

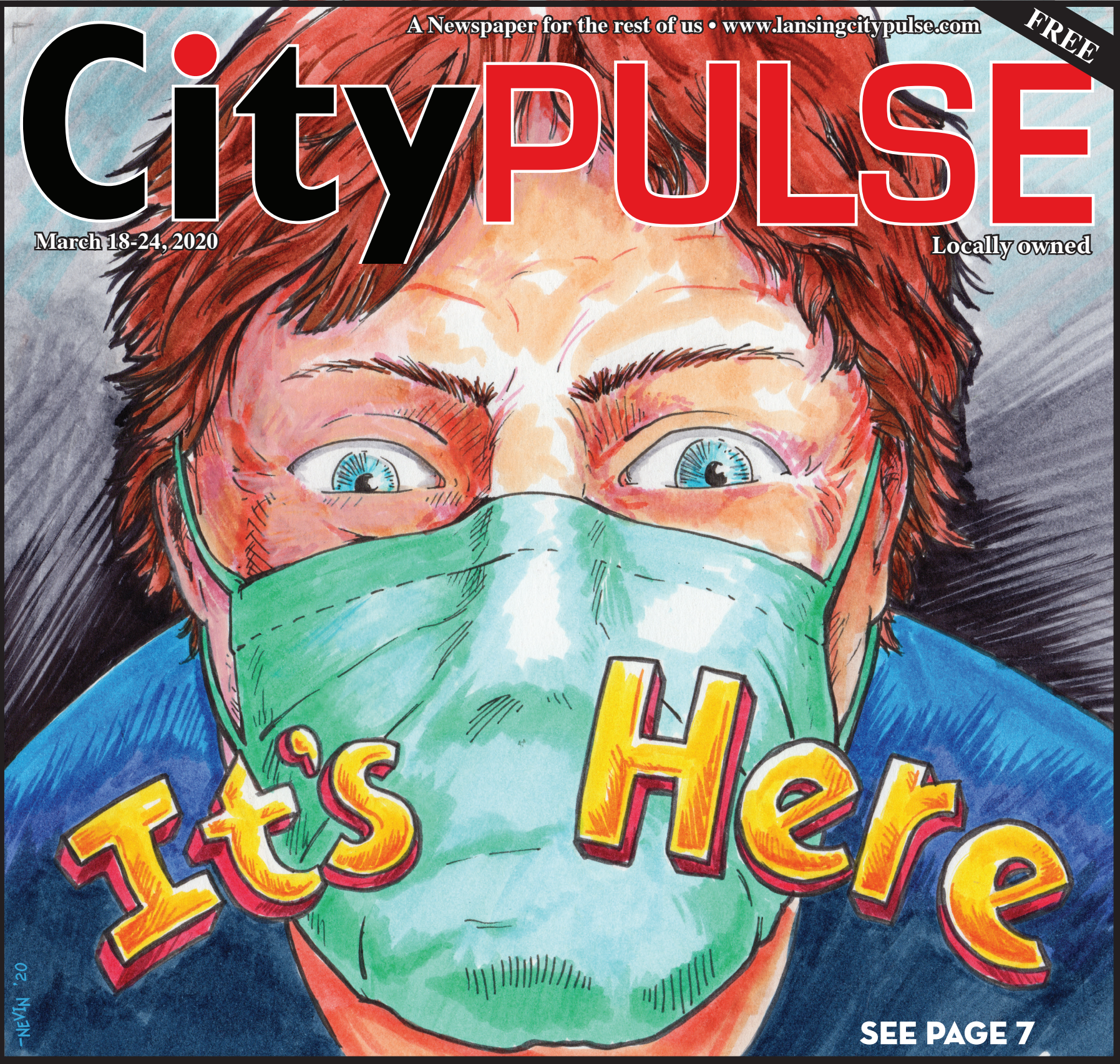
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CityPULSE

March 18-24, 2020

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NEVIN '20

SEE PAGE 7

Your legal rights don't have banking hours. Neither should your lawyer.



Andrew Abood

A BOOD

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Coronavirus (COVID-19)



A new type of coronavirus has been making people sick. This new (novel) type causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). For some people, COVID-19 is a mild illness. For others, it is a severe illness. There are things you can do to help stop the spread and keep yourself and the community healthy.

STOP THE STIGMA
Stigma can hurt efforts to stop COVID-19. No race or ethnicity is more susceptible. Traveling to a high-risk area or making contact with someone sick with the virus can put anyone at risk.

Preventing COVID-19



Wash hands.

Wash hands well and often. Hand sanitizer can help if soap and water aren't available.



Stay home if sick.

Stay home from work or school if you're sick. Avoid going out other than to get care.



Clean surfaces.

Disinfect commonly touched surfaces often with regular household cleaners.



No close contact.

Keep your distance from people, especially those who show signs of illness.

Symptoms of COVID-19



Fever



Cough



Shortness of Breath

How is this coronavirus spread?

- A person with the virus coughs or sneezes, releasing it into the air.
- People are in close contact (within 6 feet or less).
- Someone touches something that has the virus on it then touches their mouth, nose or eyes with unwashed hands.
- The virus is in respiratory droplets and possibly poop.
- Respiratory droplets do not travel far and do not stay in the air for very long.

Treatment for COVID-19

Currently, no specific antiviral treatment is recommended. People with COVID-19 should receive treatment to relieve symptoms. Severe cases may need hospitalization. Mild cases should practice self care at home and isolate themselves. Consult your health care provider.

Coping with COVID-19

SAMHSA's Disaster Distress Helpline provides 24/7, 365-day-a-year crisis counseling and support to people experiencing emotional distress related to disasters including outbreaks.

Connect & stay informed

Follow the Ingham County Health Department on social media and visit our website. **If you have questions, call the ICHD COVID-19 response line at (517) 887-4517.** Other reputable resources include the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and your health care provider.



If you think you have COVID-19

Call your healthcare provider if you develop symptoms. Calling ahead protects others. Mention if you've been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you've recently traveled from an area with COVID-19. Telemedicine (Teladoc or similar services) may be helpful for those with mild symptoms. People who are well are not being tested at this time.



Favorite Things

Masaki Takahashi and his prayer beads

While Masaki Takahashi is a test specialist at a software company, he also moonlights as the host and founder of *The Poetry Room Open Mic*, a donation-based series at *The Robin Theatre*, an event he calls “a safe place for poetry.” Aside from artsy open mic nights, he also hosts poetry workshops, including a recent class with *Lansing’s Refugee Development Center*, which he described as “super fun because the kids were able to get loose and speak their truths.” On top of that, Takahashi, 33, has a *Media Arts and Technology* degree from *Michigan State University* and, from *Davenport University*, a degree in *Computer Science* specializing in *Biometrics*. Here’s what the man with the diverse resume chose as his treasured keepsake:



My favorite thing would be my prayer beads. They are jade green and are always on my right wrist. I was born in Japan, but grew up in Longmeadow, Massachusetts, and have been in the Lansing area since I was 13. Looking back, I’ve always worn prayer beads, even as a child. But these particular beads are special because I recently went to Taiwan to see my family for the Lunar New Year and I got these ones at the Wenwu Temple.

It’s been 17 years since I last saw my mom. My son finally got to meet his grandma. It was a great trip. I got these beads to remind myself to be thankful and to pray. I will always love my family and represent my culture and heritage proudly.

I grew up Taoist. My mother was super religious. Prayer beads were always used during prayer and are a form of meditation. For a while, I stopped wearing them because I didn’t feel as connected with the need to pray or meditate. But, as you get older, you appreciate these practices and understand the need. I wear prayer beads as a symbol of connection to my culture and respect for my mother. For some people, it

may be fashionable. But to me, this is a reminder of all that is important.

My mother lives in Japan but is originally from Taiwan. The recent trip to Taiwan was amazing because a lot of the family met up there during this time. It was exciting and there was surprisingly limited drama. We stayed in Nantou and did all of the touristy things, like visiting the Sky Bridge and Sun Moon Lake. Of course, the food was super dope, but the thing that stands out the most was finally feeling really close to family and I got closure on a lot of things in the past. My mom and aunt got along which was amazing, and it inspired me to try to settle my own differences with people when I got home.

My life is dope and full of blessings. I have a lot to be grateful for. I don’t want to carry more than I must.

(This was edited and condensed by Rich Tupica. If you have suggestions for Favorite Things, please email rich@lansingcitypulse.com.)

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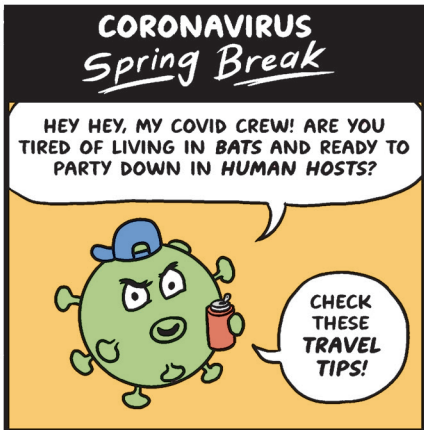
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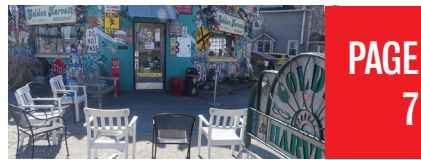
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

PANDEMIC ADVICE FROM THE INVISIBLE HAND OF THE FREE MARKET!

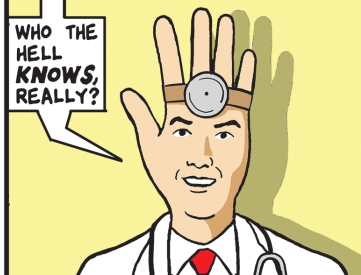
I'M NOT A DOCTOR, BUT I SOMETIMES DRESS LIKE ONE, SO AS TO APPEAR IMPLICITLY TRUSTWORTHY!

AND YES, I'M AWARE THAT YOU CAN SEE ME. IT'S THE MAGIC OF THE FREE MARKET!



THE CORONAVIRUS IS SPREADING EXPONENTIALLY AND HARDLY ANYONE HAS BEEN TESTED, BUT **DON'T WORRY--EVERYTHING IS UNDER CONTROL! SORT OF. I GUESS?**

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SOME PEOPLE THINK THIS CRISIS PROVES THAT HEALTH CARE SHOULD BE GUARANTEED FOR ALL! BUT AMERICANS DON'T WANT FREE STUFF! AMERICANS ARE RUGGED INDIVIDUALISTS WHO LOVE TO SURVIVE PANDEMICS WITHOUT HELP FROM AN INTRUSIVE BIG GOVERNMENT!



AND JUST **THINK** OF THE DAMAGE SOCIALIZED MEDICINE WOULD DO-- TO THE **PRIVATE INSURANCE INDUSTRY!** THEIR JOB IS TO MAKE **PROFITS**, NOT TO PROVIDE EVERYONE WITH A RELAXING FREE VACATION IN A LUXURIOUS **HOSPITAL ROOM!**

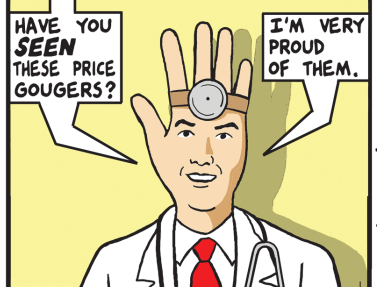


IF YOU DON'T HAVE INSURANCE, YOU CAN ALWAYS GO TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM AND GIVE THEM A **FAKE NAME!** OR MAYBE RUN A GOFUNDME OR SOMETHING. I DON'T KNOW! WHAT PART OF **RUGGED INDIVIDUALISM** DO YOU FAIL TO **COMPREHEND?**



ANYWAY, WASH YOUR HANDS AND DON'T TOUCH YOUR FACE. WHICH IS ADMITTEDLY COMPLICATED IN MY CASE.

YOU WOULD NOT **BELIEVE** HOW MUCH PURELL I GO THROUGH. WHEN I CAN EVEN **FIND** IT!



Tom Tomorrow © 2020

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Public housing or profiteering?

As reported in these pages last week, the Lansing Housing Commission's interim executive director, Doug Fleming, announced his intent to sell more than 200 units of scattered public housing jointly owned by the City of Lansing, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Affairs and the commission. Fleming pitched the sale as part of a larger strategy to consolidate the public housing agency's real estate portfolio in order to fund new investments in its four largest housing complexes: Hildebrandt, LaRoy Froh, South Washington and Mount Vernon. We question the wisdom of offloading the scattered sites by auctioning them off to the highest bidder, as Fleming proposes, and have several concerns that should be addressed by the LHC board and the Lansing City Council before they allow the plan to move forward.

The scattered-site concept arose more than 40 years ago in response to myriad problems associated with large-scale public housing projects, where concentrated poverty led to all manner of disorder and dysfunction. As it turns out, isolating society's poorest families in the poorest neighborhoods was an exceptionally bad idea. The rise of scattered-site housing was intended to create opportunities for low-income families to live in better neighborhoods, for their children to enjoy safer surroundings and attend better schools, and to more fully participate in the quality of life and economic benefits that arise therefrom. The redevelopment of aging housing stock to create more affordable housing also has salutary effects on neighborhoods by reducing blight and increasing property values.

Fleming's move to auction off the city's scattered housing units appears to turn that philosophy on its head. In fact, Fleming told City Pulse he believes the scattered housing model is "outdated." Noting that plenty of dense apartment complexes cater to "rich people," Fleming asked: "Why not poor people, too?" We suspect his concern is motivated more by the financial and logistical challenges of managing far flung scattered-site housing units, but we are unpersuaded by his argument that integrating low-income families into middle class neighborhoods is an idea whose time has passed.

Fleming's career prior to leading the LHC may provide additional clues that illuminate his perspective. Described as an "afford-



Opinion

able housing expert" by Mayor Andy Schor when he was hired as the organization's executive director, Fleming's LinkedIn profile notes that he spent 15 years as an asset manager for Watermark Management Co., a limited dividend housing association with apparent investment interests in one or more affordable housing developments. Given this background, we can't help wondering if Fleming's agenda is more about dispensing with public real estate assets for the benefit of private investors than fulfilling the LHC's mission to provide affordable housing for low-income residents of the city. We would be deeply concerned if his plan to auction off the scattered site properties to the highest bidder resulted in ownership by a national real estate investment conglomerate or an absentee slumlord for whom the profit motive is more important than providing safe and affordable housing.

Color us skeptical, but we can't help wondering if Fleming's agenda is more about profiting public real estate assets for the benefit of private investors than fulfilling the LHC's mission to provide affordable housing for low-income residents of the city. We would be deeply concerned if his plan to auction off the scattered-site properties to the highest bidder resulted in ownership by a real estate investment conglomerate like Watermark or an absentee slumlord for whom the profit motive is more important than providing safe and affordable housing.

We raise these concerns not to impugn Fleming or his motives, but to ensure that the disposition of the LHC's scattered-site housing assets is conducted in the public interest, with appropriate transparency, with full disclosure of any potential conflicts of interest, and above all, with thoughtful consideration for the consequences to low-income families who may be left to fend for themselves in a housing market with a significant deficit of affordable housing.

We encourage the LHC board and the Lansing City Council to examine best practices in other communities as part of their due diligence. The Grand Rapids Housing Commission, for example, plans to sell nine of its 24 scattered housing units this year. The agency will offer existing tenants the first right of refusal to purchase the property, then residents who are participants in the agency's Family Self-Sufficiency program, and lastly nonprofit organizations that own and/or operate affordable housing programs. According to GRHC's 2020 action plan, tenants who are ultimately displaced from any of the properties "will receive relocation assistance under the Uniform Relocation Act to help them move to a comparable safe, sanitary and affordable dwelling unit." There is no mention of selling off properties to the highest bidder.

In Minneapolis, where the city's public housing agency owns more than 600 scattered sites, a nonprofit subsidiary of the agency is being created to take over management of the sites, which will allow the nonprofit to leverage additional federal funds to help with the cost of renovations and ongoing maintenance of the properties.

If the sale of the LHC's scattered sites is all but inevitable, we urge the LHC board to reconsider Fleming's auction-to-the-highest-bidder approach and develop a plan to sell the properties to qualified tenants and nonprofit, affordable housing agencies with a bonafide commitment to providing quality housing and pathways to home ownership for the city's low-income families. The Lansing City Council should make sure the LHC is committed to this approach rather than rubber stamping Fleming's plan.

Send letters to the editor on this editorial or any other topic to letters@lansingcitypulse.com. Please limit them to 250 words.

SORE OF THE WEEK



222 Astor Ave., Lansing

This week's Eyesore is less about the house and more about its front yard.

The city has cited owner Robert Heintz for trash violations no fewer than 15 times since he purchased this southside home in 2015. Last week, his landscaping included a busted truck piled with mattresses, a messy stack of wooden pallets, an overflowing garbage can, a couch and several chunks of scrap metal and cardboard.

Heintz doesn't consider it garbage. He runs a scrap metal business out of his home and told City Pulse that the heaps of trash around his property could eventually be repurposed. Besides, it's usually not that messy at his place, he claimed, though he also bragged about having been to court over trash fines more than 20 times.

"I own a business. I pick stuff up. I take it home," Heintz explained. "All of these fines are bullshit."

The city of Lansing plans to take Heintz to court again later this month over another \$800 in fines stemming from recent trash violations. Officials said Heintz moved a bunch of trash to his backyard and locked the gate — necessitating a court order to access the property and continue their longstanding cleanup efforts at his home.

In the meantime, the situation doesn't appear to be getting much better. A reporter had to climb around a moldy sofa, extension cords and a tarp filled with yard waste to knock on the door. Heintz wasn't home at the time, but a metal sign nailed into the siding above his door sent a clear message to critics: "EAT SHIT & DIE."

"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.

What's up with City Pulse during the crisis

Dear readers:

Like everyone else, we at City Pulse are making decisions on what to do during the coronavirus crisis.

Our hope is to keep publishing in print weekly, but that will depend to a large extent on whether our drivers stay healthy and willing to deliver. Meanwhile, we have greatly reduced circulation because of the many closures. But look for us in supermarkets except Kroger, which has banned City Pulse, and the Meijer store in Bath Township, which has never allowed us to circulate there. That leaves the other eight Meijer stores, Whole Foods, Better Health Store Fresh Thyme, Tom's

OPINION



BERL SCHWARTZ

Food Center, Carl's in Dimondale, Rich's in Lansing, Frank's in Charlotte, Family Fare in Charlotte, Family Fare in Eaton Rapids, Pete's Hy-Grade in Lansing, Great Giant in Lansing, Eric's Market in Lansing, and Valuland at both Lansing locations.

We will continue to deliver to all Speedways. We also deliver to H&H Mobil in East Lansing and Sunoco on Duncel Road.

We will deliver to our usual restaurant locations as long as they stay open for pickup and delivery. (And please keep them in mind for purchasing gift certificates to help them stay open during this difficult time.)

And we will keep delivering to outdoor boxes.

The above is not a complete list of locations, by any means, just some suggestions on where you can still

find us.

Where else we will be available is changing even as I type this. Once things settle down, we will update our distribution location list at www.lansingcitypulse.com.

If you cannot find a paper or care not to journey out for one, you can find our Digital Edition online. It is a replica of our print edition. Just go to our home page and scroll down till you see the cover of the current issue. As a service, we have moved when the Digital Edition is posted to midnight Tuesday from midnight Wednesday while the crisis continues.

Our small editorial staff is able to work remotely as long as our team members stay healthy. They have worked hard to produce this edition. And we have not stinted on space to bring you their coverage, despite far

fewer ads. We have also been providing web exclusive stories, including a lengthy list of closings that we are updating daily.

How long we can keep that up will depend on our staff's health but also our revenue resources. Advertising is virtually our only source, and revenue is down substantially this week and will certainly decline even more in the next few weeks. (We donated the space on P. 2 to the Ingham County Health Department.)

Therefore, any contributions to the City Pulse Fund, which are tax deductible, would be appreciated more than ever. You can find a portal at the top of our home page or you can mail checks to us, made out to City Pulse Fund, to 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing 48912.

Please do your best to protect yourself.

It's time for Michigan Senate to let the sunshine in

By JANE BRIGGS-BUNTING

It's Groundhog Day or — more accurately — Groundhog Session for the Michigan Senate as it again stalls on even discussing, let alone voting, on a series of House bills known as the



Briggs-Bunting

Legislative Open Records Act.

For the fourth time since the bills were initially introduced in the state House in 2016, the Michigan Senate is failing to take any action on these amendments to expand coverage of the state's Freedom of Information laws. The bills would require transparency and accountability in the activities of the governor, lieutenant governor and legislators. If passed, they would give Michigan citizens the right to request and obtain public records from the two branches of government. Right now, it is "none of our business."

But the senators interested in taking up the measures are being shut out, once again, by the Senate

majority leader, this time Mike Shirkey, R-Clarklake. This is particularly disappointing since Shirkey, when he was a House member in 2013-14, introduced and helped shepherd through FOIA changes to deal with the high cost to obtain some public records. For his efforts to shepherd those changes into law in 2015, he was honored with the Sunshine Award given by the Michigan Press Association.

Though the open-records bills have been passed multiple times by a united, bipartisan state House, three different Senate majority leaders have buried the bills — this session in the Senate Oversight Committee chaired by Senator Ed McBroom, R-Vulcan. Shirkey is reportedly concerned that the open-records bills would allow constituent emails to be seen under FOIA requests. That was addressed in the House by members who are arguably, with their smaller number of constituents, much more in communication with the folks in their districts.

City councils, village, township and school boards, police and fire departments and county governments are all required under FOIA to provide public records (except in

a limited number of exemptions) to people who request them. But this is not required of Michigan's state elected officials.

Michigan is a national outlier and the only state to statutorily exempt the governor and lieutenant governor from the requirements of the state's FOIA. In 1986, then-Attorney General Frank Kelley issued an opinion, subsequently reconfirmed in 2018, that Michigan's legislators also were exempt.

That needs to change, and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer agrees. Last year, in her first State of the State, she said, "Let's expand FOIA to my office and to the Legislature. It's time to ensure that the sun shines equally on every branch of state government." She's right!

Shirkey and his Senate colleagues should finally act to fix Michigan's Freedom of Information Act by passing the open-records bills.

There may be no better time to do this now, National Sunshine Week, a nationwide effort led by the American Society of News Editors and the National Freedom of Information Coalition to educate the public about the vital importance of openness and transparency in gov-

ernment at all levels and the dangers of excessive and unnecessary secrecy.

It's past time for the members of the Senate to assert their voices and demand their leaders move these bills forward for discussion and a positive vote. Other weaknesses should be addressed as well. Michigan is an outlier again in lacking a law requiring that its elected public officials disclose their personal finances and potential conflicts of interest — especially when voting on legislation where they may receive a benefit.

In an era when the Internet has made transparency and accountability both easier and cheaper, Michigan's elected state leaders should be held accountable to the citizens they serve. Pass the LORA!

(Jane Briggs-Bunting is a board member and founding president of the Michigan Coalition for Open Government (MiCOG), a tax exempt, Michigan nonprofit corporation founded to promote and protect transparency and accountability in government at the local, state and federal levels. For more information, visit www.miopengov.org.)

Strain of disaster

Coronavirus brings unprecedented shutdown to city, state

An invisible, human-borne wind sweeping the globe turned much of greater Lansing into an eerie zone of isolation and dread this week.

There were no sandbags along the Grand River, no boarded-up windows, no panicky exodus clogging the freeways. This was a new strain of disaster.

In a breathtaking few days, state and local governments, businesses, entertainment venues, bars and restaurants batted down the hatches with a sweeping and unprecedented wave of closures, cancellations and other social distancing measures in an all-out attempt to “flatten the curve” of possible COVID-19 infections that lay ahead.

In a few days, the size of gatherings recommended by the Centers for Disease Control shrank from 250 to 50 to 10, and local officials quickly gave those recommendations the force of law.

People hunkered down in their homes with take-out food, stockpiled groceries, and Netflix, if they were lucky — for how long, no one knew.

Others went about their business and took their chances, albeit with dwindling options.

Sports and entertainment and arts events are on indefinite hold. Familiar sights like students packing the MSU Library to cram for exams or crazy-long lines in front of Golden Harvest Restaurant vanished altogether.

After one last, ill-advised weekend spasm of St. Patrick's Day revelry, bars in East Lansing, and elsewhere, shut down at 3 p.m. Monday. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer ordered nearly all social gathering places, from eateries to gyms, shuttered until Monday, March 30, although restaurants may stay open for pickup and delivery.

The total number of confirmed coronavirus cases in Michigan topped 50 over the weekend and 4,000 nationwide, but those numbers will surely be obsolete by the time you read this. As of Tuesday morning, there were three confirmed cases in Ingham County.

However, health officials and epidemiologists say that the actual number of people with the virus could be five to 10 times as many, or more, than the number of confirmed cases in any area. As the virus heads toward exponential spread that could overwhelm area hospitals in the coming weeks, no one knows how effectively the great shutdown will flatten the curve, and the economic and social consequences of such a vast experiment are just as murky.

‘Please believe the science’

Issuing drastic social distancing orders that were unthinkable a month ago, Governor Whitmer called coronavirus “a challenge unlike any we’ve experienced in our lifetimes.”

“Fighting it will cause significant but temporary changes in our daily lives,” Whitmer said. “This



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Despite the midday sunshine, many of Lansing's public spaces were bereft of people Tuesday about saving lives.”

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor hit the same note when he declared a state of emergency in the city Monday, closing City Hall, 54-A District Court, community centers and “related city facilities” until further notice.

“Now, more than ever, it is imperative that we take care of ourselves, our family, our friends, our neighbors and our co-workers by practicing social distancing and flattening the curve,” Schor said.

Leonard Fleck, a medical ethicist and MSU philosophy professor, said the closures and restrictions were needed and timely. He contrasted them with the mixed signals that came from the federal government in the outbreak's early stages.

“My recommendation to everybody who reads City Pulse, or any other media, is that the only person you can trust in the federal administration is Anthony Fauci,” Fleck said. Fauci, a top adviser to President Donald Trump and director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease, has drawn notice for his willingness to contradict the president's rosy assessment of the coronavirus outbreak, particularly with respect to testing, which Fauci called a “failure.”

Fleck said Fauci “is giving an accurate picture of what we're facing and why, at this point, the social distancing is extraordinarily important, because, at this point, we don't have a lot of other tools to deal with the spread of this virus.”

One of those crucial tools is testing. As recently as two weeks ago, there was only one coronavirus test kit in the state laboratory in south Lansing.

In an interview with City Pulse Friday, the county's chief health officer, Linda Vail, said she didn't “have

an exact number” on the area's testing capacity now. Vail said private laboratories, hospital laboratories and state facilities are “ramping up” capacity to test for COVID-19, the disease caused by the virus.

Local health officials across the country have expressed deep frustrations about the shortage of testing capacity. The tests are most effective earlier in an outbreak, when local health departments have the resources to investigate a patient's contact history and trace the path of the virus.

Later in an outbreak, Vail said, tests become less useful.

“If you reflect back to what happened with H1N1, where we ended up having 743 million cases across the world — there comes a time when we know the virus is here, this is not practical any more, and we treat the symptoms,” Vail said. “We're not at that point right now. We don't have thousands and thousands of cases.”

For now, Vail said, there is enough personnel on her staff, including environmental health staff who usually do restaurant inspections, do conduct contact tracing of infected persons.

“When the virus — if the virus — becomes very widespread, finding contacts and getting them quarantined is not effective anymore, when you know the virus is all over the community. But again, we're not there and we may not get there.”

The only effective line of prevention, Vail said, has become all too familiar in recent weeks, but bears repeating as often as possible: Wash your hands, don't touch your face, stay home if you're sick. (See

Virus

from page 7

P. 2 for more advice.)

“I implore people to be with me on this,” Vail said. “We need everybody to be doing these things. That is the science of public health. Please believe in this science and do those things.”

Fleck said the best we can hope for this week is that “we will somewhat ramp up our ability to do testing by the end of this week.” “But the people who will be tested won’t be you and me, but people who are clearly symptomatic,” he said. That leaves a lot of people with the virus, but who feel no symptoms, walking around spreading COVID-19. That includes thousands of arrivals from abroad, crammed into long lines at overwhelmed airports last weekend in the chaos surrounding new federal travel restrictions. Some of those people likely have the virus and will be at their most virulent this week and next. The result, Fleck predicted, will likely be a “huge spike” in cases “over the next two weeks and longer.”

Hospital ‘happy talk’

In the face of a likely spike in COVID-19 cases, area hospitals are sticking to vague assertions that they are ready for anything.

Sparrow Health System’s website is still sending the message that coronavirus is not much different than any seasonal flu. Karen Kent Van Gorder, chief medical and quality officer at Sparrow Health System, said in a video interview, “We’ll very likely see coronavirus here, just like we’ll see the regular seasonal flu.”

Dale Jackson, Sparrow’s director of EMS, took a similar line. “The vast majority of people who get this, whether it’s cold, flu or coronavirus — they get mild to moderate symptoms. They can stay at home and self care, the same you would do with any flu-like illness.”

But coronavirus is not an ordinary flu. About 45 million Americans have been infected by the flu this season, which typically peaks in February, and about 40,000 have died, according to The New York Times. Last week, a disease modeler at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control presented agency officials with a worst-case scenario of 160 million to 214 million people infected with coronavirus and 200,000 to 1.7 million deaths. The scenario includes

Where to get information:

- Centers for Disease Control: [CDC.gov/Coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)
- World Health Organization: www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/myth-busters
- State of Michigan: [Michigan.Gov/Coronavirus](https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus)
- MSU: [Msu.edu/coronavirus](https://www.msu.edu/coronavirus)
- Ingham County Health Dept.: [www.hd.ingham.org/DepartmentalDirectory/CommunicableDisease/Coronavirus\(COVID19\).aspx](https://www.hd.ingham.org/DepartmentalDirectory/CommunicableDisease/Coronavirus(COVID19).aspx)
- City of Lansing: [lansingmi.gov/coronavirus](https://www.lansingmi.gov/coronavirus)

For an updated report on closures, please see www.lansingcitypulse.com

the nightmarish prospect of 2.4 million to 21 million people in need of hospitalization. The total number of staffed hospital beds in the nation, according to the Times, is about 925,000, and less than a tenth of those are for people who are critically ill.

Nevertheless, Chris Farnum, director of infection prevention and control at McLaren Greater Lansing, said the hospital has “ample space to accommodate additional cases of any kind in an emergency scenario and has updated plans for expanding our treatment areas if necessary.”

“That’s the kind of happy talk that is ethically and socially problematic,” Fleck said. “Anybody who has any degree of sophistication does not believe that. If something bad happens, and they make hard decisions, there are going to be lots of angry people, saying ‘You said you had enough, blah blah blah.’ That would make the situation with COVID-19 that much more difficult to manage, because you lose credibility and there would be a very distrustful public.”

Speed weaving a safety net

Not only is the prognosis for the spread of COVID-19 still unknown; the preventive measures of recent days open up a second, almost as ominous, box of fears. How will this mass social experiment in isolation affect the population at large, especially the most vulnerable?

One of the most immediate concerns is food security for students who get much of their food from schools.

The Lansing School District has set up 20 locations, mostly schools and community centers, where curbside food pickup — breakfasts and lunches — will be available on weekdays to adults and children under 18 through April 3. Parents don’t have

to bring their children. The locations and hours are posted on the Lansing School district website. Other school districts in the area are working with food banks and other organizations to develop similar plans.

The Greater Lansing Food Bank is trying to fill any cracks in this rapidly developing web of food support by stepping up programs such as offering backpacks of food to students. The food bank’s next mobile distribution, from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, March 21, at Tabernacle of David, 2645 W. Holmes Road, will change to a drive-thru model to minimize physical contact.

Advocates for low-income and poor Americans have long pushed against restrictions on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, benefits put in place by the Trump administration. Such benefits, they argue, not only manifest basic compassion to others, but also serve as an economic stimulus, as the funds are used to buy food and other necessities.

The federal emergency coronavirus bill, which the House has passed, calls for about \$1 billion in food security aid and would suspend the Trump administration’s plan to tighten work requirements for SNAP benefits. The bill, which also includes free virus testing and enhanced unemployment benefits, is under Senate consideration and President Trump has signaled that he will sign it into law.

Economic impact

As draconian restrictions on activity become reality, many kinds of businesses are bracing both for immediate impacts and long-term ripple effects. Local restaurants and bars are hit hardest, although takeout and delivery orders from loyal customers are blunting some of the impact.

Bob Trezise, president of the Lansing Economic Area Partnership, urged residents last week to buy a gift card once a week from “your favorite local business” to keep the cash flowing and saving the cards “to enjoy the service at a later date.”

U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin, whose district includes all of Ingham County, encouraged Michigan small businesses to take advantage of Small Business Administration loans to help them “weather the storm.”

Legislation passed earlier this month makes \$1 billion available to the Small Business Administration to subsidize disaster relief to small businesses, agricultural cooperatives and nonprofits that have suffered substantially from the COVID-19 pandemic. The loans go up to \$2 million.

As the national standstill settles into place, no one knows how many layoffs, bankruptcies and shuttered businesses are in the offing. Monday, Whitmer signed an executive order extending unemployment benefits from 20 to 26 weeks, and extending benefits to workers who are taking care of children that are home from school or are caring for ill family members. Benefits will also go to laid-off workers who are sick, quarantined or immune-compromised and don’t have access to paid family and medical leave, and first responders in the public health community.

Six feet apart

It’s doubly unnerving that an all-encompassing catastrophe should take hold of society just when the green shoots of spring are beginning to show.

On the lifeline of social media, positively minded people are choosing to view the current crisis as a chance to hit “pause” on life and concentrate on what matters most.

Like every other public facility, the Fenner Nature Center at 2020 E. Mt. Hope Ave. will be closed until April 8. However, a press release announced that the nature center’s trails remain open and free each day from 8 a.m. to dusk.

Fenner’s programs manager, Sam Ansaldi, put the best face on the situation. “Parks and trails are a great place for social distancing,” Ansaldi said. “It’s easy in the 134 acres of Fenner nature Center to keep six feet apart from other people, and being in nature can help combat some of the mental fatigue bound to occur in challenging situations like this.”

— LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Advocates rally behind the homeless amid coronavirus outbreak

Lansing's homeless shelters take precautions amid pandemic

As the coronavirus spreads, the city of Lansing is bracing for a worst-case scenario. Nowhere are those concerns more exacerbated than with some of the region's most vulnerable: the homeless.

Dozens of homeless people line up nightly outside the City Rescue Mission on Michigan Avenue. Some are just looking for dinner. Others need a place to stay. And Randy Barton, men's shelter director, is pooling resources to help manage what he suspects will be an inevitable outbreak of COVID-19 on local streets.

"The homeless community in the downtown area doesn't usually go outside of a small perimeter, but that's bittersweet news for us," Barton said. "They don't really travel, so the spread is limited, but once that perimeter is breached, this illness will likely spread very quickly and chances are nobody will know about it for 14 days."

Adequate hygiene is an issue among the homeless, Barton said. Shelters also push guests into close quarters, a challenge for social distancing. Poor nutrition, sleep and extreme stress weaken the immune system. And an inability to access quality health care compounds those concerns.

"Right now, prevention is a huge thing for us," Barton added. "Everyone has been on board with extra sanitation, but it's also about education. At this point, we've been encouraging as many people as we can to find other places to stay. If these people have friends or family they can stay with instead, that's a better way to go."

Homeless shelters in Greater Lansing — like New Hope Community Center and Haven House — have doubled down on keeping their facilities clean in recent weeks. Some have enacted enhanced screening procedures, instead referring some of their symptomatic guests to the Ingham County Health Department.

Local housing advocates have gathered for conference calls to discuss their plans almost daily over the last week.

"To the extent that the homeless population has a number of different illnesses and tends to be composed of an older age group, they definitely would fall into a vulnerable population," explained Ingham County Health Officer Linda Vail. "We're certainly con-



Kyle Kaminski/City Pulse

Several men gather for meal service — and perhaps an overnight stay — on Friday outside the City Rescue Mission on Michigan Avenue.

cerned and making plans as rapidly as we can. This is all happening very fast."

Local homeless shelters have been close to capacity, officials said. And they're strongly encouraging their usual guests to find other places to stay. Large congregations of people — even amid ongoing efforts to mitigate the spread of the virus — are obviously not advised. Shelters should only be used as a last resort, officials said.

But what about those without another place to stay?

New Hope Community Center has been screening guests for symptoms over the last few days. Those suspected of carrying the virus are denied entry and referred for testing. Two have tested positive for influenza. Officials are still awaiting results for at least two additional, suspected cases that have cropped up within the last few days.

Screening at the City Rescue Mission is a bit more relaxed, but officials there are still exploring the possibility of using a touchless thermometer to check guests for a fever before they can be allowed inside. In the meantime, commonly touched surfaces are being scrubbed several times daily and meal services have been staggered.

New Hope Community Center and the City Rescue Mission are both segmenting dining services throughout the day to keep large gatherings to a minimum, partly to comply with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's ban on public

gatherings of 50 or more and partly out of caution. Some meals are also available for takeout.

Overnight beds cannot be pushed further apart without reducing overall capacity in each facility, but guests are told to keep their hands clean and keep as much distance as possible. At New Hope, for instance, some beds have been rotated to keep adjacent overnight guests head-to-toe — an effort to help limit face-to-face contact.

The city's Department of Human Relations and Community Services has also been coordinating with administrators at local shelters to offer assistance, share resources and pull together a contingency plan should the pandemic worsen. New Hope Community Center Director Sharon Dade said collaboration is essential.

"This thing is rapidly changing and people are putting their full energy into this," Dade said. "Any condition that puts you at a higher risk is overrepresented in the homeless population. Then, you pair that with other types of situations like substance abuse or mental health challenges and it just makes things even more complicated."

Dade said some organizations in other counties — particularly those in Southeastern Michigan — have reached out to shelters in Lansing to look for extra space. And she's encouraging local facilities to turn down those requests to help minimize the spread of the virus in

Lansing.

"We know our homeless population and we love them. They're resilient. I think we're all growing and learning together as this all develops. Right now, we're just taking this whole thing one day at a time, stocking up on supplies, talking to one another and making sure we're all prepared and all together for what could come."

The largest outstanding concern: How do you isolate or quarantine at home when you don't have a home?

Vail said those without symptoms who have a reason to believe they've been exposed to the virus are typically asked to quarantine themselves for at least two weeks. Those with symptoms are asked to isolate themselves until they can be screened and tested. But for many in the homeless population, that simply isn't a viable option.

"We're all still in the process of figuring out where we can house folks that are homeless and need to be quarantined or isolated," Vail said. "We don't have an immediate solution at the moment, but we're rapidly addressing these concerns and trying to put those protective measures into place. It takes some collaboration."

New Hope Community Center has space at its onsite health clinic to keep a limited number of guests isolated. The City Rescue Mission has another small area where officials can shuffle over only a few symptomatic guests. Others simply don't have a large enough facility to provide the space. It's a "work in progress," Dade explained.

"We're in constant contact with the health department, looking at ways to develop a place to quarantine a large number of people if that needed to happen," added Susan Cancro, director of Advent House Ministries. "We're in a big, old church, but we don't have showers and sinks. We've talked about possibilities, but we still haven't decided on a location. I don't think it'll be a problem; We just need to decide where we can put these people."

Lansing City Councilman Brandon Betz said city officials have discussed the possibility of offering housing vouchers that would allow the homeless to isolate themselves in hotel rooms. Discussions are also underway about reopening Eastern High School in preparation for large scale quarantine or isolation within the city.

"It's certainly a concern that we're all

Nurses' union urges more frontline support amid pandemic

Sparrow Health System 'fully staffed and equipped' for coronavirus

The Michigan Nurses Association is growing concerned that many hospitals in Michigan have yet to implement protective protocols and equipment for their staff as more confirmed cases of coronavirus crop up nationwide.

"We know that everyone who is on the frontlines needs to be kept safe so that we can continue taking care of our patients under these extraordinary circumstances," according to a statement from MNA President Jamie Brown. "These measures are necessary to keep both frontline health care professionals and communities safe."

Brown — without naming specific health facilities — is encouraging all hospitals to implement a clearer standard for protective equipment like proper masks, to designate funds for nurses who can't work because they're infected or exposed to COVID-19 and to bar "vulnerable" nurses for caring for virally infected patients.

Brown's statement arrived days after two doctors — in New Jersey and Washington — were hospitalized in critical condition as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. According to The New York Times, the spread has only reinforced concerns that the nation's frontline medical workers are particularly vulnerable to the virus.

Dean Randolph Rasch, of Michigan State University's College of Nursing, said nurses often "fight on the front lines" of any health emergency. He

has long been concerned with a rise in nosocomial or hospital-acquired infections, a serious cause of illness and death across the country. And COVID-19 is no exception to the risk.

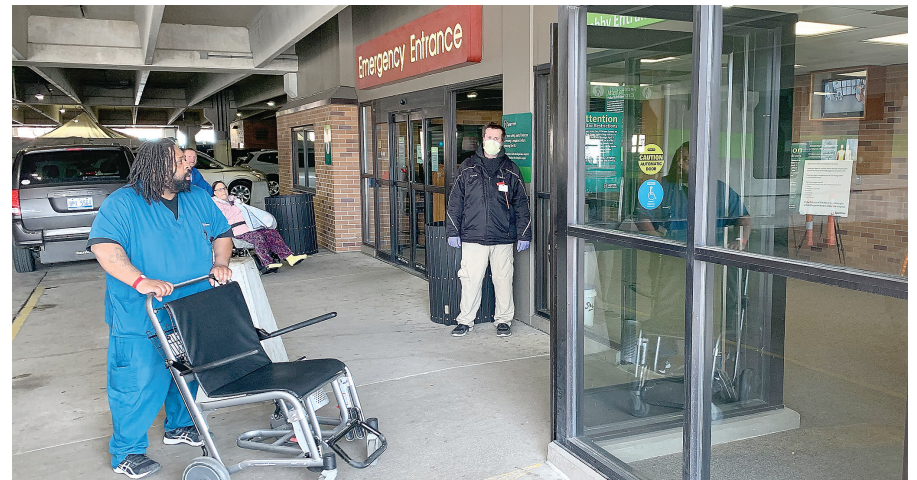
"Every day, nurses care for patients who may have infectious disease, contagion, but they don't have symptoms. They know how to care for them in a way that they don't put themselves, or other patients who are vulnerable, at risk," Rasch explained. "The main thing nurses need to think of is make sure that they are scrupulously following those precautions they've learned to take to protect their own health and the health of others."

But there is a crucial difference between rules of contact and protection given to the general public and the role of health care workers. Rasch said physical contact is often required for quality medical treatment, requiring health care workers to look out for themselves as coronavirus continues to spread locally and across the globe.

He also said many hospitals have stopped admitting students for training in hospitals as the virus spreads, citing a limited amount of protective equipment. Although he's not aware of any equipment shortages in Greater Lansing, nursing students at MSU and other universities have since had to shift to a virtual clinic experience.

"I know it's on everyone's mind," Rasch added, suggesting hospitals consider switching to reusable equipment.

Lee Saunders, president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, earlier this



Kyle Kaminski/City Pulse

Sparrow Health Care has implemented enhanced entrance procedures at its hospital in Lansing in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, including the implementation of makeshift tents for symptom screening and additional restrictions for visitors.

week also discussed "desperately needed measures" to better protect its more than 1.4 million members — including thousands of health care providers. He listed several suggestions for how hospitals can improve service.

Among them: Expand paid leave to employees who require time off during the pandemic, immediately fund state and local governments, provide permanent sick leave for all Americans, reimburse laid-off employees for health care costs and enact "bigger changes" that make it easier for employees to unionize and demand change.

Policies for employees at local health care providers (like Sparrow and McLaren Greater Lansing) are largely unclear. Calls and emails to officials with questions about paid sick leave and additional safety measures at

those hospitals were not returned. A Sparrow spokesman, however, said the hospital is "fully staffed and equipped."

Part of being equipped, at least for Sparrow, involves an enhanced screening process for caregivers and visitors. Makeshift tents outside the hospital help staff to ask guests about possible flu-like symptoms. Visitors with sustained fevers and contact with confirmed cases of COVID-19 are "respectfully" told to leave the property.

"Every year or two, we have a crisis, even though it might not be at the level of COVID-19," Rasch added. "We've had Ebola, Sars, MERS. This might be the new reality. We should be prepared as health care providers, and we have to be proactive about how we include medical students."

— KYLE KAMINSKI

Homeless

from page 8

keeping an eye on, should this situation become worse," Betz added.

Meanwhile, Barton and Cancro said the local homeless population remains in good spirits even as the virus continues to shutter businesses and public facilities across Greater Lansing. For most of them, Cancro said, the looming pandemic is just another hardship in a life already filled with adversity and day-to-day challenges.

"I wouldn't say they aren't taking it seriously, but these people live with so much stress all the time. This is just one more thing," Cancro added. "For them,

their lives aren't usually nice and calm. Their lives are tumultuous and they're in constant flux. While others might be panicking, these folks are used to this sort of environment."

Despite the enhanced social precautions over the last few weeks and a newfound shortage of volunteers, services for the homeless haven't diminished much in Lansing, officials said. Shelters plan to remain operational. Meals will continue to be served daily at a variety of different locations. And local advocates will ensure that continues.

Even the city's former human relations director, Joan Jackson Johnson, has continued to volunteer her time with Advent House Ministries amid a possible federal investigation into her activities, Cancro said. The collaborative goal: Ensure the local homeless

population remains educated, well fed and prepared for more difficult days to come.

"Thank God we have a community that takes care of people so we have shelters that can still function," Cancro said. "I know we have a group that will step up to take care of business. They don't sit back. They take action."

Recent event cancellations have led to a recent surge in donations to the Greater Lansing Food Bank, officials said, but supplies are again at risk of running low. Cancro said donations of food and cleaning products — including hand sanitizer and toilet paper — are welcomed and can be dropped off at Advent House Ministries.

Some volunteer opportunities have been cut short as local shelters lean more heavily on their paid staff, but

those wishing to volunteer their time can still help out at both Advent House and the City Rescue Mission.

Additionally, city officials said the mobile food pantry this Saturday, March 21, will continue to operate with precautions. Rather than guests congregating inside a church, those seeking meals can have them loaded into their vehicles at the Tabernacle of David on Holmes Road from 9-11 a.m.

"Regardless of what happens, we need to continue to provide these services for our guests," added City Rescue Mission spokeswoman Laura Grimwood. "They can't go home. They can't take a break. This place can literally become everything for them, and whatever happens, we just cannot afford to have these services be stopped."

— KYLE KAMINSKI

'Reason for hope'

Virtual services recall church's earliest days

Sunday morning, Haley Vay Beaman, pastor of University Lutheran Church in East Lansing, sat on the floor of her living room, picked up a well-worn Bible and addressed her congregation via computer and phone screens for the first time.

The church's first ever "virtual worship gathering," on Facebook Sunday, had a cozy feeling and a surprisingly hopeful message. Flanked by the ramparts of her own sectional couch, Beaman flashed a reassuring smile. The wall hanging behind her read "I am with you wherever you go."

"I know this is all scary," she said as she settled in. "But to me it's reason for hope."

Beaman's church was not the only house of worship disrupted by the coronavirus. The Catholic Diocese of Lansing told members they don't have to attend Sunday Mass. The Islamic Center of Lansing canceled its Friday prayer services for two weeks and suspended all group events and classes.

All events at Congregation Shaarey Zedek have been canceled until mid-April. The closings are in accordance with the Jewish doctrine of *pichuach nefesh*, that preservation of life is more important than anything else. (To make the self-quarantine days pass more

pleasantly, the synagogue's website has a helpful list of "The Most Binge-worthy Jewish and Jew-ish Shows on Netflix.")

Sunday morning, Beaman told her congregation that virtual services like these, along with hundreds of other large and small measures taken throughout the community in the past week, are testimony that people care enough about each other "to help each other avoid a deadly virus."

Beaman, 34, the congregation's pastor for more than two years, and her colleagues created the event on the fly, after the church hierarchy urged congregations to find creative ways to hold services without sharing the coronavirus.

Home worship is new to University Lutheran, but not to the church.

"There's a lot of history there," Beaman said. "The church began in houses, before people could actively say in public they were Christians because they were persecuted for it."

And it's not just a historical parallel.

"In China today, people have to worship in their homes if they identify as Christians," Beaman said. "That's the power of house church. It's been around for centuries, and it's become a necessity for us in such a time."

Beaman thought FaceBook would work best for most of her congregation, although she is considering using Zoom



Courtesy of Haley Vay Beaman

The Rev. Haley Vay Beaman, pastor of University Lutheran Church, held the congregation's first online service Sunday.

next week.

She welcomed comments via Facebook during the "questions" period of the service and acknowledged them all.

"I'm found myself writing my sermon differently, once I knew I was going to interact with people in a different way," she said. "When I wrote it, I felt like I was having a discussion versus preaching at people."

Beaman and her staff had already been talking about enhancing worship with technology.

"God only knew we were going to have to be really creative," she said.

Beaman's congregation is accustomed to hands-on activity, including work with the Kids' Hope program in East Lansing, helping underprivileged children at Forest View Elementary.

Members of the congregation's cam-

pus ministry recently got back from an alternative spring break to Tennessee with Habitat for Humanity to help communities that were ravaged by tornadoes.

She has recently moved the church further in the direction of working on social and racial justice issues. The message was evident in Sunday's virtual service. Beaman followed members' comments on FaceBook, responding to her questions on what it means to be treated as "other," and responded to them in real time.

"We're trying to speak differently in a community that may have been known as traditional in its worship style," Beaman said.

Most of all, the virtual services preserved the comfort of community in a time of physical isolation.

— LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Trump, Whitmer trade tweets

It's another sign the governor's VP stock is rising

Tired of being poked by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, the national Democrats' rising star, on cable news networks for his administration's response to the coronavirus outbreak, President Donald Trump singled out the "Failing" governor in a tweet Tuesday.

"Failing Michigan Governor must work harder and be much more proactive. We are pushing her to get the job done. I stand with Michigan!" he wrote.

Whitmer — among the first governors to close K-12 schools,



POLITICS

limit gathering sizes and shutdown restaurants — responded within minutes with a series of tweets about what she's done as Michigan's chief executive. She also repeating what steps the president should take to improve the federal response.

"Now that I've got your attention, Mr. President — attack tweets won't solve this crisis. But swift and clear guidance, tests, personal protective equipment and resources would," she wrote.

Whitmer, recently ranked No. 5 on The Washington Post's Top 10 list of Joe Biden's most likely running-mate selections, has seen her national profile rise in recent days. Her flurry of executive orders announcing enhanced restrictions on price gouging

and temporarily closing theaters, casinos and other public spaces has already generated significant national attention.

Based on a tracking poll, Whitmer's actions are being received well, particular when compared with the president's.

Elucid, a deliverer of geo-targeted online digits ads, tracked between 400 and 500 Michigan residents' feelings on how federal, state and local governments is doing in responded to the new global pandemic on Sunday and Monday. The upshot: Residents feel state government is doing the best.

On a 1-5 scale with 5 being the best, 50% of residents responded with a "3" when asked if they felt state government was prepared to handle the coronavirus. Only 14% responded with a "1." On a separate question 39% responded with a "3" when asked if the federal government was prepared, but 31% responded with a "1."

The poll showed on Monday that

66% of the public specifically supports Whitmer's announcement to limit all bars and restaurants to takeout and carryout only.

Whitmer campaign sent out a fundraising email within 90 minutes of Trump's tweet, which ended with, "During this time, we should be working together, not tearing each other down. Add you name today to support Gretchen Whitmer and all the work she's been doing to keep Michiganders safe."

What spurred this exchange?

Whitmer critiqued the president's administration coronavirus response during a MSNBC interview on Monday. She said Trump should consider declaring a federal disaster to free up resources. She also suggested help for those who will lose their jobs as a result of the emergency and additional personal protection equipment — masks, hand sanitizer,

Betz: Lansing City Council must repeal overnight parking ban

Freshman Councilman leads effort to eliminate new paid permit system

The new permit program for overnight parking in Lansing may come to an end almost before it can even be enforced.

Lansing City Councilman Brandon Betz this week introduced an ordinance amendment to repeal a citywide ban on street parking from 2-5 a.m., enabling residents to park overnight in local neighborhoods all year long. And if passed by the City Council, residents will no longer be asked to pay for on-street parking.

“This is a highly inequitable ordinance,” Betz explained. “It affects people with lower incomes more than those with higher incomes. And people with lower incomes are more likely to live in a situation without adequate parking. Especially on the east side, we just have a lot of people who cannot afford a \$125 annual permit.” Betz represents the 1st Ward, which includes the east side.

City officials for years have struggled to enforce a 2-5 a.m. ban on street parking. After several months of planning, the City Council identified a solution last year: Ramp up enforcement and introduce permits to cover the costs, clearing city streets and only allowing those who need the space and pay the annual fees to park.

The new permit system — at least in theory — would’ve allowed the city to recoup the costs of added overnight enforcement through the annual fees. It was designed to take effect



Betz

on March 1, but it has since been suspended amid a citywide coronavirus state of emergency.

And Betz is determined to ensure the paid permit system never actually resumes.

“We’re charging people who just cannot afford to pay the fees,” Betz added. “This also disproportionately impacts people of color and younger people in the city. And if there’s something I don’t like, it’s inequitable laws. I might not have a problem with something else, but this ordinance is hurting people now. We can work through the process to find something better for parking, but that’ll take too long. This needs to go away now.”

Enforcing the existing overnight parking ban without permits could have been messy and expensive. Many

older homes weren’t built to accommodate multiple vehicles. More landlords are splicing properties into apartments without creating parking spaces for tenants. In many neighborhoods, the street is the only option for parking.

The permits were designed to prevent an unyielding ban on overnight parking, which would have given tickets to those who’ve parked curbside for years without issue and offer no immediate alternatives. And besides, the city still can’t afford to ramp up parking enforcement by relying on existing ticket revenue alone, officials have said.

Eliminating the overnight ban altogether — as Betz is now suggesting — had also been discussed, but perceived problems with navigating fire rigs or ambulances down overcrowded residential streets stopped the conversation from advancing. Fire Chief Michael Mackey has since said he hasn’t had any problems with emergency traffic.

“People that still support this ordinance have said they just don’t believe the fire chief because they’ve talked to actual firefighters,” Betz said. “I think there’s some valid concerns about access for snow plows, but the language about snow emergencies in my ordinance would add a little more power to remove cars if we need to do that.”

Betz’ proposed ordinance would still enable the city to clear streets overnight to make room for snow plows.

He said only a few “squeaky wheels” — namely residents complaining about cars parked for extended peri-

ods on their block — have driven the conversation on overnight parking. He said most residents, particularly those in the First Ward, don’t have any problems with cars parked on their neighborhood streets from 2-5 a.m.

“It’s important we do something to stop this before tickets start piling up on these folks,” Betz added.

The draft ordinance still needs to make its way through the Council’s Committee on Public Safety — and eventually the full City Council — before it can replace the city’s existing paid permitting system. Given the citywide state of emergency, Betz said it’ll likely be more than a month before the changes can be explored.

In the meantime, however, Betz has been gauging support among his colleagues and suspects at least four other Council members will support the changes — clinching its passage when it eventually goes up for a Council vote. He also said Lansing Mayor Andy Schor (among others) had asked for him to submit the upcoming revisions.

“The conversation about eliminating the ban did not come up, and it was my understanding that the votes to eliminate were not there,” Schor said of prior Council discussions. “If that has changed and the votes are there I am willing to support elimination as long as we can still take action to clear streets when there are snow events.”

— **KYLE KAMINSKI**

Visit lansingcitypulse.com for previous and continued coverage on overnight parking restrictions in Lansing.

Melinn

from page 11

etc.

“I would love to see a coherent policy when it comes to ordering people not to do unnecessary travel,” she said. “I think there’s a lot of people the feds need to step up on.”

Say what you will about Whitmer’s response, I doubt many business owners would call what she’s done as being tepid or not enough.

On March 3, Whitmer created a task force to combat the spread of coronavirus, and in the days

immediately following obtained additional testing kits. The state’s Medicaid program waived copays and cost-sharing for coronavirus testing and health care — all before the first announced presumptive positive case of COVID-19 had been confirmed in the state on March 10.

Trump hasn’t exactly been sitting on his hands either. He declared a national emergency later Monday and said “no resource will be spared” in his effort to fight the spread of the virus, including imposing travel restrictions from global hotspots.

But Whitmer focused in her TV interview on the long lines at airports as a sign of a lack of a federal coherent policy.

Trump could have ignored Whitmer. But national media coverage in recent weeks seems to be finding more reasons putting Whitmer in the No. 2 slot makes sense and fewer reasons for previous frontrunners, like Stacey Abrams.

Whitmer’s strong Democratic response to Trump’s State of the Union response sparked the most recent talk about why a sharp, relatively young female leader from a swing state that Trump barely won in 2016 makes a lot of sense.

Michigan Republican Party Chairwoman Laura Cox went as far as to call out the governor for going out on national television to “play partisan politics during a time of crisis.”

“Posturing for Joe Biden’s VP slot, instead of focusing on the crisis at hand only divides people at a time when we all need to be united,” Cox said.

She and the president may be trying to let the air of the Whitmer for VP bus, but it’s already rolling down the highway.

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

Informed Dissent
will return
next week



JEFFREY C. BILLMAN

I. NOTICE OF LETTING OF DRAIN CONTRACT

II-A. DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS

II-B. DAY OF REVIEW OF DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

**Ingham County Drain Commissioner
Patrick E. Lindemann**

NEMOKA DRAIN

I. LETTING OF DRAIN CONTRACT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I, Patrick E. Lindemann, Ingham County Drain Commissioner, will receive sealed construction bids on **Tuesday, March 24, 2020**, at the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office, located at 707 Buhl Avenue, Mason, Michigan 48854, until 10:00 a.m. local time. Bids will be opened and publicly announced at 10:00 a.m. for the construction, maintenance and improvement of a certain drain known and designated as the "Nemoka Drain." Bids must be delivered to 707 Buhl Avenue, Mason, MI 48854 within the timeframes listed above in accordance with the Bidding Documents.

The Drain project consists of storm system and local street improvements as well as landscaping, let as three (3) Contracts.

In the construction, maintenance and improvement of said Drain, the project consists of furnishing all supplies and installation and construction of the following quantities for major items of work and character of drain, tile or pipe, with appurtenances, and the contract let for the same. The following quantities are approximate and final payment will be made on measured quantities:

Contract 1 – Storm System Improvements

Open channel 250 Ft Average Depth 4 Ft Average Width 55 Ft

<u>Estimated Qty</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Description</u>
7,260	Sy	Rem asphalt pavement
650	Sy	Rem concrete pavement
1,270	Sy	Rem gravel drive
610	Sy	Rem asphalt drive
550	Sy	Rem concrete drive
650	Sy	Rem sidewalk
300	Ft	Rem concrete curb and gutter
35	Ea	Rem drainage structure
7	Ea	Abandon drainage structure
42	Ea	Rem tree
1	Ea	2 inch water valve, box and cover
1	Ls	Lower 16 inch diameter watermain
1	Ea	6 inch sewer tap
35	Ft	6 inch SDR35 sanitary sewer lead
1	Ea	24 inch dia dr structure
4	Ea	36 inch dia dr structure
49	Ea	48 inch dia dr structure
19	Ea	60 inch dia dr structure
6	Ea	72 inch dia dr structure
1	Ea	84 inch dia dr structure
1,177	Ft	12 inch dia RCP
739	Ft	15 inch dia RCP
850	Ft	18 inch dia RCP
769	Ft	21 inch dia RCP
2,042	Ft	24 inch dia RCP
2,970	Ft	36 inch dia RCP
40	Ft	18 inch dia ductile iron pipe
1	Ea	12 inch dia FES
4	Ea	15 inch dia FES
3	Ea	18 inch dia FES
1	Ea	24 inch dia FES
3	Ea	36 inch dia FES
20,000	Cy	Excavate and shape four (4) detention areas
1,615	Ft	12 inch dia perforated SLCPP toe drains in detention areas
13	Ea	12" x 12" x 12" N-12 upright access riser w/ grate
800	Ft	Roadside ditching
42	Ea	30 inch overflow structures
2,400	Ft	12 inch dia SLCPP, perforated
1,039	Ft	Type I infiltration swale (1' depth)
1,461	Ft	Type II infiltration swale (2' depth)
600	Sy	Plain riprap
45,600	Sy	Temporary seeding with tackifier
5,600	Sy	Aggregate base, 8 inch
1,080	Sy	Temporary gravel driveway
360	Sy	Repair asphalt pavement
1,270	Sy	Replace gravel drive
720	Sy	Replace asphalt drive
610	Sy	Replace concrete drive
300	Ft	Replace curb and gutter
650	Sy	Replace sidewalk

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic control, temporary signage, soil erosion and sedimentation control, remove/abandon existing storm sewer, structure taps, restoration and project cleanup

All stations are 100 feet apart.

There is one (1) 62 foot long footbridge in this contract at Sta. 0+72 in Hillbrook Park.

There is 152 feet of 12 inch diameter CSP culvert in this contract at various locations for street

drainage.

Contract 2 – Local Street Improvements

<u>Estimated Qty</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Description</u>
900	Sy	Rem surface for drive apron
700	Cy	Earth excavation
4,100	Sy	Cold milling asphalt surface
15,500	Sy	Asphalt base crushing and shaping
1,560	Sy	Aggregate base, 8 inch
2,400	Ton	Asphalt levelling course (2 inch)
1,800	Ton	Asphalt wearing course (1.5 inch)
1,800	Sy	Aggregate shoulder, 4 inch
900	Sy	Asphalt drive apron
12	Ea	Adjust structures
80	Ft	Curb and gutter
8	Sy	Sidewalk

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic control, restoration and project cleanup

Contract 3 –Landscaping

<u>Estimated Qty</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Description</u>
177	Ea	Install trees, 2-1/2" caliper, various types in right-of-way, detention areas and Meridian Township Hillbrook Park
48,600	Sy	Turf establishment
5,475	Ea	Native plant plugs

MISCELLANEOUS

Traffic control, project cleanup

Plans and Bidding Documents are on file and may be examined beginning on **Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.** local time at the office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, 707 Buhl Avenue, Mason, Michigan 48854, (517) 676-8395. Bidders wishing to download the Plans and Specifications at NO COST may do so by contacting LSG Engineers & Surveyors, Inc., Attn: Greg Lamkin (x. 227) or Shannon Pugh (x. 230) at (517) 393-2902. For bidders wishing to purchase the plans and specifications, a fee of Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) will be required for each set of proposed plans and specifications and will not be refunded. A mailing fee of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) to cover handling and postage will be charged to anyone wishing to receive the plans and specifications via United Parcel Service.

A MANDATORY pre-bid conference will be held on **Friday, March 13, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.** local time at the Ingham County Department of Roads Board Room (Administrative Building), 301 Bush Street, Mason, Michigan 48854. Representatives of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner and Engineer will be present to discuss the contract. Prospective Bidders are required to attend and participate in the pre-bid conference. All prospective Bidders must sign in by name of attendee, business represented, and email address. All prospective bidders will also be required to submit a certification of compliance with Public Act 517 of 2012 prior to bid award. Only bids from Bidders in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be opened. All other bids will be considered non-responsive and will be disqualified from bidding on the Drain Contract. The Engineer will transmit to all prospective Bidders of record such Addenda as the Engineer considers necessary in response to questions. Oral statements may not be relied upon and will not be binding or legally effective.

These Contracts will be let in accordance with the Contract Documents now on file in the Office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner and available to interested parties. Bids will be made and received in accordance with these documents. Contracts will be made with the lowest responsible Bidder giving adequate security for the performance of the work. I reserve the right to reject any and all bids, and to adjourn such bid letting to such time and place as I shall publicly announce.

The date for the substantial completion of such contract is **October 15, 2021**, with final completion by **November 12, 2021**, and the terms of payment are contained in the contract specifications. Any responsible person wanting to bid on the above-mentioned work will be required to deposit bid security in the amount specified in the bidding documents as a guarantee that they will enter into a contract and furnish the required bonds as prescribed by the contract specifications and applicable law. All bids shall remain open for ninety (90) days after the day of the bid opening, but I reserve the right at my sole discretion to release any bid and bid security before that date.

Bidders shall comply with the Ingham County policies regarding the payment of Prevailing Wages, and Equal Opportunity/Nondiscrimination, as set forth in Ingham County Board of Commissioners Resolutions #02-263 and #02-283, respectively.

II-A. DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Tuesday, April 14, 2020**, the apportionments for benefits to the lands comprised within the Nemoka Drain Drainage District will be subject to review for one day from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office, located at 707 Buhl Avenue, Mason, Michigan 48854, or at such other time and place to which I may adjourn. At the meeting to review the apportionment of benefits, I will have the tentative apportionments against parcels and municipalities within the drainage district available to review. At said review, the computation of costs for construction, maintenance and improvement of the Drain will also be open for inspection by any interested parties.

Pursuant to Section 155 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, as amended, any owner of land within the Nemoka Drain Drainage District or any city, village, township, district or county feeling aggrieved by the apportionment of benefits made by the Drain Commissioner may appeal

**ABANDONED VEHICLE SALE
CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN**

S/20/078, ABANDONED VEHICLES - The Abandoned Vehicle Sale scheduled for March 25 has been cancelled and the new sale date is to be determined. See the March 11th issue of City Pulse for vehicle lists. Questions regarding this sale may be directed to Stephanie Robinson, Buyer, at (517) 483-4128 or email: stephanie.robinson@lansingmi.gov.

CP#20-080

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF INGHAM
NOTICE OF HEARING
File # 19-1194-GA, 19-1195-CA**

In the matter of Carolyn Condell.

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on 4/1/2020 at 3:30 p.m. at 313 W. Kalamazoo, Lansing MI 48933 before Judge Dunning for the following purpose: Contested Hearing for Guardian and Conservator.

Date: 3/18/2020
Talaina Cummins
c/o Ingham County DHHS
5303 S. Cedar Street
Lansing, MI 48911
517-775-5450

CP#20-077

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CityPULSE Contract rates available, all rates net. Classified ads also appear online at no extra charge. Deadline for classifieds is 5 p.m. Monday for the upcoming Wednesday's issue.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on **Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

A public hearing will be held to consider a modified special use permit application from Delta Gamm House Corporation for the property at 605 MAC Avenue to allow for an increase in occupancy of three residents at the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. The subject property is located in the RM-32, Center City Multi-Family Residential District.

Call (517) 319-6930, the Department of Planning, Building and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, for additional information. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard. These matters will be on the agenda for the next Planning Commission meeting after the public hearing is held, at which time the Commission may vote on them. The Planning Commission's recommendations are then placed on the agenda of the next City Council meeting. The City Council will make the final decision on these applications.

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

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

CP#20-079

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on **Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

1. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Mike McCurdy, for the property located at 415 M.A.C. Avenue, to replace ten windows and decking, rail, and posts on the front porch.
2. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Frank Vargas, for the property located at 219 Collingwood Drive, to replace two windows.

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

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

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

CP#20-078

the apportionment within ten (10) days after the day of review of apportionment by making an application to the Ingham County Probate Court for the appointment of a Board of Review.

Any drain assessments against land will be collected in the same manner as property taxes. If drain assessments against land are collected by installment, the landowner may pay the assessments in full with any interest to-date at any time and thereby avoid further interest charges.

The following is a condensed description of the land constituting the "Nemoka Drain Drainage District." The description of area that is served by the Nemoka Drain consists of lands situated in Sections 10 and 11 of Meridian Charter Township, T4N, R1W, in Ingham County, Michigan.

In Meridian Charter Township, T4N, R1W:

In Section 10 – The SE ¼ of the NW ¼; the N ½ of the SE ¼; and, the NE ¼.
In Section 11 – The SW ¼ of the NW ¼ and the NW ¼ of the SW ¼.

In addition to the parcels and tracts of land listed above, the County of Ingham, County Road Department, and Meridian Charter Township will be specially assessed at-large for benefits in the construction, maintenance and improvement of the Drain.

NOW THEREFORE, all unknown and non-resident persons, owners and persons interested in the above described lands, and you:

Supervisor and Clerk of Meridian Charter Township;
Clerk of Ingham County;
Chairperson of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners;
Managing Director of the Ingham County Department of Roads;

are hereby notified that at the time and place aforesaid, or at such other time and place thereafter to which said day of letting of contract may be adjourned, I shall proceed to receive bids for the construction, maintenance and improvement of the "Nemoka Drain" in the manner hereinbefore stated; and, also, that at such time and place as stated above from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., the apportionment for benefits and the lands comprised within the "Nemoka Drain Drainage District" will be subject to review.

AND YOU AND EACH OF YOU, owners, municipalities and persons interested in the aforesaid lands are hereby cited to appear at the time and place of such reviewing of the

apportionments as aforesaid, and be heard with respect to such special assessments and your interests in relation thereto, if you so desire.

II-B. DAY OF REVIEW OF DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

Notice is Hereby Given that on **Tuesday, April 14, 2020**, the Ingham County Drain Commissioner will hold a Day of Review of Drainage District Boundaries from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, 707 Buhl Avenue, Mason, Michigan 48854. At that time and place, the Drain Commissioner will hear the proofs and allegations and carefully reconsider and review the description of lands comprising the Drainage District and determine whether or not the addition or deletion of lands will more accurately define the boundaries of the land benefited by the Drain and is just and equitable pursuant to Section 197 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, as amended. The Drain is located and established in Sections 10 and 11 in Meridian Charter Township. The lands to be added or deleted are located in Section 10 of Meridian Charter Township.

You are Further Notified that persons aggrieved by the decision of the Drain Commissioner to add lands to and/or delete lands from the Drainage District may seek judicial review in the Ingham County Circuit Court within ten (10) days of the decision.

This notice is pursuant to Sections 154, 155, and 197 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, as amended.

Proceedings conducted at the pre-bid conference, bid opening and day of review are subject to the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact Patrick E. Lindemann, the Ingham County Drain Commissioner at (517) 676-8395, or through the Michigan Relay Center at 711 (TTY) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance.

Dated: March 5, 2020

Patrick E. Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner
707 Buhl Avenue, Mason, MI 48854
(517) 676-8395

CP#20-074

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

Canceled, postponed: Coronavirus puts squeeze on local art

By SKYLER ASHLEY

Nearly every live performance has been moved online, canceled or postponed, as the severity of coronavirus prevention measures escalate. As of this article's publication, Executive Order 2020-11 prohibits all assemblages of more than 50 people in a single indoor shared space and all events of more than 50 people. Exceptions apply to health care facilities; workplaces or portions thereof not open to the public; the state legislature; and assemblages for the purpose of mass transit, the purchase of groceries or consumer goods, or the performance of agricultural or construction work.

Capital City Film Festival is postponed; Broad Art Museum is closed to the public; Wharton Center has postponed or canceled its March shows, Mac's Bar is closed down and the MSU College of Music has canceled its spring semester lineup. That's only naming a few institutions that have suspended their content. City Pulse could fill this entire page with a list of what's canceled in Lansing.

And so the question lingers: Now what?

For Capital City Film Festival organizer Dominic Cochran, the plan is to launch a smaller version of the festival this summer, in the hopes that coronavirus will by then be contained. Then,



the move is to host CCFF's 10th anniversary celebration in 2021.

"We started discussing it early on, when only Washington was a hot spot," Cochran said. "We planned on having social distancing measures, such as putting seats further apart, but once it did come to Michigan and the large-gathering mandate came down, that's when we had to react."

Cochran said the long-term damage to major events that have been outright canceled might be mitigated, considering coronavirus is a worldwide crisis and not an isolated incident.

"The whole entire world is dealing with this. Everyone is in the same boat," Cochran said. "This is an industry-wide thing. We'll have to regroup and grow together."

But the cancellation leaves many filmmakers without a venue to premiere their film and a volley of musical performances that aren't going to happen.

John Thompson, drummer with Lansing punk band Dasterds, which

was slated to perform at CCFF with Dogleg April 11, is feeling the sting of not just that show's cancellation, but the cancellation of every show the band had booked for spring.

At first, Thompson wondered whether he was over-reacting. "But just a few days after we made the decision, all these mandates started coming from the state," he said. "It's important to think of this as something for the greater good. I'd really encourage people to think beyond themselves and realize that this is important for keeping the most vulnerable in our community safe and healthy."

Robin Theatre owner Dylan Rogers is also feeling the emotional blow in the wake of local arts being shut down seemingly overnight, after his venue canceled all of its upcoming events.

"I haven't stopped thinking about this for days. We're collectively evolving the conversation every hour. It's bizarre; I'm starting to feel numb to it. It's heartbreaking to have to close a space that so many people love visiting,

and supports working artists," Rogers said. "I'm thinking of the artists that are losing months of income. We can only do so many Facebook Live concerts with donation links."

Rogers said fundraising concert video streams will likely see a boom, but called them "no replacement" for live music.

Lansing's indie music celebration Stoop Fest, which would've launched its fifth, and so far most ambitious edition, will either reschedule — pending successful containment — or be sidelined until 2021.

"It's certainly a huge bummer. Seeing it come apart sucks, but I think we all feel it was absolutely the right call to make. We wanted to help prevent the spread of the virus, while the health care industry gets this under control," Stoop Fest organizer Dom Korzecke said. "We're not mad at the state for prohibiting large gatherings."

Despite the de facto moratorium, Cochran hopes people can unite in viewing the sacrifice as a necessary precaution.

"Art is a beacon of light in darkness. To have this — hopefully temporary — loss is difficult and heartbreaking," Cochran said. "It does seem like an extreme measure, but if it does slow the virus — what we're really doing is avoiding an actual panic."

The show must go online: Local theater responds to coronavirus

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

It's difficult to keep a show going during a pandemic. Except for online shows, local theater is mostly collapsing.

The Curtainless Theatre avoided canceling its last shows of "Julius Caesar" last weekend only by livestreaming them on Facebook.

Most area companies have canceled performances. At press time, only Williamston Theatre and Owosso's Lebowsky Center for Performing Arts have plays set to open soon.

Williamston's executive director, John Leopard said rehearsals remain for the March 26 opening of "These Mortal Hosts" — but with safety precautions for the three-person cast. Ticket sales

will likely be abandoned but the play might be shown as a pay-per-view. A loss of ticket sales "amounts to half our income during this time," Leopard said.

Online ticket sales continue for Owosso's April 24 opening of "Five Women Wearing the Same Dress." "We will see what develops between now and then," Executive Director Kathy Brooks said. "At this time, we really are OK at the Lebowsky," she said.

For meetings, Owosso is using Cloud conferencing through Zoom. Michigan State University's Department of Theatre also uses the Internet to replace face-to-face meetings.

According to department chairman Kirk Domer, "Faculty members are getting really inventive." All MSU teaching,

including acting, dance and design, is now done online. Auditions for the 2020-2021 season are being submitted electronically. The Theater Department is moving to Zoom to prepare for Summer Circle Theatre.

March's "Bonnetts" was canceled. MSU's "Marian" has been moved to next season. "All student artists are devastated," Domer said.

Lansing Community College's Performing Arts Department is using virtual classes and teleconferencing. Streaming monologues and more are being contemplated. No live performances will be held the rest of the semester.

Melissa Kaplan, LCC's academic and arts outreach coordinator, said it was "a

chaotic time," but she is excited that it "can bear great creativity."

Ixion Theatre is considering online meetings for its writers' group. "The Skeleton Crew" was canceled. Artistic Director Jeff Croff said they had "about \$400 sunk into the show." Ixion also axed auditions for "rUSt." "The situation is still in flux and we are uncertain about what we will be able to postpone or reschedule," Croff said.

Peppermint Creek Theatre withdrew its March show, "Cost of Living." Rescheduling any future shows at the Central United Methodist Church depends on its availability. Artistic Director Chad Swan-Badgero said the

Navigating the purple haze

Radical poster collection documents '60s Michigan rock scene

By **BILL CASTANIER**

In the '60s, there was this belief that you could only read the boldly colored, swirling posters used to advertise rock concerts if you were tripping or stoned. Some of these posters advertising rock and other counterculture events were torn off poles, eventually adorning a dorm room wall. Most were just thrown away.

Although the epicenter of the psychedelic poster craze was located on the West Coast — practiced by artistic geniuses like Wes Wilson, Stanley Mouse, Bonnie MacLean, Alton Kelley, Rick Griffin and Victor Moscoso — Michigan had Detroiters Gary Grimshaw and Carl Lundgren, whose works rivaled their west-coast contemporaries and maybe took it to an even higher level. Poster artists Dennis Preston and Terry O'Connor are included in that group.

Michigan State University Libraries recently acquired a one-of-a-kind collection of Michigan-centric posters, ephemera, records, photographs and related material from mega-collector Jack Bodnar, 68, of Dryden. He and his spouse, Melissa Bodnar, run the marketing firm Bodnar Creative.

The collection is massive in size and scope and, according to Bodnar, is the largest collection focusing exclusively on Michigan rock 'n' roll material and its relationship to the political culture of the time.

How massive? It took a large truck to move the 25,000 items, which range from posters issued by Detroit's Grande Ballroom and band promotional photographs, to papers from pro-marijuana guru John Sinclair and the photography of Reni Sinclair. One unusual item is Sinclair's jailhouse calendar marked off with bold X's, showing how many days he had served behind bars for possession of marijuana.

According to Leslie McRoberts, head



Courtesy

Jack Bodnar in 1971 at his Eastern Michigan University apartment. Behind him is his wall of rock concert handbills, which he taped together himself.

of MSU Library Special Collections, Bodnar's material will become a centerpiece of the Library's Popular Culture Collection, which includes the world's largest comic book collection, underground newspapers, anti-war handbills, gay and lesbian rights material and a variety of radicalism material.

Bodnar started collecting in high school in Southfield, tearing posters from telephone poles and bulletin boards, but gradually his collection became supersized and developed threads from artists like Gary Grimshaw, bands such as the MC5, and Sinclair's radical political organizations such as the White Panther Party, the Rainbow People's Party and the Trans-

Love Energy Commune, accompanied by a cache of personal papers of Pun Plamondon, one of the era's revolutionary soldiers.

Bodnar saw beyond the poster's artistic uniqueness, recognizing they didn't just promote a band and a venue — they also were part of a larger cultural movement.

He said an element running through Grimshaw, Sinclair and Russ Gibbs, owner of the Grande Ballroom and concert promoter, was simple: "They were passionate about what they did."

Bodnar's passion for collecting grew during two stints he spent at MSU studying journalism.

"There was too much going on," he

said. While at MSU, he wrote reviews for The State News and the Lansing State Journal.

"I was up all night going to concerts and then writing about them," Bodnar said.

During his time at MSU, venues like The Brewery on Michigan Avenue and The Stables on Grand River Avenue had top-tier rock artists in the early-70s, landing acts like KISS, ZZ Top, Aerosmith, Willie Nelson, Ted Nugent and Iggy Pop and The Stooges. The Stables, a former race horse barn, was a more intimate venue, attracting blues and folk singers like Muddy

See Posters, Page 17

Theater

from page 15

cancellation cost PCT approximately \$5,000. Missing revenue for live shows "is a major loss," he said. "But more than that, it's really sad for the cast and crew."

Swan-Badgero said the pandemic

has "made us look closely at how we are keeping our cast, crew, and patrons healthy when they come to the theater."

Starlight Dinner Theatre planned to have a second week of "The Lion in Winter," but the Waverly school it performed in, closed. Two shows alone won't cover the expenses, Starlight Dinner Theatre president Linda Granger said. She still hopes to finish

the show. Granger is concerned that if school resumes but not evening activities, "that will really, really put us in a bind."

Riverwalk Theatre was only able to hold one performance of "A Hotel on Marvin Gardens." Trying to reschedule that, auditions and new shows is "really the start of a domino effect," Productions VP Rita Deibler said. "We feel a tremen-

dous impact here at Riverwalk."

"While this has exposed some weaknesses as an organization, we've really come together as a community," Deibler said. "A lot of people have reached out to us and we've felt immense support."

Riverwalk's Board is planning to discuss the remaining season. It's not surprising that it will be a virtual meeting.

Posters

from page 16

Waters and Phil Ochs, who recorded his album “Live Again!” at the Stables in 1973.

“I remember hanging out there with Muddy Waters between sets. Those were the days when you could smoke a cigarette with Muddy while he was cooling off,” he said.

In the pre-social media era, printed material was the foremost means of communicating and Bodnar added to his growing collection while at MSU.

It is important to Bodnar that the collection resides in Michigan. He said “Other archives wanted only parts of the collection. They wanted to cherry pick it, MSU wanted it all,” he said.

The collection is Michigan-centric and the threads Bodnar talks about are not clothing, but rather how the Michigan music scene was so intertwined with the counterculture movement.

“Most people want to just collect posters,” he said. There are an estimated 1,000 in the Melisa and Jack Bodnar collection.

He believes that the collection is the largest of its type, as far as Michigan-centric archives are concerned.

“There’s no other collection that’s even close,” he said.

Collectors like Ed Sander, founder of the counterculture rock band, The Fugs, and an icon of the ’60s, may have more material, but there’s no context or focus in the collection Bodnar says.

As an example of the focus Bodnar sought, he cites a 45-record single by The MC5 pressed by A-Squared in Ann Arbor, a small record recording studio. There are several in the collection, but one of the records has a stain from a wineglass.

“Sinclair used it as a coaster,” he said.

The “thread” may be best represented by the iconic 1971 “John Sinclair Freedom Rally” poster promoting the Ann Arbor concert to free Sinclair released from prison. Performers



Courtesy MSU Collections

Robin Summers' piece for Dialogue '68, a countercultural event at the First Unitarian Church featuring The Stooges and The MC5.

See Posters, Page 18



Courtesy MSU Collections

A psychedelic portrait of Vanessa Redgrave occupies this Carl Lundgren poster for a James Cotton Blues Band show at the Grande Ballroom.

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Posters

from page 17

included John Lennon, Yoko Ono, Bob Seger and Stevie Wonder.

There are numerous originals and reissues of the poster, but a beat-up, faded poster with tears and pinpricks where it had been posted on a bulletin board or wall stands out.

“It had been on the wall of Sinclair’s rooms for decades, and was infused with marijuana smoke 24/7” he said.

He also points to the highly collectible postcards sent out by the Grande Ballroom and illustrated by Gary Grimshaw and Carl Lundgren

“Every card tells a story,” he said.

Russ Gibbs, who died last year, was affectionately called “Uncle Russ” after his DJ handle for WKNR radio and was the impresario of the Grande Ballroom. He first garnered attention for the “Paul McCartney is Dead” hoax, and was Detroit’s answer to the West Coast’s Bill Graham — the promoter at the legendary Fillmore in San Francisco. In 1966, Gibbs visited with Graham and used many of his ideas like electric light shows back home at the Grande Ballroom. Detroit artist Gary Grimshaw was there to implement the high poster art and light shows. The Grande Ballroom closed in 1972.

Following a pot bust, Carl Lundgren replaced Grimshaw as the poster artist at the Grande, and later became a noted illustrator of science fiction and fantasy books.

Sinclair was a presence at the Grande

A vivid poster by Lansing’s Terry O’Connor for a Styx gig at The Brewery.

Ballroom, and the revolutionary MC5 became the house band, blasting out loud-loud ear busting music in the dark, smoke laced dance hall. No alcohol was served, but most of the attendees didn’t need hops to get high.

In the Bodnar collection there are numerous handbills, posters and related material from the Grande. He also had collected several architectural elements from the Grande, which will be sent to the Detroit Historical Society.

Bodnar said he wasn’t into the Grande scene, but was drawn more to smaller venues like the Hideout in Harper Woods, the Palladium in Birmingham and the Cavern and Melody Ballroom.

Bodnar is looking forward to the collection being catalogued, although it is already well organized. The more than 120 loose-leaf notebooks jammed with photos, tickets, business cards and other ephemera speak to that.

He plans on doing a “walk-through” of the collection where he will provide the threads that sew the collection together.

There are plans for an exhibit based on the collection are in the future.

McRoberts theorizes that the collection will attract the interest of other collectors who want to see the music and art of the counterculture ’60s preserved.

Susan Whitall, an MSU graduate who worked as a music writer for Creem

Magazine and The Detroit News for decades, supports the idea of her alma mater building a collection relating to Michigan Music.

“Music really tells the history of our culture, politics and sociology. Music is a lot of fun and colorful. It’s only recently that museums have recognized the importance of music in our culture,” she said.

“Music is a window on time and at the time we thought the material was ephemera. We’re lucky anyone collected it,” said Whitall, who saw plenty of “it” cross her desk at Creem and The Detroit News.

Whitall aided the Birmingham Museum in assembling their permanent exhibit on Creem Magazine and also consulted on the recent documentary on Creem. She is the author of a biography on Detroit musician Little Willie John, “Fever,” and edited a book on Joni Mitchell.

Collectors often find it hard to pick a favorite piece.

But Bodnar said his favorite is the rare Robin Summers’ piece for Dialogue ’68, a countercultural event at the First Unitarian Church in 1968 featuring The Stooges and The MC5. Complete with swirling type and a Reni Sinclair photo of The MC5, the poster is one of the rarest of its kind.

Another of his favorites is a poster by Carl Lundgren for the Grande Ballroom with a naked Vanessa Redgrave in the foreground advertising the James Cotton Blues Band. “It epitomizes the whole poster art scene,” Bodnar said.

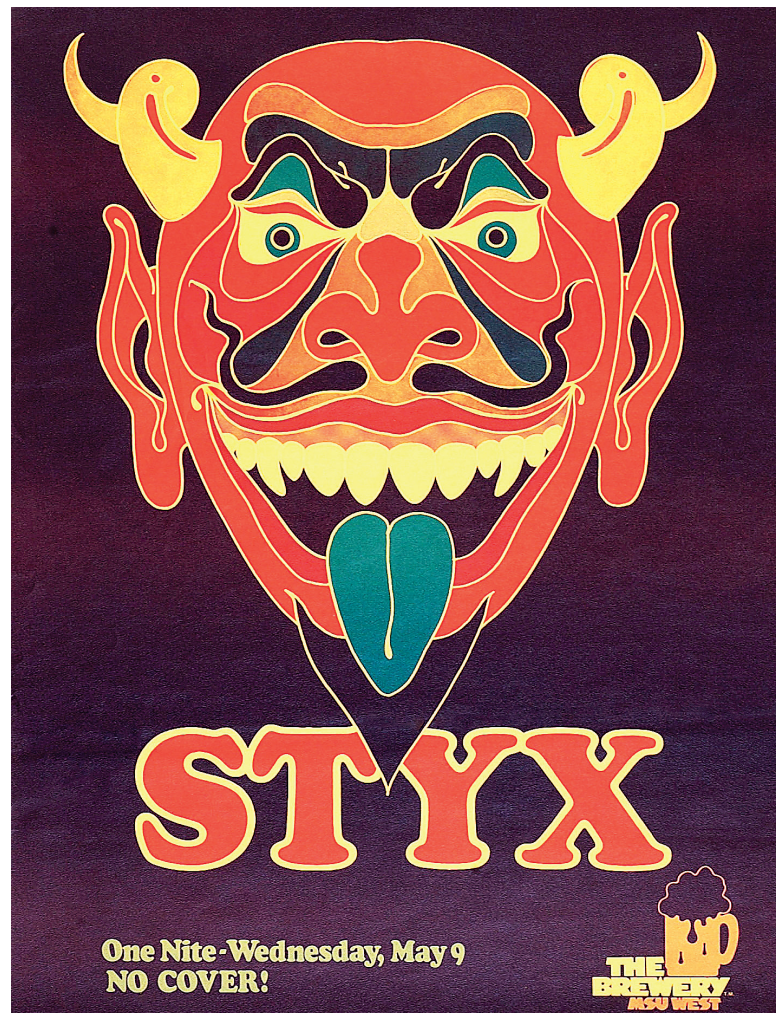
What Bodnar calls the biggest surprise will be a big surprise to readers. He points to the work Lansing resident Terry O’Connor did for the Brewery for performers like Rick Nelson, Chris Jagger and Styx.

“O’Connor stands with Grimshaw,” Bodnar said.

McRoberts said, “As a teenager music was a way to express myself — and a way to direct the energy — it was a form of expression. Punk still lives in me.”

McRoberts said one of the tenants of the White Panther Party was, “Everything free for everybody.” That statement has come full-circle in that the MSU Special Collections will make the collection available to the world, said MSU Director of Libraries Joe Salem.

“We’re not locking it up,” Salem said. “We want to get such a rich musical history in the hands of students and researchers. This collection takes us back to the roots of our special collections and a focus on regional and local history.”



Courtesy MSU Collections



Bill Gastanier/City Pulse

Leslie McRoberts, Head of MSU Library Special Collections, with a copy of the John Sinclair Freedom Rally poster.

Digging through Library of Michigan's treasure trove of rare books

By **BILL CASTANIER**

When scavenging through a collection of books, you never know what you are going to find. But first, you must look.

Most major libraries have a rare book collection where they house books that are singular in their content; books not found in general circulation or books that are fragile from age.

A rare book collection may also contain books of high dollar value, first edition books signed by authors, and other paper items like scrapbooks, maps, letters and public documents.

A number of libraries in the Lansing area have collections that fall under the rubric of "rare" including the MSU Library System; the Capital Area District Library, Local History Room; Delta Township Library; the Michigan State History archives; the Catholic Diocese of Lansing and the Library of Michigan.

Almost always, unless there are digital versions available — check Google, which has digitized millions of volumes — you must make an appointment to examine material since rare books most often are locked up in climate-controlled rooms for preservation and to prevent theft.

Many, but not all, libraries will require identification and it is most often required that a staff member be present during the examination. At the Library of Michigan, you can request help via email at librarian@mi.gov.

The entire collection of rare books can be accessed at michigan.gov/library-ofmichigan. Then click on Answer Catalog at the top of the page, indicate a keyword and select "rare materials collection."

For this article, I was allowed in the rare book vault of the Library of Michigan, which is named after former congresswoman and lieutenant governor Martha Griffiths. My host was head of Special Collections, Timothy Gleisner. He has 20 years of experience as a librarian working in Staten Island, Manhattan, Holland and Grand Rapids, before joining the Library of Michigan.

Just inside the room — which holds approximately 30,000 books and other rare materials — were publications relating to the suffrage movement in Michigan, which had been requested by State Capitol historian Valerie Marvin for a series of programs to be conducted later this year. Included was a scrapbook of a Lansing suffrage leader and some rare newsletters on a World War I women's relief group.



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

Library of Michigan's head of Special Collections, Timothy Gleisner, inspects an 18th century map of Michigan.

Just a few short steps away, the donated collection of material on the history of the Polish in southeast Michigan was being cataloged and preserved.

I would have liked to look at everything in the collection, maybe even spending a night there, but that wasn't going to happen. As compensation, Gleisner pulled some of his favorite things from the stacks.

A glorious original Dutch map from the early 18th century shows the state of Michigan surrounded by "sees." How did it end up in the collection? No one knows for sure, as there is no provenance tracing how it landed at the Library of Michigan.

Similarly, an oversized fragile volume of "Game Fish of the Northern States" from 1862 also has no provenance but shows brightly colored lithographs of fish.

For obvious reasons, the Library of Michigan rare book collection focuses on Michigan topics and books by Michigan authors. There are exceptions such as the first Gutenberg Bible print-

ed in the United States.

There is one volume titled "Ojibwa Bible," a rare bible in Anishinaabe language. Unfortunately, the bible has been rebound in a stiff orange binding process of preserving a book that was quite common. A nearby book title, "History of American Missions to the Heathens," is likely a memoir of a missionary group.

Gleisner said one of the strengths of the collection is the history of numerous faiths, clubs, political subdivisions and organizations. He calls these "the foundational documents of the state."

He said there are books and documents about the German Migration to Saginaw and the Dutch Migration to Michigan. There also are books with birch bark bindings and books like "Sex," the Madonna memoir.

He also pointed out a collection of the Women's Defense Unit letters, a group organized by women during the WWI effort. Following the war, those connections were used to mobilize for women's suffrage.

One book being readied for use relates to the Women's Christian Temperance Union. In it, Harriet Tenney, state librarian from 1869-1891, wrote a personal note about holding the document at the discretion of the Union.

"This sort of unique, one-of-a-kind object is, in my opinion, the very best kind of treasure that the rare book room holds," Marvin said.

Gleisner said he is always impressed with the collections that reside in local libraries across the state.

"In a visit to the Adrian library, I learned it has a gigantic collection on

The Library of Michigan has closed to the public until March 30, due to Michigan's coronavirus mandates. You can still access its digital resources at michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan. Donations of rare books and collections are being accepted. Interested donors should email librarian@libraryofmichigan.Mi.gov to discuss a donation.

urban renewal, which is extremely timely," he said.

"My goal is to increase material relating to the African American, Hispanic, Arab and Native American Communities," Gleisner said.

SCHULER BOOKS

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our COVID-19 response

In concurrence with state guidelines, and in the interest of protecting the well-being of our community, **we are cancelling all events, including weekly kids story times and the Schuler Book Club**, through the end of March. As a widely used community gathering space we feel this was the appropriate decision to make.

Our stores and Chapbook Cafés remain open and we are taking every precaution to maintain a safe space. However, if you fall into a high risk category for COVID-19, or have concerns about being in a public space, *SchulerBooks.com* is always open. Temporarily we are offering free media mail shipping on web orders. **We are also offering Curbside Pickup. Call us for assistance. 517.349.8840**

We will continue to monitor government recommendations in the coming days as we make decisions regarding April events. Updates will be posted on our Facebook page and *SchulerBooks.com*.

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Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Dangerous Curves"--every capital letter in the theme has curves.
By Matt Jones

Across

- 1 School that won 10 NCAA basketball championships in 12 years
- 5 Planetarium projections
- 10 Section of music that's repeated
- 14 Thing on stage
- 15 Banned practice?
- 16 Earth Day subj.
- 17 *Bowful on the specials list
- 19 "Trapped in the Drive- ___" (Weird Al song)
- 20 Beaker's spot
- 21 Goose formations
- 23 Nursery schooler
- 24 "Grown-up" cereal ingredient
- 27 *Italian veal dish
- 29 "Deep Space Nine" constable
- 30 Tap takeover unit
- 33 Hypnotic state
- 34 Mess up
- 36 Aragon-born artist
- 39 "So help me!"
- 40 *"I Am the Walrus" refrain
- 43 Even so
- 45 24-karat, gold-wise
- 46 Tabby tooth
- 49 Believer of sorts
- 51 It takes night deposits
- 53 Arthur of "Maude" and "The Golden Girls"
- 54 *Department of Labor training program
- 57 Seemingly bottomless pit
- 59 Gold, to Cortez
- 60 Christmastime
- 61 Addr. on a business card

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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59				60				61					
62			63		64			65			66	67	68
69						70				71			
72						73				74			

- 62 Accumulation
- 64 *Bands like AKB48 and Babymetal (but not BTS--that's a different letter)
- 69 Cop on a bust
- 70 "... to fetch ___ of water"
- 71 1952 Winter Olympics city
- 72 Laundromat lather
- 73 Mary Poppins, for example
- 74 Late infomercial pitchman Billy
- 9 Most in need of a massage
- 10 Terrier treader
- 11 1991 U2 album featuring the song "One"
- 12 Fez's country
- 13 Demoted (like a former planet)
- 18 Nightfall
- 22 Kevin who played Hercules on TV
- 24 Driving visibility problem
- 25 "___ believe ..."
- 26 Wave rider's accessory
- 28 ___ Pigs Invasion (1961 event)
- 31 Quail ___ omelet
- 32 Gwyneth Paltrow's lifestyle brand
- 35 B vitamin acid
- 37 TTYL part
- 38 "Slumdog Millionaire" city
- 41 Kaitlin of "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia"
- 42 Hot tub nozzle
- 43 Capital of Newfoundland and Labrador
- 44 "Walden" writer
- 47 "Duck Hunt" platform
- 48 Oxygen, for one
- 50 One fooled by a wooden horse
- 52 Ex-Smiths guitarist Johnny
- 55 Pig blamed for causing American kids to affect British accents
- 56 Alfred P. Foundation (NPR benefactor)
- 58 Result in flowers
- 61 Unpleasant, as a situation
- 63 Laptops or desktops, e.g.
- 65 Alley figure
- 66 Home of Rome and Moscow
- 67 What the P in TP doesn't stand for
- 68 Oceanic distress signal

Down

- 1 "What can Brown do for you?" company
- 2 ___-Magnon man
- 3 Actor Diamond Phillips
- 4 iPad Pro maker
- 5 Ticket souvenir
- 6 Blues guitarist ___ Mahal
- 7 From the beginning, in Latin
- 8 Rakish sorts

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Answers Page 23

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

March 18-24, 2020

We interrupt your regularly scheduled horoscopes to offer insights about the virus-driven turning point that the whole world is now experiencing.

As you've probably guessed, all of us are being invited to re-evaluate everything we think we know about what it means to be human. I refer to this unprecedented juncture as The Tumultuous Upgrade or The Disruptive Cure. It's fraught with danger and potential opportunities; crisis and possible breakthroughs.

And while the coronavirus is the main driving force, it won't be the only factor. We must be ready for more Rough, Tough Healings disguised as Bumpy Challenges in the coming months.

Here's the astrological lowdown: Throughout 2020, there's a rare confluence of three planets in Capricorn: Pluto, Saturn, and Jupiter. They are synergizing each other's impacts in ways that confound us and rattle us. In the best-case scenario, they'll also energize us to initiate brave transformations in our own personal lives as well as in our communities.

Below is a profile of each planet's meaning. When we are in intense and intimate relationship with Pluto—as we are now—we're invited to dive down deeper: to see life from the soul's perspective rather than from the ego's; to seek wealth and meaning not as they're defined by the material world but as they're understood by the part of us that's eternal. Descending into the mysterious Plutonian depths can be disruptive to our conscious beliefs and intentions, but may ultimately be profoundly regenerative.

When we are in intense and intimate relationship with Saturn, we're invited to get more serious and focused; to register the fact that we don't have unlimited time and energy, but must firmly decide what's important and what's not. We're asked to be ruthlessly honest about the roles that are most likely to bring out the best in us.

When we are in intense and intimate relationship with Jupiter, we're invited to risk growth and expansion; to take proactive responsibility for seeking the rich experiences that our souls long for; to aggressively enhance our lust for life.

Now I invite you to meditate on the potent mix of Plutonian, Saturnian, and Jupiterian energies. I encourage you to respond to the convulsion by deepening your understanding of how profoundly interconnected we all are and upgrading the way you take care of yourself, the people you love, and our natural world.

In the horoscopes below, I suggest personal shifts that will be available to you during this once-in-a-lifetime blend of planetary energies.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Possible crises in the coming months: 1. Your power spot may be challenged or compromised. 2. Your master plan might unravel. 3. There could be disruptions in your ability to wield your influence. Potential opportunities: 1. You'll be motivated to find an even more suitable power spot. 2. A revised master plan will coalesce. 3. You'll be resourceful as you discover novel ways to wield your influence.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Possible crises in the coming months: 1. Your vision of the big picture of your life may dissipate. 2. Old reliable approaches to learning crucial lessons and expanding your mind could lose their effectiveness. Potential opportunities: 1. You'll be inspired to develop an updated vision of the big picture of your life. 2. Creative new strategies for learning and expanding your mind will invigorate your personal growth.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Possible crises in the coming months: 1. There may be breakdowns in communication with people you care about. 2. Contracts and agreements could fray. 3. Sexual challenges might complicate love. Potential opportunities: 1. You'll be inspired to reinvent the ways you communicate and connect. 2. Your willingness to revise agreements and contracts could make them work better for all concerned. 3. Sexual healing will be available.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Possible crises in the coming months: 1. Friends and associates could change in ways that are uncomfortable

for you. 2. Images and expectations that people have of you may not match your own images and expectations. Potential opportunities: 1. If you're intelligent and compassionate as you deal with the transformations in your friends and associates, your relationships could be rejuvenated. 2. You might become braver and more forceful in expressing who you are and what you want.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Possible crises in the coming months: 1. Your job may not suit you as well as you wish. 2. A health issue could demand more of your attention than you'd like. Potential opportunities: 1. You'll take innovative action to make your job work better for you. 2. In your efforts to solve a specific health issue, you'll upgrade your entire approach to staying healthy long-term.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Possible crises in the coming months: 1. Love may feel confusing or unpredictable. 2. You may come up against a block to your creativity. Potential opportunities: 1. You'll be energized to generate new understandings about how to ensure that love works well for you. 2. Your frustration with a creative block will motivate you to uncover previously hidden keys to accessing creative inspiration.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Possible crises in the coming months: 1. You may experience disturbances in your relationships with home and family. 2. You may falter in your ability to maintain a strong foundation. Potential opportunities: 1. Domestic disorder could inspire you to reinvent your approach to home and family, changing your life for the better. 2. Responding to a downturn in your stability and security, you'll build a much stronger foundation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Possible crises in the coming months: 1. There may be carelessness or a lack of skill in the ways you and your associates communicate and cultivate connectivity. 2. You may have problems blending elements that really need to be blended. Potential opportunities: 1. You'll resolve to communicate and cultivate connectivity with a renewed panache and vigor. 2. You'll dream up fresh approaches to blending elements that need to be blended.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Possible crises in the coming months: 1. Money may be problematic. 2. Your personal integrity might undergo a challenge. 3. You could get lax about translating your noble ideas into practical actions. Potential opportunities: 1. You'll find inventive solutions for boosting your wealth. 2. You'll take steps to ensure your ethical code is impeccable. 3. You'll renew your commitment to translating your noble ideals into practical action.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Possible predicament during the coming months: You may have an identity crisis. Who are you, anyway? What do you really want? What are your true intentions? Potential opportunity: You'll purge self-doubts and fuzzy self-images. You'll rise up with a fierce determination to define yourself with clarity and intensity and creativity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Possible crises in the coming months: 1. You'll be at risk for botched endings. 2. You may be tempted to avoid solving long-term problems whose time is up. Potential opportunities: 1. You'll make sure all endings are as graceful and complete as possible. 2. You'll dive in and finally resolve long-term problems whose time is up.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Possible crises in the coming months: 1. Due to worries about your self-worth, you may not accept the help and support that are available. 2. Due to worries about your self-worth, you might fail to bravely take advantage of chances to reach a new level of success. Potential opportunities: 1. You'll take dramatic action to enhance your sense of self-worth, empowering you to welcome the help and support you're offered and take advantage of chances to reach a new level of success.

SUDOKU

Beginner

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TO PLAY

Fill in the grid so that every row, column, and outlined 3-by-3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 exactly once. No guessing is required. The solution is unique.

Answers on page 23

TURN IT DOWN! A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

ORC DROPS FUZZY, SELF-TITLED VINYL LP



Orc is bassist/vocalist Andy Jeglic and drummer Connor Peil. (photo courtesy of Life in Michigan)



In early March, Orc released a new vinyl edition of its self-titled debut album.

Q&A: Lansing-based vocalist and bassist Andy Jeglic

Where to listen: orc.mi.bandcamp.com

Back in January, Orc quietly released its debut album online, but then it quickly caught the attention of stoner rock enthusiasts from across the globe. Now, the fuzzy nine-track record is also available on vinyl via the band's website, and locally at Flat, Black & Circular and The Record Lounge.

The Lansing-based progressive-metal outfit may sound colossal, but all of that hard-rock mayhem comes from the stripped-down duo of bassist/vocalist Andy Jeglic and drummer Connor Peil. Both are Bay City natives who previously played in The Distorted Waltz together, though Jeglic now lives in Lansing while Peil resides in Ann Arbor. Fans of early-era Soundgarden will surely want to give their new LP a listen.

Orc is just a duo with vocals, bass and drums—why no guitarist?

Andy Jeglic: Honestly, we didn't know any local musicians and our old band had just dissolved due to the busy schedules of the members. So, we thought a two-piece band would be much less of a hassle.

The new Orc album is available on vinyl now, why did you decide to press it up?

We just got our vinyl in early March. Once

we had an enthusiastic response to the album, we knew we wanted it on vinyl. I'm a big collector and having our own music on wax is a special thing. It's long-lasting and tangible.

Your voice is strong, similar to the late Chris Cornell. Was he an influence?

I think it's impossible to be a rock singer and not be influenced by Chris. I'm a big fan. I think Ronnie James Dio is my primary inspiration as a singer. I just love his control and power. But Chris is right up there and I'm super flattered when I get compared to him. I'd say my Mount Rushmore of singers would be Dio, Layne Staley, Chris Cornell and Ozzy Osbourne.

After The Distorted Waltz ended, how did Orc come about?

It started after both of us relocated from Bay City. In 2018, we began jamming regularly as a two piece since we didn't know any other musicians in the area. We ended up forming Orc after our two-piece jamming became more cohesive, with the final catalyst being a Primus and Mastodon concert that motivated us to formally start the band.

Orc is an interesting name. Where

did that come from?

We wanted a short, one syllable name and Orc fit the genre really well. We just went for it.

Where was Orc's first gig?

We played our first show at Bemos Bar in Bay City in March 2019, and then quickly played shows like Stoop Fest in Lansing, Fuzz Fest in Ann Arbor, and some cool venues in Detroit.

For not having a guitar, your bass has an amazingly huge tone. Where does that fuzziness come from?

I have a three-part rig that I play through. First, I split my bass signal two ways. One goes directly to my bass amp and the other goes to an Octaviser (octave pedal) that changes the signal to be in the range of a guitar. Then I split that signal again, and I send one into a fuzz pedal and one into my guitar amp. That way we get a really huge sound for a two-piece band.

Before you recorded this self-titled debut album, what bands were you listening to for stimuli?

We were listening to a pretty specific mix of bands when we were writing this album. For metal, we were inspired by Mastodon,

Megadeth and Motorhead. Really, anything that hit hard and aggressively. We were also listening to a lot of experimental stuff that we wanted to mix in to the music. Specifically, Primus and "Discipline"-era King Crimson. I would argue that Primus is our biggest influence, but the distortion masks it. We also studied Royal Blood a lot to help us understand how to fill space as a two piece.

Lyrically, what does the new album touch on?

Frustration. I think I was just in a frustrated place in my life. There are songs about staving off nihilism, the cycle of poverty, the daily grind, difficult personal relationships... I also tossed in a couple storytelling songs as an ode to Les Claypool, who is a fantastic storyteller.

Aside from pushing the new record, what are you up to these days?

We both work a lot. I work for Michigan State University and Connor is an electrical engineer. Work and music. Connor also has a jazz side-project and I write Americana music on the side. Plus, we're already working on material for a second Orc album.

Follow Orc at facebook.com/OrcTheBand for updates.

A Letter from Turn it Down! ... are you recording any music?

Since 2009, Turn It Down! has spotlighted concerts (big and small) all across the Greater Lansing area. Of course, with the recent Coronavirus outbreak, and the mandatory bar, restaurant and venue closings, these gigs have all been understandably canceled in Lansing and beyond.

When will things pick back up? Who knows. And that's scary for area bands and solo artists who depend on performing to pay the bills. Obviously, there are many industries that will be hurting, but this page has always been about the music, so I'm simply speaking about this one aspect of this pandemic.

The Mid-Michigan music scene will be hurting for a few weeks, perhaps months. So, for now, please consider purchasing music online from your favorite local band or performer. There are hundreds of amazing albums out there by Lansing-area folks, and many are available via their websites. A few extra bucks will help a full-time artist whose income was suddenly shut down.

Thinking back to when I first started this music coverage in City Pulse, the name of this column was a reference to super-loud shows. A sort of, "Hey, that's TOO loud! Turn it down, kid!" kind of thing. Well, things have sadly turned down

all the way. So, in the meantime, I will continue to write this column, only with a focus on upcoming local album releases, since there are no shows to report. With that said:

ATTENTION LOCAL MUSICANS: Are you recording a new single, EP or album? Do you have a tentative release date? Please send music news tips to Rich Tupica at rich@lansingcitypulse.com

Thanks,
Rich Tupica
Turn It Down! / City Pulse writer

OUT ON THE TOWN

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.

Wednesday, March 18

EVENTS

Allen Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. 1611 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. 517-999-3911. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

Winter Workdays at CCBS - Stewardship workday 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Capital City Bird Sanctuary, 6001 Delta River Dr., Lansing. michiganadubon.org.

Thursday, March 19

CLASSES/SEMINARS

Cebiche Workshop - Come and join us at our cooking workshops! 6-8 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1611 E Kalamazoo St, Lansing.

Friday, March 20

EVENTS

Refuge Recovery Lansing - 7:30-8:30 p.m. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Avenue, Lansing.

Saturday, March 21

CLASSES/SEMINARS

Vermicomposting - Learn how to start your own outdoor worm composting bin at home. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Hunter Park GardenHouse, 1400 E. Kalamazoo, Lansing.

EVENTS

March Mobile Food Pantry - Drive through, preboxed. Must bring a valid state ID card or driver's license. 9-11 a.m. Tabernacle of David, 2645 W. Holmes Rd, Lansing. lansingmi.gov.

Sunday, March 22

CLASSES/SEMINARS

Juggling - Learn how to juggle! 2-4 p.m. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing.

Monday, March 23

EVENTS

Game Night at the Fledge - board and card games. 7 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka, Lansing. 517-203-9287.

Refuge Recovery Lansing - 6-7 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka, Lansing.



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THE PULSIFIEDS

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 21

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

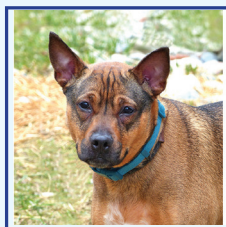
From Pg. 21

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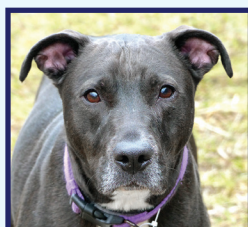


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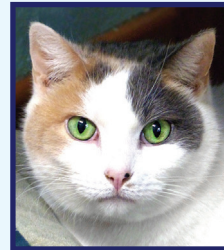
Tom Hanks is great with kids, cats and dogs, knows lots of commands and is housebroken. Currently in foster care and can't wait for his forever home.

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Fuzzy Bear is a sweet young guy. Gets along with other cats but dogs and kids are scary to him so prefers a home without them.

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In memory of
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FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Keep calm and carryout

Coronavirus precautions cause anxiety, solidarity in service industry

By SKYLER ASHLEY

Of all the sweeping preventative measures in response to the coronavirus, Monday's suspension of dine-in service — permitting food service businesses to only provide delivery and carryout — may have stung the hardest.

Many service industry workers woke up to the news of Executive Order 2020-09 questioning if they would still have a job; while others had their working hours drastically cut or were laid off by the end of the day. Shortly after the executive order's announcement, Michigan also added emergency coronavirus expansions to its unemployment benefits. Eligible workers can apply at Michigan.gov/UIA. Some businesses, such as Mac's Bar, have turned to fundraising websites like GoFundMe to provide emergency cash for its employees.

Ben Hassenger, who works for a local catering company and a dine-in restaurant, hasn't yet received a schedule for this week.

"At the catering company, we do a lot of corporate events and a lot of things for groups of over 50 people — with a lot of things getting canceled, there's

not that market-based need for me to work right now," Hassenger said.

The situation has Hassenger feeling nervous.

"We don't know how long this is going to last, and how long things are going to be shut down. The complete uncertainty makes my mind wonder and get frightened," Hassenger said. "I feel for all my co-workers and everybody else in hospitality. We all want to help each other, but there's only so much we can do."

Hassenger said he's likely to fill out an application for the emergency unemployment benefits. He's also witnessed a social media rallying of workers in the service industry.

"That's why we have social services, they're designed to help people out. And a lot of people need help right now," Hassenger said. "There are a lot of people who are just like, 'We're all in this, I can offer this, what do you need?' Everybody is willing to help and wants to help. That speaks to who we are as a community of hospitality workers."

Regardless of the personal financial consequences, Hassenger still believes Michigan acted correctly with its executive order.

"If you look at the trends of how COVID-19 has grown globally, we're a little bit behind but we're following the

SORRY, WE'RE CLOSED

As of this article's print publication, Executive Order 2020-09 applies to: Restaurants, cafes, coffee houses, bars, taverns, brewpubs, distilleries, clubs, movie theaters, indoor and outdoor performance venues, gymnasiums, fitness centers, recreation centers, indoor sports facilities, indoor exercise facilities, exercise studios, spas and casinos.

Restaurants may allow five people inside at a time to pick up orders, so long as they stay 6 feet apart from each other.

The executive order does not apply to: Office buildings, grocery stores, markets, food pantries, pharmacies, drug stores, and providers of medical equipment and supplies, health care facilities, residential care facilities, congregate care facilities and juvenile justice facilities, warehouse/distribution centers and industrial and manufacturing facilities

Order restrictions will remain in place until Monday, March 30, at 11:59 p.m. For more details on this executive order, visit Michigan.gov/coronavirus.

same track," Hassenger said. "I think anything we can do to stop the spread — and help keep our elderly and immunocompromised community healthy — is the best thing to do. It was the right call."

Danielle Gyger, a bartender at two Lansing establishments, worries how the executive order will affect her co-workers, adding she has money saved up but that it won't "last forever."

Sean Johnson, owner of Meat BBQ in Old Town, said he is ramping up his takeout and delivery options, hoping to provide his employees as many hours as logistically and economically possible.

"We're taking the delivery and takeout option. I am trying to keep as many people employed as I possibly can," Johnson said.

Johnson believes the coronavirus situation is unprecedented, but hopes the local restaurant industry will find a way to pull through it.

"What do you do in a situation like this? I've never experienced anything like this in my lifetime, where you have to shut down an entire industry because of a virus," Johnson said. "I can only hope everybody will do their best and remain calm, and we get through this as best as possible."

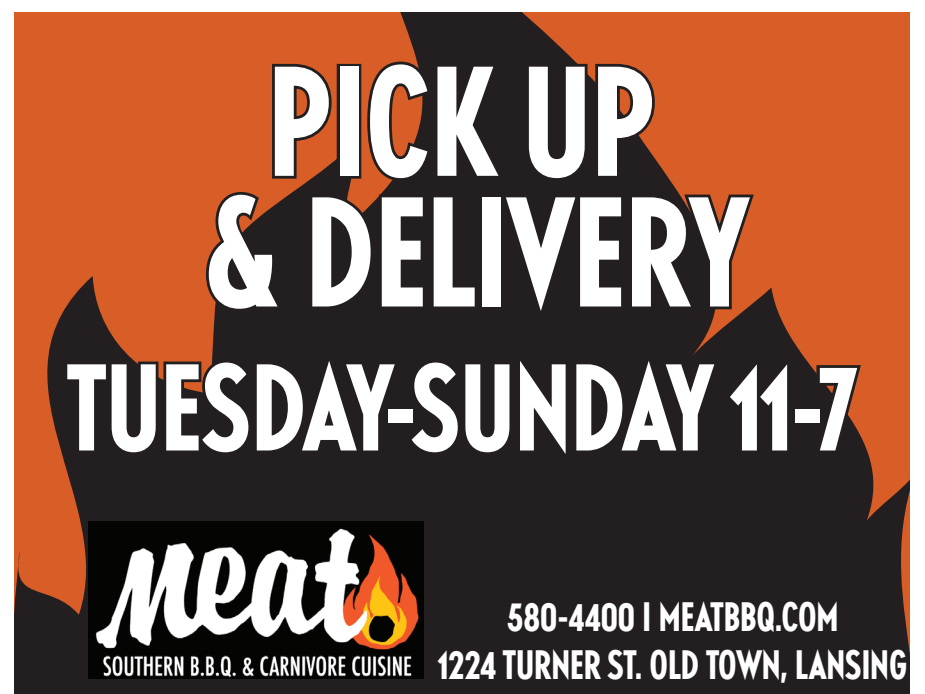
Many locally owned restaurants have followed suit in sharing on social media how they are adjusting their delivery and carryout options in face of this executive order. You can call or visit your favorite restaurant's website and social media accounts, to see what it is currently offering.



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