

# THE MONTHLY STANDARD

Volume 8 Issue 55

**FREE: PLEASE TAKE ONE!**

Edition: March / April '25

## THE PEOPLE SPEAK: "LEAVE THE REN CEN ALONE!"



**READ MORE ON PAGE 6**

**Also in this Issue:**

**Help for Veterans in Distress : Page 3**

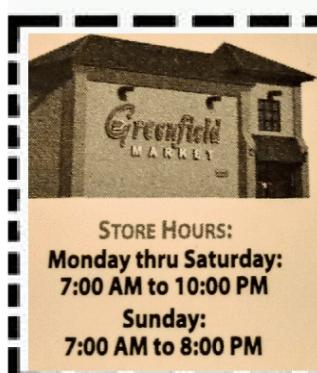
**Detroit Tigers: Page 7**

**Dana Redd Remembers Cobo Arena: Page 8**

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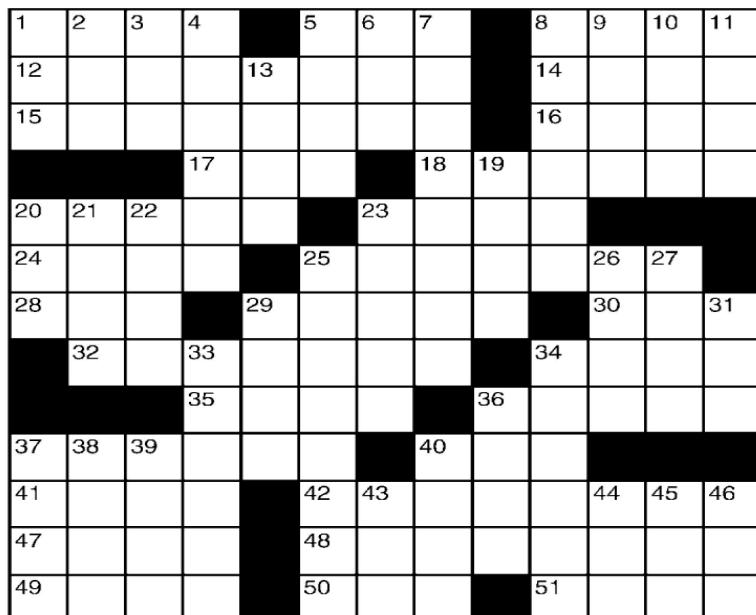
For More Info Contact MIKE JULIANO:  
Email: president@detroitmsbl.com  
Phone: 586-854-5007

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

1 Grand tale  
5 Slight application  
8 Big party  
12 Netlike structures  
14 Desertlike  
15 Accelerator  
16 Start a garden  
17 That man's  
18 Bob and Jakob of music  
20 Urge on  
23 "Scat, gnat!"  
24 Close by  
25 Baseball legend Casey

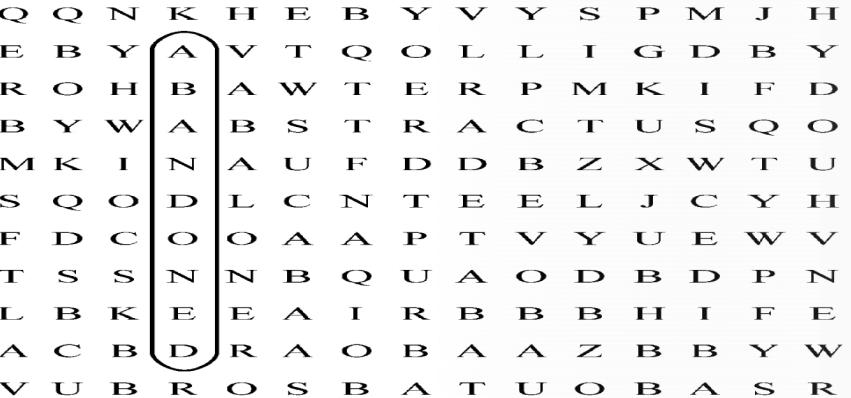
28 "Le Coq —"  
29 Ritz violin, for short  
30 Do some lawn work  
32 Placed a bet  
34 Chinese menu staple  
35 Acknowledge  
36 Prove false  
37 Up  
40 Nonstick spray name  
41 "And" or "but" (Abbr.)  
42 Bergman/Boyer thriller  
47 Horse's neck hair  
48 "Hamlet" setting



### DOWN

1 Work unit  
2 Pellet for a certain shooter  
3 "— Complicated"  
4 Code  
5 Clothing  
6 Carte lead-in  
7 Trademark for Yul or Telly  
8 Fireplace  
19 "— Cassius has ..."  
20 Third-party abbr.  
21 Cat call?  
22 Brazilian rubber area  
23 Scatter about  
25 More mighty  
26 Old-time actor  
27 Centers of  
29 Ballesteros of golf  
31 Tiny  
33 Nozzle attached to a Bunsen burner  
34 Jog one's memory  
36 "— Ha!"  
37 Pinnacle  
38 Bellow  
39 Hostels  
40 "Hey, you!"  
43 Hearty brew  
44 Stickum  
45 Day fractions (Abbr.)  
46 Prop for 29-Down

### MAGIC MAZE • NICE ABS



Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Abalone  
Abandoned  
Abated  
Abbey

Abbot  
Abduct  
Abhor  
Abide

Aboard  
About  
Above  
Abide

Absolutely  
Absorb  
Abstract

## CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

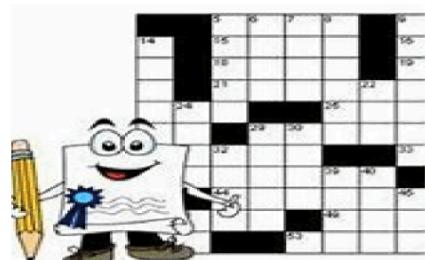
Clue: B equals E

SC ALB CHKEISEV CDALBTN

AHHG IDSFZ UTSNG ODFGN, S

VKBNN ALBZ OHKFI UB XDFFBI

XHENASAKASHEDFN.



**PUZZLE PAGE  
HAVE FUN!**



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Sunday: 8am-8pm

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# Active Military and Veteran Suicides Soar


Brown University 2021

In recent years, the issue of suicide among active military personnel and veterans has emerged as a pressing public health crisis. This ongoing phenomenon transcends individual tragedies, weaving through the very fabric of military life. The statistics are stark: Active-duty service members are taking their own lives at rates markedly higher than their civilian counterparts. In fact, suicide stands as the second leading cause of death in the military, drawing attention to an alarming reality. Each day, an average of 22 veterans succumb to suicide. (Some studies say the rate is as high as 44 per day). These figures not only underscore the urgent need for intervention but also highlight a pervasive mental health crisis that is often shrouded in stigma and silence. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) continues to confront this overwhelming figure, grappling with a landscape where the emotional toll of service frequently outweighs the pride associated with duty. Consider the case of Jason, a 30-year-old Army veteran. After serving two tours in Afghanistan, he returned home but faced an uphill battle. The transition to civilian life proved daunting; he struggled to reconnect with family and friends, all while grappling with PTSD and the echoes of military service. Despite seeking help, Jason felt isolated, burdened by emotions that seemed insurmountable. Tragically, Jason's story is not unique. His experience reflects an ongoing pattern, where veterans often face a disconnect from support systems that could potentially save their lives.

The higher suicide rate among military personnel compared to civilians can be attributed to several factors. The unique stressors of military life, including combat exposure, the risk of physical injury, and the challenges of reintegration into civilian society contribute heavily. Moreover, the culture within the military often discourages openness about mental health struggles. Service members may regard seeking help as a sign of weakness, which only exacerbates their difficulties. Moreover, the variability in accessible mental health resources across different branches of the military compounds the issue. While some efforts have been made to improve mental health services, many veterans still encounter long waits for appointments or insufficient care tailored to their needs. In response to this crisis, various organizations both governmental and non-profits have increased efforts to provide support for veterans struggling with mental health issues. Initiatives focusing on outreach, awareness, and building community connections are crucial. By fostering environments where veterans feel safe to express their struggles, we can break down the barriers that often lead to despair. As a society, we have a critical responsibility to engage in discussions surrounding this tragic phenomenon. It is not merely a military issue; it affects families, communities, and the fabric of our nation. By raising awareness, advocating for policy change, and supporting existing initiatives, we can contribute to a future where no veteran feels alone in their struggle. The battle against veteran and military suicide is ongoing. We cannot afford to overlook this urgent crisis. Together, we must ensure that those who have bravely served our country receive the help they need and deserve. The stories of lives lost are not just statistics; they are reminders of our collective duty to act. **Call or Text 988 for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.**

**BERT'S HAS IT ALL!-LIVE MUSIC-GREAT FOOD-PACKAGE LIQUOR-2727 RUSSELL-DETROIT**

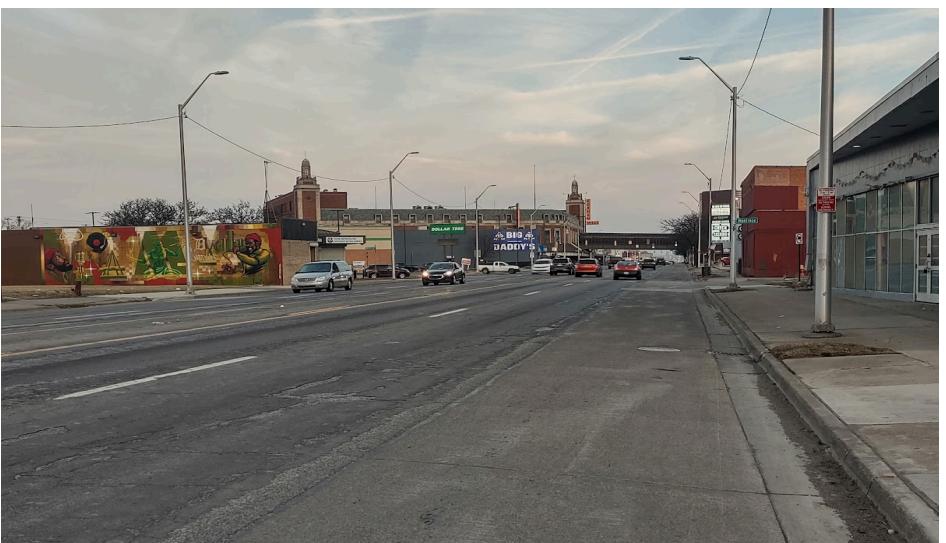
**RENTAL HALL-MUSEUM-HISTORY OF PARADISE VALLEY & BLACK BOTTOM-DETROIT'S ONLY BLACK OWNED LIQUOR OUTLET**

## BEFORE and AFTER

1977



2025



The picture on the left was submitted to The Monthly Standard from one of our loyal readers. It shows Grand River avenue one and a half blocks west of Greenfield in 1977. Wow! The area has changed drastically in 48 years. Most of the buildings are gone, and the few that survived are empty. (Even still, this area viable). In the distance you can see the Montgomery Ward sign on the left. The building now houses Forman Mills. In fact, their CEO contacted TMS and asked if they should put up new signage. We told them: "Yes." The decline of brick & mortar retail shops is not just a Detroit problem. It's nationwide. Online shops are the cause & must be overcome.

## THE MSBL WANTS YOU!

**Leagues Available for Players from 18 to Over 70 Years Old**

Answer these questions. Did you play high school baseball? Or, did you want to play high school baseball, but didn't? If you answered yes, call the Men's Senior Baseball League (MSBL) today! The MSBL has a spot for you. The leagues start at 18 to 29 years. Next you have 30+ years. After that 40+ years. Then there's 50+. Finally there's a league for players over 60 years old. THIS IS HARDBALL! Not softball. Yes. You'll be playing REAL BASEBALL on well manicured fields throughout metropolitan Detroit. You'll play two games per week from June through September. Day games are played on weekends and early evening and night games are played during the week. Interested? Call 586-854-5007.



# NEWSBREAK

**GREAT NEWS!**

The Monthly Standard is a NewsBreak contributor! That means you can read our interesting articles EVERYDAY! If you have a nose for news, Call Us, 24 hours a day at 1-844-595-8859. Our staff would love to hear from YOU today!

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**SCRIPTURE - "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only-begotten Son, so that everyone exercising faith in him might not be destroyed but have everlasting life. John 3:16**

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## TREY OWENS

# Who Is Gonna Make the Playoffs? The Red Wings Are Sagging-The Pistons Are Soaring

Although March Madness is typically a moniker for college basketball, it's been a month of madness across Detroit sports, for better or worse. Teams blossom into who they truly are as the seasons change from winter to spring. Although the Pistons and Red Wings each wear red on their uniforms, their true colors couldn't be any more different. While Cade Cunningham injects new life into a franchise that has been dormant since the days of Chauncey Billups and the "Going to Work" Pistons, the Red Wings have given fans a similar taste of anti-climatic defeat. Leaving many fans in doubt of whether a puck will even hit the playoff ice this season.

There is still a chance for this year to be different for the Red Wings and break the eight-year drought of not making the Stanley Cup playoff, but it is slipping away. The team has put together multiple stretches of good play, posting several winning streaks throughout the season. When the team reached its crescendo this year, they had over a 50% chance to make the playoffs before it went off the rails. The Red Wings now have less than a 10% chance of making it, according to Moneypuck. New head coach Todd McLellan started hot, winning 15 of his first 21 games, but has since led the Red Wings to a 2-6-1 record after the break. (And things are not getting better). With only so many games left to play, every point will count if the Red Wings want to change the narrative from a tale of disappointment to inspiration.

Thankfully, the hardwood has been kinder than the ice. The Pistons, on the other hand, have played better than anyone expected this season. After firing Monty Williams, JB Bickerstaff has propelled his team to the sixth seed in the Eastern Conference, with a chance to finish as high as the fourth seed. One of the most athletic teams in the league, Cunningham and the Pistons have used a classic combination of effort and intensity to win games in a way reminiscent of the old Pistons teams. Even though winning is everything, the team's record feels secondary to the palpable energy brewing within the fanbase. For the first time in years, the Pistons are fun to watch. From Cunningham's first All-Star appearance, to Malik Beasley's record-breaking 3-point season, there's hope for DEEEE-TROIT BAAAASKETBALL again.

## Wayne County Treasurer's Office Open Every Saturday in March to Assist Taxpayers

DETROIT, MI – Wayne County Treasurer Eric R. Sabree announced that the Wayne County Treasurer's Office is adding additional office hours every Saturday in March to assist taxpayers ahead of the March 31st deadline to enter a payment plan and for general tax assistance. The office will be open every Saturday in March from 8am-2pm.

Taxpayers can visit the office on Saturdays by appointment only. To make an appointment, taxpayers can visit [www.treasurer.waynecounty.com](http://www.treasurer.waynecounty.com) or call 313-224-5990.

"In order to serve as many taxpayers as possible ahead of the March 31st deadline, we are extending our office hours every Saturday in March. We encourage residents to take advantage of these additional hours to get the assistance they need. It is important to us that every taxpayer has access to the support and resources necessary, whether they need help with payment plans or other tax-related matters," said Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree.



The advertisement features a large QR code in the center. Above the QR code, the text "DETROIT IS EVERYWHERE" is written in large, yellow, block letters. Below that, in smaller blue text, is "BUY YOUR T-SHIRT TODAY!". The background of the ad shows a cloudy sky. At the bottom, there are three men modeling t-shirts. The man on the left is wearing a dark blue t-shirt with "DETROIT IS EVERYWHERE" and "313 GAME ON!". The man in the middle is wearing a white t-shirt with "DETROIT IS EVERYWHERE". The man on the right is wearing a white t-shirt with "LET'S GO LIONS!". Each t-shirt has a small "LOG IN TO OUR WEBSITE HERE!" link in the top right corner.

## COVER STORY

# Lack of Vision, No Confidence in Detroit Could Spell Doom for Ren Cen

If any changes are made to Detroit's iconic Renaissance Center it will prove beyond a shadow of a doubt, **THE PEOPLE HAVE NO VOICE**. The vast majority of Detroiters do not want the Ren Cen altered. The only people who want to demolish part (or all) of the Ren Cen are the corporate entities of Rock Financial and General Motors. If the vast majority of Detroiters do not want any part of the Ren Cen altered one has to ask: Why aren't the politicians speaking up for the people? Why hasn't Mayor Mike Duggan or members of the Detroit City Council spoken-out for the people, against billion dollar corporate entities demolishing the Ren Cen?

There are two answers, and both are bad. The inaction of politicians in this matter mean this: A. They have no power. B. The billion dollar corporate entities control them. **Angela Whitfield-Calloway** is the only City Council member who has advocated for more public input and opposes demolition. Part of her formal statement concerning the Ren Cen reads as follows: "The interior of the four 39 story office towers be re-configured so that the top 20 floors of each tower can be converted to residential units thus reducing the overall amount of office space and creating about 2,000 residential units." Calloway is the only Detroit politician that agrees with the people concerning this matter. The people are overwhelmingly against altering the Ren Cen when asked; *Do you think a tower or two of the Renaissance Center should be torn down?* Here are a few comments from Detroiters. **Jus B.** says: "I hate that they're trying to take it down." Westsider **Tiffany Woods** says: "I don't think they should do it. I think it's Detroit history and I think they should leave it as it is. Downtown resident **Alex Robinson** states: It'll be a bummer. It is one of the iconic buildings of the Detroit skyline. If you could find a buyer or get entertainment space to move into those buildings I think that would be the ideal situation." **Javonte Thompson** chimed in: "It is a statement piece of the city. It would look very weird." **Keno** said: I would hate to see it go down. That's our landmark. It's like the Empire State Building in New York. I don't want it to go." **Earl Moore**, a longtime resident who resides in District 2 says it best: It would be very foolish for them to tear down any part of the Renaissance Center. It became a staple in the Downtown Detroit area. That is our Renaissance. Leave the Ren Cen alone."

Dan Gilbert of Rock Financial, GM's Mary Barra, and Detroit's politicians (except Calloway) have no vision. Friedman Real Estate (the owners of Towers 500 & 600) have a stake in this too. I can see both of their towers converted to hotels, and Detroit needs hotel rooms. Right? Before the staid GM bought the property it was teeming with activity. People shopped at the stores, ate at the restaurants, and went to the movies at the Ren Cen theater. Those days can return. A strategic plan and confidence is needed. Imagine the sounds of new construction in every corner of the city. If a mere 10% of the 4.5 million suburbanites that surround the city returned, Detroit would rise above million residents again. **IT CAN HAPPEN!** So much can be done, if, we believe! APARTMENTS-HOSPITALITY-RETAIL-RESTAURANTS-ENTERTAINMENT & MORE! If Detroit thrives the Ren Cen will thrive.



Tiffany Woods



Alex Robinson



Javonte Thompson



Earl Moore

## BASEBALL

# Success Breeds Expectations, Will the Tigers Meet Them? We Believe They Will

Scott Harris "The Boy Wonder" has done it again. (We know he's a grown man, but my oldest kid is older than Harris). The bottom line is: Many years from now, by the time Harris is done, the Detroit Tigers will be a dynasty. If the fantastic finish of last year's 2024 edition of the Tigers doesn't make you a believer, nothing will. How does a team with only one bona fide starting pitcher almost make it to the American League Championship Series? STRATEGY. Believe me, the strategy in the Tigers organization goes from the top down. Harris built the team and he knew how to make it work. Using a hodge-podge group of rookies and players with under three years of major league baseball experience the Tigers almost pulled off a miracle in 2024. No, I will take that back. They did pull off a miracle. On August 10, 2024 the Tigers had a losing record of 55-63. They had a 0.2% chance to make the playoffs. That's impossible! Well...almost impossible. As we all know, they did it!

Let's move on to this year. Look for the Tigers to improve on their 2024 campaign. How could they not? They're going to fight it out with Cleveland and Kansas City for the top spot in the A.L. Central division, but they will prevail. The main reason why is pitching. Count on Detroit's Cy Young award winner, Tarik Skubal to have another stellar season. Also, Jack's back! In what The Monthly Standard feels was the best move of the off season, Scott Harris resigned Jack Flaherty, who was traded last August to the World Series champion Dodgers. Skubal and Flaherty will provide a potent 1-2 punch in the rotation. If Kenta Maeda returns to form and shows consistency, it'll be hard to beat this team over a long season. If Kenta slumps, Harris has signed 2023 All-Star Alex Cobb. On top of that, Harris signed Jose Urquidy. Both are battle tested right-handers who will surely strengthen the starting rotation. In the bullpen, Harris has added free agent RHP Tommy Kahnle. Hitters mustered a paltry .190 average against him last year when he pitched for the Yankees. Additionally, the Tigers added veteran strikeout artist John Brebbia to an already formidable bullpen.

Detroit's position players are young and have another year of experience under their belt. Expect Riley Green to build on his 2024 All-Star campaign. The Tigers will surprise the baseball world with a 1-2 punch home run duo this year. Kerry Carpenter will hit many long drives in 2025 and is going to become an All-Star this season. His home run buddy will be Spencer Torkelson. Tork will rebound from a subpar 2024 season at the plate and deposit many baseballs in the seats in 2025. Torkelson will also reclaim his position at first base. He'll be in the running for a Gold Glove because of his stellar defense. Colt Keith had a respectable rookie season and will have to move to third base. He can handle it. The new guy, Gleyber Torres, already fits in perfectly. He has a great eye at the plate, and is as steady as they come at second base. Speedster Parker Meadows will increase his power numbers at the plate and catch everything in sight in centerfield. Don't forget Javier Baez. He is far from through, and he's going to prove it.

The Tigers have a strong bench too. A.J. Hinch is the perfect manager for this squad. He is an easy going leader who is knowledgeable and respected by his team AND every opponent in Major League Baseball. In the game, Hinch knows who to insert and when to do it. The Detroit Tigers will win the World Series in 2025. This will be the first of many for Scott Harris in Detroit.



Scott Harris



MLB

Tarik Skubal Elsa/Getty



Kerry Carpenter



MLB

Jack Flaherty The Monthly Standard



## Bye-Bye Cobo Arena

# Built in 1960 - Gutted in 2012

I have many enjoyable memories of Cobo Arena in downtown Detroit – mostly as a kid growing up as a Pistons fan. As you probably know by now, Cobo Arena is history – and all of its 12,000 seats, has been gutted out, and is part of Cobo Center's \$299 million expansion (why not an even \$300 million?). In the late 60's and early 70's, me and my brothers used to catch the bus to watch the Pistons play. One season we only missed one game out of 41 home games. We sat in the yellow seats – the cheap seats. For a while, tickets for kids 12 & under were only 50 cents – what a deal!

I think bus fare was 35 cents, and we saved on refreshments by sneaking in a few hot dogs wrapped in aluminum foil, and shared a large pop – definitely within our budget on our paper route incomes. When I was in college, I was able to secure media credentials through Bill Humphries' TV 62 show, Speaking of Sports, and I was in heaven shooting photos court-side. One of my greatest thrills was taking pictures of Dr. J's (Julius Erving) first visit to Cobo Arena, and capturing him dunking on Piston Bob Lanier the first time he touched the ball. The photo is kind of grainy, but it's history.

I also remember watching the fashion shows during the games, as several fans – men and women - used to parade around the floor in their latest new threads. Many NBA players would tell stories about how the fans in Detroit were the sharpest anywhere in America – the flashy suits, the exotic shoes, the Super Fly-type hats and full-length mink coats. It was a spectacle. Cobo Arena was also where I attended my first concert, featuring Deep Purple and Black Oak Arkansas. I also went to Prince's Black & White Birthday Party concert at the arena. It was a great venue for a concert, with its horseshoe shape and solid back wall. I can't imagine Cobo Arena being converted into a two-story ballroom, but nothing stays the same. Rest in peace Cobo Arena – you were great while you lasted.



Facade of Cobo Arena from back in the day



Dana Redd

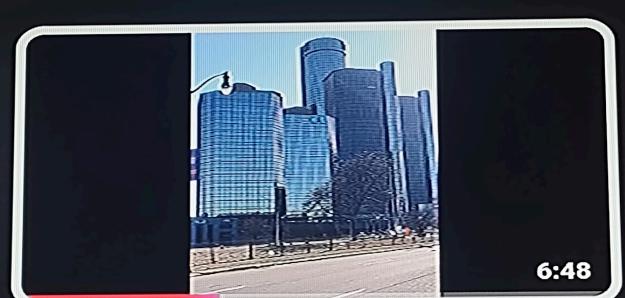
Dr. J-JAMMIN' at Cobo

Dana Redd



# YouTube

The Monthly Standard is an interactive newspaper. Most of our articles have a corresponding video attached to to give YOU a better perspective. To view our video content log on to [www.themonthlystandard.news](http://www.themonthlystandard.news).



**The People Speak: Save the Ren Cen!**

Ren Cen



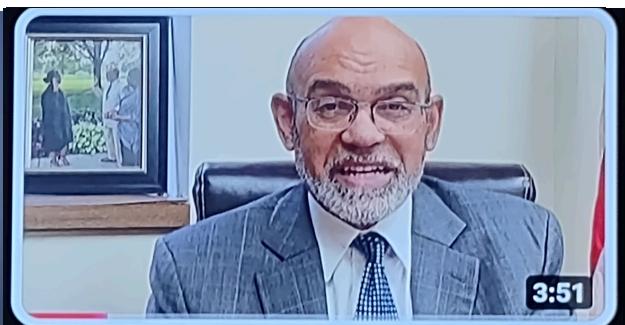
**The Legendary Cobo**

History of Cobo Arena



**The Bandemic Movie Trailer**

Movie of the Month-The Bandemic



**You Could Be Eligible for a Refund from Wayne County**

Wayne County Payback Program



**Never Fight Alone: Overcoming Veteran Suicide**

Help for Veterans



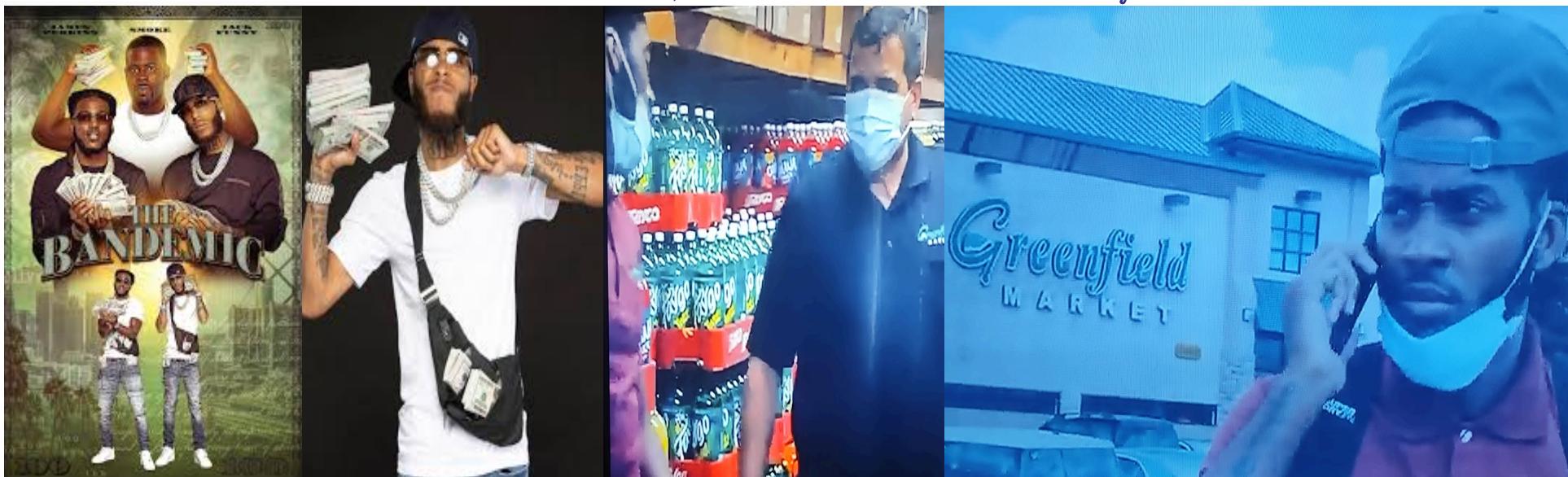
**MSBL-MABL Promo Video - Don't go soft! Play Hardball**

MSBL Baseball for Men

## MOVIE OF THE MONTH

### "THE BANDEMIC"

This is a local hood movie that's just as funny as Friday. Seriously. This movie is funny as mug-scratchy. It stars James Perkins and Jack Funny as two friends, BROKE, and trying to get paid. Perkins character gets a job at the Greenfield Market but he got fired. ,Jack Funny's character is always trying to get over on somebody to get paid. When they heard about how they could scam the government out of millions in COVID relief funds...IT WAS ON! The movie also stars "Smoke" as their nemesis, and Tony Farida, the real life boss of the Greenfield Market. This movie can be seen on Tubi, OR our website. Visit [www.themonthlystandard.news](http://www.themonthlystandard.news) & CLICK THE LINK.



# CLASSIC GANGSTER COMICS & MORE!

## **WAR ON CRIME—The South St. Paul Robbery**

**True Stories of Q-Mob Activities Based on Records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation—Modified in the Public Interest**

By REX COLLIER



# top ten

# AVALANCHE RESCUER MUST- HAVES





1. Maps
2. Compass
3. First-aid kit
4. Sunglasses
5. Sunscreen
6. Extra food
7. Fire starter
8. Extra clothing
9. Multitool
10. Headlamp/Flashlight

Source: Popular Mechanics

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY  
**HENRY BOLTINOFF**



**Find at least six differences in details between panels.**



4. Light fixture is missing. 5. Pizza picture is moved. 6. Number is missing. 7. Jacket is opened. 8. Bag is smaller. 9. Body is thinner. 10. Dumbbells.

# PUZZLE ANSWERS

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## — King Crossword

## King Crossword

## Answers

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

A crossword puzzle grid with 15 words found:

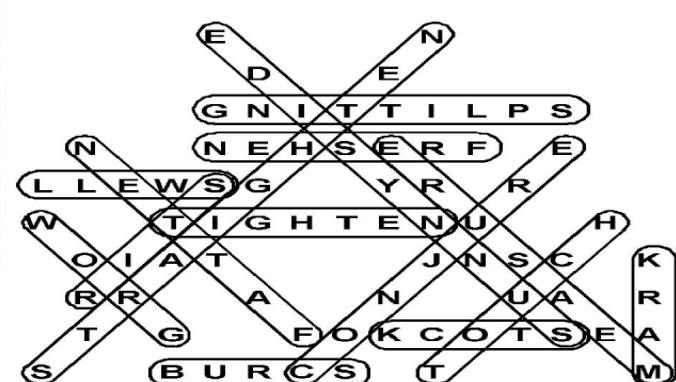
- AWESOME
- MOOSH
- ORATOR
- SEEER
- TOT
- CLASPS
- HAITI
- APRONS
- REV
- CITY
- ADO
- MOO
- ELK
- ECHO
- GREW
- RARE
- EGO
- ILO
- CONFER
- AGREE
- AFFORD
- USE
- LACE
- LIAR
- ODDS
- WEST

# CryptoQuip

answer

When lambs discover love  
and become married, could  
you say their two hearts  
bleat as one?

118



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**WAR ON CRIME—Bremer Is Fingered!**



True Stories of G-Man Activities Based on Records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation—Modified in the Public Interest

Registered U. S. Patent Office

By Rex Collier



SAWYER, ED BURSLAR, AND SALOON KEEPER ALLEGED TO BE THE GREATEST "FINGER-MAN" FOR THE BREMER KIDNAPERS.



**WAR ON CRIME—Picking Another Hideout!**



True Stories of G-Man Activities Based on Records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation—Modified in the Public Interest

Registered U. S. Patent Office

By Rex Collier



ZEIGLER WROTE A JOB OFFER TO HIS OLD FRIEND DAVID BOLTON, IN ARIZONA, FOR HIS HEALTH. THE JOB, BOLTON LATER LEARNED, WAS TO ACT AS LOOKOUT AT THE KIDNAP HIDEOUT.

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Eric R. Sabree  
Wayne County Treasurer

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If you need to make a payment it's easy to pay online by visiting [pta.waynecounty.com](http://pta.waynecounty.com). Or, if you need to visit our Downtown Office you can make an appointment by logging on to [treasurer.waynecounty.com](http://treasurer.waynecounty.com). What if you need a payment plan? There are many payment plans available to fit YOU! Contact the Wayne County Treasurer's Office to inquire about one of the beneficial plans listed below.

### 1. STIPULATED PAYMENT AGREEMENT:

Puts you on a schedule to avoid foreclosure. (As long as you maintain your payments).

### 2. DISTRESSED OWNER OCCUPANT EXTENSION:

For those suffering financial hardship. (Must prove hardship, occupancy, and ownership).

### 3. PAY AS YOU STAY AGREEMENT:

Apply for Poverty Tax Exemption in your city. (If approved, county will reduce your payments).

### 4. INTEREST REDUCTION STIPULATED PAYMENT AGREEMENT:

If eligible, this plan reduces your interest rate from 18% to 6%.

