

VOL XXX 4

THE 411

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH SPECIAL

EDITION II

MAR 16-31, 2024

MARCH 21, 2024

“SMALL ISLAND BIG SONG!” 7:30PM GREAT COBB HALL COLLEGE OF MUSIC

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 517-353-5340 OR 1-800-WHARTON

APRIL 4-14, 2024

“MOULIN ROUGE, THE MUSICAL” GREAT COBB HALL FOR TIMES AND TICKET INFORMATION CALL 1-800-WHARTON

APRIL 16, 2024

“CATHRINE RUSSELL” 7:30PM PASANT THEATRE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 1-800-WHARTON

APRIL 25, 2024

“PUBLIQUARTET: WHAT IS AMERICAN” 7:30PM JACKSON LOUNGE CLUB

750 FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 1-800-WHARTON

Rest In Peace

Curtis Thomas Jr

Daymond Morgan

Linton Stalling Jr

LueDella Henderson

Pearl Jackson

MICHIGAN STATE SENATOR SARAH ANTHONY

Sarah Anthony is the first African American woman to serve as state representative in Lansing, Michigan as well as the first woman to serve a partial term in the Michigan House of Representatives. Not only has she served two terms representing Michigan’s 68th House District, Anthony also served as Vice Chair of the Progressive Women’s Caucus and the First Vice Chair of the Michigan Legislative Black Caucus. Anthony most recently accomplished another historic milestone by being “the first and only, and it’s 2024” African American woman to have her picture hung in the capital. In 2023, she was nationally recognized for her efforts in sponsoring and reintroducing the Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair (CROWN) Act (2019) in the Michigan Legislature. Rightfully so, Anthony has been able to protect our right to wear our hair in styles most often worn by African Americans without discrimination. She stated, “Even in (2019), there were men and women and children who were denied employment,

denied healthcare and educational opportunities because of hair.”

The CROWN Act, Senate Bill 90, now prohibits race-based hair discrimination, or the denial of employment and educational opportunities because of hair texture or protective hairstyles including but not limited to, braids, locs, twists, or bantu knots. Combating these stereotypes and negative judgments has raised national awareness of what many black women and men face daily that often bring about negative stereotypes and unjust discrimination. She has often publicly reported that “This systemic discrimination based on one’s hairstyle has no place in Michigan.” For her advocacy efforts in public service leadership, she was awarded the Michigan Civil Rights Commission’s Elliot-Larsen Award on December 12, 2023. Senator Anthony has always fought for equal opportunity for all Michiganders. Her unique understanding of the discriminatory barriers, most often faced by black women,

all over the world have contributed to her success in partnering with other organizations. She continues to combat social injustice, advocate for expanding access to quality health care, strengthen higher education, uplift minority small businesses, and increase supportive services to our seniors. Anthony has collaboratively worked with several school districts, nonprofit community agencies, and business leaders to strive forward positive economic advances to fund and support these efforts for Michiganders. During her 20-year journey in public service, and as state Representative, her leadership, dedication, fearless drive, and compassion for her community has proven to be reputable and life-changing. Her talents and focal awareness of the African American experience has earned Anthony an exemplary foundation and recognition to continue to be the voice of black women today. By: Juleah Sulton, MA, Lansing Native and former Young Publisher

STATEMENT FROM PRESIDENT BIDEN ON MARIJUANA REFORM

As I often said during my campaign for President, no one should be in jail just for using or possessing marijuana. Sending people to prison for possessing marijuana has upended too many lives and incarcerated people for conduct that many states no longer prohibit. Criminal records for marijuana possession have also imposed needless barriers to employment, housing, and educational opportunities. And while white and Black and brown people use marijuana at similar rates, Black and brown people have been arrested, prosecuted, and convicted at disproportionate rates.

Today, I am announcing three steps that I am taking to end this failed approach.

First, I am announcing a pardon of all prior Federal offenses of simple possession of marijuana. I have directed the Attorney

General to develop an administrative process for the issuance of certificates of pardon to eligible individuals. There are thousands of people who have prior Federal convictions for marijuana possession, who may be denied employment, housing, or educational opportunities as a result. My action will help relieve the collateral consequences arising from these convictions.

Second, I am urging all Governors to do the same with regard to state offenses. Just as no one should be in a Federal prison solely due to the possession of marijuana, no one should be in a local jail or state prison for that reason, either.

Third, I am asking the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Attorney General to initiate the administrative process to

review expeditiously how marijuana is scheduled under federal law.

Federal law currently classifies marijuana in Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act, the classification meant for the most dangerous substances. This is the same schedule as for heroin and LSD, and even higher than the classification of fentanyl and methamphetamine – the drugs that are driving our overdose epidemic.

Finally, even as federal and state regulation of marijuana changes, important limitations on trafficking, marketing, and under-age sales should stay in place.

Too many lives have been upended because of our failed approach to marijuana. It’s time that we right these wrongs.





DR. VERONICA A WILKERSON JOHNSON

## WOMEN'S HISTORY SPOTLIGHT: DR. VERONICA A. WILKERSON-JOHNSON

AUTHOR: DICHONDRA JOHNSON, SENIOR NEWS CONTRIBUTOR, THE MICHIGAN BULLETIN

Dr. Veronica A. Wilkerson-Johnson, a distinguished leader and educator dedicated to public service, is celebrated during Women's History Month.

An advocate for diversity in STEAM fields, she authored "A Sparkle in Their Eyes" and hosted a book launch event in 2023.

Her career highlights include establishing impactful initiatives like the government and community relations office at the University of Michigan, where she led educational programs such as the Wolverine Caucus forum series.

Dr. Wilkerson-Johnson's philanthropic endeavors extend to creating scholarships for underrepresented students at Wayne State University and the University of Michigan.

With a rich background in public service, including roles as Aide to former Michigan Governor James J. Blanchard and Director of the Inkster Public Library, she continues to serve on various advisory committees and engage in community outreach across Mid-Michigan.

In recognition of her contributions, she received the Marquis Who's Who,

Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018.

Dr. Wilkerson-Johnson holds degrees from Wayne State University, the University of Michigan, and Ferris State University. She is an Adjunct Associate Professor at Lansing Community College and the owner of VWJ STEAM Ventures, LLC, dedicated to mentoring diverse students in STEAM disciplines.

Beyond her professional endeavors, she finds joy in music, literature, dance, yoga, and golf, while cherishing her roles as a devoted mother, wife, and member of her church and sorority.

### SOUL II SOUL INFLUENCE: UNEXPECTED BLESSINGS! #1140023

Pastor/Chaplain PamelaJune (PJ) Anderson, DMin.

Soul II Soul Spiritual Fitness Couch

Lt. Commander (RET) US Navy Chaplain Corps

Certified Peer Support Specialist



BE STILL AND YOUR SOUL WILL SPEAK

<sup>16</sup>For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. John 1:16

FROM HIS ABUNDANCE  
WE HAVE ALL RECEIVED  
ONE GRACIOUS BLESSING  
AFTER ANOTHER.  
JOHN 1:16

Eternal God and Faithful Friend, thank You for allowing my Niecee Jo and her daughter, Grand Niecee Candace, to visit me from Seattle. It is their visit to Michigan, though probably not their last. Grand Niecee is house hunting and planning to move to Detroit around October, my favorite month for its beauty. Her mom and I are relieved in that I am within

90 miles and we will have family nearby. Their visit is one of many unexpected blessings!

The other unexpected blessing comes from Niecee Jo. She helped me prepare Sunday's dinner. Grand Candice set the table and offered the blessing. And, while we are eating and chatting, suddenly, Jo says, "Wait! It's time for me to pray." I reminded her that her daughter had prayed already, to which Jo said, "I pray prayers of thanksgiving every day at 12:30 pm." So, Candice and I lowered our silverware, and Jo prayed a special prayer of appreciation for traveling mercies, for meeting me in Michigan for the first time, for her husband, by name her children, grandchildren, and sisters back in the west, friends, exercise partner, and prayer partner. She also thanked God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

I am offering the invocation for the Mayor's State of the City tonight. I'm praying about making it a prayer of gratitude. I am also praying about daily prayers of appreciation at 12:30 pm – out loud, no matter where I am or what I am doing.

We live in a world where thanksgiving seems to be mentioned only on Thanksgiving Day. We are bombarded with lies, disappointments, and broken promises from the governments and many legislatures. I might add that not so few churches are missing the mark in many instances. Some have stopped preaching about Christ and Him crucified.

Unexpected Blessings are ways for God to remind us that when God calls us to do something, God provides the way for us to accomplish it. God also uses unexpected blessings to teach us that we are never alone.

Will you join me in setting a daily time to pause and show gratitude for family, friends, and God's faithfulness? It is a privilege and a pleasure to pray, breathe the breath of life, and give God appreciation for all things, especially unexpected blessings.



## State of Women TOWN HALL EVENT



State Senator  
**SARAH ANTHONY**

**Wednesday, March 20**

**6 to 7:30 p.m.**

**Gier Community Center**  
**2400 Hall St., Lansing**





Birthdays in March 2024

Mr. LaMonti Dion Brown celebrates his 53rd birthday on March 2nd, enjoying new start in new state. Much Love and success from All your Family.  
Mr. Mike Ryan Jr. celebrates his birthday with family and friends on March 4th.  
Mr. Zachary Murry celebrates his birthday on March 7th.  
Rev. Anna Mae Alexander, in her memory ,was born on March 8th: "Carry on in the name of The LORD!"  
Mr. Daryl Holman celebrates his birthday on March 8th.  
Ms. JeMonica Thomas celebrates her birth on March 9th  
Ms. Tammy Michelle Tyson celebrates her 56th birthday on March 9.  
Mr. Dwayne Thompson celebrates his 53rd birthday on March 9th.  
Mr. Dylan Pofoli celebrates his 33rd birthday on March 9th.  
Mr. Paloma Sanchez enjoys his birthday on March 11th. "Happy Birthday!"  
Ms. Nikki Holman celebrates her birthday on March 13th.  
Mr. Travis Hough celebrates his 44th birthday on March 14th  
Ms. Esther Rodea celebrates her birthday on March 15th.  
Mr. William Banks celebrates his birthday on March 15th.  
Mr. Jordan D. Majors celebrates his birthday on March 15th.  
Ms. Jennifer Black celebrates her birthday on March 15th.  
Mr. Desmond Hall celebrates his birthday on March 15th.  
Mr. William Eugene Rouse II celebrates his birthday on March 15th.  
Mr. James Morrow celebrates his birthday on March 15th.  
Ms. Justice Foster celebrates her birthday on March 16th with her Mother, brothers and sisters.  
Mrs. Emogene Leek celebrates her birthday on March 17th with her husband and family, all of them expressing their Love!  
Ms. Ciara Wireman celebrates her 24th birthday on March 17th.  
Ms. Briana Jefferson celebrates her birthday on March 19th. Dad says, Happy Birthday little Princess!!!  
Ms. Virginia Lewis celebrates her birthday, " 37 years young", on March 19th. She says, "Much Love!"  
Mr. Mark Anthony Brown , in memory , was born on March 20th. Family and friends say "We miss You".  
Ms. Annette Johnson, born on March 20, 1959, celebrates her 65th birthday.  
Ms. Pamela Renzi celebrates her 51st birthday on March 21st, celebrating with friends and family.  
Ms. Theresa Daniels celebrates her birthday on March 22nd.  
Ms. Keesha Home celebrates her 43rd birthday on March 22nd, enjoying time spent with her beautiful children.  
Mrs. Nya {Chopper's Wife} celebrates her 41st birthday on March 22nd, along with Mr. Chopper {Nya's Husband} celebrating his 48th birthday on March 25th and their 16th year anniversary on March 23rd.

Mr. Robert Brown Jr., in memory, was born on March 23rd . Truly missed: He and his lovely wife, Joy.  
Master Brayden Konen enjoys his 14th birthday on March 23rd. "Happy Birthday! Mommy loves you!"

Ms. Valerie Floyd celebrates her 47th birthday on March 23rd with family and friends.  
Ms. Quintine Medley celebrates her 37th birthday on March 23rd.

Mr. John K. Elliott celebrates his birthday on March 23rd. "A friend in need is a friend indeed."  
Ms. Monica Burrell celebrates her birthday on March 23rd. She says, " A special day spent with family and friends; thanks so much!"  
Ms. Nellie M. Garvie born March 24th, celebrates her 74th birthday with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren... We love you so much!!!  
Mr Matt McCoy, Scratch Pilots DJs, celebrates his birthday on March 25th . Love You, Your wife Bree  
Ms. Melinda M. Ball born March 25th celebrates her birthday with her Mother, sisters, brother, children and grandchildren... We love you so much!!!  
Ms. Gina Mojica celebrates her birthday on March 26th, with family and friends. "The Puerto Rican Lady"  
Ms. Shelly Ryan celebrates her birthday on March 28th, with family and friends.  
Mr. Bill Ryan , in memory,was born on March 28th,missed by family and friends.  
Ms. Nikki Holman celebrates her birthday on March 13th.  
Ms. Esther Rodea celebrates her birthday on March 15th; parted with my family.  
Ms. Mary A. Clark celebrates her birthday on March 25th.  
Mr. Brandon Henderson celebrates his birthday on March 25th.  
Mr. Ralph Riddle Sr.,we honor his memory, celebrated his birth on March 25th.  
Ms. Allison Chenault celebrates his birthday on March 25th.  
Mr. Michael Bower celebrates his birthday on March 25th.  
Ms. Rita Pizana celebrates her birthday on March 26th with family and friends.  
Mr. Bishop Cousin celebrates his birthday on March 26th.  
Ms. Taurean A. Jackson celebrates her birthday on March 26th.  
Mr. Don Rodriguez celebrates his 65th birthday on March 26th, with his beautiful wife Julia and family.  
Mrs. Gwendolyn Bodiford celebrates her birthday on March 27th, with her husband and family.  
Ms. Brittany Eaton celebrates her birthday on March 27th.  
Mr. Marcus Turner celebrates his birthday on March 27th.  
Ms. Sheila Fuller celebrates her birthday on March 27th.  
Ms. Angela Eaton celebrates her birthday on March 28th.  
Mr. James Edward Garvie Sunrise March 30th, 1954 - Sunset February 18th, 2002. "WE will always LOVE and KEEP you FOREVER in our HEARTS and YOUR memory ALIVE for as long as we live!".... Rest in Paradise Daddy!!!  
Ms. Eunice F. Foster celebrates her birthday on March 31st.  
Ms. Jessie J. Storey-Fry celebrated her birthday on March 31st.

\*Anniversaries  
Mr. Cullen Dubose Sr. and Mrs. Helena J. Dubose celebrate their anniversary on March 31st.

Mr. & Mrs. Myron & Dee Freeman celebrated their 34rth wedding anniversary on February 14th  
Mr. & Mrs. Al and Irma Cooper, we honor their memory and celebrated their 74th wedding anniversary on February 23rd.

\*Announcements  
Mr Ronnie Brown , celebrated his birthday on January 27th. Friendship is Forever ; We're in this for Life!!!

Mr. Party Website: [mrpartycelebrationservice.com](http://mrpartycelebrationservice.com)  
Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/mrparty1985](http://www.facebook.com/mrparty1985)  
Celebration Gram: Your special message delivered by;  
Mr. Party, The Ambassador of Celebration  
Please send us the information about you, your family, or friends, celebrating the Events of Life: call our office at 1-517-391-48491; email:mrpartycserv@aol.com.

PURPOSEFUL WOMEN...Humanity's Gift!  
©Dee Freeman

Ladies, I believe our propose should be God-like in every way  
Doing His bidding with a clean heart...every day  
As connected pillars...working, playing, and striving together  
We thrive on His power, leaving nothing undone  
We strive to make it ALL better!

With our big loving hearts, we care so much  
We give of ourselves, willingly through every gentle touch  
We open our hearts, pumping love to last forever...Our nature  
We wanna be there for our family...for everyone  
We want to be everywhere to gently nurture

As humanitarian, yes, we're dear to our loved ones heart  
Yet, We must not forget to set aside time for ourselves  
So, we are healthy and still around to graciously impart

Ladies, we certainly see we have much work to do  
Or a challenge or two...to get us back on track  
As only... God's humanitarians can do  
Yes, we're, proud, intelligent, beautiful and gifted  
Yet, we've known heartaches, pain, and some strife  
Still, our truth reveals...As this gift to humanity  
We create our own well-being for a blessed life  
We thrive on interaction, thus Women of God!  
I salute you: as we encourage, gently push or even prod

We show our children and all who'll listen  
They cannot sit idle, they too, must take a stand!  
We challenge them to be their best  
Yet, we're more than happy to lend a helping hand

We, Angels, are here to mend the heart, hand and head  
Let us keep moving, keep improving as we are thus led  
We'll Keep shining—lighting the way in our community  
We'll keep prayed up, working to provide pride and unity

Keep teaching our Children, always trying to reach them  
Keep empowering them, with love we'll also shower them

Keep laughing with them, though we often cry  
Keep providing for them, yet, at times, we can only sigh  
Keep gently scolding and wonderfully molding...  
For as we shape our children, So shape 'WE' the World  
As we love them and enlighten their lives...  
Mothers, guardians, effective role models, caregivers  
We share our matured wisdom and insight  
And PRAY mightily each life turns out alright

Please know, committed ladies  
We're charged with favor and powerful tasks  
Our purpose... to craft the great legacy within our grasp  
Our strong sisterly bond, we are also to maintain  
Moving forward with purpose and linked to the Almighty's name

With our strong faith and utmost character, Ladies  
We'll resolve to work hard to set ALL things right  
We'll continue to unite and embolden our fight  
We'll build confidence and heighten our intelligence  
We'll Utilize, galvanize and mobilize our sphere of influence

We'll embrace and celebrate, uplift and elevate  
We'll educate, invigorate and motivate  
We'll connect...honor and protect...  
And to each other, we'll give LOVE and the ultimate RESPECT  
We'll Walk in our destiny...being courageous and in control

We'll no longer sit, wait, watch, hope or pray...but  
We'll be about action, being genuine and bold  
For we already know the bad things happening  
Won't just miraculously get up and go away...  
We must get up, get out, get hyped and get into gear  
Taking actions to ensure tomorrow WILL be THAT better day

When I Reflect...or contemplate  
Or seriously meditate on...why I exist-  
Meditate on what is in my spirit-  
I am given this revelation...  
I am certain I am to do HIS will!  
I am certain I am to fulfill...  
THIS mission He has clearly laid out for me!  
Using His gift, as it was meant to be!

So dear ladies, I know WE are Christ's sisterhood  
And I also know you are with me on this...  
This fact...which is no longer misunderstood!  
We collectively...you and me...are to fight for right...  
The right that demands equality...

The long awaited right that...All men are created equal  
We are to repel any evil deeds done against humanity  
We are to call out the haters, the evil doers, the bigots  
The liars, the detractors and racists

We are to aid and uplift the downtrodden  
We are to speak the WORD...the TRUE power!  
For I Know and clearly see...We Angels, are:  
His mouth to speak,  
His eyes to see,  
His heart to feel,  
His hands to do,  
His feet to go,  
His servants to execute...His Just Will!

We are to outwardly emit His light we carry inside  
Becoming His gifts to exhale with pride...  
That We must ...  
Stand up... For Justice  
Kneel... Praying for righteousness...  
Sit at the table... Demanding equality...  
March... Walking the talk...  
Speak... Loudly...Voicing our Truth to POWER  
Shoulder ...Inequities ...  
Lift up... All disadvantage people...  
Fight... For our rights, hour after hour

As His earthly servants...  
Staying aligned to His will  
Let's VOW TO Love each other...my beloved Christian Sistahs!!!  
For I know we can all now see  
WE ARE...definitely...God's GIFT to HUMANITY!





SILLYBOY PRODUCTIONS INC/517 ENT PRESENTS

# OLD SCHOOL

THROWDOWN  
OFFICIAL BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR

DJ LOLO

\$10 COVER  
50/50 RAFFLE  
DJ LOLO SPINNING

SATURDAY 8PM-1AM  
FEB 24TH

OLD-SCHOOL  
SOUTHERN SOUL  
BLUES & MORE

GUARANTEED SELLOUT  
SELLOUT ADVISED, THEREFORE  
GET HERE EARLY.

GREGORY'S 2510 MLK LANSING MI

Contact Ryan 810.308.6519 to RSVP table or to celebrate your (Pisces BDay) with us

Mark  
Your  
Calendar!

## THE 2024 LANSING JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

JUNE 8 ANNUAL BALLGAME  
JUNE 13 KICKOFF & ESSAY/SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS  
JUNE 14 FREEDOM FESTIVAL - FRIDAY NIGHT  
JUNE 15 5K-RUN/WALK/ROLL  
AFRICAN AMERICAN PARADE  
FREEDOM FESTIVAL - SATURDAY

LANSINGJUNETEENTHCELEBRATION.ORG



# There are enough things out there going viral.



Get your COVID-19  
and flu vaccines.

Help keep your immune system  
from going viral. Talk to your  
health care provider.

[Michigan.gov/COVIDFluRSV](https://Michigan.gov/COVIDFluRSV)





# TWO CHANCES TO WIN WHEN THE RED BALL IS DRAWN!



Excitement will rise waiting for the **Red Ball** to fall. For a limited time in March, when the **Red Ball** is drawn, the Lottery will then draw a second set of Daily 4 numbers, giving you a second chance to win on the same ticket - and making lots more winners! Visit your favorite Michigan Lottery retailer and play Daily 4 today.

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The Daily 4 Red Ball Double Draw promotion runs for Monday - Saturday evening drawings only.





LANSING'S PREMIER PERFORMANCE SPACE  
BAR • RESTAURANT • EVENTS

## MARCH EVENTS



**02** POWERLIGHT  
BAND  
SAT



**03** ROADSIDE  
ATTRACTION  
CELEBRATES THE  
70'S  
SUN



**04** GLOSS MONDAYS  
DRAG SHOW -  
OPEN FLOOR  
MON



**06** OPEN MIC  
NIGHT WITH  
RICK HANSEL  
WED



**07** ABSOLUTE MUSIC:  
THE WINDS OF  
PUERTO RICO  
THU



**08** SOUL GARDER:  
REINVENTED  
FRI



**09** SALSA  
VERDE  
SAT



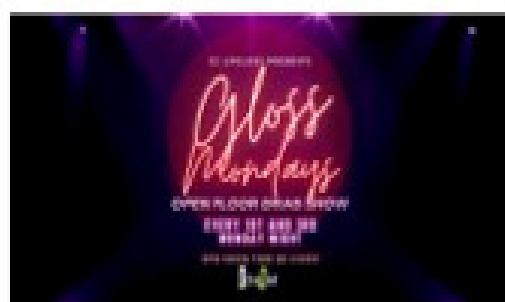
**10** AARON LAVIGNE  
FEATURING ERIC  
O'DALY AND CAILA  
CONKLIN  
SUN



**13** OPEN MIC  
NIGHT WITH  
RICK HANSEL  
WED



**15** IRISH BALLADEERS  
CAHILL & MURPHY  
WITH TIME2PLAY  
FRI



**18** GLOSS MONDAYS  
DRAG SHOW -  
OPEN FLOOR  
MON



**20** OPEN MIC  
NIGHT WITH  
RICK HANSEL  
WED



**21** SAMROSE ENTER-  
TAINMENT PRESENTS:  
COMEDY NIGHT WITH  
HEADLINER DAVE  
DYER  
THU



**22** ASAMU JOHNSON  
BAND  
FRI



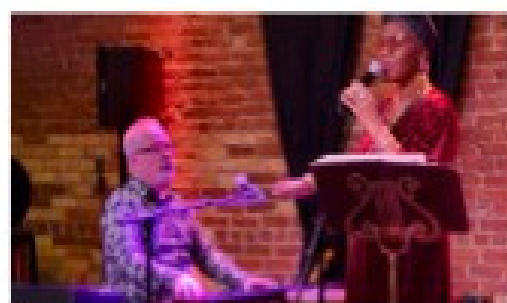
**24** MI FINGERSTYLE  
GUITAR SOCIETY -  
AN EVENING WITH  
KYRAN DANIEL  
SUN



**27** OPEN MIC  
NIGHT WITH  
RICK HANSEL  
WED



**28** WALTER BLANDING  
PRESENTS  
THU



**29** MR MIDNIGHT  
FEATURING TWYLA  
BIRDSONG  
FRI

BUY  
TICKETS



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