

# THREE THINGS: DIAL M FOR MICHIGAN

[NB: check the byline, thanks. /~Rayne]

It was a big week for the Mitten State which I call home – big ups and equally big downs, like a roller coaster.

Must admit the low points which made the high points possible made me nauseous and sick with dread.

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High point: Michigan state senator Mallory McMorrow had a breakout week with a kick-ass-and-take-names speech on the senate floor this past Tuesday.

Senator Lana Theis accused me by name of grooming and sexualizing children in an attempt to marginalize me for standing up against her marginalizing the LGBTQ community...in a fundraising email, for herself.

Hate wins when people like me stand by and let it happen. I won't.

[pic.twitter.com/jL5GU42bTv](https://pic.twitter.com/jL5GU42bTv)

– Mallory McMorrow (@MalloryMcMorrow)  
April 19, 2022

The wretched low point: state senator Lana Theis' hateful fundraising email which I won't share; the 22nd state senate district which includes Livingston County and smaller portions of Genesee, Shiawasee, and Ingham counties have a lot to answer for having elected this hater.

McMorrow how every Democrat should do it: cede not one inch to the right-wing and its unrestrained hate when Democrats are doing everything which makes our cities, states, nation livable. Push back hard against the corrupting, toxic hate.

GOP voters in Michigan need to snap the hell out of their hate spiral and take a good look around them – as the motto says, *Si quaeris peninsulam amoenam circumspice*. These peninsulas aren't just theirs alone and they're pleasant because we occupy it together, cooperatively and collaboratively. Hate did not make this state great.

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Another high point: Michigan state senator Erika Geiss also blew the doors out of the state senate chambers with her heartbreaking appeal on Wednesday:

After hearing the independent autopsy results on the slain remains of #PatrickLyoya, I had to speak out about the repeated trauma. We have bills to provide reform, accountability, & justice. The #mleg needs to take them up & send them to @GovWhitmer NOW.  
[pic.twitter.com/OKCtNDn4U9](https://pic.twitter.com/OKCtNDn4U9)

– State Senator Erika Geiss (SD06)  
(@SenErikaGeiss) April 20, 2022

The sickening low point: yet another Black person's life was lost to excessive police force on April 4, when a routine traffic stop ended with a Grand Rapids officer shooting a 26-year-old driver at point blank range in the head. It is absolutely unacceptable that a traffic stop results in a driver's death, even when the driver attempts to grab an officer's taser. If the officer could manage to pull his gun and shoot he had enough control of the situation to restrain the driver.

This abuse by police cannot continue. Citizens deserve far better public safety. How many times do we have to demand this before change happens?

Senator Geiss and every BIPOC resident in this state and nation should not have to fear for their family members' safety in public or private from the very people they employ to keep

the public safe.

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Sickened by Senator Lana Theis' hateful rhetoric against people who don't fit her personal model, sickened further by the shooting death of an unarmed driver, the Michigan GOP served up another dose of noxiousness with its convention this weekend.

You may already have seen Rudy Giuliani sliming his way out of the Grand Rapids airport via retweet by Marcy, but in case you haven't:

So I am officially on vacation, but couldn't resist when I saw a familiar face going through security at Gerald Ford in GR. I should have dispensed with the preliminaries and gone straight to Jan 6. [pic.twitter.com/9MTWPLKmHS](https://pic.twitter.com/9MTWPLKmHS)

– Paul Egan (@paulegan4) April 23, 2022

The MIGOP convention was an event important enough to warrant Giuliani sliding into Michigan, perhaps to network with his fellow co-conspirators about the attempt to fraudulently foist different electors on the state, or a future attempt to do so. They would have been easy to meet in one location considering their respective roles in the MIGOP apparatus.

Perhaps it was important for Giuliani to see how other efforts to enable an illegitimate GOP stranglehold on power – like the selection of Big Lie

A loop-de-loop: it'd be nice to know if former MIGOP Randy Bishop attended the MIGOP convention. He's suddenly flipped parties and is now running as a Democrat for the state's 37th senate district. He'd run in 2010 as a Republican in the same district, which includes Antrim County now as it did before redistricting. The Detroit News ran an article about Bishop's filing to run (paywalled); unlike most of the state legislature candidate filings,

Bishop's was noteworthy because he'd said on his "Trucker Randy" radio show last month that "A family should be a white mom, white dad and white kids."

Why he thinks that will win over even the few Democrats in his majority white district isn't obvious; it's not just overt racism but a rejection of cities down state like Detroit, Flint, Saginaw, Benton Harbor, and Muskegon which have larger percentages of BIPOC residents and provide substantial amounts of state tax revenues. The 37th district, while 88% white, is home to a substantive number of Michigan's Native Americans including Bay Mills Indian Community (Chippewa), Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, and Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa/Chippewa Indians. The tribes bring in a lot of tourism dollars to a very rural district.

Bishop's rhetoric is just plain hateful and has no place in the Democratic Party in any state, and certainly not in Michigan's 37th senate district. He must surely know this, which makes his candidacy look like a ratfucking operation of some sort.

Remember that Antrim County, home to roughly 23,000 Michigan residents, was at the center of the attempted election fraud in November 2020, when human error led to false claims the voting tabulators counted votes incorrectly. A judge dismissed claims of fraud by the GOP last May.

MIGOP's canvasser Aaron Van Langevelde certified the election for Biden, refusing to cooperate with the conspiracy theory that the Dominion tabulators flipped votes. In January 2021 when Langevelde's term expired, he was not re-nominated as canvasser by his party.

During the lawsuit filed by Antrim County resident Bill Bailey over the alleged ballot tabulation fraud, his attorney Matthew DePerno questioned the legitimacy of all future elections.

Which makes DePerno's Trump-supported nomination

as MIGOP's candidate for Michigan's secretary of state quite the joke: if the elections can't be trusted, could this election be trusted if he should win?

Such ridiculously bad faith by MIGOP to nominate a Big Lie proponent who would have supported the fraudulent electors' conspiracy to overturn Michigan's election.

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Finally, a high point – some of the diversity which makes Michigan great.

FINAL: LY. #DetroitRoots  
pic.twitter.com/ENllylulVv

– Detroit Tigers (@tigers) April 23,  
2022

.@Dan\_Dickerson's call gives us chills.  
pic.twitter.com/MhRdVWrhUd

– Detroit Tigers (@tigers) April 23,  
2022

Treat this as an open thread.