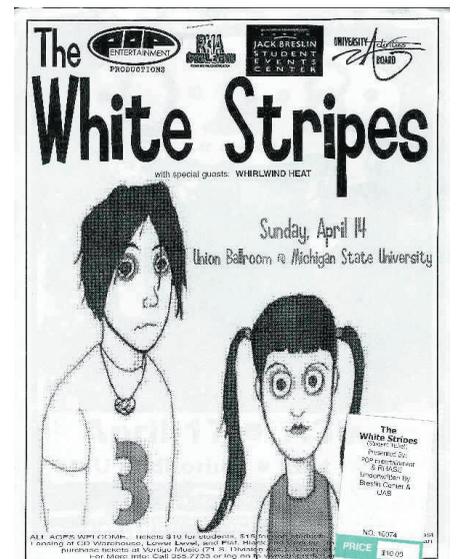
Another blast from the past is the October 2001 cover story that explored the local book shop scene. Prominently featured was an interior shot of the old Barnes & Noble on Grand River Avenue. East Lansing's two-story chapter of the retail giant closed its doors in 2011 and was likely the biggest book store to shutdown until Schuler Books left the Eastwood Towne Center in 2018.

Old City Pulse issues had a prominent monthly feature called the 1st Sunday Gallery Walk, which was a nifty guide that



FIRST SUNDAY GALLERY WALK:

Art from a cover of City Pulse in 2005 highlighting galleries around greater Lansing.



A flier for an early White Stripes gig in East Lansing.

painstakingly detailed every single gallery event you could come across in town. Thumbing through old editions of the 1st Sunday Gallery Walk and you'll see all sorts of art venues that came and went without warning, such as the Art Apartment in East Lansing, the subject of several early City Pulse stories that ultimately closed for good in December 2002.

A year into City Pulse's life, a dubious competitor arose. Not too long after celebrating its 1st anniversary, publisher Berl Schwartz warned readers of the advent of NOISE, a faux alt-weekly published by Gannett that was circulated in Lansing and Boise, Idaho. City Pulse ultimately came out on top of the rivalry: NOISE went quiet in 2011.

A particularly hilarious highlight from this era of City Pulse comes from Lawrence Cosentino, who lambasted the cheesy and obnoxious lounge music being blared downtown at the time. To this day, the music perforating the air of downtown Lansing receives flak. Although nowadays we suffer bland Top 40 hits that are often five years out of style, Cosentino was still ahead of the curve on tapping into what annoys the good people of Lansing.

This early-'00s period were also the golden era for concerts at the Michigan State University Ballroom, all of which are chronicled in the pages

CityPULSE Celebrates 20 Years of art!

Time capsule

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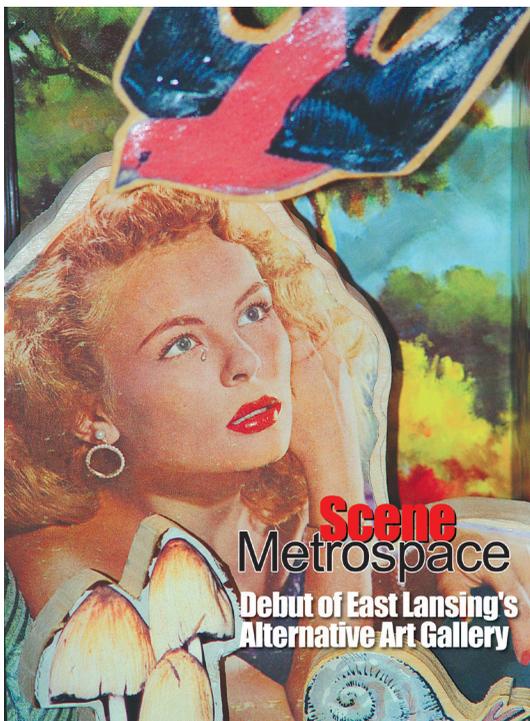
of City Pulse. Early Arts & Entertainment reporters were deftly plugged into the local music scene and didn't miss a beat on gigs that are now legendary. This includes the White Stripes, who performed at the MSU Union in 2002 before their meteoric rise in popularity. Other acts that swung through the Union at the time and were covered by City Pulse include Talib Kweli and Death Cab for Cutie. Small Brown Bike, a now nationally recognized and celebrated indie rock, also received a nod from City Pulse as it played its final gig in 2004.

Of note throughout the first five years of City Pulse was the birth of its extensive coverage of festivals. In-depth reports on the artists and performances of Lansing JazzFest, East Lansing Film Festival, East Lansing Art Festival and Old Town BluesFest are longstanding traditions — each have been profiled with great care on a yearly basis since City Pulse's inception. City Pulse also took notice of just about every prominent festival in town, keeping up with its original goal to make local arts a staple of the paper's coverage and not just an afterthought. If a festival wasn't included in "Out on the Town" or in the Arts & Entertainment section, it likely didn't even exist.

Making national headlines was the removal of "This Equals That," a stunning public art sculpture designed by Michael Heizer, from the west plaza of the State Capitol Building. City Pulse articles from 2002 speculated on the fate of the sculpture and whether it would return in some capacity.

Other early stories that still permeate Lansing's culture to this day include the construction of Ranney Skate Park, Timothy Muffitt's hire at the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, the opening of the Hannah Community Center, the debut of Scene Metrospace in East Lansing, the arrival of Michael Brand at the Wharton Center (who has announced his retirement this year) and a cover story that seemingly predicted the REO Town neighborhood's eventual return to prominence.

All of this goes without even mentioning the countless reviews of local theater productions. City Pulse likely covered all but a few plays that hit the stage in Greater Lansing. City Pulse also debuted its Pulsar Awards, which honor the best of the best in local theater annually.



The April 28, 2004, edition of City Pulse welcomed a new alternative gallery to town.

2007-2012

The Lansing art scene was dealt a profoundly shocking tragedy early on in 2007. Local legend Robert Busby, loved by many and known as the "Mayor of Old Town," was murdered by a tenant of one of his properties. A candlelight vigil in his honor was attended by several hundred. He was 60.

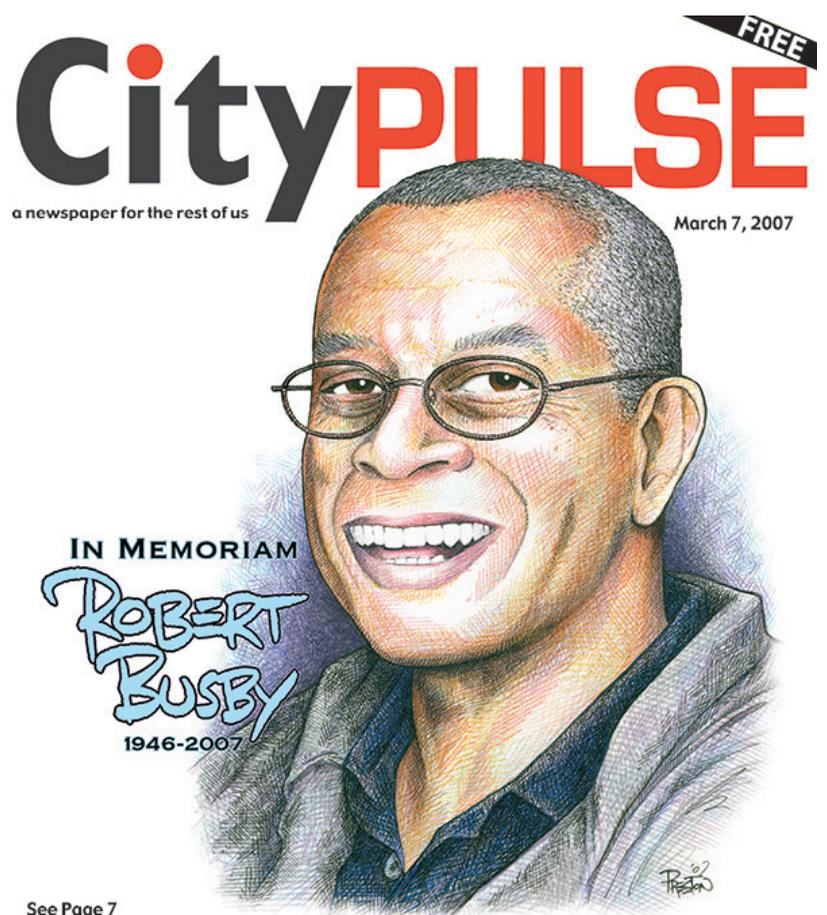
Common Ground Music Festival, at the time still a seven-day event, was in its heyday during this era of City Pulse. But a report by journalist Steve Miller that criticized the lack of transparency surrounding the city's funding of Common Ground seemed to sour relations between City Pulse and the concert's organizers. Back in the day, Common Ground was criticized for featuring dinosaur classic rock acts, and nowadays it's mocked for featuring too many contemporary rappers. You really can't win sometimes.

Dominating the pages of City Pulse's Arts & Entertainment section was news about an \$11 million expansion for the Wharton Center and talk of an amphitheater for Adado Riverfront Park coming out of City Hall. That amphitheater has yet to materialize. The old Lansing City Market was closed to make way for its giant metal pole barn replacement — a highly controversial issue that was debated endlessly. That old market is gone and the new one sits empty as it awaits its shuffleboard makeover. Did either side get what they want? Not likely.

The weekly feature Turn It Down debuted in 2009 and music writer Rich Tupica has since kept a close watch on the Lansing music scene. It quickly became the go-to field guide for local concerts and handy resource for discovering who's who on the local concert circuit. Tupica also used the feature to interview local artists and report on how independent Lansing music was growing and changing through the years.

The expansion of the Lansing Public Media Center allowed City Pulse to debut its "Newsmakers" program, a television show where Berl Schwartz would interview prominent local political figures like Virg Bernero. While that program has since ended, Schwartz conducted a similar series of interviews with Mayor Andy Schor and occasionally does video interviews on Lansingcitypulse.com

City Pulse launched the Top of the Town contest, where voters decide on their favorite people,



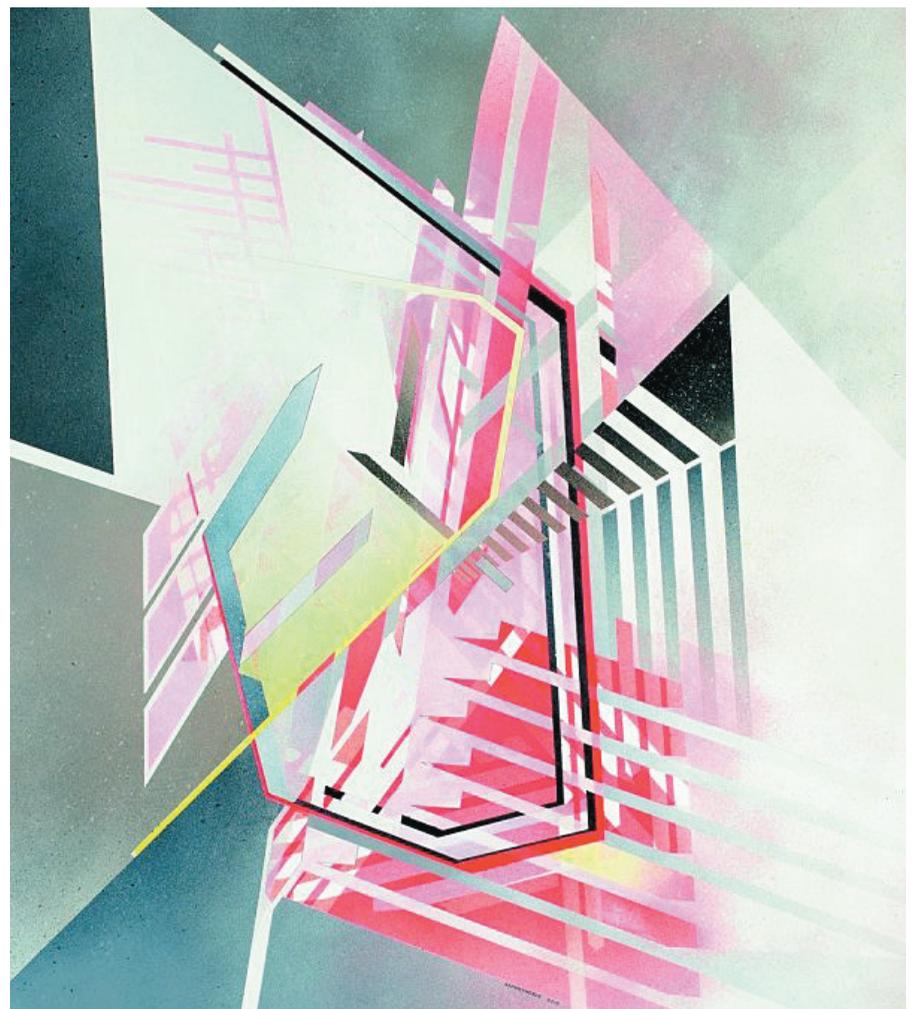
See Page 7

The March 7, 2007, issue was a tribute to Robert Busby, the beloved "Mayor of Old Town."

places and things across Lansing. It didn't take long for Top of the Town to become a hit, and it is still a prominent event for City Pulse several years later.

Lansing theater lost a highly prominent institution when BoarsHead shuttered in 2010. Financial problems and prominent personnel mix-ups proved too great for the company to endure. BoarsHead was

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"New Addition," by Kristin Cammermeyer was the cover art for an in-depth report on the Broad Art Museum by City Pulse.

CityPULSE Celebrates 20 Years of art!



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Nanibah Chacon's stunning Old Town mural.

Time capsule

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formed all the way back in 1966, and its productions were a common sight in the pages of City Pulse from the very beginning. Unfortunately, this touch of bad luck continued for Lansing theater fans. In late 2010, community theater was dealt another blow as the Lansing Civic Players – Lansing's oldest amateur theater group, formed in 1929 – canceled the remainder of its season, foreshadowing the numerous financial issues that would plague the troupe until it ultimately reached its current state of dormancy.

But the biggest story in Lansing culture was undoubtedly the advent of the MSU Broad Art Museum, and City Pulse covered it every step of the way. Readers were given reports surrounding the new museum, from stories on early rumors and mysteries all the way up to the announcement of Zaha Hadid as its architect and its eventual grand unveiling.

East Lansing initially seemed split on the Broad. Some criticized its design as being way too out of place for MSU's campus, while others praised it as a bold step that would attract global attention. Controversy continued to follow the museum as it seemed to walk back on its promise to feature pieces from the mammoth sized Kresge art collection. Reception of the museum has since warmed up and it has hosted several breathtaking exhibits, many of which earned City Pulse cover stories of their own. Its current director, Mónica Ramírez-Montagut, was profiled by Cosentino in 2020.

Other big stories in City Pulse through this period included the debut of the Capital City Film Festival, the opening of the Record Lounge, Gone Wired becoming the Avenue Café, the expansion of the Lansing Public Media

Center, the closing of Community Newscenter and Capital Books, local author Deborah Diesen becoming a New York Times best-selling author, the B414 concert venue shutting down and the scandal surrounding the rather dubious owner of Zeppelin's Music Hall.

2013-2018

With its ten-year anniversary in the rear-view mirror, City Pulse had accomplished a major milestone. It survived competition from Gannett in the form of its faux alt-weekly NOISE and became the definitive local guide for theater as play reviews began to evaporate from the Lansing State Journal.

Local legends Steppin' in It were the subject of a January 2014 cover story detailing the band's retirement with one last gig at the Green Door. Its members continue to have prominent music careers, with Joshua Davis becoming a popular singer/songwriter and Dominic Davis finding work as Jack White's go-to bassist.

"Kinky Boots" arrived at the Wharton Center, and several local figures donned the titular kinky boots. Even publisher Berl Schwartz gave 'em a try – with fabulous results, we might add. City Pulse also debuted the first Summer of Art, a partnership with

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ALLAN I. ROSS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER, CITY PULSE

JIM GEYER
METEOROLOGIST, WLNS

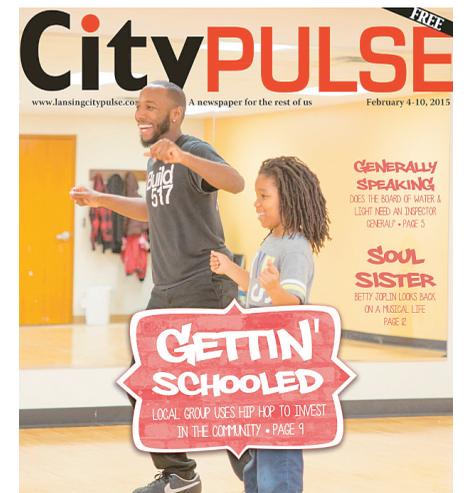
CHIVON KLOEPFER
MORNING NEWS ANCHOR, WLNS

BERL SCHWARTZ
PUBLISHER AND EDITOR, CITY PULSE

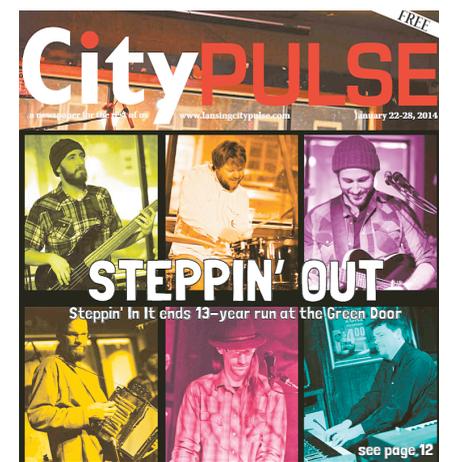
BOB HOFFMAN
PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER, WHARTON CENTER

TIM BARRON
RADIO HOST, TIMBARRONSRADIOMICHIGAN.COM

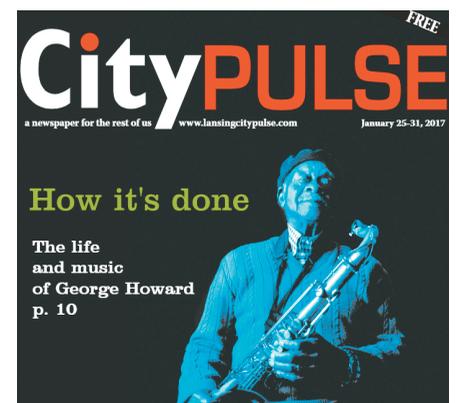
City Pulse got staffers and other local figures donned some flamboyant kicks in tandem with "Kinky Boots" debut at the Wharton Center.



The Feb. 4, 2015, issue covered the All of the Above Hip-Hop Academy, which still teaches kids life lessons through music.



Steppin' In It was a local favorite for several years. Its members have gone on to prominent music industry careers.



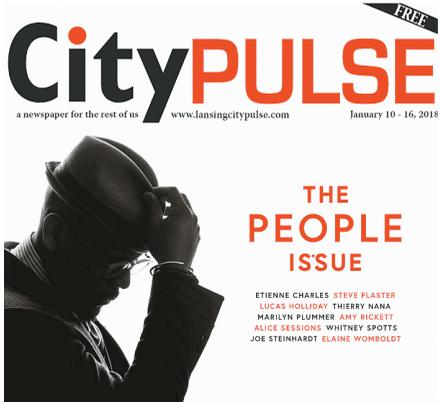
The story of George Howard is just another example of Lawrence Cosentino's arts writing.



City Pulse's Summer of Art: "Beautiful Lakes," by Emily Frushour. See page 14 for story.

A Summer of Art cover from 2019. The series featuring local artists is on hold due to the coronavirus.

CityPULSE Celebrates 20 Years of art!



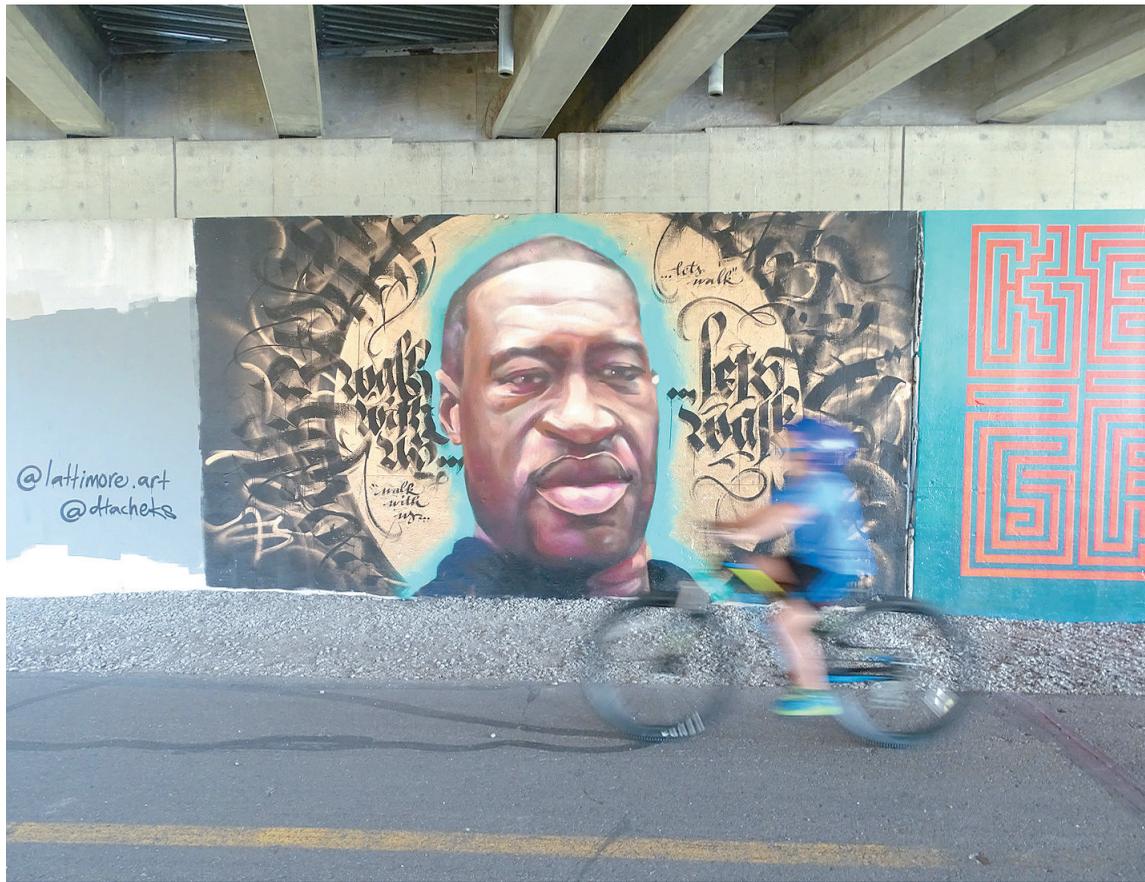
The annual People Issue features photography by Khalid Ibrahim.

Time capsule

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the Arts Council of Greater Lansing that called for local artists to submit work to potentially be featured on the cover. It became a yearly tradition until it was interrupted by the coronavirus pandemic in 2020. The People Issue also made its debut, giving readers the opportunity to learn about some of the unsung heroes of their community.

Casa de Rosado began hosting art exhibits that celebrated artists from minority backgrounds that were otherwise ignored by the mainstream. Its founder, Theresa Rosado, would eventually contribute photography to City Pulse, including a powerful photo-essay from the day white nationalist Richard Spencer came to MSU's campus. Terry Terry's UrbanBeat venue opened in Old Town, featuring acoustic singer-songwriters and jazz com-



Isaiiah Lattimore's portrait of George Floyd along the ArtPath is a new public art hallmark in Lansing.

Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

bos. Nanibah Chacon's mural near Sir Pizza was instantly iconic.

George Howard, a 92-year-old jazz artist who was the subject of a cover story after he recorded his first album. The story behind the album, titled "How It's Done," was a touching tale of determination that highlighted how brilliant of a writer Cosentino had blossomed into. Another popular cover story was on arts philanthropist

Selma Hollander when she was 94; she passed away seven years later, at 101. Cosentino also profiled the new MSU Museum director Mark Auslander, who later found himself in hot water after pulling the plug on the Great Lakes Folk Festival. Auslander would again become the subject of controversy and resigned in 2020 after being found guilty of research misconduct and plagiarism by the MSU Research Integrity Office.

New institutions to the local art scene included the Broad Art Lab, a satellite extension to the Broad Museum that hosts hands-on art demonstrations and exhibitions featuring works by local artists, as well as pieces taken from the monumental Kresge art collection. The Arts Council of Greater Lansing debuted ArtPath, which beautified the Lansing River Trail with a walkable outdoor exhibit of stunning works from Michigan-based artists. Ozay Moore and Dustin Hunt would also debut the Below the Stacks mural festival, which spawned the creation of some of Lansing's latest and greatest murals.

Present

The Lansing art world is still recovering from the devastation of the coronavirus pandemic. For more than a year there was no live, in-person music, there were no festivals and there were no art exhibits. Anything that survived and carried on, was only able to do so thanks to livestreaming technology. And for those who are immunocompromised and still must stay sheltered away from public gatherings, this is still the case.

If there is anything to take away from revisiting the world of Lansing's arts and culture scene of the last 20 years through the wide lens of City Pulse, is that there is a lot to love and even more to lose. While it's great to enjoy art vicariously through features, profiles and reports, it pales in comparison to going out there and experiencing it for yourself. At the risk of being grossly sentimental, I truly hope this look back gives you a sense of appreciation for your city. Or at the very least, a nice nostalgic grin across your face.



Theresa Rosado, founder of the art gallery Casa de Rosado, shared her photography with City Pulse for a cover story about Richard Spencer.



Lawrence Cosentino's profile of Selma Hollander was a cover story in 2011.

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Two decades as City Pulse's resident antiquarian

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Wow 20 years. It seems like it was yesterday Berl Schwartz asked if I would be interested in writing for Lansing City Pulse. I want to thank Berl for the opportunity to take my retirement in a totally different direction than I had planned. At first, I wrote about retail openings and closings, but I soon transitioned into writing exclusively about the book industry, new books and authors.

As I look back, it's been quite a ride. I have interviewed more than 800 authors of all stripes – ranging from Pulitzer, National Book Award and Edgar Award winners to self-published authors.

I also was able to sit in the catbird seat of the publishing industry as it underwent tremendous transformation from brick-and-mortar to Amazon, Kindle, mega bookstores and a digital universe. I was there for the heyday of author tours as Schuler, Barnes & Noble, Wayside Books and Everybody Reads attracted the name brands in the publishing industry.

It wasn't unusual to have Dave Eggers, Richard Ford, Jim Harrison, Louise Penny, Doug Stanton, Lee Child, Jeffrey Zaslow, Bonnie Jo Campbell, Tom Lynch, Steve Hamilton, Congressman John Lewis and scores of other best sellers visit Lansing for author readings and signings.

And for me they were only a phone call away as I interviewed them about their new books. As I look back, there were some remarkable events. I remember standing in line at 6 a.m. at Schuler Books in the Eastwood Towne Center for an appearance by Caroline Kennedy and standing alongside comedic writer David Sedaris for a three-hour book signing. I found out that often the audience was the story, as Sedaris chatted patiently with his fans. He was like an author confessor.

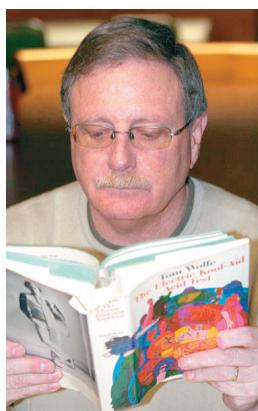
On the other hand, I watched Kennedy patiently listen to readers who wanted to talk about her father and brought mementos to give or show her. Despite signing hundreds of books, she looked sad and said something to me about how she'd rather be at a football tailgate.

Another blockbuster was interviewing Dave Eggers, "A Heart-Breaking Work of Staggering Genius," and Congressman John Lewis prior to his appearances for Michigan State University's One Community One Read Program. Eggers

was a student favorite; and Lewis, one of the last remaining civil rights movement icons, saw massive crowds for his appearances.

Lewis was one of my heroes, and when I told him I was a member of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in high school he warmed up in my interview with him. I took scads of photographs of him when he was in Lansing. He smiled for me in one shot. When he returned later for a community event sponsored by Gov. Jim Blanchard, he asked me if he could have a copy of the photo. He told me he wanted to put it in his office since his staff was always badgering him about not smiling.

During my time at the Pulse, Capitol Area District Library began a community read program and, along with the Library of Michigan's Night for Notables and the Michigan Humanities Council's Big Read program, began attracting top-notch writers like Kevin Boyle, "Arc of Justice"; Emily St. John Mandel, "Station 11"; Jesmyn Ward, "Salvage the Bones"; Julia Alvarez, "How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents"; Michael



Castanier

Moore, "Where's My Country"; and Gov. William Milliken in one of his last major public appearances.

It almost goes without saying the highlight of 20 years was that I was chosen to be the moderator for a discussion with MSU's Big Three: Thomas McGuane, Richard Ford and Jim Harrison. To prepare, I went back and reread all their books, prepared detailed questions and themes and had a stack of index cards with notes. I needn't have worried. Once the three of them began talking it was rock 'n' roll time.

I had reason to be worried. Hours before the event, Harrison said to me: "You know Tom and Richard haven't talked in a couple years?" WTF? On the way to the event, Jim called to ask if I would pick up a few shooters of vodka for him, which he proceeded to drink onstage in front of a packed Pasant Theatre at the Wharton Center. I still have one of those shooters and gave the other two to the University Archives at MSU and Grand Valley State University.

One event I remember clearly was when first-time mega mystery author

Steve Hamilton appeared on a panel with three other mystery writers. He was terrified. Now smooth as silk, he recently co-authored "The Bounty," with Janet Evanovich.

I'd been reading Detroit mystery author Elmore Leonard for a couple of decades before I got a chance to interview him. At a reading, on a whim I went out outside with him for one of his smokes and he and my book buddy Dan Barber had a jaunty conversation about his book "10 Rules of Writing." I'm sure they are still arguing about them in heaven.

Finally, I want to thank my handful of editors who over the years have tolerated my bad punctuation and without complaint (at least to me) edited my stories, which always exceeded the 800-word count.

It's also been a pleasure to watch local authors like Deb Diesen and Ruth McNally Barshaw flourish along with those authors who self-published incredible memoirs, like William Murphy, whose Vietnam memoir stands with the best.

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From Lansing to Lansterdam — how did we get here?

Marijuana industry charts decade of rapid growth in Michigan

Back when the first issue of City Pulse was published in 2001, pot smokers were still risking up to a year behind bars and fines of up to \$2,000 for possession of marijuana. The concept of ordering a pack of joints online for a home delivery was some George Jetson pipe dream.

Grow operations were mostly in basements. Orders were usually placed through a series of cryptic text messages that led to a quick parking lot meetup with a friend of a friend. I was still several years away from smoking my first bong. The words “corporate” and “cannabis” had rarely been strung together in the same sentence. This column would’ve been even more laughable.

Being paid to sample and review weed? Publicly confessing to smoking pot just about every day for the last decade while also holding down a professional journalism career? Yeah.



Skylar Ashley/City Pulse

Kyle Kaminski handing out joints near the State Capitol Building.

Right.

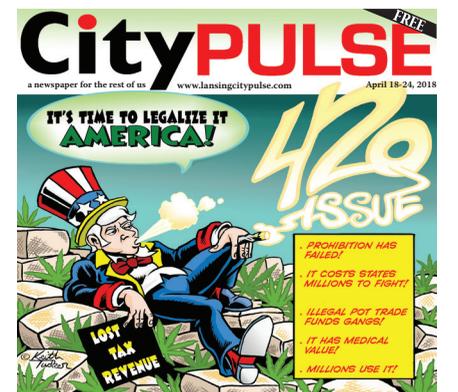
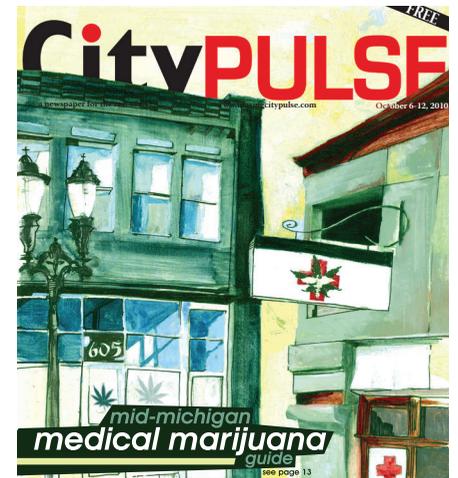
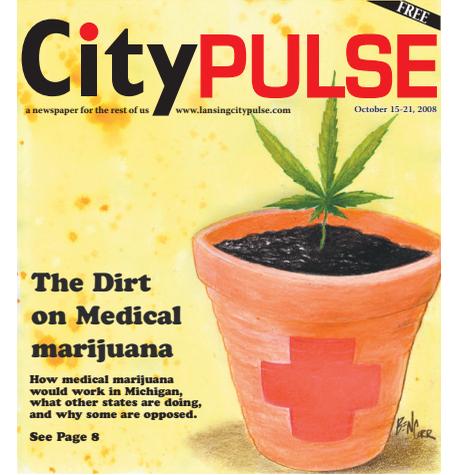
Fast forward to 2021 and the world has changed. There are now more than a dozen pot shops (and hundreds of cultivators and processors) in Lansing, each fully licensed by the state to replace your neighborhood dope dealer. You can pick from hundreds of flower strains, tinctures, gummies, ointments

and drink mixes. Even suppositories are on the shelves at a few stores.

I got paid to make weed popsicles last week. There’s a 420 festival scheduled downtown this weekend, complete with an on-site VIP smoking tent. Four new on-site consumption lounges and

See Lansterdam, Page 28

Lansterdam in Review:
20th Anniversary Edition
Marijuana covers through the years



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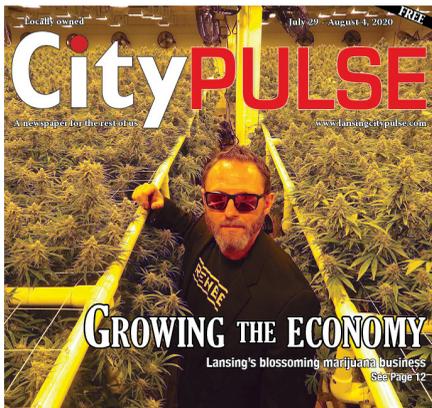


20th Anniversary Edition
Marijuana covers through
the years



CityPULSE

a newspaper for the rest of us www.lansingcitypulse.com October 3 - 9, 2018



Lansterdam

from page 26

micro-cultivation operations are also headed to Lansing. Some plan to open yet this year.

We're living in the middle of the cannabis revolution. But how exactly did we get here?

The commercial marijuana industry planted some of its first legal roots in Michigan after voters approved a 2008 ballot initiative to legalize possession of pot with a doctor's endorsement. Dozens of shops cropped up statewide, though without any state licensing structure in place.

City Pulse counted at least 62 open marijuana dispensaries in Lansing during what many referred to as the "Wild West" period under former Mayor Virg Bernero's administration.

Some residents — like Neogen founder James Herbert — had cried foul, calling the city "Lansterdam" at public comment and conjuring memories of pornography stores on Michigan Avenue where most of the shops operated. (Thanks for the catchy column

name, Jim.)

Gov. Rick Snyder signed bills in 2016 to create a regulatory structure for medical shops. It took Lansing until 2017 to come up with its own rules for how pot should be sold in the city. A contentious licensing process also delayed any local shops from legally opening for more than a year after that city ordinance was passed. By then, many longstanding businesses had closed.

While medical dispensaries were starting to get re-licensed, the recreational side of the market was also setting its sights on Lansing. Following the passage of Proposal One in 2018, anyone over the age of 21 was legally able to grow and smoke pot by December. City Pulse celebrated the occasion by sending out a team of reporters to give away a shoebox full of joints downtown.

The industry celebrated by building out hundreds of thousands of square feet of growing space.

The City Council took until late 2019 to finalize the rules for up to 28 recreational shops in the city. And last February, Homegrown Cannabis Co. became the first to open in Lansing. Thirteen more have since opened their doors; The other 14 stores have been

locally approved and must either open up before the end of the year with a state license or possibly forfeit their licenses.

Lansterdam in Review launched last year in tandem with City Pulse's summer cocktail guide. By April, Editor & Publisher had labeled City Pulse as among the state's "leading authorities" on "everything you need to know about cannabis." And you can count on me being there every step of the way as the industry continues its expansion in Greater Lansing and across Michigan.

Admittedly, we still have a way to go. Cannabis is still nonsensically listed on the federal Schedule 1 of controlled substances next to heroin and ecstasy based on the proposition that weed has "no currently accepted medical use and a high potential for abuse." Even with a new president and Congress controlled by Democrats, it seems an era of prohibition will continue.

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

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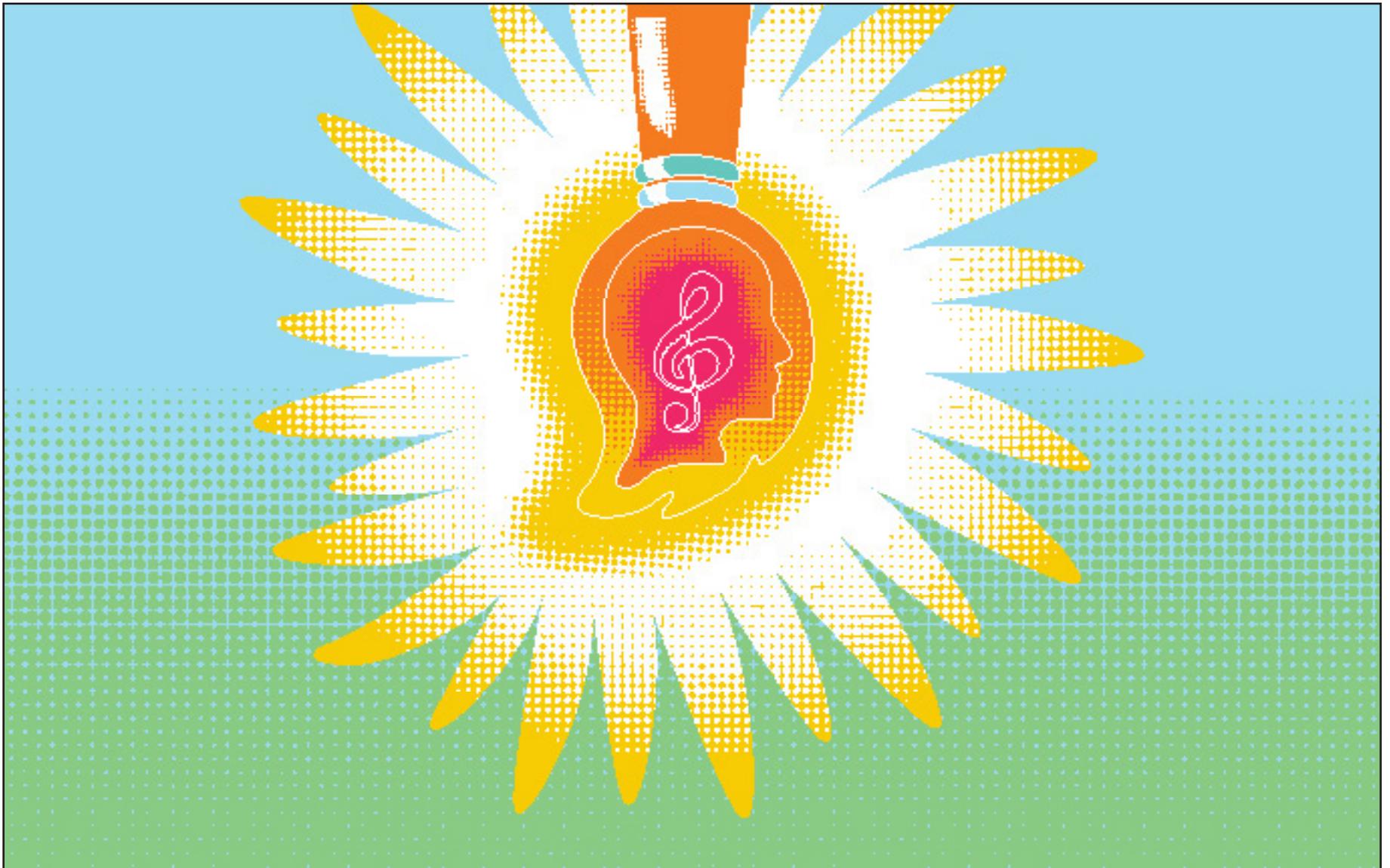



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Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"It's All There For You"--at least I think so..

by Matt Jones

Across

- 1 ___ weevil (plant pest)
- 5 Makes "turn" look like "tum," say
- 10 Amorphous lump
- 14 "Caprica" actor Morales
- 15 Get from the ASPCA
- 16 Uncontrolled fury
- 17 Former second lady who crusaded against obscenity in music lyrics
- 19 "Jane ___" (Bronte novel)
- 20 Mythical beast
- 21 Levi's competitor
- 22 Puzzler's precaution
- 24 B complex component
- 26 Best-selling Japanese manga series
- 28 ESPN tidbit
- 29 Gumshoes, for short
- 30 At no time
- 33 New album, e.g.
- 36 "Biggest Little City in the World"
- 37 Poker pot
- 40 Lisbon's river
- 41 Branch out
- 42 Roll call response
- 43 2-in-1 component, maybe
- 45 Comapny that sold the DieHard brand to Advance Auto Parts in 2019
- 47 Before, poetically
- 48 IRS paperwork
- 51 Lizard kept as a pet

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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17				18					19			
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55	56						57				58	
59					60	61	62			63		
64					65					66		
67					68					69		

- 53 Proposal rejection phrase
- 55 Defeated team's lament
- 57 "Pay you later" note
- 58 2021 Billie Eilish song titled for a legal document
- 59 ___ mater
- 60 They're low in the pantheon
- 64 Fly (through)
- 65 Oceanic ring
- 66 Ocho ___ (Jamaican seaport)
- 67 "Devil Inside" rock band
- 68 Some marching band members
- 69 Therefore (or the word hidden in the four theme answers)
- 3 Pet for a sitter?
- 4 Trash talk
- 5 Pejorative name The Guardian called 2020 "The Year of"
- 6 Sidle
- 7 "Winnie-the-Pooh" marsupial
- 8 "Ask Me Another" ainer
- 9 Take the wheel
- 10 Selfless concept to work toward
- 11 Takes a break on a journey
- 12 Fairy tale monster
- 13 Tap output
- 18 High-society group
- 23 Skedaddle
- 25 Job interview subjects
- 26 Falls on many honey-moon trips
- 27 Take for granted
- 29 The bird that gets the showy feathers
- 31 Grammy-winning rock producer Brian
- 32 Sudoku constraint
- 34 "M*A*S*H" ranks
- 35 Sixth sense, familiarly
- 37 They're like "Eureka" but shorter
- 38 Society column word
- 39 Handful while hiking
- 44 "Days ___ Lives"
- 46 Of concern, in "Among Us"
- 49 "Dance at Le Moulin de la Galette" painter
- 50 1993 De Niro title role
- 52 Book that'll show you the world
- 53 Caroler's repertoire
- 54 "Ted ___" (Apple TV series)
- 55 "Now then, where ___?"
- 56 Verve
- 57 Enchanted getaway
- 61 Greek vowel
- 62 "Red" or "White" follower
- 63 Aspiring M.A.'s hurdle

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Answers on page 32

SUDOKU

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

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 32

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

August 11-17, 2021

ARIES (March 21–April 19): "Consecrate" isn't a word you often encounter in intellectual circles. In my home country of America, many otherwise smart people spurn the possibility that we might want to make things sacred. And a lot of art aspires to do the opposite of consecration: strip the world of holiness and mock the urge to commune with sanctified experiences. But filmmaker Pier Paolo Pasolini (1922–1975) expressed a contradictory view. He wrote, "I am not interested in deconsecrating: that's a fashion I hate. I want to reconsecrate things as much as possible, I want to re-mythicize them." In accordance with astrological omens, Aries, I invite you to look for opportunities to do the same.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): Anais Nin wrote, "I don't want worship. I want understanding." George Orwell said, "Perhaps one did not want to be loved so much as to be understood." Poet Marina Tsvetaeva declared, "For as long as I can remember, I thought I wanted to be loved. Now I know: I don't need love, I need understanding." Here's what I'll add, Taurus: If you ask for understanding and seek it out, a wealth of it will be available to you in the coming weeks.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): The English idiom "playing hard to get" means "pretending to be unavailable or uninterested so as to make oneself more attractive or desirable." Psychologists say this strategy often works, although it's crucial not to go too far and make your pursuer lose interest. Seventeenth-century philosopher Baltasar Gracián expressed the concept more philosophically. He said, "Leave people hungry. Even with physical thirst, good taste's trick is to stimulate it, not quench it. What's good, if sparse, is twice as good. A surfeit of pleasure is dangerous, for it occasions disdain even towards what's undisputedly excellent. Hard-won happiness is twice as enjoyable." I suggest you consider deploying these strategies, Gemini.

CANCER (June 21–July 22): Painter John Singer Sargent (1856–1925) sometimes worked alongside painter Claude Monet (1840–1926) at Monet's home. He sought the older man's guidance. Before their first session, Sargent realized there was no black among the paint colors Monet gave him to work with. What? Monet didn't use black? Sargent was shocked. He couldn't imagine painting without it. And yet, he did fine without it. In fact, the apparent limitation compelled him to be creative in ways he hadn't previously imagined. What would be your metaphorical equivalent, Cancerian: a limitation that inspires?

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22): According to Leo author Guy de Maupassant, "We are in the habit of using our eyes only with the memory of what people before us have thought about the things we are looking at." That's too bad. It causes us to miss a lot of life's richness. In fact, said de Maupassant, "There is an element of the unexplored in everything. The smallest thing contains a little of what is unknown." Your assignment in the next two weeks, Leo, is to take his thoughts to heart. In every experience, engage "with enough attention to find an aspect of it that no one has ever seen or spoken of." You are in a phase when you could discover and enjoy record-breaking levels of novelty.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): Poet Brigit Pegeen Kelly wrote a poem I want you to know about. She described how, when she was a child, she stayed up all night picking peaches from her father's orchard by starlight. For hours, she climbed up and down the ladder. Her hands "twisted fruit" as if she "were entering a thousand doors." When the stars faded and morning arrived, her insides felt like "the stillness a bell possesses just after it has been rung." That's the kind of experience I wish for you in the coming days, Virgo. I know it can't be exactly the same. Can you imagine what the nearest equivalent might be? Make it happen!

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): Ancient Greek philosopher Plato mistrusted laughter, poetry, bright colors, and artists who used bright colors.

All those soulful activities influenced people to be emotional, Plato thought, and therefore represented a threat to rational, orderly society. Wow! I'm glad I don't live in a culture descended from Plato! Oh, wait, I do. His writing is foundational to Western thought. One modern philosopher declared, "The European philosophical tradition consists of a series of footnotes to Plato." Anyway, I'm counseling you to rebel against Plato in the coming weeks. You especially need experiences that awaken and please and highlight your feelings. Contrary to Plato's fears, doing this will boost your intelligence and enhance your decision-making powers.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): A biography of Nobel Prize-winning Scorpio author Albert Camus noted that he had two modes. They are summed up in the French words *solidaire* ("unity") and *solitaire* ("solitary"). When Camus was in a "solidaire" phase, he immersed himself in convivial engagement, enjoying the pleasures of socializing. But when he decided it was time to work hard on writing his books, he retreated into a monastic routine to marshal intense creativity. According to my astrological analysis, you Scorpios are currently in the *solidaire* phase of your rhythm. Enjoy it to the max! When might the next *solitaire* phase come? October could be such a time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): During the 76 years since the end of World War II, Italy has had 69 different governments. That's a great deal of turnover! Is it a strength or weakness to have so many changes in leadership? On the one hand, such flexibility could be an asset; it might be wise to keep reinventing the power structure as circumstances shift. On the other hand, having so little continuity and stability may undermine confidence and generate stressful uncertainty. I bring this to your attention, Sagittarius, because you're entering a phase when you could be as changeable as Italy. Is that what you want? Would it serve you or undermine you? Make a conscious choice.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): Capricorn actor Nicholas Browne testifies, "My heart is too full; it overflows onto everything I see. I am drowning in my own heart. I've plunged into the deepness of emotion, and I don't see any way back up. Still, I pray no one comes to save me." I'm guessing that his profound capacity to feel and express emotions serves Browne well in his craft. While I don't recommend such a deep immersion for you 24/7/365, I suspect you'll be wise to embark on such an excursion during the next three weeks. Have fun diving! How deep can you go?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18): In accordance with current astrological omens, I'm calling on author Byron Katie to offer you a message. Is it infused with tough love or sweet encouragement? Both! Here's Katie: "When you realize that suffering and discomfort are the call to inquiry, you may actually begin to look forward to uncomfortable feelings. You may even experience them as friends coming to show you what you have not yet investigated thoroughly enough." Get ready to dive deeper than you've dared to go before, Aquarius. I guarantee you it will ultimately become fun and educational.

PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20): In August 1922, author Nikos Kazantzakis wrote this triumphant declaration: "All day today I've had the most gentle, quivering joy, because I'm beginning to heal. Consciously, happily, I feel that I am being born anew, that I am beginning once again to take possession of the light." On behalf of the cosmic powers-that-be, I authorize you to use these words as your own in the coming weeks. They capture transformations that are in the works for you. By speaking Kazantzakis's declarations aloud several times every day, you will ensure that his experience will be yours, too.

TURN IT DOWN!

Loud dispatches from Lansing's music scene

BY RICH TUPICA

20 YEARS OF LOUD MUSIC: A LOOK BACK AT THE MUSIC HOT SPOTS



The BLAT! Pack was started in 2008 by college students in the Lansing area seeking an alternative outlet to collaborate. Back: James Gardin, Left to right: Chris Orrick, Jasmine Hamilton-Wray and Jahshua Smith. (photo by Wayne Weigel)



The Goddamn Gallows went from a local psychobilly band to a national act with a cult following. (courtesy photo)



The Plurals are a long-lasting indie rock outfit that also operated GTG Records, a local imprint with a long discography (photo by Nicole Rico)

From the Small Planet to Mac's Bar, Lansing has always had its go-to venues

The start of City Pulse came just after the end of an era in the Lansing music scene — the Small Planet days. Located on M.A.C. in downtown East Lansing, the Small Planet was the hub for local and touring bands from 1991 through its closure in 2000.

From the Verve Pipe to Wally Pleasant, gigging at the Small Planet was a rite of passage for local acts.

"I'd play everything from the Small Planet to the East Lansing Art Festival," Pleasant said in a 2016 City Pulse interview. "Prior to 1992, I played at Castellani's Market, Hobie's on Trowbridge, Warehouse Records, Erickson Kiva and the MSU Union. I also hosted an open-mic night at The Riv. My weekly shows at Cuppa Java usually drew between 30 and 60 people," he added. "Many times, they were high school kids who weren't old enough to get into other venues."

All of those concert spots are fondly remembered by the '90s generation, but as Y2k hit, those steadily fell off the map. While it had been around for many years, Mac's Bar doubled down on its rock and hip-hop shows, hosting dozens of legendary indie acts, and even some mainstream ones, too.

Ask any east sider who frequented Mac's over the past couple of decades and they can no doubt rattle off countless legendary shows. In 2007, Blue Cheer performed at the CBGB-like watering hole. Small cult acts, like Captured By Robots (a one-man band with a group

of programmed robots backing him) also made Mac's a frequent stop on his tour schedule. Over the years, notable local groups like Frontier Ruckus, Goddamned Gallows, The Plurals, Wastelander, Tyrant, Fun Ender, the Cartridge Family, Know Lyfe, Peoples Temple and the Hard Lessons (to only name a few) all cut their teeth on the Mac's Bar stage. Of course, Michigan-punk legends like the Meatmen and Easy Action also tore the roof off on more than one occasion. Alongside the loud guitars were Mac's Monday Comedy Night and Neon Tuesday — a long-time EDM night that often packed the room with area DJs.

Hip-hop was also a staple, including many Mic-Club events, hosted by Sincere. In June 2012, the Lansing hip-hop scene suffered a tragic loss when rapper and promoter Cameron Doyle, a.k.a. Big Perm, passed away at Sparrow Hospital after a stroke. The local scene soldiered on. A monthly hip-hop showcase called Respiration became a fixture for rap fans across Mid-Michigan. Meanwhile, a new batch of lyricists popped up when emcees like James Gardin, Jashua Smith and Jasmine Hamilton-Wray formed the BLAT! Pack collective. The results? A stack of acclaimed albums and countless packed venues.

Over 20 years, just down Michigan Avenue from Mac's, The Green Door continued hosting the best blues and roots music around, including performances from Twyla Birdsong, Root Doctor and

the weekly spot held by Steppin' In It — this was, of course, before singer/guitarist Joshua Davis went on to "The Voice" fame and bassist Dominic John Davis went on to join Jack White's band and tour the world. Beyond that, Jen Sygit's open mic at Dagwood's offered an intimate space to hear locally sourced Americana. The Pump House and, of course, the Ten Pound Fiddle concert series in East Lansing also steadily booked first-class Americana acts, while "Jazz Tuesdays" at Moriarty's Pub was the spot to hear local jazz on Michigan Avenue.

Over the last 20 years, other venues popped up, as well. In February 2010, The Loft offered a space for not only local acts from all genres, but also a 400-person room for mid-size acts like Danny Brown, Esham and The Used, to only name a few. "It's not a restaurant or a sports bar," said manager Jerome White just after it opened. "There is no confusing what this room is — it's a room for live entertainment." Recently, The Loft closed its doors — but its laundry list of unforgettable gigs will forever be cemented in the local scene.

Then, in 2012, another Michigan Avenue hotspot appeared when Gone Wired Café rebranded as The Avenue Café. From there, the coffee spot utilized a stage and PA system and local bands soon filled its always-busy gig calendar. In fact, The Avenue just posted some upcoming shows, so be sure to check out what's on the roster. The experimen-

tal music crowd spent countless hours at Basement 414 (aka B414), where not only area noise makers filled the massive art space behind The Loft, but also big names like Andrew WK and Dead Prez headlined unforgettable evenings at the unconventional hideout. It closed in May 2012.

As for much of the stuff mentioned above, it's in Lansing's past. Luckily, City Pulse was around to cover and document much of it. This column you're reading right now, Turn it Down!, launched in 2009 and was named in reference to the loud, thriving music scene that's long been a part of our city's history. This weekly page in the paper is a simple document of what's happening now and what's happening next in Lansing, but also, it was meant to leave a trail of breadcrumbs detailing what happened in the past. Along with the Pulse, reporter Anne Erickson, at the now-defunct paper Lansing NOISE, also helped to report on the scene during the last decade — right up to its last printed issue in 2011.

But this short rundown of the last two decades shouldn't be all about nostalgia. There are plenty of fledging bands on the horizon. From Smog Moon Recordings to GTG Records, there are still plenty of records being cut right here in Lansing and hardworking bands performing shows to support those records — you just have to keep your eyes and ears open as you drive down Michigan Avenue.

OUT on the TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

Events must be entered through the calendar at 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.



Phil Denny's Summer Smooth Jazz Essential

Saturday, Aug. 14, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

725 Prudden St., Lansing

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

Maestro Phil Denny's annual celebration of all things smooth jazz is returning once again for summer 2021. This soothing live concert features Demetrius Nabors, Marquel Jordan and, of course, Denny himself. The concert will feature tons of outdoor space for people to sprawl out on, so bringing along a comfy and portable chair is recommended. There will also be soft grass, so taking your favorite picnic blanket with you to sit on is also an option.

This year's smooth jazz celebration will also have three food trucks at the concert site, so attendees will be able to get their hands on all the ice cream, popcorn, beer, wine and soda that their heart's desire. Now that's the way to enjoy smooth jazz! After the concert, starting at about 9 p.m., there will be a follow up party at Cask and Co., which is located at 3415 E. Saginaw St. Those that are not fully vaccinated have been asked to please wear a facemask.

Wednesday, August 11

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

Alluring Nature 2021 Art Show: En Plein Air Exhibition - Through Aug. 27. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framers' Edge and Gallery, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

ArtPath 2021 - through August 31. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 119 N Washington Sq, Ste 101, Lansing. 517-374-6400. lansingartgallery.org.

Dog Days of Summer - Dogs can join fans at Jackson Field! 4:05 p.m. Cooley Law School Stadium, 505 E Michigan Ave, Lansing.

GLADL's LEGO Building Challenge Returns! - August 11 - 29. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand Ledge. gladl.org

Heroes of the Bible VBS - For kids ages Pre-K - 5th grade. 6:30-8 p.m. Mason Assembly of God, 425 E South St, Mason. business.masonchamber.org.

St Johns Concert in the Park Series - featuring Rachel Curtis. 7-9 p.m. William E Tennant Performance Shell, 801 W Park St. 989-224-2429. clintoncountyarts.org.

Threads of Wisdom: Join us in-person or Zoom for a discussion. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Weavers of the Web, ATC, 809 Center St., #7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. weaversoftheweb.org.

Wednesday Night Steak at Reo Town Pub - 5:30-8 p.m. Reo Town Pub, 1145 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517-285-7726.

Wednesday Workdays at CCBS - 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Capital City Bird Sanctuary, 6001 Delta River Dr., Lansing.

Thursday, August 12

August Pagans Night Out - 7-9 p.m. One North Kitchen & Bar, 5001 W. Saginaw, Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

Coffee with Chief Kim Johnson - East Lansing Police Department's community outreach. 9:30-10:30 a.m. Foster Coffee Co., 196 Albert Ave, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Bath Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. James Couzens Memorial Park, 13753 Main St, Bath. shopbfm.org.

Cristo Rey Church - Food Booth fundraiser - 3-7 p.m. South Lansing Farmers Market, 800 W. Barnes Ave.

Dimondale Farmers' Market - 3-7 p.m. 136 N Bridge St, Dimondale. 517-230-0520. villageofdimondale.org.

The Mayor's Annual Senior Activities Fair - Gardner Middle School, 333 Dahlia, fellowship and fun, educational, interactive fair. 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Moonlight Film Festival - 9 p.m.-12 a.m. Valley Court Park, 280 Valley Court, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

REACH Virtual Meet-up: Arts Incubator for Young People - 4-5 p.m. For Zoom link: reachstudioart.org.

Sara/Eli at Reach - 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave., Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

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

Studio (in)Process: Upcycle Edition - Funky Junk Journals! 8-9 p.m. MSU Broad Art Lab, 565 E Grand River Ave, East Lansing. 517-884-4800.

Weekly Hiring Fair - for residential technicians. 12-4 p.m. CMHA-CEI Main lobby, 812 E. Jolly Rd, Lansing

Friday, August 13

2021 Movies in the Park - Shows begin at dark. 315 W Knight St, Eaton Rapids.

420 Cannabis Music Festival - 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Adado Riverfront Park, 201 E. Shiawassee, Lansing.

Arts Night Out - 5-8 p.m. Absolute Gallery, 307 E Grand River Ave, Lansing. 517-482-8845. absolutegallery.net.

Forensics - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Inked Up! - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Science of Toys! - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Sharpie T-Shirts - 2-3 p.m. Eaton Rapids Teen Space, 501 Union St., Eaton Rapids.

Shop Hop: Old Town Lansing - Come explore all that Old Town has to offer. 1232 Turner St, Lansing,

St. Johns Mint Festival - Fun-filled weekend! 2-8 p.m. 109 E. State St., St. Johns. clintoncountyarts.org.

St. Johns Brown Bag Concert Series - featuring 'Clique Vocals' 12-1 p.m. St Johns Rotary Park Pavilion, 107 E. Railroad St., St Johns. 989-224-2429. clintoncountyarts.org.

Summer Concert Series - 7 p.m. Ann Street Plaza, Albert & M.A.C., East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Summer Take-Home Crafts - kits

THE PULSIFIEDS

BACKPAGE CLASSIFIEDS

Leslie Area Wide Yard Sales & Huge Library Book Sale - 40+ yard sales. Dates/addresses online at cityofleslie.org on Aug. 10. Most Sales Aug. 13-14. Book Sale Wed. Aug. 11 - Fri. Aug. 13, 1-6 p.m. in Woodworth Cafeteria.

Annual Rummage Sale
Lansing First United Methodist Church
3827 Delta River Dr. corner of N. Waverly
Saturday, August 21, 2021 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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Deadline for classifieds is 5 p.m. Monday for the upcoming Wednesday's issue. You can also submit your classified ad to Suzi Smith at 517-999-6704 or at suzi@lansingcitypulse.com.

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Events

from page 31

available at checkout 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Grand Ledge ea District Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand Ledge. gladl.org

TGIF Weekly Friday Dance - Everyone welcome. 7 p.m.-midnight. Hawk Hollow Golf Banquet Center, 15101 Chandler Rd., Bath. 734-604-5095. tgifdance.com.

YouTube Star! - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Saturday, August 14

420 Cannabis Music Festival - 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Adado Riverfront Park, 201 E. Shiawassee, Lansing.

4th Annual Phil Denny's Armory Smooth Jazz Fete - 1-3 p.m. The Armory, 330 Marshall St., Lansing.

Capital Pro Wrestling - 3-7 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing.

Ingham County Marijuana Expungement Clinic - hosted by Pure Options and Legal Services of South Central Mich. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. SOS Offices, 740 W. May St., Lansing. PureOptions.com.

St. Johns Mint Festival - 10 a.m. -7 p.m. 109 E. State St., St. Johns. clintoncounty-chamber.org.

Summer Block Bash - Craft and Vendor Show!! 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Howe Memorial Park, 100 Howe St., Eaton Rapids.

Summer Smooth Jazz Essential - 5-9 p.m. Motor Wheel District (east parking lot), 725 Prudden St., Lansing.

Sunday, August 15

East Lansing Farmers Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Valley Court Park, 280 Valley Court, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com

The Extra Inning at Capital City Market - 1 p.m. Capital City Market, 600 E. Michigan Ave., Suite 100, Lansing.

St. Johns Mint Festival - Fun-filled weekend! 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. 109 E. State St., St. Johns. clintoncounty-chamber.org.

ART BY NEVIN

As Seen On the Cover of CityPulse

Illustrations • Murals • Graphic Design
Signs • Banners • T-Shirts • Logos

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517-703-4655

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Monday, August 16

Comedy Night - 9-11:30 p.m. Crunchy's, 254 W Grand River Ave, East Lansing. 517-351-2506. crunchyseastlansing.com.

Grand Concert Series: 6:30 p.m. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Dr, Lansing. 517-483-7460. kathleenmurray.net

Meaningful Mondays - 8-9 p.m. Self Realization Centre, 7187 Drumheller Rd., Bath.

Movie Magic - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Pinball & Arcade - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Science of Star Wars - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Superhero Science - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Tuesday, August 17

2021 Lansing Open - 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Eagle Eye Golf Course, 15500 Chandler Road, Bath.

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

In-Person Picnic Playdate: for kids of all ages. 11-11:30 a.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson. gladl.org

Play in the Park - 7 p.m. Patriarche Park, 960 Alton Rd., East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

SUDOKU SOLUTION
From Pg. 29

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 29

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FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

There's hope for the future of great food in Lansing

Tracking the culinary scene in the pages of City Pulse

By **SKYLER ASHLEY**

The pages of City Pulse have always been friendly toward our local culinary scene and a great way to stay on top of which eateries are serving the best food in Lansing. Although the pandemic was an awful time for the restaurant industry nationally – the closures were intense and numerous – going through the history of City Pulse reveals that food options in Lansing have undoubtedly improved greatly over the years.

Early on, Allan Ross's restaurant guide informed readers of all the places that were worthy of checking out, whether that was Altu's Ethiopian Cuisine, Aladdin's or the original East Lansing Troppo location. While these restaurants held on through the two decades of City Pulse, some other restaurants that were explored in other early articles were not so fortunate. Krispy Kreme in the Eastwood Towne Center received a lot of early attention, and a handful of City Pulse promotions gave their doughnuts away as a reward. It debuted in the summer of 2003 and was boarded up by 2009. Now it's only mentioned as an eye sore, a peculiarly rough looking monument juxtaposed with an otherwise apparently upscale shopping center.

City Pulse has also always been a close tracker of local farmers markets. While more and more cropped up, the paper expanded its coverage. Early issues suggested heavily that readers think locally when it came to sourcing the food on their plate. Farmers markets are a frequent cover story subject and often included a thorough pullout guide that listed where to find them in Greater Lansing. And City Pulse's Food Finder, which was published weekly in the listings section of each issue, provided a painstakingly in-depth guide to just about everywhere in town where you could get served a meal.

The pages of City Pulse were also



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

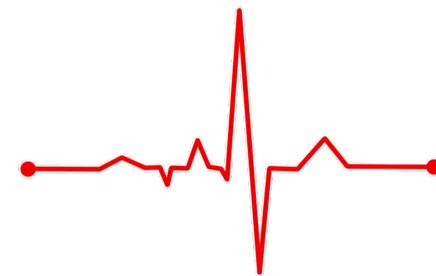
Muralist Brian Whitfield paints a bold tribute to Emil's Restaurant on Michigan Avenue.

a place where the great restaurants of the past could be memorialized. Emil's, one of Lansing's oldest and most celebrated restaurants, went through a period of decline and then closed for good in 2015. Clara's Lansing Station, a landmark spot for many, similarly went on its way out in 2016. Just a few years later, Roma Bakery would also shut down. And that's not to discount the pandemic, which took down stalwarts like Espresso Royale. When City Pulse went to gather reactions from the locals that truly loved these places, it revealed just how powerful of a connection a great restaurant can have with its customers.

Despite the disappearance of some serious legends, local food really turned the corner in the past decade or so and gave Lansing a stronger reputation as a place where diners can get serious gourmet food. A 2012 cover story pushed for restaurateurs to get creative and focus on quality instead of stuffing people in the door. In many ways, that call has been answered. Mark Nixon, a longtime contributor to City Pulse and one half

of the He Ate/She Ate critic team, wrote that he believed Lansing's food scene has improved drastically.

Places like Soup Spoon Café, which was recognized as a culinary leader in that cover story, really came into their own and began to be widely recognized across town. The Potent Potables Project gave way to other popular and well-reviewed spots like The Cosmos, Zoobies, Punk Taco and The Creole. We also received People's Kitchen, Bowdie's Chophouse, Ruckus Ramen and EnVie, and excellent barbecue restaurants like MEAT, Saddleback and The Smoke N' Pig. Pizza has gotten much better as well – DeLuca's no longer must do the heavy lifting thanks to places like Detroit Frankie's and Art's Pub. While there's nothing wrong with the classics, we should be excited to see if new restaurants continue this trend.



Appetizers

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PURE PICKS OF THE WEEK

OG Deluxe /Indica/
Effect: Relaxing, Euphoric, Calming

Coming from The Ethos Collective and intended to produce a more dynamic and potent version of the OGKB strain. The aroma is earthy and woody with some mild floral notes. Extensive lineage, including strains OGKB, Triangle Kush, and Josh D OG.

24-25% THC	\$25	NET WT.	SAVE \$10
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Effect: Sedating, Analgesic

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