



Wriggelsworth named 2026 Michigan sheriff of the year

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A tour of the historic Moores Park Pool, currently under renovation, on June 12. The project is expected to be completed by June 2027. PHOTOS BY MATTHEW DAE SMITH/LANSING STATE JOURNAL

'SUMMER MEMORIES'

Historic Moores Park Pool could open in June 2027

Susan Vela
Lansing State Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

LANSING — Just one more year and Lansing lovers - young and old - can return to the cool waters of the historic Moores Park Pool.

That's the latest promise from Brett Kaschinske, Lansing's parks director, who said the pool built in 1922 along the Grand River, with the Lansing Board of Water & Light's iconic Eckert Power Plant and its three smokestacks as a backdrop, holds a special place for so many who live in the capital city.

He gave his update June 12 at the pool that has been undergoing a \$6.2 million renovation along Moores River Drive, between Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Washington Avenue, for more than two years now.

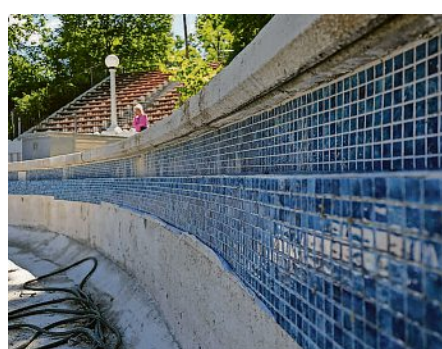
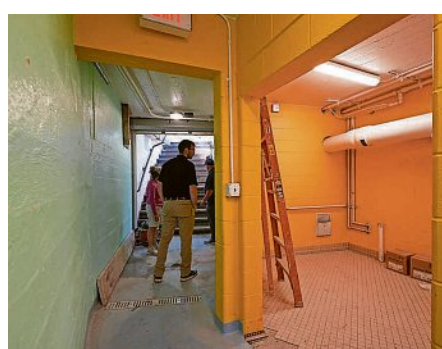
"Everybody knows somebody that has either swam in here as a kid or wants their kids to be able to swim in the exact same pool that they did as a kid, for instance, or their grandparents did," Kaschinske said. "You're talking multiple generations here that have been a part of Moores Park Pool. I think there's definitely visions of having future generations be able to do that."

"It's the summer memories that really last a lifetime."

The above-ground pool is one of the earliest pool designs by Wesley Bintz, a Lansing engineer who was part of the city engineering staff for more 2½ years, including a year as city engineer.

His designs were patented and used around the country, with at least 70 pools constructed, though some

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MSU tuition to increase again

Karly Graham
Lansing State Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

BENTON HARBOR — The Michigan State University Board of Trustees approved a 4.37% increase in tuition for incoming freshmen during its June 12 board meeting in Benton Harbor.

The board also approved a \$3.82 billion operating budget, up from last year's \$3.69 billion budget. The budget has a \$12.3 million deficit.

The approved increase could be reduced if the state sets a tuition increase cap when legislators and the governor approve Michigan's next budget for the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1.

During the June 12 board meeting, the board approved a per credit increase from \$563.75 to \$588.50 for in-state freshmen, a 25% increase since 2016. The flat rate tuition cost raised from \$8,458 to \$8,828 per semester for in-state freshmen.

Trustee Sandy Pierce, D-Northville, said the overall tuition increase for all students is 3.99%.

Pierce said the university is working to find areas to reduce costs to try to help families.

"I know that these proposed changes have real and meaningful impact on our students and their families," she said. "Every trustee recognizes them. The administration and the board don't take these decisions lightly."

The tuition increase passed with a 5-2 vote, with Rema Vassar, D-Detroit, and Mike Balow, R-Plymouth, voting no. Trustee Kelly Tebay, D-Ann Arbor, was not at the meeting.

Balow said he is not in favor of the increase because of the financial strains it could cause on students, but encourages people to learn more about the role the Michigan Legislature plays in allocating funds to education.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's current budget recommendation caps tuition increases at 4%, according to materials from the State Budget Office, although negotiations with the Legislature are ongoing.

Legislators have typically worked to pass a budget by July 1 so schools and universities can have an idea of what

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Trustees Balow, Vassar censured in latest strife at Michigan State University's board

Karly Graham
Lansing State Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

BENTON HARBOR — Two Michigan State University trustees who have refused to sign controversial new board rules introduced suddenly last month were formally censured by their colleagues on June 12.

It's the second time trustees have voted to censure members of the board since 2024.

Trustees Mike Balow, a Plymouth Republican and the lone GOP member on

the university board, and Rema Vassar, D-Detroit, were censured for refusing to sign new board rules by the deadline of 5 p.m. May 24. The updated code of conduct, which has drawn criticism as unconstitutional from Balow, Vassar and others outside the university, including state legislators, includes a list of sanctions for non-compliance.

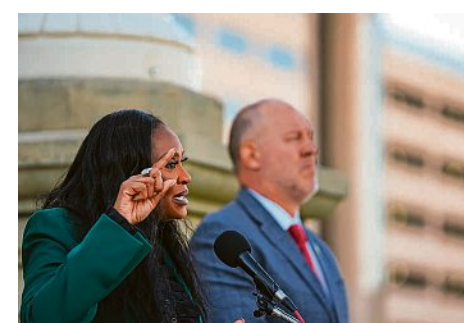
On the evening of May 17, trustees met in a hastily called special meeting via Zoom to consider two resolutions in a last-ditch effort to get MSU President Kevin Guskiewicz to stay at the university after board members learned he was

being pursued by other universities.

Chair Brianna Scott, D-Muskegon, said an independent legal review of the new code was conducted, though Balow said that review had not been provided to him. Scott said the review was sent to him on May 19. Separately, Vassar moved recently to sue the university after the policy was passed.

Balow and Vassar's formal censure is essentially a public statement of disapproval from the rest of the board, although both will lose privileges,

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Michigan State University trustee Rema Vassar, left, addresses members of the press on June 3, during a joint press conference with fellow board member Mike Balow at the state Capitol in Lansing. The two defended their refusal to sign MSU's updated code of conduct agreement for trustees.

MATTHEW DAE SMITH/LANSING STATE JOURNAL

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