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April 22 - 28, 2020

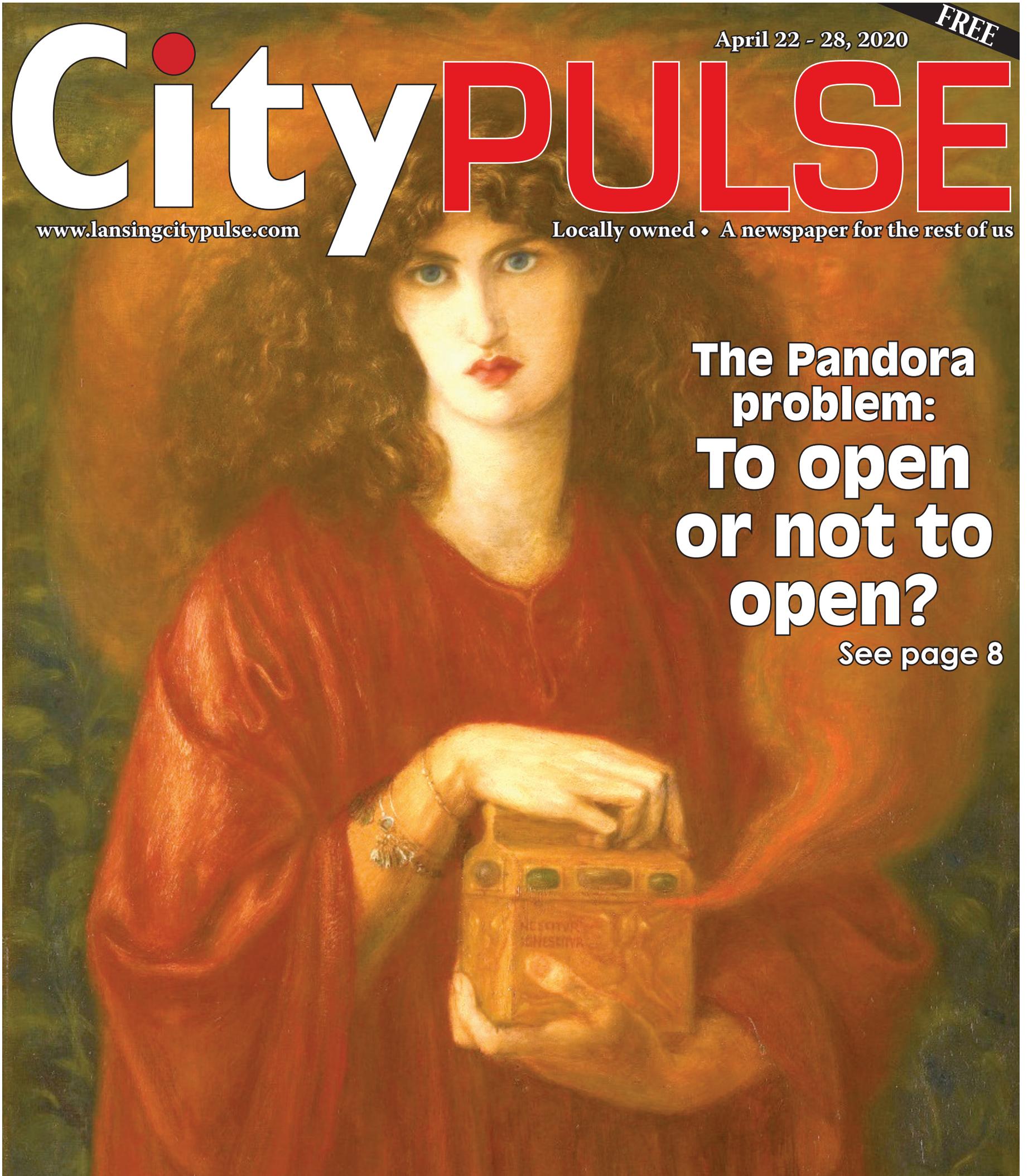
CityPULSE

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**The Pandora
problem:
To open
or not to
open?**

See page 8



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Favorite Things

Tiesha King and her cabinet of oddities

Tiesha King is the owner of Thrift Witch, a collectable and vintage store in the REO Town Marketplace that's stacked with eerie oddities. Her love of all-things spooky also inspired her to cofound The Dark Art of Michigan, an artist collective. Amid these stay-at-home days, King has been spending ample time revisiting her own personal collection of ghostly goods.

Here's what she had to say about her favorite thing:

I'm always surrounded by the macabre. My favorite thing would have to be my collection of oddities, weird toys and antiques in my curio cabinet. I've been a collector of old things my entire life, so I have amassed a creepy little collection of toys and collectables displayed in my home.

Anytime I'm out searching Michigan's resale underbelly for hidden gems for my store, I ultimately end up finding some keepers. My first love is my Ouija Board collection — the older the better. I'm definitely drawn to the history of these talking boards. They have been sold as a toy for so long and are still mass produced as such, but they definitely still scare people. I currently have seven, but we don't use them.

Secondly, would be my weird antique dolls. I have many different types of composite dolls and ventriloquism dolls. I prefer them to be imperfect. A little wear tells a story and creates a personal lore for each one. Some are very old and brittle and look like they could come to life in my nightmares. So Creepy! My oldest and favorite ventriloquism doll is so scary looking. I found him in the basement of an estate sale and they begged me to take it. A movie producer tried to buy it as a villain for a movie. I like it so much I couldn't part with it.



I have a few skulls. Some wet specimens and some pinned-insect displays in there too. I find beauty in the entire circle of life, but it's important to me that I find ethically sourced displays when possible. They are definitely not for everyone and usually shock the family when they come by.

I would say my last favorite group within my curio cabinet would be my antique Halloween party favors and decor. I'm obsessed with the imagery of vintage Halloween: Jack-o-lanterns, cats, moons and witches. Halloween has always been my favorite holiday, I guess that's why I opened the type of store I did. People say it's like Halloween in a time machine.

This quarantine has got me a feeling a little stir crazy. Without thrift stores or gatherings like estate sales and yard sales to go to, I find myself daydreaming about things — like the back counter of the Volunteers of America, where they keep some of the rarer pieces. I miss the thrill of the hunt. So, while I use safe practices during this quarantine, I cleaned my garage and pretended it was an estate sale. There were so many things I stumbled on that I'd forgotten I had, that made it fun. I guess I just like to get scared and like scary things.

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



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Who's the Tyrant?

SOME ON THE RIGHT HAVE STRANGE IDEAS ABOUT WHAT GOVERNMENT ABUSE OF POWER LOOKS LIKE.

I CAN SPRAY SPITTLE WHEREVER I WANT!

THIS MAN IS LIKE ROSA PARKS RIGHT HERE.

PEOPLE ARE APPARENTLY THINKING LIKE THIS.

COMPETENT OFFICIALS ACTING IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST	=	INCOMPETENT AUTHORITARIAN PLUTOCRATS ACTING IN SELF-INTEREST
"BIG GOVERNMENT"	=	"SMALL GOVERNMENT"
COMMIES!		FREEDOM!

YES, THE GOVERNORS ARE CLEARLY POWER-MAD TYRANTS.

I JUST LOVE TRAPPING PEOPLE IN THEIR HOMES FOR NO GOOD REASON!

EAT BEAN LOAF, SUCKERS!

BUT NO PROBLEM HERE!

SIR, TRUMP HAS CLAIMED "TOTAL AUTHORITY" OVER THE STATES AND IS SEIZING THEIR MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

WHO CARES?

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Homeless encampment must put out flames, says Schor

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Poetry and film blend in virtual festival

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Local festivals go live

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Cover Art

Painting by Dante Gabriel Rossetti

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

I CAN'T BELIEVE THESE GOVERNORS TELLING US TO STAY IN OUR HOMES!

IT'S AS IF IN THE ABSENCE OF A COORDINATED FEDERAL RESPONSE, THEY'RE DOING THEIR BEST TO PROTECT THEIR CITIZENS!

THE TYRANTS!

DON'T THEY UNDERSTAND THAT PRESIDENT TRUMP HAS TOTAL AUTHORITY?

HE SEEMS TO THINK SO! AND HE'S EXERCISING IT BY WASHING HIS HANDS OF ALL RESPONSIBILITY!

I MEAN, AT LEAST HE'S WASHING HIS HANDS.

THIS ISN'T SOME FILTHY HELLHOLE LIKE NEW YORK CITY! THINGS ARE DIFFERENT HERE! THE CORONAVIRUS WON'T DECIMATE MY COMMUNITY!

SAYS THE MAN WHO VOTED FOR THE CORONAVIRUS-DECIMATING-MY-COMMUNITY PARTY!

PEOPLE DIE FROM ALL KINDS OF THINGS! 45,000 PEOPLE A YEAR DIE FROM AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS BUT WE DON'T SHUT THE COUNTRY DOWN!

RIGHT? AS WE ALL KNOW, AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS ARE HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS AND CAN SPREAD THROUGH THE POPULATION AT AN EXPONENTIAL RATE!

YOU NEVER HEAR DR. FAUCI TALK ABOUT THAT!

IF THE GOVERNORS WON'T LISTEN TO US--WE'LL KEEP HOLDING RALLIES UNTIL THEY DO! WE REPRESENT THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE!

YES, THERE MUST BE HUNDREDS OF YOU, IN A NATION IN WHICH MILLIONS OF OTHERS ARE VOLUNTARILY ENDURING ISOLATION FOR THE GOOD OF SOCIETY!

I DEMAND MY CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT NOT TO BE INCONVENIENCED BY ANYTHING, EVER! I HAVE ERRANDS TO RUN, DAMMIT!

IT IS DEFINITELY A HILL TO DIE ON.

LITERALLY.

TOM TOMORROW © 2020

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Conservatives for COVID

As protests go, last week's Operation Gridlock was one of the larger gatherings to descend on Lansing in recent years. Not since the 2012 Right to Work (for Less) rally drew 10,000 protesters and counter protesters to the State Capitol grounds has an issue mobilized so many Michigan citizens to descend en masse on the home of their state government. The aptly named anti-Whitmer, pro-Trump rally largely succeeded in its stated objective to tie up traffic in the capital city for most of the day as a protest against personal restrictions and business closures mandated by the governor's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" executive orders.

Local officials clearly weren't expecting the deluge of vehicles that converged on the capital city from every point on the compass and were seemingly unprepared to handle the mess. City of Lansing public safety officials quickly issued a series of defensive-sounding statements highlighting the unprecedented nature of the event and promising to do better if it happens again. We won't belabor the obvious lack of contingency planning on the part of state and local law enforcement agencies and hope they will have a more tactical, coordinated approach going forward. Experience can be a cruel teacher, but we're confident that important lessons were learned.

We're also grateful that no one died as a result of apparent difficulties in accessing Sparrow Health System's main campus on Michigan Avenue. We don't think blocking ingress and egress to the hospital was an explicit objective of the protesters, but Facebook blew up with posts alleging that protest-related vehicles were blocking the entrance to the hospital. Online photos depicted an ambulance apparently caught in a traffic jam. It goes without saying that any delay is unacceptable — mere minutes can be the difference between life and death. While a Sparrow spokesman issued a firm denial that the cavalcade of cars had done

The CP Edit

Opinion

anything more than cause minor delays in the hospital's shift change, the nurse's union issued a contradictory claim that ambulances were indeed impeded. Wherever the truth lies, Sparrow can also shoulder some blame for failing to plan for the worst. We recommend it work more closely with Lansing public safety and traffic control staff to ensure unfettered access to the hospital no matter what happens in the future.

We stand firmly on the side of the constitutional right of all citizens to air grievances in public, even when we vehemently disagree with their agenda. We can also tolerate mild forms of civil disobedience when it is justified to make a valid point. But we cannot countenance actions that recklessly endanger the lives of others. In this case, the blatant violations of Governor Whitmer's social distancing edicts by dozens of gun-toting protesters clearly crossed the line and should have drawn a more aggressive response from the Michigan State Police and Lansing police.

We understand the reticence of our first responders to put their own health at risk by engaging protesters, but it is part and parcel of the hazards they face every day to keep us all safe. If a similar event is staged again, officers should be directed to enforce the law and issue misdemeanor citations. We were encouraged by Mayor Andy Schor's post-fiasco statement vowing more aggressive enforcement if more social distancing-averse protesters make another appearance. At the request of state officials, Facebook also wisely stopped allowing the use of its platform to organize and promote similar rallies across the country.

It will surprise no one that last week's fiasco was a production of the DeVos-funded Michigan Conservative Coalition,

Michigan Freedom Fund and affiliated right-wing groups that apparently can't resist the opportunity to make political hay during the worst health and economic crisis in modern US history. Sadly, encouraging the faithful to endanger their own lives appears to be part of the Trump reelection strategy. Not surprisingly, Trump himself heaped praise on the protesters, calling them "my people" and stupidly encouraging them to continue risking their lives to highlight whatever nonsensical point they are trying to make.

As with any large-scale protest, this soiree attracted an eclectic amalgam of participants, from camouflage-clad, gun-toting man-children waving around their military-style firearms for no apparent reason, to frustrated landscapers and other small business owners worried about their ability to survive the COVID economic cataclysm, to flag-waving Trumpeteers for whom our pathetic excuse of a president can do no wrong. COVID deniers rank right up there with climate change deniers in their utter obliviousness to science and data. It's ironic that some of them may end up dying from COVID-19 as a result of their participation in Operation Give Me COVID. Of course, the most disconcerting upshot of this fiasco is the distinct possibility that some of the participants will take their new coronavirus infections back to wherever they call home and possibly infect still more people, including their own loved ones. We would make a snide comment about Darwin Award winners, but we sincerely feel sorry for the rank stupidity that may well cost one or more of them their life.

There are abundant lessons to be learned during any crisis. Let's hope last week's debacle was a teachable moment both for local officials as a primer in how not to handle gridlocked traffic, and for those who attended the rally as a reminder that it is sometimes better to keep your mouth shut than to open it and remove all doubt that you are, indeed, an idiot.



Courtesy Michigan State Police

PPE litter

As the COVID-19 pandemic spreads across Greater Lansing, piles of used latex gloves, face masks and other protective equipment are becoming all too common litter on streets, sidewalks and parking lots. So, City Pulse has a public service announcement for some of our messier readers: Pick up after yourselves.

It's great to see local residents taking precautions to protect both themselves and others during a global health crisis, but there's just never a reason to toss trash on the ground, especially when that litter could carry an incredibly infectious disease. It forces someone else to clean up the mess and poses a real health safety issue.

So, this week, we're joining our friends at the Detroit Metro Times in telling our readers: Just stop it.

The Michigan State Police have warned residents that littering medical waste can result in \$225 fine. And while we don't usually like to side with Big Brother, it's probably about time to start seeing some tickets get written.

— KYLE KAMINSKI

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

"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.

3 months later, no charges in Jackson Johnson probe so far

Court-appointed receiver finds ‘no real problem’ with her homeless nonprofit

Federal and state authorities are still investigating the alleged financial missteps that enabled city officials to push Joan Jackson Johnson out of a job and into an early retirement this year. But as the months go by, no criminal charges have been filed and no problems have surfaced.

And the court-appointed lawyer who now runs One Church One Family, the nonprofit at the center of the controversy, also hasn't found any problems. As a result, plans are underway to reboot the charity under new leadership and keep services going for Lansing's most vulnerable residents.

“I just don't think there are any real problems here,” said attorney Thomas Woods, the court-appointed receiver now charged with managing the abandoned nonprofit. “The whole allegation against Joan seemed to be about conflicting interest. That may be, but I just don't see any conflicts involving this organization. It really seems to be a straightforward operation.”

Jackson Johnson was suspended Jan. 8 as the city's director of human relations and community services. Mayor Andy Schor said he didn't have many options after discovering federal grant funding had flowed directly from Jackson Johnson's office to One Church One Family, a housing-focused nonprofit in which she had been heavily involved.

An apparent conflict of interests was enough reason to temporarily suspend Jackson Johnson while city officials handed off the probe to authorities. Jackson Johnson has since retired, but in tandem with federal officials, that investigation was still ongoing this week, officials said.

But those investigators have never even called her, Jackson Johnson said. No charges have been issued. No cash has needed to be returned. And as the months pass by, some are growing frustrated with what has been labeled as a successful “witch hunt” at Lansing City Hall.

Former Mayor Virg Bernero, who first hired Jackson Johnson, continued to champion her. “The mayor has a lot of explaining to do as to why Joan was singled out for this type of treatment,” Bernero said. “He turned an accounting issue into a federal case — literal-

ly — and impugned the reputation of a wonderful woman and a Lansing icon.” Bernero appointed Jackson Johnson to her city position in 2006. Schor kept her on after he replaced Bernero in 2018.

“I just don't think there are any real problems here. The whole allegation against Joan seemed to be about conflicting interests. That may be, but I just don't see any conflicts involving this organization. It really seems to be a straightforward operation.”

— **Thomas E. Woods,**
Lansing attorney
appointed to oversee
One Church One Family



“I gave them 100%. I worked my ass off and always did my job. And then to be treated like I was somehow less than I was? I wouldn't have done to an enemy what Mayor Schor's administration did to me.”

— **Joan Jackson Johnson**



ly — and impugned the reputation of a wonderful woman and a Lansing icon.”

Bernero appointed Jackson Johnson to her city position in 2006. Schor kept her on after he replaced Bernero in 2018.

After the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development notified the city about “issues with contracts” stemming from Jackson Johnson's tenure, auditors were hired to investigate. Their findings have since cast a shadow over her otherwise impeccable record with the city.

The report found at least \$1.38 million in city funds under Jackson Johnson's direct oversight had been funneled into various nonprofit groups in which she or her family was involved. And records show One Church One Family received the bulk — about \$500,000 — of that cash.

It was an insurmountable conflict of interest for Schor's administration and it raised further questions of financial impropriety, budgetary mismanagement and unfair personal gain that

still haven't been entirely resolved — though Jackson Johnson still maintains her innocence.

“I gave them 100%. I worked my ass off and always did my job. And then to be treated like I was somehow less than I was? I wouldn't have done to an enemy what Mayor Schor's administration did to me,” Jackson Johnson told City Pulse in an interview late last week.

Dozens rallied at City Council meetings in the weeks that followed her departure. Their questions: How could someone that did so much good for the city be maligned with these accusations? For so many, it was unfathomable that Jackson Johnson did something wrong.

Jackson Johnson said she watched the outpouring of community support from a distance.

“I wouldn't talk to anyone for the longest time,” Jackson Johnson added. “I lost sleep. I've had cancer, and this is still the worst experience that I've ever had. I really disappeared, but decided the best way to really handle the pain

was to help out and keep giving back to my community.”

Jackson Johnson — although no longer in any formal role with the city — is a regular at Advent House on the weekends, giving out meals to those in need. She still shops around for sweatsuits for the homeless, and checks under downtown bridges to assist those who need it.

“If there was ever a time for Joan Jackson Johnson when we need her, it's right now,” Bernero said on the local podcast “Merica 20 to Life.” “She is an institution in this community. They've taken her out of City Hall, but her reputation is sterling and they've got nothing on her.”

In retirement, Jackson Johnson also resigned from her nonprofit — a move that left the leaderless organization ripe for a court-ordered receivership to take over its assets. The city successfully petitioned for the receivership in Ingham Circuit Court at the end of February for a receiver to take over earlier this year. The city is still demanding an audit be done.

Woods said he could either dissolve the nonprofit and hand over hundreds of thousands of dollars in assets to another local charity such as Advent House. Or, ideally, he could appoint a new board of directors and let the organization continue as it was before Jackson Johnson left.

“If there's a concern with OCOF, someone is going to have to identify that for me and get an accounting firm to come in and look at the transactions or something,” Woods added. “Personally, I haven't seen anything that would be an issue here. I see nothing improper at all.”

One Church One Family — now under Wood's leadership — still rents seven of nine homes that were purchased on Jackson Johnson's leadership. Tenants who would otherwise be homeless have their monthly rent offset by funding from the state, the city and Advent House.

Woods said the nonprofit is still a “fairly profitable” operation with a conservatively estimated \$540,000 in property and another \$100,000 in the bank. And he sees no valid reason to tear apart what Jackson Johnson had spent years to create. He just wants to keep things going.

“It's a legitimate housing provider that partnered with a lot of nonprofits

Lansing cracks down on fires at local homeless camp

Schor: No flexibility for homeless amid pandemic

A small, defiant campfire was burning at a homeless camp near downtown Lansing on Tuesday despite the city ban against open fires amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Last weekend, “some asshole” called to report a small campfire at a makeshift homeless encampment off Larch Street, said a firefighter at the Lansing Fire Department before a crew extinguished the flames. The encounter was captured on a video later obtained by City Pulse.

Four firefighters — none wearing masks — rolled up in an LFD rig to extinguish what appeared to be a smoldering pile of embers. Even small flames can help the group to keep warm or to boil pots of water. But the law is the law, firefighters said. No new burn permits are being issued.

“I don’t want to ask you to put this out, but it is what it is,” an unidentified LFD firefighter told the camp. “You’re back here minding your own business, not doing anything wrong. I get it. Some asshole called on you guys. I apologize. I hate doing this. I gotta make sure it’s out.”

And because Mayor Andy Schor and the Fire Department are unwilling to look the other way, firefighters could be back again to enforce city ordinance as nightly temperatures dip below 40.

“Burn permits ensure that fire is contained, brush isn’t burned, water is in the area to prevent a big fire from breaking out,” Schor told City Pulse this week. “These are all safety issues that must be considered when there is fire involved to prevent the dangers to surrounding areas.”

Burn permits are \$50, and usually out-of-reach for the homeless community. But the city isn’t issuing them

regardless. The goal: reduce all unnecessary safety risks amid a global health crisis. As a result, those living at the small encampment near downtown don’t have many options.

“We started it right up again,” said Anthony Esochea, a self-declared co-founder of the camp that houses at least a dozen homeless people in tents off Larch Street near downtown. “The thing is: We have our freedom here. We don’t have to report to any place at any certain time.”

True to his word, a small fire was blazing on Monday and Tuesday this week.

“I call this Our Town,” another camper told City Pulse. “This might be Lansing, but this is our town here. I’ve been locked up too much in my life. I know how to govern myself out here.”

The makeshift campground formed at least a few weeks ago as local homeless shelters filled to capacity. Several tents are scattered across the vacant lot, apparently allowed only through passive permission from a wealthy, out-of-town owner with little regard for his more distant properties.

Donations are dropped off regularly. Residents still occasionally travel to the nearby homeless shelters for carryout meals and then return to congregate around a small fire pit in the woods. Empty beer cans are piled up nearby. And unlike local shelters, the camp has no formal rules.

“We can still maneuver and do things the way we want to do them,” Esochea added. “We’ll take bird baths here. We’re coping. We’re doing our thing together. Everybody is surviving. I mean, sometimes, people just don’t want to go inside those places. We can be ourselves out here.”

The city recently opened up the Gier Community Center for temporary housing — complete with showers and individual beds — for up to 49 guests.

was obligated to refer to authorities the findings of the audit that triggered Jackson Johnson’s suspension this year. The city hopes to receive the results of that probe soon.

“Mayor Schor certainly appreciates all that Joan has done for Lansing’s residents and continues to wish her well in her retirement,” a city spokeswoman said. “He is not focusing on former Mayor Virg Bernero’s comments nor why City Pulse is again reporting on the same comments.”



Kyle Kaminski/City Pulse

A group gathers at a makeshift homeless camp in Lansing on Monday.

About 20 of those spaces still remain available, officials said, but many at the affectionately named “Our Town” camp won’t leave.

And when hundreds in Lansing only get warned for clear violations of executive orders on social distancing, many wonder why city officials choose to aggressively enforce the fires. The seemingly inconsistent enforcement from the city have caused some to raise their eyebrows.

“We’re in a pandemic right now,” said City Councilman Brandon Betz. “These people really need our help. They need to be able to have a fire to stay warm. In this particular case, I really think this was inappropriate. Homeless people are people. We need to treat them like that first.”

Betz also voiced concerns about the virus potentially spreading into an otherwise isolated homeless camp by a crew of firefighters that failed to wear appropriate protective equipment. Fire Chief Mike Mackey said his personnel

will likely be wearing masks if they need to return.

In responding to criticism on the matter, Schor also pointed to the hundreds of thousands of dollars — about \$1.7 million annually — that flows from the city’s “Basic Human Needs” fund. Much of that goes toward rehousing and various homelessness relief efforts, officials explained.

Still, LFD “has the responsibility to respond to calls” about unpermitted fires, Schor added.

“The only direction I have given on burn permits is that we will suspend issuances of new ones during this emergency,” Schor told City Pulse Monday. “If someone complained about a fire and the Fire Department responded, that is protocol. This morning was the first I heard about it.”

Meanwhile, a Good Samaritan dropped off a propane space heater at the camp Monday night, but efforts to get it working were unsuccessful.

— KYLE KAMINSKI

Investigation

from page 6

in the area to bring in tenants and subsidize the rent. These partners included the city,” Wood added. “It doesn’t make sense to keep this in receivership. I’ll probably appoint a new board and let it continue.”

Schor said City Attorney Jim Smiertka

Smiertka said the city isn’t calling the shots with Woods’ receivership, but he still expects to receive a financial accounting of any transactions involving city and federal cash. Woods said he plans to meet with city officials to hash out his next steps.

Jackson Johnson made it clear that she won’t be involved in those plans.

“I guess I never realized there were any ethical problems because I was too busy working,” Jackson Johnson said. “My mom was on welfare and she

struggled raising nine kids for most of her life. One of the things she taught us was to give back. That’s how I’ve always lived my life.”

“If the city is still interested in pursuing something, nobody there has contacted me about anything at all,” she added. “My address hasn’t changed. I’m doing volunteer work right here in the local community. I’m still right here. I’m still doing the stuff that I feel called to do here.”

— KYLE KAMINSKI

The big experiment

Weighing the risks and rewards of reopening Michigan

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

If the year 2020 is a horror movie, the month of May is the part where the potential victims, trapped in the house by an unseen killer, crack the door open, oh, so slowly.

Can we go outside now?

In the movies, giving the precise coordinates of the killer would ruin the suspense.

In real life, screw suspense. Health officials agree that it will take widespread testing for the COVID-19 virus, both targeted and randomized, to find and isolate the unseen carriers and hot spots and bring society to a semblance of normalcy.

With or without adequate testing, pressure is mounting in Michigan for Gov. Gretchen Whitmer to ease up on the statewide lockdown.

As April comes to a close, health officials are closely watching other countries, and other states, as they crack the door open and relax the restrictions that have brought the economy to a standstill in the past month.

Test and trace

The curve of new infections and the death rate from COVID-19 has begun to flatten in Michigan, but a second outbreak, or series of outbreaks, cannot be ruled out.

Whitmer has hinted at plans for a phased reopening of the state's economy, but she told CNN that that it could be disastrous to move too fast.

"As tough as this moment is, it would be devastating to have a second wave," Whitmer said.

The COVID-19 virus has the fiendish ability to infect people without any symptoms, and jump through a cough, a hug or a handshake to a less fortunate host, who could become ill or die.

"The only reason we're isolating you, me and everybody else is because we might be infected," MSU epidemiologist Nigel Paneth said. "If we both know that neither of us have an active infection in our nasal pharynx, we can hang out together just fine."

Ingham County Health Officer Linda Vail said broad-based testing is critical to cracking the state's doors.

"Testing level is one of our keys to being able to reopen," Vail said Friday. "We have to be able

to test, and test in large numbers. If we can't, we can't isolate those who are sick and identify those who were exposed to the sick. We cannot get through this without the ability to do that."

But Vail didn't offer any specifics on the state's testing capacity.

"We're making a lot of progress," she said. "I don't have a lot of numbers on exactly what our massive testing capacity is right now in the state, but what I do see is this consistent influx of more testing capacity."

However, the United States has been fatally behind on testing from the very start of the pandemic, and Paneth is at a loss to explain it.

"There are close to 40 approved test kits approved by the FDA," Paneth said. "The question is, how can we ramp up production, distribute it and get it to the people that need it?"

The Trump administration has engaged in a tug of war with several governors, including Whitmer, over the availability of testing equipment.

On Sunday's "Meet the Press," Whitmer said the state could perform "double or triple" the number of tests it is now conducting "if it had more swabs or reagents."

"This is what America's famous for — the ability to produce, supply, distribute," Paneth said. That's why our supermarket shelves look better than anybody else's. It's a simple cotton swab with a little bit of a PCR (polymerase chain reaction) material on it. The thing is not that complex."

On top of supplies, hundreds or even thousands of temporary workers will be needed to conduct widespread testing. Paneth proposed to MSU that all of its medical and nursing students be mobilized, for a three-month public health credit, to test the entire state.

"Most of them are home right now," he said. "Deputize them as part of the public health department. They go door to door and test every single person for COVID-19," Paneth said. "If you're positive, you're quarantined, with a sign on the door, like we used to do with diphtheria and smallpox."

Two rounds of testing, Paneth said, would enable a return to near normal activity across the state.

"Everybody who has tested negative twice — and that's almost everybody — and is not in a high-risk activity, can resume activity," he said. "There would still be some restrictions, but businesses, shopping could open up."

Many health experts insist that in addition to testing, aggressive contact tracing will be needed to locate infections and hot spots.



When should Michigan begin reopening?

Go to

www.lansingcitypulse.com/poll
to express your opinion.

We will publish the results next week.



Paneth



Skyler Ashley/City Pulse

Protesters swamped downtown Lansing streets Wednesday to demand that Gov. Gretchen Whitmer loosen COVID-19 “shutdown” restrictions.

Experiment

from page 8

In Massachusetts, Gov. Charlie Baker announced a partnership with Partners in Health, a Boston-based nonprofit, to recruit and train 1,000 people to do contact tracing of everyone who tests positive. Utah, North Dakota and other states are in various stages of planning a similar program

The tracers call infected people, ask them with whom they’ve been in close contact within the past two weeks, and then call those people to alert them that they may have been exposed. (“Close contact” is usually defined as being within six feet of someone for more than 15 minutes.)

Callers don’t reveal the name of the infected person, although it is not hard for people to infer who it is.

Ideally, everyone who gets a call is tested, but no states have that capacity. Under the Minnesota program, people who have been in close contact with an infected person will be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days, thought to be the maximum incubation period for the coronavirus. Baker said the tracing program will cost \$44 million.

Some public health leaders say it’s too late in the

pandemic, at least in the hardest hit areas, for contact tracing to be workable and effective.

But Robert Redfield, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, told NPR last week that “very aggressive” contact tracing would be necessary before the country could go back to normal.

Contact tracing is labor intensive and better suited to communities with a moderate number of infections. An all-out program in Germany made headlines this week.

“This would be doable in Ingham County,” Paneth said. “New York City is another story. It would make it possible for some communities to open up a little bit.”

At Tuesday’s coronavirus briefing, Vail said testing capacity in Michigan “unfortunately differs across the state.”

Capacity for contact tracing, Vail said, is “lower than we’d like to see it right now. All of the things are in place to increase it, but we would have liked to have seen it increased before we started talking about reopening.”

‘You think you’re safe’

Doors are beginning to slowly crack open across the country and around the world.

In Germany, where the rate of infection has been slowing and hospitals are not overwhelmed, shops smaller than 8,600 square feet reopened Monday for the first time in a month, with customers required

to maintain a five-foot distance from each other. Car dealerships, bike shops and bookstores of any size were allowed to reopen. Some German states have allowed zoos to open. All large gatherings are still banned through the summer.

Germany, Iceland and South Korea have begun massive testing programs to learn who may have been infected, where hot spots are and what further restrictions need to be put into place. Over 100,000 people a day are being tested in Germany, and Chancellor Angela Merkel said the goal is to trace “every infection chain.” The New York Times reported Saturday.

In Italy, one of the hardest-hit nations in the world, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte said lockdown measures would be cautiously eased May 4.

However, Hong Kong and Singapore stand out as cautionary tales against opening up too soon. Despite a marked success in containing infections in both Far Eastern city-states, the virus roared back after restrictions were loosened.

In the United States, governors differ on how and when to reopen. Gov. Mike DeWine of Ohio said he expects some of his state’s restrictions to be lifted May 1.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom specified six conditions that need to be met before lifting shelter-at-

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Experiment

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home restrictions:

- Widespread testing and contact tracing.
- Capacity to care for older and more vulnerable citizens after reopening.
- Hospital capacity to handle a surge in cases while resuming full non-virus patient care.
- “Identification of promising treatments.”
- Drawing up new guidelines for social distancing in businesses and schools.
- Working out an early-warning system if stay-at-home orders need to be reinstated.

Without a federal mobilization to make testing and monitoring widely available coast to coast, reopening

in the United States is likely to be a patchwork of fits and starts.

Restrictions are being lifted most swiftly in the South.

Many retail stores opened Monday in South Carolina. Tennessee’s Gov. Bill Lee said his state’s stay-at-home order would expire at the end of the month.

In Georgia, Gov. Brian Kemp said Monday he would allow many businesses to reopen Friday, including gyms, barber shops, tattoo shops and bowling alleys, but with social distancing restrictions. Theaters and dine-in restaurants would be allowed to reopen Monday.

“If we have an instance where a community starts becoming a hot spot, I will take further action,” Kemp said.

When health officials expressed fears that the reopening would lead to more infections, Atlanta

Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms agreed and urged citizens to stay at home anyway.

Vail called the reopening in Georgia “premature, in the midst of an upswing in cases.”

“Hopefully, we don’t make the same mistake here,” she said.

Vail suggested that reopening Michigan would look, at first, much like the early stages of the state shutdown, beginning in March, only in reverse.

“First we cut capacity in bars and restau-



Vail

See Experiment, Page 11

Heavy politics may make a constitutional showdown unavoidable

We could be heading for a constitutional showdown at the state Capitol on April 30.

Or we could see one of the better displays of the governor and Republican leaders forging a bipartisan compromise since the no-fault auto insurance agreement of nearly a year ago.

Which one will it be? Anybody who tells you he or she knows is lying. For the good of the state of Michigan, everyone should be hoping for the latter. Given the politics of the day, it’s more likely we’ll see the former.

It’s hard to see which is more smitten with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer these days. Joe Biden, who’s looking for a running mate, or the national TV media, who’s looking for a willing Democratic leader with TV talent to play President Donald Trump’s foil.

Neither makes good fodder for bipartisan compromise.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer’s latest emergency order — the one that gives her the power to suspend state laws, order us to stay home, close stores, restaurants, etc. — is expiring April 30. Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, R-Clarklake, made it clear he’s not going to support renewing it without some alterations.

“It’s not likely the Legislature is going to embrace continuation of that without some very specific loosening and other plans on opening our economy back up,” Shirkey told Radio Free Hillsdale on Monday. “There will be, I predict, a fair amount of arm wrestling and negotiations that will occur that has already started, but it will come at a more frenetic pace by the end of the month.”

One could argue — and several legal minds have — that the governor can tell Shirkey and House Speaker Lee Chatfield that she’s going to sign a new, updated emergency executive order extension. If they don’t like it, they can stick it.



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS



Shirkey and Chatfield can take her to court. They can argue the 1976 emergency powers law gives lawmakers 28 days to extend emergency orders.

Whitmer can argue the same law doesn’t diminish the powers of a 1945 law that doesn’t give the Legislature this check and balance power.

The state Supreme Court can get in the middle it. They can declare a winner and a loser. But in reality, everyone loses. The governor would suffer additional public relations damage. The Legislature — more than likely — would lose the case, according to former appellate judge William Whitbeck.

The public would be stuck in a confusing limbo state in which the government isn’t speaking with a unified message.

More people would scrap social distancing. They’d move around like it was pre-St. Patrick’s Day, spreading the coronavirus all over the place. More people would take future stay-at-home orders less seriously. More deaths. Longer joblessness.

Can you imagine the outrage if police are ordered to arrest people violating an executive order the Legislature didn’t sign off on? The lawsuits are already piling up.

Yet, it could happen. The legal departments for the House, Senate and the Governor’s Office are

already prepping for a Showdown at the High Noon Saloon, a source tells me.

Behind the scenes, the parties are talking. Shirkey spoke with Whitmer on Monday after a couple-week hiatus in which the two didn’t talk. Shirkey told radio host Scott Bertram he didn’t get the sense Whitmer was interested in his idea to reopen segments of the economy May 1.

Shirkey had been hot with his rhetoric after Whitmer banned gardening and paint sales before Easter, saying in a Bridge Magazine op-ed that the “list of absurdities” in the governor’s recent executive order is “long, and unlike our gardens, it’s growing.”

Chatfield has played more good cop to Shirkey’s bad cop, being much more measured in his public statements and scoring minor victories in the process, like the easing on the church services ban.

“I don’t want to get into a hypothetical situation of where were at on the 30th because I’m going to continue to negotiate with the governor on a daily basis,” Chatfield told me last week.

The governor said this week she will extend her emergency order past May 1 one way or the other. This doesn’t mean the stay-at-home order will remain as it is.

It just means the COVID-19 crisis will continue past May 1 and she needs the flexibility to manage the state’s response.

“I believe that regardless of what the Legislature does I still retain those powers, but I would like for them to be partners in this work,” she said. “We’ve have worked well together on a number of fronts and we need to continue working together because this is not a partisan issue.”

The stakes are higher than last year’s budget blowup. Or when the Senate torpedoed a couple of Whitmer’s appointees a couple months ago.

The problem is this: The political stakes are higher, too.

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

Experiment

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rants by 50 percent before the larger closures,” Vail said.

She said the restrictions most likely to be lifted first are “low-risk” activities such as golfing and fishing.

Sports, bars, concerts, festivals and anything else that “packs people in” will likely be “on the far end” of the strategy, Vail said.

Vail divided the state’s pandemic response into three phases: the all-out “suppression” phase currently underway; the “containment and mitigation” phase that will come next; and the endgame of “herd immunity” or a vaccine.

She said many policies that are now in place now should continue indefinitely, well past the current suppression phase — screening of all essential employees, social distancing, and maximizing telecommuting, restricting or banning large gatherings.

Containing the virus during the delicate dance of reopening depends, in large part, on whether enough people continue to practice distancing and other precautions.

“Asian societies have done a good job,” Paneth said. “People there are more ready to take a community-based approach — the very opposite of those protesters in Lansing the other day.”

While millions of people, in Michigan and around the world, have endured unprecedented restrictions to save lives and protect overburdened hospitals, the protesters in Lansing, and around the country, see the lockdown very differently.

“They think it’s all about the rights of the individual,” Paneth said. “It’s no different from showing them gun related mortality. It’s not about communal numbers. It’s about me, my individual thing.”

John Goddeeris, an economist at MSU who specializes in the interplay between health care and the economy, said it’s not enough to count on self-interest to expect people to abide by social distancing and other restrictions.



Goddeeris

He invoked the classic economic concept of “externalities” — the costs of harmful practices by people or corporations that fall on others, at no cost to the person who caused the harm.

The term is most often used to describe ecological damage and sickness caused by mercury pollution from power plants or carbon dioxide from auto emissions, but it’s just as apt for a person who transmits the coronavirus without succumbing to COVID-19.

“We want people to wear masks, not only to protect themselves, but also to keep them from infecting other people,” Goddeeris said. “That’s not just self-interest. You have to be aware of the effect you might be having on other people. A lot of people do that

with social distancing, but I’m not sure everybody will, and it only takes a few to cause a real problem.”

Living in a sparsely populated or remote area, Paneth said, does not afford as much protection as many people think.

“You think you’re safe because you don’t have the agent where you are,” Paneth said, referring to the virus. “It’s a fantasy. Bring the agent in. That’s all that’s lacking. You’ll find out quickly how easy it is to spread.”

Paneth recently got an email asking why a sparsely populated state like Utah couldn’t reopen, in view of the relatively few COVID-19 cases there.

“As soon as you get the agent into Utah it’ll burn through Utah just like it burns through everybody else,” he said.

Hammer and the dance

Two weeks ago, before angry protesters and presidential tweets dragged the question of reopening the economy into the political arena, governors and health officials weren’t the only ones who were urging caution.

President Donald Trump got a strong message on the need for more widespread virus testing from leaders of the retail, hospitality, banking and financial sectors of his task force on reopening the economy, according to The Wall Street Journal.

The task force members told Trump that it would be difficult to reopen the economy until the public felt safe enough to return to work, eat at restaurants or shop in stores, and the only way to restore confidence would be to implement widespread testing and tracking of infections.

A second outbreak could only be the prelude to longer-term economic damage, according to MSU economist Lisa Cook. Cook, a former adviser to President Barack Obama, helped the International Monetary Fund rebuild the economy of Rwanda after the 1995 genocide.

“I agree with the epidemiologists,” Cook said. “This is a health crisis first. If we get the economy back up and running, if we get people back into barber shops, McDonald’s and Starbucks and have them get sick, they’ll never want to go back. It’s tainted. They’ll say, those places put me in danger.”

Cook is closely watching as the doors crack open around the world.

“See what happens when China, Italy, Germany, Australia slowly open things,” she said. “We’re going to have to monitor the rest of the world. It’s going to take time and we’re going to have to have patience.”

There’s another way a hasty reopening could backfire. The executives also told Trump they feared a devastating wave of lawsuits if workers got sick upon their return.

David M. Soloman, the CEO of Goldman Sachs, told The New York Times that after talking with about 100 CEOs who are Goldman clients, he concluded

that “unless people feel safe and secure and confident around the virus, the economic impact will continue in some way, shape or form.”

A recent Ipsos poll found that 70 percent of Americans view going to the grocery store as a highly or moderately risky activity, and 57 percent of Americans still working outside the home feel that doing their job is a moderate or large risk to their health.

That’s not a formula for business as usual.

For the time being, the horror movie cycle is the most likely scenario. The potential victims venture out of the house, the killer pops up out of the bushes, everybody goes back into the house until they go stir-crazy and come back out, the killer pops up again, and so on.

An influential March 19 article by Tomas Pueyo, “Coronavirus: The Hammer and The Dance,” laid out a more nuanced and scientific scenario.

Pueyo predicted two recurring phases of life with the coronavirus. Drastic lockdowns — “the hammer” — will be followed by phased reopenings, safeguarded by social distancing measures — “the dance.” Factories and schools might open, along with some stores and restaurants. But even with social distancing and a ban on big crowds, there might be surges of the virus, leading to another round of lockdowns, reopenings and so on, until there is either herd immunity or a vaccine.

If a country is very good at “the dance” and deploys widespread testing, contact tracing, social distancing and travel restrictions to keep the infection rate low, “the hammer” might not have to come down again. Life might even look close to normal until a vaccine is developed.

However, Goddeeris foresees a lengthy period, even after the doors crack open, when people will have to wear masks, stay well apart and forsake potential “super-spreader” events like weddings, funerals and parties.

“One of the things that would concern me is that when we do start to open up, are people going to abide by these things?” Goddeeris asked. “If we start to reopen and do things the way we used to, we could easily get a resurgence.”

It’s a social and medical experiment on an almost unimaginably large scale. How much economic stability, personal liberty and privacy are people willing to trade for reduced risk?

If the risk is high, and the period of danger is short-lived, public cooperation — even with the most sweeping restrictions — is near total, as the world witnessed in March and April.

If the risk is low, and the period of danger stretches out indefinitely, even minor restrictions will likely be a tough sell.

The murky area in the middle, when the risk and the time period are both unknown, is where conflict will be sharpest. In the United States, that’s how late April and early May are playing out, as last week’s Capitol protests demonstrated.

“People need to understand that there are important things we need to do,” Goddeeris said. “Maybe we can reach a kind of a social contract and people can abide by it, but I don’t know if we’re ready yet. You see all these people showing up at the Capitol, and they’re not all that concerned about social distancing.”



Cook

Uncertainty lingers while live entertainment plans its return

BY SKYLER ASHLEY

Further innovation with livestreaming technology and downsized events in smaller markets — that's what Scott Keith sees as likely in store for live entertainment.

"I do think we'll see smaller events return first. You might see local and smaller events do well before it all slowly builds back up again," said Keith, president of Lansing Entertainment & Public Facilities Authority, which oversees the Lansing Center and Luginuts Stadium.

"People will ask themselves, 'Do I want to go to a Tigers game where there might be 40,000 people, or do I want to go to a Luginuts game where there's only 6,000 people?'"

East Lansing Art Festival, a local mainstay since the early-'60s, fell victim to the coronavirus earlier this month. Now, on May 16, it will be one of the largest events of its kind in Lansing to get the livestream treatment. The all-day Facebook Live event will feature musical performances and several art demonstrations.

East Lansing Art Festival manager Heather Majano said city leadership canceled the festival instead of postponing because of the lack of a finite date on when shelter-in-place orders will evaporate.

"We thought that canceling it and hopefully being able to count on hosting it as normal in May 2021 was the most responsible decision to make."

Terry Terry, the founding board member of MICA, which produces JazzFest and BluesFest, said the two Old Town cultural staples are still planned for their original schedules in August and September.

"We've thought about some contingencies, and there's really only three: Move the dates, cancel, or merge JazzFest with BlueFest. The adjustment will be anything from cancellation if necessary, to postponement," Terry said. "It's too early to predict the entire future right now."

Terry thinks livestreams are here to stay, and they won't taper off even when people are finally able to attend concerts uninhibited.

"This is amplifying it. People are getting better at it, and I think it's going to be a new component. It will enable us to have a greater reach, and it has longevity," Terry said.

But despite the growing number of online alternatives as the public grows more accustomed to consuming media exclusively online, uncertainty lingers over the rest of 2020 as it becomes increasingly difficult to book acts.

"A lot of artists are concerned about large gatherings. Taylor Swift has canceled all of her shows for this calendar year, Bon Jovi did the same," Keith said. "We don't have dates to open back up again and we don't know the potential restrictions. Without those parameters it's a



challenge to understand how to book."

Keith and City Pulse announced last week that the 3rd annual Margarita Fest, which was to occur at the end of May at the Lansing Center, has been canceled.

Keith said there are many factors to consider when booking events that will ultimately be safer and easier to manage in the eventual post-shelter-in-place world.

"When you have tickets, you can control the amount of people that attend just by the number of tickets you have available," Keith said. "A free, open event in an open atmosphere is going to be hard to manage."

Mac's Bar manager Scott Bell believes venues and festivals will ramp up measures to ensure patrons are practicing good hygiene. "Venues and festivals will have to double down on hygiene and ensuring their customers that it is safe to gather. It will be I think a few years until we see people relax when it comes to large crowds," he said. "There might be some changes. We were just getting used to walking through metal detectors, now it could be fever detectors," Keith added. "There could be nuances that are added to concert events."

"You might see people in masks at festivals," Terry said.

The state of Common Ground in July, which LEPFA also helps produce, is yet to be determined. Keith elaborated on the interweaving

mechanisms in the decision process of rescheduling a major concert event.

"Most artists have some sort of routing schedule. They're not going to go to one place and then go to the other side of the planet for another show a week later," Keith said. "They're typically going to be in a row. It's a puzzle for the lack of a better term. The artists, venues and producers try to put that puzzle together. It creates quite a few challenges logistically."

Keith said many in his industry are experimenting with different ways of holding events that naturally accommodate social distancing.

"They're testing drive-in concerts in Germany. There's going to be some variety in how concerts come back, but ultimately it's the experience that really makes it," Keith said. "Livestreaming works in the interim, but people are going to want to be there in person experiencing it with other people. I think that will make its way back faster than people think."

Bell said live entertainment's hope to return promptly is contingent upon the government to strengthen its testing effort and the public to follow shelter-in-place orders.

"If you really want to see live music return, then do your part by staying home for front-line workers," Bell said. "Also, demand that your government take testing seriously. The only way we overcome this is adequate testing. Which isn't happening right now."

LETTERS to the editor

'Media is all about fear'

As I was reading through the Lansing City Pulse I was amazed at what I was reading. Since the beginning of this starting in March, the media is all about using fear to panic people. We have been more than patient with the "social distancing" to slow the spread as we were originally told. Now it is time to get our state back to work. We all have constitutional rights. They cannot be suspending or taken away for any reason. Read your constitution. Most people have common sense and can make their own decisions. The more rights we give up under the guise of "safety", the more our government will take away. We cannot know the true mortality rate of this virus until we do sero survey testing for antibodies. Testing has been done only on the ill. Some states have done this testing and found that 50-80% of the people have already been exposed to this virus so the mortality rate is way under what we are being told. Not 3% or 6% but .2 to 1%. We

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

1.) Write a letter to the editor.

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

2.) Write a guest column:

Contact Berl Schwartz for more information:

publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or (517) 999-5061

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

cannot be forced to stay home every time the flu or covid season come around again. Even the "experts" said this will be seasonal. Don't be a sheep and follow the first thing you read. Do your research and follow the "science".

**Tina Furness
Goodrich, Michigan**

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

GOULD PARK IMPROVEMENTS

LANSING CHARTER TOWNSHIP
3209 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48917

Sealed bids will be received by Lansing Charter Township at the Township Building, Thursday, May 14, at 2:00 PM local time, at which time and place proposals will be publicly opened and read for installation of improvements at Gould Park.

The Bidding Documents, including Drawings and Project Manual (with Bidding Forms) may be obtained electronically through the Builder's Exchange, or by contacting Nick Wallace, Project Manager with Landscape Architects & Planners, Inc., at (517) 485-5500 or nwallace@lapinc.net

This project is being partially funded by a MDNR Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant. Relevant State or Federal requirements will apply.

Bids must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond payable to Lansing Charter Township, in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the bid amount, which shall be forfeited to Lansing Charter Township if the bidder to whom the Contract is awarded fails to enter into a Contract within ten (10) days after the Contract is awarded. The unsuccessful bidders' checks or bid bonds will be returned upon final award of Contract, approved and executed. The successful bidder will be required to furnish both Labor and Material Payment and Performance Bonds in the amount of the Contract Award.

Lansing Charter Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive defects in bids, and to make the award in its own best interest.

LANSING CHARTER TOWNSHIP
By: Susan L. Aten
Township Clerk

CP#20-102

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CITY OF LANSING'S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021 BUDGET

The City Council of the City of Lansing will conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, May 4, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. during the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting, via ZOOM Conferencing Meeting ID 996 6027 2019 for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed City of Lansing budget and capital improvements. **The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**

With Executive Order 2020-4, Governor Whitmer declared a statewide State of Emergency due to the spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). To mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to provide essential protections to vulnerable Michiganders and this State's health care system and other critical infrastructure, it is crucial that all Michiganders take steps to-limit in-person contact, particularly in the context of large groups. Therefore, the public hearing will be conducted via audio/video conference.

The public hearing will be electronically in accordance with the Open Meetings Act in an effort to protect the health and safety of the public. Michigan Executive Order 2020-48 provides temporary authorization of remote participation in public meetings and hearings. Members of the public wishing to participate in the meeting may do so by logging into or calling into the meetings using the website <https://zoom.us/j/99660272019>

(Note: this option requires downloading Zoom software. If you have not already installed the software, this may take a few minutes) or by calling 646-876-9923 and entering Meeting ID: 996 6027 2019.

The proposed budget is available for public inspection is available for review in at <https://www.lansingmi.gov/1401/Documents-Placed-on-File>. The Plan will be a part of the publicly available Council packet for the May 4, 2020 City Council meeting and the ZOOM ID number to access the hearing. If a member of the public wishes to review copies of the City of Lansing budget and capital improvements in-person, please contact the Lansing City Clerk's Office to schedule an appointment that ensures the safety of both employees and public, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

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

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Clerk's Office at 517-483-4131 (TTY 711). 24 hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.

For more information, please call 517-483-4131. If you are interested in this matter, please participate in the public hearing via Zoom Conferencing Meeting ID 996 6027 2019. Written comments will be accepted if received by the close of the Public Hearing on May 4, 2020, at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
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CP#20-101

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

MONTGOMERY DRAIN MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
DIVISION V – WATER QUALITY RETURN SYSTEM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I, Patrick Lindemann, Ingham County Drain Commissioner, being Chair of the Montgomery Drain Chapter 20 Drainage Board, will receive bids until **Wednesday, May 20, 2020**, at 11:00 a.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Social Distancing protocols are being implemented for this Project by conducting a Virtual Bid Letting only and will only accept bids submitted through the QuestCDN website, unless further advised via Addendum. Bids relative to Division V will then be opened and announced on Wednesday, May 20, 2020, at 11:00 a.m. and, after a meeting of the Montgomery Drain Drainage Board, will be publicly awarded for work to be undertaken in connection with a drain known and designated as the "Montgomery Drain." The format of bid opening will be announced via Addendum and on the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's office website at <https://drain.ingham.org/>.

The major items of work in connection with construction of the Montgomery Drain and coordination of work for other permitted activities within Division V include the following:

Division 5A

1. 8"-18" Force Main – Approx. 3,000 Lin. Ft.
2. Metering Stations, Complete – 5 Each
3. Electrical and SCADA System
4. Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control
5. Traffic Control

Division 5B

6. Excavation and Backfill
7. Pump Station and Appurtenances
8. 36" Intake Pipe and Structure
9. Electrical Service
10. Dewatering
11. Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control
12. Traffic Control

All quantities listed are approximate and final payment will be made on measured quantities.

Two contracts are being let for this work, which will include all material necessary to perform same. These contracts will be let in accordance with the Contract Documents and bids will be made and received in accordance with these documents.

Bidders wishing to download the Plans and Specifications at a cost of \$30.00 (which includes the cost of bid submission) may do so by going to the Bidding section of the Spicer Group, Inc. website at www.spicergroup.com. You may view and download the digital project bidding documents by entering Quest Project Number **7006234** on the website's project search page. Please contact Quest CDN Customer Support at (952) 233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, downloading, and working with the digital project information.

A MANDATORY pre-bid conference will be held on Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. Due to the COVID-19 Social Distancing protocols, this pre-bid conference will be conducted via video and telephone conference. Contact Willow Hassel at willow.hassel@spicergroup.com for a link to the video conference for plan sheet viewing capability. To join the conference by telephone, call (517) 507-3834 and enter Conference ID: 308 234 080#. Representatives of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner and Engineer will be available at the pre-bid conference to discuss the Drain Contract. Prospective Bidders are required to attend and participate in the pre-bid conference. Attendance will be taken. All prospective bidders will also be required to submit a certification of compliance with Public Act 517 of 2012 prior to bid award. Only bids from Bidders in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be opened. All other bids will be considered non-responsive and will be disqualified from bidding on the Drain Contract. The Engineer will transmit to all prospective Bidders of record such Addenda as the Engineer considers necessary in response to questions. Oral statements may not be relied upon and will not be binding or legally effective. Use the Bid Worksheet on QuestCDN for submittal of bids. **You must download the Contract Documents from QuestCDN to bid on the project, to be included on the plan holders list, and to receive Addenda. The Contractor is responsible for ensuring all addenda have been received and acknowledged prior to submittal of the bid.**

Bid security in the amount of 5%, for and subject to the conditions provided in the Instruction to Bidders, must be submitted through the QuestCDN site with each Bid. Bids may not be withdrawn for a period of 90 days after the actual date of opening thereof. This time period may be extended by mutual agreement of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner and any Bidders.

Contracts will be entered into with the successful bidder giving adequate security for the performance of the work and meeting all conditions represented in the Instructions to Bidders. The Montgomery Drain Chapter 20 Drainage Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids, award the Contract to any bidder for any reason, and to adjourn the letting to such time and place as it shall publicly announce.

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. The work must be substantially complete by September 15, 2020.

#20-104

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MONTGOMERY DRAIN MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
DIVISION IV – PIPE REHABILITATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I, Patrick Lindemann, Ingham County Drain Commissioner, being Chair of the Montgomery Drain Chapter 20 Drainage Board, will receive bids until Wednesday, May 20, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Social Distancing protocols are being implemented for this Project by conducting a Virtual Bid Letting only and will only accept bids submitted through the QuestCDN website, unless further advised via Addendum. Bids relative to Division IV will then be opened and announced on Wednesday, May 20, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. and, after a meeting of the Montgomery Drain Drainage Board, will be publicly awarded for work to be undertaken in connection with a drain known and designated as the "Montgomery Drain." The format of bid opening will be announced via Addendum and on the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's office website at <https://drain.ingham.org/>.

The major items of work in connection with construction of the Montgomery Drain and coordination of work for other permitted activities within Division IV include the following:

1. 15"-48" Cured In Place Pipe – Approx. 4,300 Lin. Ft.
2. Remove and Replace Manhole Castings and Sections – 4 Each
3. Bypass Pumping
4. Pavement Repair
5. Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control
6. Traffic Control

All quantities listed are approximate and final payment will be made on measured quantities.

One contract is being let for this work, which will include all material necessary to perform same. This contract will be let in accordance with the Contract Documents and bids will be made and received in accordance with these documents.

Bidders wishing to download the Plans and Specifications at a cost of \$30.00 (which includes the cost of bid submission) may do so by going to the Bidding section of the Spicer Group, Inc. website at www.spicergroup.com. You may view and download the digital project bidding documents by entering Quest Project Number **7007286** on the website's project search page. Please contact Quest CDN Customer Support at (952) 233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, downloading, and working with the digital project information.

A pre-bid conference will be held on Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 Social Distancing protocols, this pre-bid conference will be conducted via video and telephone conference. Contact Willow Hassel at willow.hassel@spicergroup.com for a link to the video conference for plan sheet viewing capability. To join the conference by telephone, call (517) 507-3834 and enter Conference ID: 515 105 469#. Representatives of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner and Engineer will be available at the pre-bid conference to discuss the Drain Contract. Prospective Bidders are required to attend and participate in the pre-bid conference. Attendance will be taken. All prospective bidders will also be required to submit a certification of compliance with Public Act 517 of 2012 prior to bid award. Only bids from Bidders in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be opened. All other bids will be considered non-responsive and will be disqualified from bidding on the Drain Contract. The Engineer will transmit to all prospective Bidders of record such Addenda as the Engineer considers necessary in response to questions. Oral statements may not be relied upon and will not be binding or legally effective. Use the Bid Worksheet on QuestCDN for submittal of bids. **You must download the Contract Documents from QuestCDN to bid on the project, to be included on the plan holders list, and to receive Addenda. The Contractor is responsible for ensuring all addenda have been received and acknowledged prior to submittal of the bid.**

Bid security in the amount of 5%, for and subject to the conditions provided in the Instructions to Bidders must be submitted through the QuestCDN site with each Bid. Bids may not be withdrawn for a period of 90 days after the actual date of opening thereof. This time period may be extended by mutual agreement of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner and any Bidders.

Contracts will be entered into with the successful bidder giving adequate security for the performance of the work and meeting all conditions represented in the Instructions to Bidders. The Montgomery Drain Chapter 20 Drainage Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids, award the Contract to any bidder for any reason, and to adjourn the letting to such time and place as it shall publicly announce.

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. The work must be substantially complete by September 30, 2021.

CP#20-103

EAST LANSING - MERIDIAN WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY
(Ingham County, Michigan)
RESOLUTION NO. 2020-4-3
A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF
WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM JUNIOR LIEN REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2020

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the East Lansing - Meridian Water and Sewer Authority, Ingham County, Michigan, conducted via Zoom in conformity with the Governor's Executive Order No. 2020-48, on April 16, 2020, at 7:30 a.m., local time.

PRESENT: Chair House, Vice-Chair Perry, Secretary Peterson,
Trustee Brogren, Trustee Peet, Trustee Cleland

ABSENT: 0

The following Resolution was offered by Trustee Peet and supported by Trustee Brogren:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended (Act "94") and Act 233, Public Acts of Michigan, 1955, as amended (together the "Acts"), the Board of Trustees of the East Lansing - Meridian Water and Sewer Authority (the "Authority") has determined to make improvements to the Authority's water supply system; and

WHEREAS, the improvements will enable the Authority to provide more efficient and better quality public services to the users of the Water Supply System; and

WHEREAS, the improvements shall be financed in part by the issuance of revenue bonds or other evidences of indebtedness in accordance with the Acts; and

WHEREAS, Act 94 permits the Authority to authorize, within limitations which shall be contained in the authorization resolution, an officer to sell, deliver and receive payment for obligations, and to approve interest rates or methods for fixing interest rates, prices, discounts, maturities, principal amounts, denominations, dates of issuance, interest payment dates, optional or mandatory redemption rights or tender rights, obligations to be exercised by the Authority or the holder of the bonds, place of delivery and payment, and other matters and procedures necessary to complete an authorized transaction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. **DEFINITIONS.** Except as provided in this Resolution, the definitions contained in the Prior Resolution (defined below) shall apply to the terms in this Resolution. In addition, whenever used in this Resolution except when otherwise indicated by context, the following definitions shall apply to the terms in this Resolution:

(a) "Authority" means the East Lansing - Meridian Water and Sewer Authority, Ingham County, Michigan.

(b) "Authorized Officer" means the Chair, the Vice Chair, and the Manager of the Authority, or any one or more of them.

(c) "Bonds" as defined in the Prior Resolution shall include the Series 2020 Bonds which are being issued as Additional Junior Lien Bonds under Section 22 of the Prior Resolution.

(d) "Construction Fund" shall mean the 2020 Water Supply System Junior Lien Revenue Bonds Construction Fund created pursuant to Section 13.

(e) "Contract Documents" means the Purchase Contract between the Authority and the MFA, the Supplemental Agreement by and among the Authority, the MFA and the State of Michigan acting through the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, and the Issuer's Certificate for the Series 2020 Bonds or such other closing documents required by the MFA for the issuance of the Series 2020 Bonds.

(f) "Improvements" means the design, purchase, acquisition, installation and construction of improvements to the Authority's water system, including but not limited to Improvements to the Authority's water plant and facilities including but not limited to replacement and upgrading of HVAC equipment and components and any related appurtenances; pipe paint evaluation and application; and Water Treatment Plant filter additions and controls; as well as all work, and equipment necessary and incidental to these improvements and such other water treatment plant improvements the Authority shall determine to make.

(g) "MFA" means the Michigan Finance Authority created by Executive Order 2010-2, which, among other things, transferred to the Michigan Finance Authority the powers, duties and functions of the Michigan Municipal Bond Authority, created and established pursuant to Act 227, Public Acts of Michigan, 1985, as amended.

(h) "Prior Resolution" means Resolution 2019-4-2.

(i) "Resolution" means this Resolution and all amendments hereto.

(j) "Series 2020 Bonds" means the Authority's Water Supply System Junior Lien Revenue Bonds, Series 2020 issued pursuant to this Resolution.

Section 2. **NECESSITY, PUBLIC PURPOSE:** It is hereby determined to be necessary for the public health, safety and welfare of the Authority to acquire and construct the Improvements to the System in accordance with the maps, plans and specifications therefore prepared by the Authority's engineers, which are hereby approved.

Section 3. **ESTIMATED COST; PERIOD OF USEFULNESS:** The cost of the Improvements has been estimated by the engineers to be approximately \$1,500,000 including the payment of legal, engineering, financial and other expenses, which estimate of cost is approved and confirmed, and the period of usefulness of the Improvements is estimated to be greater than thirty (30) years.

Section 4. **ISSUANCE OF BONDS.** To pay a portion of the cost of designing, acquiring

and constructing the Improvements and to pay the legal and financial expenses and all other expenses incidental to the issuance of the Series 2020 Bonds, the Authority shall borrow the sum of not to exceed \$1,500,000 and issue its revenue bonds pursuant to the provisions of the Acts. The Series 2020 Bonds shall be issued in the aggregate principal sum of not to exceed \$1,500,000, as finally determined by the Authorized Officer at the time of sale, or such lesser amount thereof as shall have been advanced to the Authority pursuant to the Contract Documents.

During the time funds are being drawn down by the Authority under the Series 2020 Bonds, the MFA will periodically provide the Authority a statement showing the amount of principal that has been advanced and the date of each advance, which statement shall constitute prima facie evidence of the reported information; provided that no failure on the part of the MFA to provide such a statement or to reflect a disbursement or the correct amount of a disbursement shall relieve the Authority of its obligation to repay the outstanding principal amount actually advanced, all accrued interest thereon, and any other amount payable with respect thereto in accordance with the terms of the Series 2020 Bonds.

Section 5. **SERIES 2020 BOND TERMS.** The Series 2020 Bonds shall be issued as one fully registered manuscript bond, shall be sold and delivered to the MFA in any denomination. The Series 2020 Bonds shall be dated the date of delivery to the MFA, or such other date approved by the Authorized Officer, and shall be payable on the dates and in the amounts determined by the Authorized Officer at the time of sale provided the final maturity shall be no later than thirty years after the date of issuance. The Series 2020 Bonds shall bear interest at a rate as provided in the Contract Documents, payable semiannually on the dates determined by the Authorized Officer at the time of sale.

Notwithstanding the above, the final amount of any maturity and terms of the Series 2020 Bonds shall be as provided in the Contract Documents and will be finally determined by the Authorized Officer.

Section 6. **PAYMENT OF BONDS; PLEDGE OF NET REVENUES.** As provided in Section 6 of the Prior Resolution, the principal of and interest on the Series 2020 Bonds, as Additional Junior Lien Bonds, shall be payable from the Net Revenues derived from the operation of the System, including future improvements, enlargements and extensions thereof, after provision has been made for the payment of expenses of administration, operation and maintenance thereof and the Net Revenues of the System, including future enlargements, improvements, and extensions thereto, are hereby pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Series 2020 Bonds. To secure the payment of the principal of and interest on the Series 2020 Bonds there is hereby created a lien, which shall be a statutory lien pursuant to Act 94, to and in favor of the Bondholders of the Series 2020 Bonds upon the Net Revenues of the System, including future enlargements, improvements, and extensions thereof, which is a junior lien of equal standing and priority with respect to the Net Revenues of the System securing other outstanding Junior Lien Bonds, but subordinate to the first lien on the Net Revenues of the System securing any First Lien Bonds. The Net Revenues so pledged shall be and remain subject to such lien until the payment in full of the principal of and interest on the Series 2020 Bonds or until Bonds are defeased as provided in the Prior Resolution.

The Series 2020 Bonds, including both principal and interest thereon, shall not be a general obligation of the Authority and shall not constitute an indebtedness of the Authority for the purpose of any debt limitations imposed by any constitutional or statutory provisions.

Section 7. **PRIOR REDEMPTION:** The Series 2020 Bonds issued and sold to the MFA shall be subject to redemption prior to maturity by the Authority only with the prior written consent of the MFA and on such terms as may be required by the MFA.

Section 8. **PAYING AGENT AND REGISTRATION.**

(a) **Appointment of Paying Agent.** The initial Paying Agent for the Series 2020 Bonds shall be the Authority Treasurer.

(b) **MFA's Depository.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this Resolution, so long as the MFA is the owner of the Series 2020 Bonds, (a) the Series 2020 Bonds are payable as to principal, premium, if any, and interest in lawful money of the United States of America at The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N. A., or at such other place as shall be designated in writing to the Authority by the MFA (the "MFA's Depository"); (b) the Authority agrees that it will deposit with the MFA's Depository payments of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Series 2020 Bonds in immediately available funds by 12:00 noon at least five business days prior to the date on which any such payment is due whether by maturity, redemption or otherwise; in the event that the MFA's Depository has not received the Authority's deposit by 12:00 noon on the scheduled day, the Authority shall immediately pay to the MFA as invoiced by the MFA an amount to recover the MFA's administrative costs and lost investment earnings attributable to that late payment; and (c) written notice of any redemption of the Series 2020 Bonds shall be given by the Authority and received by the MFA's Depository at least 40 days prior to the date on which such redemption is to be made.

Section 9. **SALE OF BONDS.** The Series 2020 Bonds shall be sold to the MFA. The Authority determines that a negotiated sale to the MFA is in the best interest of the Authority because the terms offered by the MFA are more favorable than those available from other sources of funding.

Section 10. **BOND FORM:** The Series 2020 Bonds shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, and incorporated herein, with such completions, changes and additions as may be required by the MFA or as recommended by the Authority's Bond Counsel and approved by the officers of the Authority signing the Series 2020 Bonds.

Section 11. **AUTHORIZED OFFICER:** The Authorized Officer is hereby designated, for and on behalf of the Authority, to do all acts and to take all necessary steps required to effectuate the sale, issuance and delivery of the Series 2020 Bonds to the MFA. The Authorized Officer is hereby authorized to execute and deliver the Contract Documents in substantially the form presented at this meeting, with such changes, additions and completions as are approved by the Authorized Officer. The Authority hereby approves the Contract Documents in the form presented by the MFA with such changes as are approved by the Authorized Officer. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Resolution, the Authorized Officer is authorized within the limitations of this Resolution to determine the specific interest rate or rates to be borne by the bonds, not exceeding the maximum rate allowed by law, the principal amount, interest payment dates, dates of maturities, and amount of maturities, redemption rights, the title of the Series 2020 Bonds, date of issuance, and other

From page 15

terms and conditions relating to the Series 2020 Bonds and the sale thereof provided, however, the last annual principal installment shall not be more than thirty years from the date of issuance of the Series 2020 Bonds. The Authorized Officer's approval of the terms shall be evidenced by his or her signature on the document or agreement stating such terms. The Authorized Officer is hereby authorized for and on behalf of the Authority, without further Board approval, to do all acts and take all necessary steps required to effectuate the sale, issuance, and delivery of the Series 2020 Bonds. The Authorized Officer, together with the Treasurer, or any one or more of them, are authorized to execute any orders, receipts, agreements, pledge agreements, documents or certificates necessary to complete the transaction, including, but not limited to, any issuers certificate, any certificates relating to federal or state securities laws, rules or regulations, any applications to the Michigan Department of Treasury, and any revenue sharing pledge agreement. The Authority hereby approves the Revenue Sharing Pledge Agreements in the form presented by the MFA, with such changes as are approved by the Authorized Officer, and authorizes the Authorized Officer to execute and deliver the Revenue Sharing Pledge Agreement if it is required by the MFA.

Section 12. **EXECUTION OF BONDS:** Any one or more of the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of the Authority, are hereby authorized and directed to sign the Series 2020 Bonds, either manually or by facsimile signature, on behalf of the Authority. Upon execution, the Series 2020 Bonds shall be delivered to the purchaser thereof.

Section 13. **CONSTRUCTION FUND.** The proceeds of the Series 2020 Bonds shall be deposited in the Construction Fund. Such moneys shall be used solely for the purpose for which the Series 2020 Bonds were issued. Any unexpected balance in the Construction Fund remaining after completion of the Improvements may be used for such purposes as allowed by law. After completion of the Improvements and disposition of remaining Series 2020 Bond proceeds, if any, pursuant to the provisions of this Section, the Construction Fund shall be closed.

Section 14. **CONTRACT WITH BONDHOLDERS:** The provisions of this Resolution shall constitute a contract between the Authority and the Bondholders from time to time, and after the issuance of any of such Series 2020 Bonds, no change, variation or alteration of the provisions of this Resolution may be made which would lessen the security for the Series 2020 Bonds. The provisions of this Resolution shall be enforceable by appropriate proceedings taken by such Bondholder, either at law or in equity.

Section 15. **TAX COVENANT.** The Authority covenants to comply with all requirements of the Code necessary to assure that the interest on the bonds will be and will remain excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes. The Authorized Officer and other appropriate officials of the Authority are authorized to do all things necessary (including the making of such covenants of the Authority as shall be appropriate) to assure that the interest on the Bonds will be and will remain excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

Section 16. **PUBLICATION AND RECORDATION.** This Resolution shall be published once in full in a newspaper of general circulation in the Authority qualified under state law to publish legal notices, and the same shall be recorded in the records of the Authority and such recording authenticated by the signature of the Authority Clerk.

Section 17. **RESOLUTION SUBJECT TO MICHIGAN LAW.** The provisions of this Resolution are subject to the laws of the State of Michigan.

Section 18. **SECTION HEADINGS.** The section headings in this Resolution are furnished for convenience of reference only and shall not be considered to be a part of this Resolution.

Section 19. **SEVERABILITY:** If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Resolution shall be held invalid, the invalidity of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the other provisions of this Resolution.

Section 20. **CONFLICT:** Except as provided above, all Resolutions and Resolutions or parts thereof, insofar as the same may be in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict; provided, that the foregoing shall not operate to repeal any provision thereof, the repeal of which would impair the obligation on the Bonds or the Prior Bonds.

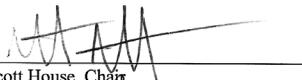
Section 21. **EFFECTIVE DATE OF RESOLUTION:** Pursuant to Section 6 of the Act 94, this Resolution shall be approved on the date of first reading and this Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

YEAS: Chair House, Vice-Chair Perry, Secretary Peterson,

Trustee Brogren, Trustee Peet, Trustee Cleland

NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.



Scott House, Chair


Charles Peterson, Authority Secretary

CERTIFICATION

I, Charles Peterson, the duly qualified and acting Secretary of the East Lansing - Meridian Water and Sewer Authority, Ingham County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees at a regular meeting held on April 16, 2020, and that notice of said meeting was given pursuant to Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended and the Governor's Executive Order No. 2020-48.

Dated: April 16, 2020



Charles Peterson, Authority Secretary

**EXHIBIT A
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF INGHAM**

**EAST LANSING - MERIDIAN WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY
WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM JUNIOR LIEN REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2020**
Interest Rate _____ Maturity Date _____ Date of Original Issue _____, 2020
See Schedule I

Registered Owner: Michigan Finance Authority
Principal Amount: _____ Dollars (\$_____)

The East Lansing - Meridian Water and Sewer Authority, Ingham County, Michigan (the "Issuer"), acknowledges itself indebted and, for value received, hereby promises to pay to the Registered Owner specified above, or registered assigns, out of the net revenues of the Water Supply System of the Issuer (the "System"), including all appurtenances, additions, extensions and improvements thereto after provision has been made for reasonable and necessary expenses of operation, maintenance and administration of the System (the "Net Revenues"), the amounts and on the Dates of Maturity set forth on Schedule I hereto, together with interest thereon from the dates of receipt of such funds, or such later date to which interest has been paid, at the Interest Rate per annum specified above, first payable on _____ 1, 20____, and semiannually thereafter on the first day of April and October of each year, except as the provisions hereinafter set forth with respect to redemption of this Bond prior to maturity may become applicable hereto.

The Issuer promises to pay to the Michigan Finance Authority (the "MFA") the principal amount of this Bond or so much thereof as shall have been advanced to the Issuer pursuant to a Purchase Contract between the Issuer and the MFA and a Supplemental Agreement by and among the Issuer, the MFA and the State of Michigan acting through the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy.

During the time funds are being drawn down by the Issuer under this Bond, the MFA will periodically provide the Issuer a statement showing the amount of principal that has been advanced and the date of each advance, which statement shall constitute prima facie evidence of the reported information; provided that no failure on the part of the MFA to provide such a statement or to reflect a disbursement or the correct amount of a disbursement shall relieve the Issuer of its obligation to repay the outstanding principal amount actually advanced, all accrued interest thereon, and any other amount payable with respect thereto in accordance with the terms of this Bond.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Bond, so long as the MFA is the owner of this Bond, (a) this Bond is payable as to principal, premium, if any, and interest at The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N. A., or at such other place as shall be designated in writing to the Issuer by the MFA (the "MFA's Depository"); (b) the Issuer agrees that it will deposit with the MFA's Depository payments of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on this Bond in immediately available funds by 12:00 noon at least five business days prior to the date on which any such payment is due whether by maturity, redemption or otherwise; in the event that the MFA's Depository has not received the Issuer's deposit by 12:00 noon on the scheduled day, the Issuer shall immediately pay to the MFA as invoiced by the MFA an amount to recover the MFA's administrative costs and lost investment earnings attributable to that late payment; and (c) written notice of any redemption of this Bond shall be given by the Issuer and received by the MFA's Depository at least 40 days prior to the date on which such redemption is to be made.

This Bond, being one fully registered manuscript bond, is issued in accordance with the provisions of Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended, Act 233, Public Acts of Michigan, 1955, as amended and a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Issuer on April 11, 2019 and April 16, 2020 (the "Resolution"), for the purpose of paying the cost of acquiring and constructing improvements to the System. This Bond is a self-liquidating Bond, and is not a general obligation of the Issuer within any constitutional or statutory limitation, but is payable, both as to principal and interest, solely from the Net Revenues of the System. The principal of and interest on this Bond are secured by a statutory lien on the Net Revenues.

The Issuer hereby covenants and agrees to fix, and maintain at all times while any of the Bonds shall be outstanding, such rates for service furnished by the System as shall be sufficient to provide for payment of the principal of and interest upon all such Bonds as and when the same become due and payable, to maintain a bond and interest Redemption Account and to provide for the payment of expenses of administration and operation and such expenses for maintenance of the System as are necessary to preserve the same in good repair and working order, and to provide for such other expenditures and funds for the System as are required by the Resolution. The statutory liens securing any First Lien Bonds (as defined in the Resolution) Issued by the Issuer will be first liens that shall be superior to the lien on the Net Revenues securing this Bond. The Bonds of this series shall have equal standing with the Issuer's Junior Lien Bonds (as defined in the Resolution), and any Additional Junior Lien Bonds (as defined in the Resolution) that may be issued pursuant to the Resolution. Additional bonds of superior standing to the bonds of this series may be issued pursuant to the Resolution. For a complete statement of the revenues from which, and the conditions under which, this Bond is payable, a statement of the conditions under which additional bonds of equal or superior standing may hereafter be issued, and the general covenants and provisions pursuant to which this Bond is issued, reference is made to the Resolution.

Bonds of this series may be subject to redemption prior to maturity by the Issuer only with the prior written consent of the MFA and on such terms as may be required by the MFA.

In the event of a default in the payment of principal or interest hereon when due, whether at maturity, by redemption or otherwise, the amount of such default shall bear interest (the "additional interest") at a rate equal to the rate of interest which is two percent above the MFA's cost of providing funds (as determined by the MFA) to make payment on the bonds of the MFA issued to provide funds to purchase this Bond but in no event in excess of the maximum rate of interest permitted by law. The additional interest shall continue to accrue until the MFA has been fully reimbursed for all costs incurred by the MFA (as determined by the MFA) as a consequence of the Issuer's default. Such additional interest shall be payable on the interest payment date following demand of the MFA. In the

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

Poetry and film partner to meet the pandemic quarantine online

By **BILL CASTANIER**

It wasn't the plan, but as the coronavirus and the resulting quarantine canceled public gatherings and events, we've seen everything from symphonies to homebound guitarists turn to the Web to deliver virtual reality performances.

Now it's Michigan State University's turn. It's melding poetry, music and film into a package of 13 short student films that will be delivered this week on a YouTube stream instead of in-person at a theater.

Dubbed the MSU Filmetry Festival, the unique fusion features films spun off from poetry in the singular anthology "RESPECT: The Poetry of Detroit Music" recently published by MSU Press.

The anthology looks at different forms of music — whether it's blues, rock, electric, gospel, jazz, R&B, techno or punk — through the eyes and voices of poets, Grammy Award winners, musicians and Pulitzer Prize winners.

"I was honored the book was part of the project. I think of poetry as being as much a visual art as a literary art form," said M.L. Liebler, Wayne State University professor and co-editor of the anthology. "Good poems and great films offer readers and viewers a deep sense of humanity that can only be found beneath the surface of imagery and metaphor."

The project was founded and shepherded by poet Cindy Hunter Morgan and MSU Film Studies Professor Peter Johnston. It began in 2018 with the participants showing their short films in 2019. Both agree that using a single theme this year added to the panache and excitement.

Hunter Morgan was acting director of the MSU Center for Poetry in the Residential College of Arts and Humanities when she approached Johnston with the idea of collaborating on creating a series of "Cinepoems." She had tried to create a film to accompany one of her poems, but found she didn't have the technical experience to pull it off.

"I love the fusion — poets think cinematically. The art of film can inform poetry, while poetry can serve as a prompt," said Morgan, now a communications specialist at the MSU Libraries.

"Filmmakers are often just looking for a bit of inspiration, and poetry gives the filmmaker a chance to really take some creative risks with the work," Johnston added. "Some of the films can be very poetic. There is a rhythm to both poetry and film."

Johnston explained this year's theme helps engage students who volunteer with no course credit to be part of the project. This year eight students, mostly film majors, responded to an open



MSU Filmetry Festival

7 p.m., Thursday, April 23

Visit go.cal.msu.edu/edu/Filmetry to view the stream

call to create short films based on the individual poems in "RESPECT." Other members of the faculty and staff at MSU also contributed work.

Aileen Dwyer, a senior in the Media Information Program at MSU's College of Communication Arts and Sciences, chose the poem "River Rouge," by David Cope. Cope worked as a school custodian while pursuing his degree from the University of Michigan where he studied under the famous poet Robert Hayden. He has been called a post-beat poet who collaborated with Allen Ginsberg. He also received advanced degrees from Western Michigan University and is one of the former Grand Rapids poet laureates where he taught full-time at Grand Rapids Community College.

"I really liked the language and all the images I saw in the poem," she said.

Dwyer said her own filmmaking "fell into the patterns of families and relationships."

Morgan also said the project gives students an opportunity to work with other students and professionals. "Borders between students and faculty are dissolved and it's a great opportunity for collaboration between poets and filmmakers," she said.

Both Johnston and Hunter Morgan believe that because of the pandemic more people than ever will get to see the poetic films online.



MSU student filmmaker and poet Aileen Dwyer based her short film on the poem "River Rouge," by David Cope.



'The flame flickers but won't go out'

Local theaters stay positive

By **DAVID WINKELSTERN**

The pandemic has muted local playhouses. All theatrical companies are struggling but staying positive about their futures.

"I'm an eternal pragmatic optimist," Peppermint Creek Theatre artistic director Chad Swan-Badgero said. "I certainly hope we can all return for the start of the season in the fall."

He believes people will be cautious and appreciative to return to theaters when they reopen. He believes streaming services will expand what theaters are capable of and learning new technological capabilities will make them better.

"I hope that the new normal is that we appreciate so many things that we took for granted before the quarantine," he said.

"The new normal is going to be way different," Riverwalk Theatre office manager Mike Siracuse said. "People are going to be afraid to go to the theater."

Riverwalk's history goes back to 1958 and this is the first time it's had to cancel a string of shows. Siracuse thinks livestreaming plays could become more common; spacing patrons in Riverwalk's seats might be another option.

Riverwalk's projected ticket sales lost is \$14,300. Patrons have been helping out, and Siracuse said the outpouring of support humbled him. "People are being extremely generous to us."

Despite the shutdown, which he fully supports, Siracuse remains optimistic. "I don't think theater is dead," he said. "It's going to go on and on."

John Leopard, executive director of Williamston Theatre, agrees. "I think live theater will bounce back, much like after 9/11," Leopard said. "We will come around to a similar situation where we feel normal."

Williamston carried no debt into this crisis. "Theaters in the red will have a

much harder time," Leopard said. "I'm not sure who will survive this thing."

Although the livestream of "These Mortal Hosts" earned positive feedback, Leopard said it's not doing as well as if it had been produced live.

Starlight Dinner Theatre artistic director Linda Granger had to cancel a show because it was held in a school that closed. She is optimistic about presenting it in the fall. "We are absolutely committed to finishing 'The Lion in Winter,'" Granger said. "Financially, we must do the show."

She is afraid initial audience sizes may be restricted, and that could be disastrous for Starlight. "If it's anything less than 100, our shows will lose money," Granger said.

Ixion Theatre performs to about 50-65 seats in the Robin Theatre. Because of the venue's small size, Ixion artistic director Jeff Croff anticipates getting back to business perhaps sooner than the larger operations. "Larger venues may find themselves forced to reduce seating to accommodate future guidelines. We theater practitioners are accustomed to adjusting and improvising," Croff said.

Lansing Community College Performing Arts director Laura Paige Tufford-Dunkel is keeping hopeful for a fall season. "We try to remain optimistic about our upcoming season," she said.

"Having gone through this pandemic, we've all been changed. I truly believe we will adapt, overcome and create," she said. "We'll get back to live theater, music and dance performances."

Perhaps even harder than canceling shows is not being able to come together in person to create those shows. "Rehearsals are such a wonderful experience of learning, bonding and connecting with others," Tufford-Dunkel said.

Since the Over the Ledge Theatre Co. only operates during the summer, it escaped the first wave of cancellations. "Our first show of the summer wasn't scheduled until July, which now seems

somewhat fortuitous," executive director Joseph Dickson said.

Although he's doubtful Over the Ledge's "The Realistic Joneses" will be able to open, Dickson is hoping to produce some sort of live event. "I would hate for the playhouse to sit dark for the entire year," he said.

The "theater artist part" and the "business and science side" of Dickson have opposing hopes. His theatrical optimism clashes with his more logical pessimism. "I think the short-term future is going to be pretty bleak," Dickson said. "We're likely to see quite a bit of contraction in the professional performing arts in particular."

Dickson sees the current flood of webcasts of shows is a "for now" phe-

nomenon and not a lasting trend. "It's a tourniquet we are applying to stop the bleeding," he said. "But it won't keep us alive for long."

"We've been performing live for each other around the fire for hundreds of thousands of years," Dickson said. "We will soon be drawn to the fire again."



Swan-Badgero



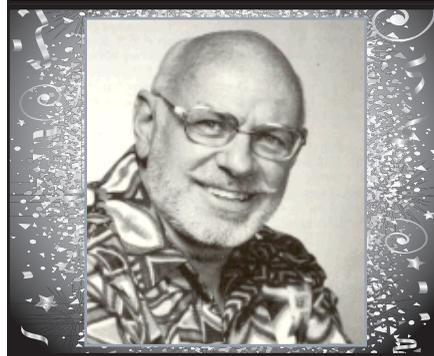
Granger



Dickson

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



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Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Cool, Cool" -- another door opens.

By Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Completely chill
- 5 Cat's resting spot
- 8 "Sweet smile" or "money-mouth face," e.g.
- 13 Et ____ (Latin for "and others")
- 14 Golden ____ O's (cereal variety that somehow exists)
- 16 Fix with a needle
- 17 ITEMS IN THE FREEZER
- 20 ITEMS IN THE FREEZER
- 21 Affectionate greeting (that I'm guessing there will be a lot of when this is done)
- 22 Raphael's weapon, in "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles"
- 23 Gallery offering
- 24 Ral z c' bica de ocho
- 27 Long sandwich
- 29 Makeshift car cleaners
- 32 Exclamations that have their moments?
- 34 Ewe's mate
- 36 Answer a stimulus
- 40 ITEMS IN THE REFRIGERATOR
- 44 Phone maker from Finland
- 45 "Born in the ____"
- 46 New employee
- 47 Degs. for many professors
- 50 Alternatives to Macs
- 52 It's usually due April 15
- 53 Breakfast hrs.
- 56 Android program
- 58 Carp in some ponds
- 60 ITEMS IN THE VEGETABLE CRISPER
- 67 ITEMS IN THE VEGETABLE CRISPER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13				14		15	16				
17				18			19				
20											
24	25	26		27	28	29	30	31			
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53	54	55		56	57	58	59				
60			61	62			63		64	65	66
67											
68					69			70			
71						72			73		

- 68 Words before ante
- 69 It ended on April 9 this year
- 70 Musk of Tesla Motors
- 71 Bedding item
- 72 Get the idea
- 73 Some TV rooms
- Down**
- 1 Golden State, informally
- 2 "30 Rock" star Baldwin
- 3 Longest possible sentence
- 4 Go together perfectly
- 5 With "The," 2008 Mike Myers flop
- 6 Carpet calculation
- 7 Stereotypical '80s hairdos
- 8 Words in the middle of everyone's favorite Napoleon-based palindrome
- 9 Alternate nickname for Sporty Spice (as opposed to Scary)
- 10 Home of Suntory's headquarters
- 11 2000 World Series MVP Derek
- 12 "____ let you down!"
- 15 Green "Sesame Street" character
- 18 "It's either them ____"
- 19 Karmann ____ (classic VW model)
- 24 Rhett Butler's last word
- 25 The ____ State University
- 26 Jonas who developed a polio vaccine
- 28 Actress ____ Ling of "The Crow"
- 30 "Despicable Me" supervillain
- 31 "Late Night" host Meyers who's currently broadcasting from home
- 33 Omit
- 35 Initialism for the series of "Avengers" movies
- 37 "Keep ____!" ("Don't give up!")
- 38 "Scott Pilgrim vs. the World" star Michael
- 39 "Jurassic Park" beast
- 41 God, to a Rastafarian
- 42 Prenatal power
- 43 Make retroactive, like a payment
- 48 "Hawaii Five-O" detective, to McGarrett
- 49 Go letter by letter
- 51 "Bon ____" (good evening, in France)
- 53 Photographer Diane
- 54 Transform bit by bit
- 55 Dealt a sharp blow, in the Bible
- 57 Asks intrusive questions
- 59 "The Sky ____" (1950 Italian drama)
- 61 Hurt all over
- 62 Rapper in "Law & Order: SVU"
- 63 Dermatologist's case
- 64 Miniature golf goal
- 65 English school founded by Henry VI
- 66 1040 IDs

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Answers Page 23

SUDOKU

Advanced

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

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

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Brezсны

April 22-28, 2020

ARIES (March 21-April 19): In the future, when the coronavirus crisis has a diminished power to disrupt our lives, I would love for you to have more of the money you need to finance interesting new experiences that help you learn and thrive. Now is a good time to brainstorm about how you might arrange for that to happen. For best results, begin your meditations with vivid fantasies in which you envision yourself doing those interesting new experiences that will help you learn and thrive

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Renowned Taurus composer Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) completed his first symphony when he was 43 years old—even though he'd started work on it at age 22. Why did it take him so long? One factor was his reverence for Ludwig van Beethoven, the composer who had such a huge impact on the development of classical music. In light of Beethoven's mastery, Brahms felt unworthy. How could any composer add new musical ideas that Beethoven hadn't already created? But after more than two decades, Brahms finally managed to overcome his inhibition. He eventually produced four symphonies and scores of other pieces, and left a major mark on musical history. For you, Taurus, I see the coming months as a phase comparable to the time when Brahms finally built the strength necessary to emerge from the shadow that had inhibited him.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): A Gemini friend sent me and three of her other allies a poignant email. "This note is a tender apology to those of you whom I've hurt in the process of hurting myself," she began. "I want you to know that I have been working hard and with great success to eliminate my unconscious tendency to hurt myself. And I am confident this means I will also treat you very well in the future." I received her message with joy and appreciation. Her action was brave and wise. I invite you to consider making a comparable adjustment in the weeks ahead.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The Ojibwe are indigenous people of North America. Professor of Ojibwe studies Anton Treuer writes that in their traditional culture, there have been men who act and dress like women and women who act and dress like men. The former are called "ikwekaazo" and the latter "ikwekaazowag". Both have been "always honored" and "considered to be strong spiritually." Many other Native American groups have had similar arrangements. Transcending traditional gender behavior is not unique to modern Western civilization. With that as inspiration, and in accordance with astrological omens, I invite you to explore any inclinations you might have to be your own unique gender. The time is ripe for experimenting with and deepening your relationship with the constructs of "masculine" and "feminine."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "The history of my stupidity would fill many volumes," wrote Nobel Prize-winning poet Czesław Miłosz. Wow! If a highly respected genius like him has spawned so much nonsense and ignorance, what about the rest of us? Here's what I have to say about the subject: Each of us should strive to be at peace with the fact that we are a blend of wisdom and folly. We should be tenderly compassionate toward our failures and weaknesses, and not allow them to overshadow our brilliance and beauty. Now would be a good time for you Leos to cultivate this acceptance and perform this blessing for yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Helen Traubel (1899-1972) was best-known for her opera career, although she also sang in concerts, nightclubs, and musical theater. But in her autobiography, she confessed, "Opera bored me." She reminds me of Georgia O'Keeffe, famous painter of flowers. "I hate flowers," O'Keeffe said. "I paint them because they're cheaper than models and they don't move." Now of course most of us have to do some things that we don't enjoy; that seems to be a routine part of being human. And since the coronavirus arrived in our midst, you may have been saddled with even more of this burden. But I'm happy to inform you

that the coming weeks will be a favorable time to brainstorm about how you could do more of what you love to do once the crisis has abated.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): What's the current state of the relationship between your ego and your soul? Is there an uneasy truce between the ambitious part of you that craves success and recognition and the lyrical part of you that yearns for rich experiences and deep meaning? Or do those two aspects of you get along pretty well—maybe even love and respect each other? Now is a favorable time to honor your ego and soul equally, Libra—to delight in the activities of both, to give them plenty of room to play and improvise, and to encourage them to collaborate in ways that will further your well-rounded happiness and health.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Scorpio author Voltaire (1694-1778) was a crusader for freedom of thought and civil liberties, as well as a key player in the Enlightenment. He was very prolific. In addition to producing 2,000 books and pamphlets, his carried on such voluminous written correspondences with so many interesting people that his collected letters fill 98 volumes. Would you consider getting inspired by Voltaire's approach to cross-pollination? According to my calculations, the next phase of the coronavirus crisis will be a favorable time for you to intensify your communication via the written word.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): I like musician David Byrne's views on what constitutes meaningful work. It's not just the tasks you do to earn money. "Sex is a job," he says. "Growing up is a job. School is a job. Going to parties is a job. Religion is a job. Being creative is a job." In other words, all the activities he names, to be done well, require a commitment to excellence and an attention to detail. They are worthy of your diligent efforts, strenuous exertion, and creative struggle. I encourage you to meditate on these thoughts during the coming weeks. Identify what jobs you want to get better at and are willing to work hard on and would like to enjoy even more than you already do.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): At its best and brightest, Capricornian love isn't frivolous or flighty. It's not shallow or sloppy or slapdash. When Capricornian love is at its highest potency, it's rigorous, thoughtful, and full-bodied. It benefits anyone who's involved with it. I bring this up because I expect the coming weeks to be a Golden Age of Capricornian Love—a time when you will have the inspiration and intelligence necessary to lift your own experience of love to a higher octave.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I hope you're not one of those Aquarians who regards stability and security as boring. I hope you don't have an unconscious predilection for keeping yourself in a permanent state of nervous uncertainty. If you do suffer from those bad habits, you'll be hard-pressed to stick to them in the coming weeks. That's because the cosmic energies will be working to settle you down into a steady groove. If you cooperate, you will naturally enhance your ability to be well-anchored, calmly steadfast, and at home in your life. Please don't resist this opportunity.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): I foresee the likelihood that you'll be having brilliant and evocative conversations with yourself in the coming weeks. Your heart and your head may become almost blissful as they discuss how best to create a dynamic new kind of harmony. Your left side and right side will declare a truce, no longer wrestling each other for supremacy, and they may even join forces to conjure up unprecedented collaborations. The little voices in your head that speak for the past will find common ground with the little voices in your head that speak for the future—and as a result you may be inspired to formulate a fresh master plan that appeals both.

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

TURN IT DOWN!

LOCALS PICK LOCALS VOL. IV

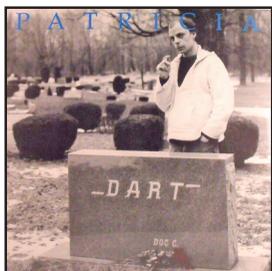
BY RICH TUPICA

ANOTHER ROUND OF MICHIGAN-MADE TUNES THAT'LL EASE YOUR CABIN FEVER

The nation is shutdown, so is local music. With no shows to report, here's the fourth edition of "Locals Pick Locals," a weekly track list of homegrown tunes, compiled by Lansing-based musicians and record-store crate diggers. Plus, all of these songs are streaming on YouTube, so feel free to listen along as you read. Perhaps you'll find a new favorite local band?

Ariel Rogers (Journalist, drummer, formerly of Teenage Slumber Party)
Pick: Doc Dart "Patricia" LP — 1990

Nothing gets me more in the mood for self-isolation than the album "Patricia," by Doc Dart, the notoriously reclusive Lansing-area legend. Dart, who now goes by the name 26, formed the Crucifucks in 1981 and has since gained a decent cult following. 26's shrill voice and subversive lyrics are a punk-rock contrarian's dream and Tipper Gore's worst nightmare. Some songs on the Crucifucks' self-titled album include "Democracy Spawns Bad Taste," "Hinckley Had A Vision" — named for the would-be Ronald Reagan assassin — and "Cops For Fertilizer."



In 1990, 26 released his solo album "Patricia," named after his therapist at the time. The album explores themes of cyclical depression, isolation, abandonment, and gives the listener a more introspective look into 26's psyche. When I listen to it, it almost feels like he ripped a page from my diary and set it to haunting, yet beautiful guitar music.

While the world is on lockdown and we are shut in our homes, 26's songs are relatable now more than ever — especially the song "Falling," where he desperately asks, "Why does it have to be this way again? Today feels just like yesterday again." I couldn't agree more.

Rich Tupica (Turn it Down! writer, "Inzane Michigan" co-host)
Pick: Bantam Rooster "Dumb It Down" — 2000

If you've been on a farm in the sticks of Michigan, you may have crossed paths with a feisty bantam rooster. They're small in stature, but surprisingly strong, mean and fierce ... much like the legendary

Lansing band of the same name.

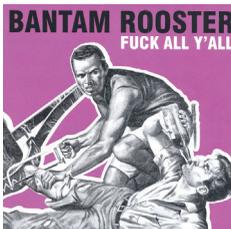
Formed in 1994, Bantam Rooster was an explosive two-piece rock outfit that cut its sharp teeth at Mac's Bar and beer-soaked basements across Michigan. Fueled by the visceral voice and signature riffs of frontman T. Jackson Potter (guitar/vocals), the garage-punk duo cranked out records for two iconic underground imprints: Crypt Records and Sympathy For the Record Industry. Thanks to that international street cred, throughout the '90s, the pair toured the world and became a fixture in the same Detroit-rock scene that spawned The White Stripes. Bantam Rooster is even featured on Jack White's 2001 "Sympathetic Sounds of Detroit" compilation.

Underscored here is Bantam's last hurrah: the fiery "Fuck All Ya'll" LP. Released in the summer of 2000, it serves as a fitting exodus for the primitive — yet somehow colossal-sounding — twosome. Front to back, the album is tense, brash and would perplex your neighbors when cranked appropriately. The 35-minute disc abruptly launches with "Dumb it Down," a fully unhinged mess that's laced with feedback-squeals from hell and smothered in demented vocal barks. Classic Potter. The track burns hot for a brief 1:37 before it abruptly boils over and fizzles out. Be sure to also queue up "Shit List +1" and "You're the Sun." It's pure Michigan.

John Olson, aka Inzane Johnny (Musician, Wolf Eyes, "Inzane Michigan" co-host)

Pick: Don Lee "ECHO, Echo, echo" — 1957

The mysterious kingpin of all Lansing sonics from 1952 through the late '60s, Don Lee Bloomquist was the owner of the legendary Don Lee Studios at 1328 E. Michigan Avenue, where he engineered stacks of records for locals. But Bloomquist was a musician too, and title holder for the sole human superpower that can make an accordion



psychedelic. This forgotten hit single on Blue-Chip Records is a homemade cosmic beast that sounds like Sun Ra tanked on \$3 Pabst pitchers at Green Dot Stables. Best polka that's not on Michigan's SOUND Records. Play this during an online group-drinking party — separate the hard from the hardcore.

Lindsey Taylor (La La Delivery, guitar/vocals)

Pick: Myron James "Out of Tune" — 2018

I decided to showcase none other than my quarantine-mate. Myron James is the moniker of James Mitchell, who's played in a handful of Lansing acts, like Edible Intention, Rhode Island Sluts and La La Delivery. After years of being a rambunctious young punker in the Lansing scene,

he's now grown accustomed to being a basement rocker and prefers to hang under the radar. Some prominent inspirations on this track are Captain Beefheart and Tom Waits. This song has only one lyric, and the homemade quality of the drum machine and guitars blend together in a hilarious fashion. "Out of Tune" tells us that Myron James is not afraid to let his freak flag fly. It's a testament to all artists who just got to let their weirdness out somewhere.



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FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Lansing restaurants manage anxiety as the shutdown continues

By **DAWN PARKER**

It shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone that restaurants are struggling.

The shelter-in-place orders in force for more than a month now have demanded extreme measures, from dialing back to curbside take-out service to turning off the lights and locking the doors.

And unless you have the right kind of license, not being able to dine in

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Carryout and curbside
service available

trouble.

Mark Taylor, owner of Fidler's on the Grand in Lansing, said he's not the only one who is anxious.

"I think like most of the industry and all the individuals here locally, everybody is scrambling, trying to keep it together with as many band-aids as they can get together," Taylor said.

More than 75 percent of Fidler's

staff has been cut, and foot traffic to 4805 N. Grand River Ave. has gone down by a similar percentage.

"Ultimately, we're trying to be fluid in this environment that no one has experienced before — at least, not in our generation," Taylor said. The nimbler you are, he added, the better the likelihood of "still standing after all this is said and done."

The prolonged nature of the shutdown appears to also be exacting a psychological toll.

"I think it's that psychological pyramid, where the first time you hear it you don't believe it," Taylor said.

"And then, once you see that it's going to take place, then you start to go ahead and process, maybe it's not going to be as bad. It's an emotionally tense environment because you, as a business owner, have to ensure that everyone who is working next to you is on the same page and understands the gravity of what's taken place."

The story reads about the same at Coral Gables in East Lansing. The restaurant at 2838 E. Grand River has survived a lot in a history going back to the late-'30s, and owner Stuart Vanis said loyalty is keeping them going now.

Business is down "dramatically," he continued, resulting in 13 or 14 employees on duty instead of the usual 50.

"We have a very strong crew of people who are working very hard to keep the place going."

Ordering fewer supplies, keeping fewer people working and keeping utilities down helps, but not quite enough, because there's still health

insurance and rent to worry about.

Dishes the restaurant is known for, like its Friday night fish fries, its pizzas, burgers and Greek specials are helping Coral Gables stay the course.

Diners can ask for curbside carryout or come to the front counter, Vanis said — whatever people are most comfortable with.

While everyone is staying upbeat, there have been rougher days. The simple matter of making a deposit

got complicated recently when none of their bank's branches in the area were open.

Despite the challenges, Coral Gables still has plenty to report from the bright side.

"We're seeing our customers, which is nice, every day," Vanis said. "They have been extremely generous and very supportive, and that's a positive thing. There are some good things that are coming out of this."

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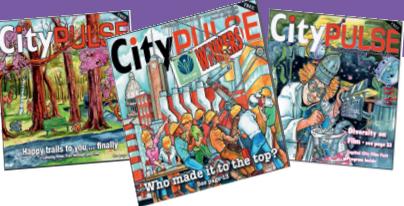
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4	5	9	6	7	8	2	3	1
6	2	8	9	1	3	7	4	5
2	1	7	4	3	9	8	5	6
8	3	5	1	6	7	9	2	4
9	4	6	8	2	5	1	7	3
5	9	3	7	8	6	4	1	2
7	6	4	2	5	1	3	9	8
1	8	2	3	9	4	5	6	7

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 20

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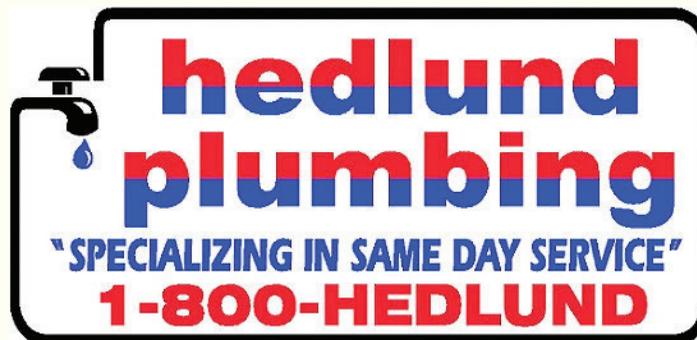
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