

Owner of well-known Salt Lake City record store retiring



COURTESY PHOTO

Owner and founder Randy Stinson, 76, is retiring after four successful decades and will let his son run the store, Randy's Record Shop in Salt Lake City, Utah.

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A small record store in Salt Lake City that sells vinyls and has managed to survive 40 years despite records long ago being eclipsed by CDs and streaming music is starting a new chapter as the owner hands the business over to his son.

Owner and founder Randy Stinson, 76, is retiring after four successful decades and will let his son run the store, Randy's Record Shop, The Salt Lake Tribune reports.

Stinson opened the store in 1978 with just \$3,000 and his personal inventory of about 60,000 records. He said it gave him focus after he

served in Vietnam, and helped him overcome heavy drinking and smoking habits.

In the 1980s, he feared he would have to close the store as CDs started being sold everywhere and interest in records waned.

But, the store experienced a revival in the 2000s when vinyl records started making a comeback and has held steady since.

The store was featured in the Travel Channel's list of eight must-see American record stores in 2017, cementing its reputation as a Salt Lake City fixture.

He estimates that he has bought and sold about 500,000 records in his 40 years, but he's held on to

the first record he ever bought: Santo and Johnny's 1959 recording of "Sleepwalk."

Stinson remains a steadfast believer in the beauty of a real vinyl record. He has 10,000 records in his garage and juke box filled with old rock n' roll songs he grew up with. Jazz music is his current favorite.

"The people who hate vinyl don't understand it at all," Stinson said.

"First, you get to own something," he continued. "If you have whatever it is you put on your phone, you don't really own anything."

He added: "But the No. 1 reason

is how they sound. If you have half-decent equipment, records sound so much more real it's unbelievable."

Stinson loves interacting with customers and talking music but says he and his wife want to travel and see the world. He's losing his vision and doesn't want to wait too long, he said. They're planning to go to Europe, Alaska and Disney World.

"I want to do that before I go too blind," he said. "As long as I can still see enough, then I want to go on these trips. . . I never left the United States except to go to Vietnam. And that was not a vacation!"

Traveling down memory lane

As I'm driving to work this morning, I'm slightly taken back by the scene that meets me as I near the YMCA. The walls of the new aquatic center are growing in height, the pools have been poured, the reality of what was once a vision is very evident. Immediately, the two things that flash through my mind are my childhood memories and the constant of change in our community.



SANDY SARE

Bear with me, or join me, as I go down memory lane. I was born and raised in Sheridan in the late '50s.

I have four older siblings and had a wonderful upbringing by two fine parents. The years of childhood sped into being a teen and inevitably into adulthood. There were things through all of these life phases that I just knew would never be lost. My parents didn't call my cellphone, they yelled my name. I played outside, not online. If I didn't eat what was cooked for us, I didn't eat. Saturday chores were expected to be done before Saturday cartoons, or if you were a teenager, American Band Stand with Dick Clark. I had a true sense of freedom that came by traveling throughout Sheridan on my trusty hand-me-down bicycle.

So how does my aging and my trip down memory lane reflect on our community? I just knew I'd forever remember places such as Arctic Circle, sitting at the Ritz lunch counter, Sugar and Spice next to the WYO, Brown, Rexall and Capital drug-stores. Downtown Ben Franklin that had everything. I remember the Smoke Shop where dad would buy me a piece of penny candy after church on Sunday. Do you remember the bowling alley that was behind First Interstate Bank? Maurice's was once home to Coast to Coast and an incredible collection of figurines. Big Horn Design was long ago home to Woolworth with a lunch counter that served yummy french fries. My first bike (after saving and retiring the hand-me-down) was purchased in the basement of the Montgomery Ward. One of my favorite places in all of Sheridan was the Carnegie Library that is now where the parking structure is on the corner of Loucks and Brooks streets.

This brings me back to the view on my drive to work this morning and reflecting on change. Will I remember the "old" YMCA and Scott pools? Do you remember the planters or diving board that once graced the Y pool? Will my kids and grandkids have memories of playing soccer on the fields that are now the future Sheridan Community Aquatic Center?

You've likely heard the phrase "change is inevitable" or "change brings opportunity." But with this opportunity to embrace change also brings the opportunity to travel down your memory lane. Do you focus on what you feel you are giving up or what you are gaining? I invite you to embrace the changes in our community while reveling in your memories.

SANDY SARE is a program director with the Sheridan County YMCA.

AP-NORC Poll: Most Americans see a sharply divided nation

BY JUANA SUMMERS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — With just two weeks to go until the critical midterm elections, an overwhelming majority of Americans say the United States is greatly divided, according to an Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll. Few Americans believe those stark divisions will get better anytime soon.

The newly released survey found that more than 8 in 10 Americans think the country is greatly divided about important values. Just 20 percent of Americans say they think the country will become less divided over the next few years, and 39 percent think things will get worse. A strong majority of Americans, 77 percent, say they are dissatisfied with the state of politics in the country.

The poll was conducted Oct. 11-14 in the final sprint to the midterm elections, in which President Donald Trump has been rallying his supporters to turn out to vote in November. Overall, 59 percent of Americans

disapprove of how Trump, a Republican, is handling his job as president, while 40 percent of Americans approve.

How Americans view Trump divides along partisan lines, according to the poll. While 83 percent of Republicans approve of how Trump is handling his job, 92 percent of Democrats and 61 percent of independents say they do not approve.

According to the poll, nearly half of Americans say they aren't hearing enough from campaigns about the issues that matter most to them. Fifty-four percent of Democrats and 44 percent of Republicans say they are hearing too little about key issues.

Overall, top issues for Americans include health care, education, economic growth, Social Security and crime, each of which was called very important by at least three-quarters of Americans.

Fifty-eight percent of Americans say they are dissatisfied with the way things are going in the country, compared with 25 percent who say they are satisfied. But Americans are slightly more likely to be satisfied with the way things are going in their state or in their local community.

Majorities of Americans also say that they are dissatisfied with the gap between the rich and the poor, race relations and environmental conditions. But there are partisan splits. Eighty-three percent of Democrats are dissatisfied with the gap between the wealthy and the poor, compared with 43 percent of Republicans. Of environmental conditions, 75 percent of Democrats and 32 percent of Republicans say they are dissatisfied. And while 77 percent of Democrats say they're dissatisfied with race relations, about 50 percent of Republicans say the same.

Democrats and Republicans also are divided on how important they consider each of those issues to be. About 8 in 10 Democrats but no more than a third of Republicans call income inequality, environmental issues or racism very important.

The past year has seen the United States reckon with accusations of sexual misconduct that ranged from inappropriate comments to rape and with a slew of high-profile men forced to resign or be fired. Overall, about 6 in 10 Americans said the issue of misconduct was important to them. But 73 percent of women said the issue was very important, compared with 51 percent of men. Democrats were much more likely than Republicans to call sexual misconduct important, 79 percent to 39 percent.

According to the poll, 43 percent of Americans somewhat or strongly disapprove of Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court after a bruising confirmation fight that included allegations of excessive drinking and an accusation of sexual assault dating back to Kavanaugh's teenage years. Thirty-five percent of Americans said they strongly or somewhat strongly approved of Kavanaugh's confirmation.

Overall, 59 percent of Americans said Supreme Court appointments are very important now, which is similar to the percentage who said that in 2016. But two years ago, Democrats and Republicans were more similar in how important they saw these nominations. Now, there is a 20 percentage point gap: 73 percent of Democrats and 53 percent of Republicans say Supreme Court appointments are very important to them.

The AP-NORC poll of 1,152 adults was conducted Oct. 11-14 using a sample drawn from NORC's probability-based AmeriSpeak panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 4 percentage points.



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*entrée only offered for Home Delivered Meals

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SENIOR HAPPENINGS

- On Halloween, all visitors to The Hub on Smith are encouraged to wear black or orange, or to dress in costume.
- The Veterans Honor Wall at The Hub on Smith has grown to include more than 200 profiles. The Hub is honored to recognize service men

and women from World War I, World War II, the Korean and Vietnam wars. Enjoy and be humbled by those that have walked the extra mile on behalf of the country from Nov. 6-11 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is no charge to enjoy the wall on display at 211 Smith St.

• The Hub on Smith will feature a fitness class, Cardio Dance with Sherry Mercer, which meets Mondays from 8-9 a.m. Inquiries about the program? Call her at (307) 672-0885. No sign-up is necessary, and participants may pay the day of the class. There is a \$2 suggested contribution.