

# THE MICHIGAN BANNER

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**32 Companies Honored for Growth  
Saginaw Future 25TH ANNUAL AWARDS Luncheon**



**Business & Wealth, Page 15**

**Women's History Month Spotlight:  
Carla Hayden**



**Carla, Page 31**

**Quit calling us 'angry'**



**Politics & Public Policy, Page 37**

Leading in Diversity, Empowering Communities and Changing Lives [themichiganbanner.com](http://themichiganbanner.com)

## SVSU seeking charity partner for 2017 Battle of the Valleys competition



**What is capacity and infrastructure?**

**FUNdraising Good Times, Page 21**

SAVE THE DATE!



THE 4TH ANNUAL  
MIDWEST TEJANO MUSIC FEST

**Learn More on Page LB 1**



*Saginaw Valley State University and Hidden Harvest representatives at the appreciation luncheon at SVSU Friday, Feb. 24. From left: Emma Eldred, SVSU Battle of the Valleys coordinator; Terry Rock, Hidden Harvest board chair; Tyson McKinley, SVSU Student Association representative; Cody McKay, SVSU Student Association president; Samantha McKenzie, president and CEO of Hidden Harvest; Don Bachand, SVSU president; and Mamie Thorns, SVSU special assistant to the president for diversity programs. | Photo credit: Justin Engel, SVSU*

Saginaw Valley State University students have shown an incredible community-minded spirit over the past 14 years, raising more than \$350,000 to support numerous worthy causes and charitable organizations during the annual Battle of the Valleys fundraising competition.

In 2016, the SVSU community raised \$26,000 in one week for Hidden Harvest, an organization that strives to feed those in need in the Great Lakes Bay Region by collecting and redistributing surplus food. The SVSU Student Association hosted a luncheon on campus Friday, Feb. 24 to express appreciation for the many people who volunteered for Battle of the Valleys and to formally present the funds to Samantha McKenzie, president and CEO of Hidden Harvest and an SVSU alumna, and Terry Rock, Hidden Harvest board chair.

The SVSU Student Association is now accepting applications from nonprofit organizations interested in serving as SVSU's charity partner for 2017. The deadline to apply is Friday, March 31.

Each year, SVSU students band together for a week-long charitable fundraising competition with students from Grand Valley State University. Over the past 14 years, the two schools have raised a combined total of \$552,150.

For more information or to request an application, please contact Emma Eldred, Battle of the Valleys coordinator, at [ereldred@svsu.edu](mailto:ereldred@svsu.edu).

The 2017 Battle of the Valleys will take place Sunday, Sept. 24 to Friday, Sept. 29, leading up to the football game Saturday, Sept. 30.

For more information on Battle of the Valleys, please visit [svsu.edu/bov](http://svsu.edu/bov).

An advertisement for Saginaw Valley Lincoln. It features two white Lincoln cars, a sedan on the left and an SUV on the right, driving on a road. The Lincoln logo is in the top right. The text 'SAGINAW VALLEY' is in large, stylized red and white letters. Below it, the slogan 'Courtesy is Contagious!' is written in a cursive font. At the bottom, the address and phone number are listed.

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**THE MICHIGAN BANNER**  
1555 S. Washington Ave.  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-992-2600

[publisherthemichiganbanner@gmail.com](mailto:publisherthemichiganbanner@gmail.com)

**OFFICE HOURS**  
Monday-Friday  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**PUBLISHER AND SENIOR EDITOR**  
Jerome Buckley  
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**THE LATINO BANNER**

**PUBLISHER**  
Jerome Buckley  
[thelatinobanner@gmail.com](mailto:thelatinobanner@gmail.com)

**CONTRIBUTOR**  
Rosa Morales

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The Michigan Banner operates and serves as a print and online media venue committed to educating, informing and enlightening our readership regarding events and news that directly and indirectly affect the communities regionally and globally. Furthermore, to serve as a catalyst and a link for cultivating young adults as entrepreneurial and business leaders for the future.

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2 weeks before each publication date of the  
1st and 16th of each month

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Preferred format: Jpeg or PDF  
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REGISTRATION LINK

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The Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan (HLCOM), is honored to announce that on April 7, 2017 we will be launching our first ever Statewide Hispanic Latino College Graduation Ceremony. The event is aimed at celebrating the achievements of Hispanic/Latino College and University graduates from across the state. Our goal is to bring recognition to the efforts made by these students, while also acknowledging the

support given by their families, fellow students, faculty, and administrators who helped in achieving this very important moment in their lives.

Graduates, faculty, and community members are all encouraged to attend! Space will be limited, so please register ASAP at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BMTNTY6> if you want a guaranteed spot for the event. Attendance is free!



The Commission strives to market the state's career development services to Michigan Hispanics, encourage initiatives to reduce the high school dropout rates of Hispanic youth, and facilitate efforts to increase the enrollment of Hispanics in postsecondary education and training programs.

Learn more about HLCOM at  
[http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-75952\\_75957--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-75952_75957--,00.html)



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We encourage readers to send letters, story ideas, comments and questions.

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# Horn, Stamas welcome Father Cook to Capitol for Senate invocation

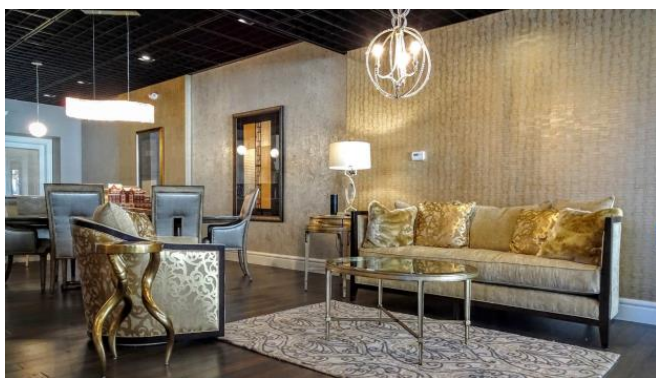


LANSING, Mich. — Sen. Ken Horn, R-Frankenmuth and Sen. Jim Stamas, R-Midland, welcomed the Rev. Timothy Cook to the Michigan Senate on Tuesday. Father Cook serves as the parish priest at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Saginaw and delivered the invocation before the start of Senate session.

State Sen. Ken Horn, R-Frankenmuth joins Sen. Jim Stamas, R-Midland, in welcoming the Rev. Timothy Cook of Saginaw to the Michigan Senate. Cook began the day's session by delivering the Senate invocation.



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## What do you like to do to beat the "winter blues"?

“



To beat the winter blues I like to treat myself and shop online. I also snuggle up with my family in front of a cozy fire with hot chocolate, blankets, and watch movies.

Andrea Mosley - Cotton  
Great Lakes Bay Health Center

”

“

I make sure I stay active, whether it be going to the gym 3 days a week or just getting out for a brisk walk - staying active helps me stay alert. I also make sure that my social calendar is full and fight the temptation to keep myself cooped up in the house. Getting out there and being with friends makes me happy and keeps the blues away.

Sarah Denman  
SCCMHA Evidence-Based Practice Coordinator



“



Seeing winter in a positive light will keep your spirits high. Winter time can be the least favorite time of the year for us Michiganders. Instead of being blue, take a lesson from our friends in Norway who celebrate "koselig" - a state of being warm and cozy. Light some nice candles or listen to pleasant music and invite friends over!

Amy Murawski  
SCCMHA Substance Use Disorder Coordinator

”

”

To beat the winter blues I enjoy taking time for myself by reading a book, watching a movie with a cup of hot chocolate and coloring. I also try to make sure I exercise regularly and spend time with my friends and family.

Stephanie Morin  
Saginaw Psychological Services Children's Case Management Supervisor



“

“



I like to put on my PJ's and watch TV. Sometimes I play computer games. But usually I sit around and talk to my children about their day, their hopes and their dreams. We even cuddle together just to stay warm.

Wanda Dunlap  
Saginaw MAX Parent Advocate

”

# HEALTH

## The Diaper Alliance Receives Van from Wildfire Credit Union

At the beginning of 2017, Wildfire Credit Union decided to purchase a new credit union vehicle. Instead of trading in their previous vehicle, the management and staff of the credit union decided to give it to an area non-profit that could use it to further their mission. After much research, the decision was made to donate the van to The Diaper Alliance out of Midland.

Linda McGee, Vice President of Membership Development, stated: "There are so many outstanding non-profits in our region that are doing great things. It was when we had the opportunity to meet with The Diaper Alliance and hear their mission, that the decision became much easier. They do such an outstanding job getting diapers to families who do not have the funds to purchase them. Last year alone, they distributed over 724,000 diapers through partner

agencies throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region. By donating our van, The Diaper Alliance will be able serve areas where they were not able to serve previously. We also partnered with Sign Image and they graciously offered to customize the van with The Diaper Alliance logo."

The Diaper Alliance will took possession of their van on Friday, February 24th at 2:00 p.m. at the Wildfire Credit Union location on Bay Road.

Debi Keyes, Founder and Executive Director of the Diaper Alliance commented: "We recently identified parts of our service area that find it very difficult to pick up diaper orders from our warehouse because of distance. The timing of this gift could not have been better." Keyes added, "We are so thankful that Wildfire Credit Union is helping us to serve those families that have been out of reach. It is amazing what we can

accomplish when we all work together."

Wildfire Credit Union, a member-owned financial cooperative, has a community charter. Membership is open for anyone who lives, works, worships or attends school in Saginaw, Midland, Bay, Tuscola, Gratiot, Genesee, Shiawassee, Antrim, Arenac, Benzie, Clare, Crawford, Gladwin, Grand Traverse, Iosco, Isabella, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Missaukee, Ogemaw, Otsego, Roscommon, Wexford counties. The credit union also provides services to small businesses in the same twenty-three county market. Wildfire currently has full service offices in Saginaw, Midland and Bay City. More information is available on all Wildfire Credit Union's products and services at [www.wildfirecu.org](http://www.wildfirecu.org)



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# When drinking too much water can be deadly

*CMU's sweat testing helps athletes hydrate safely, improve performance*



CMU faculty member Kevin Miller performs sweat testing on the university's football team to determine the safe level of hydration necessary for every player. | Photo Credit CMU

When several high school athletes in the United States died after drinking large quantities of water and performance drinks to prevent muscle cramping, researchers at Central Michigan University and two other schools decided to take a deeper dive.

"Hydration is often recommended to prevent muscle cramps in amateur and professional athletes, but my studies show there isn't necessarily a link. In fact, the fear of cramping has caused some athletes to overhydrate, which can be dangerous," said Kevin Miller, a professor in the athletic training program at CMU. "I want to help CMU athletes and others avoid tragedy."

Drinking too much water or sports drinks dilutes the amount of sodium, and other electrolytes, in a person's blood.

In some cases, this can cause a deadly condition called hyponatremia — a condition where excess water moves from the blood stream and into the brain. This can lead to brain swelling and, eventually, death.

Miller and his colleagues at the University of South Carolina and the University of Arkansas are collaborating to analyze the sweat rate and its content from athletes at their three schools. With this information, Miller can give fluid and diet recommendations to each athlete.

"I will be able to tell every athlete we've tested exactly how much fluid and sodium they need to consume to stay hydrated and healthy.

This will help them perform better while also helping prevent hyponatremia," he said. The CMU Athletics staff is just as excited about mixing potentially life-saving science with athletic performance.

"We no longer have to guess about our athlete's fluid and electrolyte needs. This will do wonders for our athletic department and help our athletes recover faster during training and competition," said Jason Novak, head strength and conditioning coach for the CMU athletics department."

In his recent work with CMU athletic teams, Miller divided the athletes into two groups: those with and without a history of muscle cramps. The athletes were weighed before and after practice to determine their sweat rate — a measure of how much water they lose during a typical practice. Participants also were outfitted with sweat patches that allowed Miller the ability to analyze how much sodium, potassium and chloride were in the athlete's sweat. Early results in about 100 CMU athletes show that those with a cramp history lose 70 milliliters more per hour than those without muscle cramp history.

"These results show that crampers and noncrampers lose similar amounts of fluid during exercise. It is unlikely that these fluid losses would contribute cramping," Miller said.

With the information he has collected, Miller says he can advise athletes and even craft sports performance drinks specific to each athlete's needs — whether they are a soccer player, gymnast or football player.

"By understanding how much the average football player sweats in each playing position, I can make beverages tailored to replace the right amount of electrolytes for each player," said Miller. "I can make quarterback juice. I can make linebacker juice."

In addition to CMU's football and field hockey teams, Miller also will complete sweat testing on the soccer and baseball teams. In the end, Miller and his colleagues will have collected data from more than 200 athletes across a variety of body weights, genders and sports.



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**INTERSECTION OF BUSINESS & WEALTH****32 Companies Honored for Growth Saginaw Future 25TH ANNUAL AWARDS Luncheon**

JoAnn Crary, Saginaw Future President | Courtesy Photo



Dan George, 2016 Saginaw Future Chairman | Courtesy Photo



Mike Richardson, Nexteer Automotive | Courtesy Photo

Saginaw, Mich., part of the Great Lakes Bay Region, February 17, 2017 Saginaw Future Inc. (SFI) celebrated its 25TH ANNUAL AWARDS Luncheon and 25 years of economic development in Saginaw County at Horizons Conference Center. The event was attended by more than 475 business and community leaders, along with a special message from U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow.

Saginaw Future honored 32 projects announced in 2016 valued at nearly \$92 million that will create and retain more than 1,000 jobs. These projects represent significant growth in manufacturing and continued investment in the City of Saginaw, along with developments in communities throughout Saginaw County. In addition to the Economic Excellence Awards, Mistequay Group Ltd. was selected as the Saginaw Future Procurement Technical Assistance Center Contractor of the Year.

“Over the past year, SFI assisted with 21 manufacturing, two logistical, four commercial and business services and related development projects,” said 2016 Saginaw Future Chairman Dan George. “Investment and interest in Downtown and Old Town Saginaw are robust and making an incredible impact on our urban center. All of this progress points to a healthy and growing economy.”

The ANNUAL AWARDS Luncheon also celebrated and reflected upon Saginaw Future’s 25th Anniversary of providing a single vision for economic development in Saginaw County.

“For 25 years, our primary focus has been to diversify the economy and support new investment projects that create and retain jobs for our community, said Saginaw Future President JoAnn Crary “SFI will continue to foster development and attract jobs that strengthen Saginaw County and the Great Lakes Bay

Region.”

The Luncheon featured speaker was Mike Richardson, Nexteer Automotive's president and executive board director. He highlighted Nexteer’s role in automotive innovation and the development of new technologies.

Established in 1992, Saginaw Future Inc. (SFI) is a public-private alliance of local businesses, the County of Saginaw, City of Saginaw, 15 local municipalities and the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce. SFI’s strategic partners also include education, labor and government. Since its beginning, SFI has remained dedicated to fostering quality job creation through expansion of local industry and attraction of new business projects to the community. [www.SaginawFuture.com](http://www.SaginawFuture.com)

For photos, videos and more, go to [www.SaginawFuture.com/news-center](http://www.SaginawFuture.com/news-center) and click 2017-25TH ANNUAL Awards Luncheon.



Learn more about Saginaw Future at <http://saginawfuture.com>

# Operation HOPE, Huntington Bank Bring Financial Entrepreneurship Training to YouthQuest



*Courtesy Photo*

*Flint-Area Students to Benefit from National Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative*

(FLINT, Mich.— Feb. 21, 2017) There may soon be an increase in the number of young entrepreneurs who call Flint home, thanks to a partnership between Operation HOPE, Huntington Bank and the YouthQuest Afterschool Initiative.

Starting today, the organizations will begin piloting Banking On Our Future – the precursor to HOPE Business in a Box Academies youth entrepreneurship program – at YouthQuest, an afterschool program administered by the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce. Banking On Our Future (BOOF) is a financial dignity program that covers budgeting, checking and savings, and investments, with the goal of empowering students to take control of their financial futures.

This fall, the initiative will grow to include HOPE Business in a Box Academies (HBIABA)

at YouthQuest’s high school sites. After learning how to develop a business idea and financial plan, students interested in further pursuing their ideas can participate in a program-wide pitch competition. Winners of the competition will be paired with local business mentors to help them further develop their plan and budget.

According to John Hope Bryant, Founder, Chairman and CEO at Operation HOPE, the youth financial literacy and entrepreneurship initiative aims to spur job creation, spike GDP growth and ensure the future prosperity of our students and our nation.

“HOPE youth programs connect the power of aspiration with the power of education,” Bryant said. “We are pleased to partner with Huntington and the Flint & Genesee Chamber to bring hope

and opportunity to the young people in this community.”

Surveys show that Operation HOPE’s hands-on approach has been effective in engaging participants. According to the 2015 Gallup HOPE Index, 79 percent of HOPE students said they planned to start their own business, versus 42 percent at the national level. Additionally, more HOPE students have business internships (14 percent) and are currently running their own businesses (9 percent), when compared to their national counterparts at 5 percent and 2.6 percent, respectively.

On a local level, volunteers from Huntington will lead the BOOF and HBIABA curricula, judge pitch competitions and serve as business role models for students who win the initial pitch competition. Huntington is also providing full financial support for HOPE’s programming through YouthQuest.

According to Greg Viener, Flint Community President for Huntington, youth financial entrepreneurship is an important component of Flint’s brighter economic future.

“Operation Hope is an ideal partner to increase youth business, entrepreneurship and money management expertise among Flint’s youth,” Viener said. “Helping facilitate this relationship for the community is an important part of Huntington meeting our commitment to Flint economic development and revitalization.”

According to Rhetta Hunyady, Vice President of Education & Training at the Flint & Genesee Chamber, HOPE Business in a Box is the perfect complement to YouthQuest’s current offering, which includes academics, arts and culture, health and fitness, youth development and community engagement.

“YouthQuest is designed to positively impact the lives of students – at school, at home and beyond,” Hunyady said. “We’re excited to show them that it’s never too early to start thinking about business, entrepreneurship and money management. In fact, the earlier, the better!”



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# Summer Youth Initiative Seeks More Business Participation



*Courtesy Photo*

The Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce is working to build on the success of its youth employment programs – namely the Summer Youth Initiative (SYI) – by adding more for-profit businesses into the mix of job opportunities.

The benefits for the area businesses include:

- Increasing employers' ability to train and retain its future workforce

- Closing the talent gap by connecting job seekers with permanent open positions

- Helping to boost the local economy by providing economic benefit to local families

And there's a fourth potential benefit from the perspective of site selectors. Increased participation by the for-profit sector may, over time, help draw more business investment to Flint & Genesee as companies scout areas for possible expansion. That's because the availability of skilled labor is rated as the number one "critical

site selection factor," according to a recent article in Area Development Magazine.

"Building a skilled workforce starts with providing opportunities for young people to get a foot in the door in different industries," said Rhetta Hunyady, the Chamber's Vice President of Education & Training. "SYI is a great way for employers to introduce and expose teens to the kind of job opportunities and requirements that exist in the for-profit sector."

Each summer, SYI places between 500-600 teens in jobs with nearly three dozen agencies. Teens are hired through the annual SYI Job Fair and may be employed for 10-15 weeks, depending on the employer. Assignments have ranged from office work, to working with youth programs, to outdoor work. All SYI prospects are graduates of TeenQuest, the Chamber's pre-employment and leadership training program that provides soft-

skills and job-readiness coaching to teens from schools throughout Genesee County.

Traditionally, nearly all of the SYI teens have been employed in the nonprofit sector. Research shows that the best-practices for a sustainable workforce development program must also engage and cooperate with for-profit employers.

There's an economic incentive for area employers. Participating for-profit employers are reimbursed for 50 percent of teen wages, allowing organizations to add to their capacity at little to no cost. Meanwhile, teens gain valuable work and networking experience, mentoring from an employer supervisor while earning up to \$2,500 over the summer.

In addition, for every employee hired by a participating employer, the SYI program "earns" \$1,200 – \$1,500 to put toward the wages of an additional teen worker.

"SYI participation can help a business meet its personnel needs while also investing in the future workforce," said Hunyady. "And we believe that such an investment will pay significant dividends over time."

Go to [https://www.flintandgenesee.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/syi\\_EmployerEngagementForm.pdf](https://www.flintandgenesee.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/syi_EmployerEngagementForm.pdf) to download an informational form about becoming an SYI employer.

To learn more about the SYI program contact Rhetta Hunyady at (810) 600-1412 or [rhunyady@flintandgenesee.org](mailto:rhunyady@flintandgenesee.org).

## 154th Annual Meeting

Friday, March 24, 2017

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212 Washington Ave.  
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**PUBLICATIONS****David Hall**

Crimiel Publications LLC  
POB 20061  
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## FUNDRAISING GOOD TIMES

# What is capacity and infrastructure?

**Knowing your mission, vision and proposed impact is critical to your success as an organization. Equally important is the process of building your fundraising capacity and infrastructure. But what exactly are these things?**



Here are three things you need to know.

1. These refer to tangible and intangibles such as people, skills, relationships, technology, processes, and more.
2. These aren't built overnight: they are developed over time.
3. These require conscious effort and investments of time

Here's what we mean by fundraising capacity:

1. An organization's experience with fundraising, especially that of staff and board members
2. A board of directors that is committed to fundraising
3. The number of staff and volunteer leaders who are trained and experienced in fundraising
4. The number of volunteers (trained as well as untrained but willing) available to assist with fundraising
5. The type and quality marketing materials available – especially the case for support

to systems and people that support fundraising activities. This includes things such as:

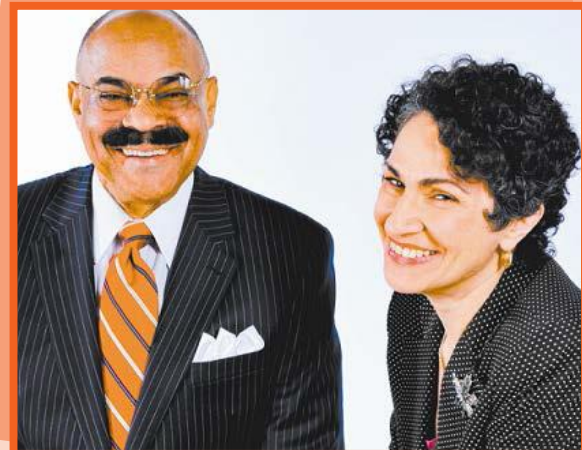
1. A fundraising plan
2. Staff whose formal job responsibilities include fundraising
3. Policies and procedures for processing and acknowledging gifts
4. A development committee of the board of directors
5. A fund development taskforce comprised of board members and other volunteers
6. Clearly defined roles and responsibilities in the area of fundraising for staff and board members
7. Donor relationship management software that is consistently used to track and report on all elements of fundraising activities.
8. An adequate budget for fund development and fundraising activities

6. The extent of positive awareness amongst the general public, and amongst people who can either make or influence major gifts
7. An ongoing annual fundraising program
8. A pool of prospective donors that includes individuals, businesses, and foundations

The term "infrastructure" is used to refer

Review these two lists and use them as a tool for evaluating your organization's fundraising capacity and infrastructure. Discuss whether or not you really have the capacity and infrastructure you need. Ask probing questions. For example, is your capacity and infrastructure on paper and in action? How do you bring what's on paper to life? Do the things you have on paper produce the desired outcomes? Do you need to do things differently? Trying to use your capacity and infrastructure will let you know whether or not these really exist. This will also reveal what you may need to do to strengthen these. You want to be accountable to your community and funders regarding the investments they make in your organization. You need to demonstrate you have the capacity and infrastructure to manage valuable resources.

Fundraising capacity and infrastructure are at the heart of an organization's ability to deliver on its mission and secure funding. Take the time to invest in these: they can help carry you through the good times and the hard times.



Mel and Pearl Shaw | Courtesy: Photo

**EDUCATION**

# High School Teachers Utilize UM-Flint Resources to Bring Science to Life

By Amy Hartwig

UM-Flint students experience hands-on learning, meaningful interactions with their faculty, and access to state-of-the-art equipment in their departments. They also make memories that stick with them for a lifetime and inspire them to come back to campus. Two UM-Flint alumni, Mandi Davis and Theresa Krejci (both teachers for the Byron Area Schools), recently returned to UM-Flint with their own students. They were hoping to show off a little of what made their UM-Flint experiences so special while giving the students access to recently renovated laboratory spaces.

## Visiting Biology at UM-Flint

The Byron anatomy and physiology students began their day by visiting the gross anatomy lab with the Biology Department's Dennis Viele. They interacted with the university's cadavers—examining the differing pathologies of hearts, seeing a spinal cord, and even touching an intact brain. “I wanted my students to see that UM-Flint is a great place to get their degree as well as expose them to some new opportunities in the field of science,” said Krejci. “We were able to view parts of the human body that we have or will be studying.” Krejci graduated in 1993 with a degree in biology, a minor in mathematics, and a general science teaching certificate. “It was nice to return and see that so many improvements had been made,” she said. “The cadaver lab is equipped with lots of technology which allows for better learning for the students.” Krejci teaches physical science and anatomy & physiology. She has also served as a biology teacher, a middle school science teacher, and was the curriculum director at Byron Area Schools for 11 years. She coaches 8th grade volleyball, summer softball, and works with the youth at her church. Krejci fondly remembers UM-Flint and appreciates the ways in which her time as a student prepared her for her career. “The class sizes were not huge and you were able to talk with your professors if you needed to,” she recalled. “I enjoyed the

lab experiences that I had while at U of M. I particularly enjoyed the field biology course that I took.”

## Connecting Students

Byron honors chemistry students also visited UM-Flint, led by teacher and NHS advisor Mandi Davis. They were treated to chemistry demos by UM-Flint Chem Club students Noor Alawwa, Lynnette Harris, and Aaron Hancock, and then conducted their own experiments in one of the newly renovated Chemistry & Biochemistry Department labs.

Davis graduated from UM-Flint in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry, a minor in math, and a teacher's certificate. She completed her MA in educational technology in 2013. “It was great to return to campus,” said Davis. “I want to be able to expose my students to things that we cannot bring to Byron—to instrumentation, to some of the things that can inspire [and] ignite love for science!” UM-Flint Laboratory Manager Monique Wilhelm helped coordinate the chemistry students' visit. “Opportunities like these are extremely important in this day and age when everyone thinks they have all of the information at their fingertips,” noted Wilhelm. “Science is a process, not just a bunch of facts, and this process really needs a hands-on component that not all schools have the opportunity to give. Memorizing facts is not why anyone I know decided to become a scientist. It was the physical things we do and see, and the way we think, that motivated most of us to do what we do.” While their experiments were running, the high schoolers had a chance to talk with current UM-Flint students and ask questions about being in college. “These students can only really learn what our campus is like by interacting with the students and faculty,” said Wilhelm. “Our campus' biggest assets are its people.” “These opportunities are important for our students,” Wilhelm continued, “as it gives them an opportunity to discuss science with non-scientists, as well as show their pride in what they

do. Communication is the most important skill for any scientist and where they generally fall short is communication to the general public. This type of event is one of the things that makes the Chemistry Club such a great opportunity for all of our students.”

## The Impact of Experience

Davis' time as a UM-Flint student left her with a lasting impression of her faculty. “Dr. Virgil Cope, who was my academic advisor, had the biggest impact on my UM-Flint career,” she said. “He was a professor who was available to his students whenever we needed. We could be working on problems in the breezeway and, if we had questions, he had no problem stopping and sitting and answering them for us. He believed in me. I was nominated for the Maize and Blue Award, and he helped me to believe in myself and believe that I was worthy of the award. I won that award as well as Outstanding Graduate from the Chemistry Department. And I wasn't even a 'full fledged' chemistry major—I was an education major!” “Marina Ionina was another impacting professor,” continued Davis. “I did a lot of work with Marina and she helped me in the TCP (teacher certificate program) part of my experience at UM-Flint. She helped me to understand/explore how to teach chemistry, not just be able to do chemistry.”

Davis has high hopes that the visit to UM-Flint will be meaningful to her students and their futures. “I hope it sparks interest and excites them,” she said. “I want these experiences to be the things they look back on and think, ‘that was awesome—that was when I realized science was something I wanted to pursue.’ We all know that the ‘facts’ students learn on a day-to-day basis aren't going to be what they remember—it's going to be these types of experiences.”

# SVSU to provide additional scholarship support for Bay Commitment students



April Lukowski | Photo Credit: SVSU

Saginaw Valley State University will expand its commitment to supporting students and increasing educational attainment in the Great Lakes Bay Region by providing new scholarships for Bay County students who are Bay Commitment scholarship recipients.

Established in 2008 by the Bay Area Community foundation, the Bay Commitment Scholarship seeks to encourage first-generation college students in Bay County to pursue and complete postsecondary education. The program

provides \$2,000 scholarships for 100 Bay County high school graduates each year during their first year attending Delta College or SVSU; it has awarded over \$1.6 million in total scholarships since its inception.

Beginning with the 2017-18 academic year, SVSU will provide renewable \$1,000 scholarships for Bay Commitment students in their second, third and fourth years attending SVSU.

SVSU also is establishing a mentoring program for Bay Commitment Scholars to support them during their educational experience and encourage timely completion of a degree.

“We know first-generation students have unique needs and often require personalized support to succeed in college, and that even students who are doing well academically can still face challenges financially,” said Deb Huntley, provost and vice president for academic affairs at SVSU.

“We want to help these local, hard-working students complete degrees, and ideally pursue a career in our Great Lakes Bay Region. We are committed to doing what we can to increase

educational attainment throughout our region, because a well-educated citizenry and workforce benefits us all.”

Eileen Curtis, president and CEO of the Bay Area Community Foundation, said the new scholarship dollars will be appreciated by students, families and the community.

“We are excited to partner with SVSU on this significant opportunity for our Bay Commitment scholarship recipients,” she said. “SVSU is a leader in higher education. Their support of Bay County students demonstrates their dedication to the people of Bay County and the entire Great Lakes Bay Region.”

Last year, SVSU introduced the Saginaw Urban and Civic Partnership Scholarship to provide financial support to students who reside in the Saginaw Promise Zone.

For more information on scholarship opportunities at SVSU, visit [svsu.edu/scholarships](http://svsu.edu/scholarships). For more information on the Bay Commitment Scholarship, visit [bayfoundation.org/scholarships/bay-commitment-scholarship](http://bayfoundation.org/scholarships/bay-commitment-scholarship).

## SVSU Board approves Master of Social Work program, campus updates

The Saginaw Valley State University Board of Control approved adding a Master of Social Work degree program to the curriculum during the Board’s regular meeting Monday, Feb. 20.

SVSU expects about 20 students to enroll in the new graduate program when it begins in the 2017 fall semester, and ultimately expects the program to welcome 80 new students each year.

SVSU has one of the largest undergraduate social work programs in Michigan with 440 students majoring in the field this year. In 2015, 94 percent of SVSU social work students passed the international licensing exam on their first try, compared to a 71 percent overall pass rate for everyone who took the same exam in the United States and Canada.

In recent years, roughly 60 percent of SVSU students who graduated with a bachelor’s degree

in social work went on to enroll in a Master of Social Work program at other institutions. SVSU plans to market the new program to its social work graduates, as well as those graduating in programs such as sociology, psychology, criminal justice and health sciences.

The Board also approved two capital projects. The Board authorized spending up to \$800,000 for maintenance and various improvements to M.J. Brandimore House, a campus residence hall. The Board also authorized spending up to \$525,000 for repair and resurfacing of several campus parking lots and roadways.

In other action, the Board:

- Appointed a nominating committee for May board elections.
- Approved granting emeritus status to Ron Trepkowski, who retired in 2016 after serving

on University Police for 36 years, including more than a decade as police chief.

- Approved granting tenure to 18 faculty: Arundhati Bagchi Misra, mathematics; Jennifer Chaytor, chemistry; Kyle Cissell, chemistry; Adam Coughlin, kinesiology; Denise Dedman, social work; Warren Fincher, sociology; Stacie Krupp, accounting; John Lowry, kinesiology; James McEvoy, biology; Rhett Mohler, geography; Rajani Muraleedharan, electrical and computer engineering; Shiva Nadavulakere, management and marketing; Christopher Nakamura, physics; Annamalai Pandian, mechanical engineering; Timothy Rowlands, criminal justice; Rebecca Schlaff, kinesiology; Jason Scott, biology; Yu Zou, electrical and computer engineering.

# ECRR: The 5 Practices in Storytime

Every Child Ready to Read in Storytimes Workshop Incorporating the 5 Practices into Storytime Programs

This workshop will be a follow-up to the Every Child Ready to Read Workshops held last year in Michigan. After a brief review for previous attendees, and an introduction to those who did not attend last year, presenter Sue McCleaf Nespeca will talk about ways to incorporate the 5 ECRR practices into storytime programs for babies; ages 2-3; preschoolers; and a mixed-age group of children. Bring with you ONE of your favorite books that you like to use in a storytime program for one of the age groups mentioned in this description.

Registration is now open, please register by Friday, March 3rd at <https://www.solutionwhere.com/WW/Aspx/Public/Search/ShowCourse.aspx?courseNum=88&cId=67&pCId=0>.

All workshops will run 9:00am-4:00pm with a lunch break included for the \$35 registration fee.

**Monday, March 20th:**

Kentwood Branch of Kent District Library  
4950 Breton Rd SE, Kentwood, MI 49508

9:00– 9:30  
9:30– 10:45

**Tuesday, March 21st:**

Plymouth District Library  
223 S. Main St., Plymouth, MI 48170

10:45– 11:00  
11:00– 12:15

**Wednesday, March 22nd:**

Alice & Jack Wirt Public Library of the Bay  
County Library System  
500 Center Ave., Bay City, MI 48708

12:15– 1:00  
1:00– 2:00

**Friday, March 24th:**

Landmark Inn  
230 N. Front St., Marquette, MI 49855

3:00– 3:15  
3:15– 3:55  
3:55– 4:00



**AGENDA**

- Registration
- ECRR 6 Skills & 5 Practices Review; Parent & Child Wksp
- Morning Break
- Early Literacy Storytimes for Babies, ages 0 -2
- Lunch
- Early Literacy Storytimes for, ages 2-3
- Early Literacy Storytimes for Preschoolers
- Afternoon Break
- Early Literacy Storytimes for a Mixed Age Group
- Wrap Up/ Questions



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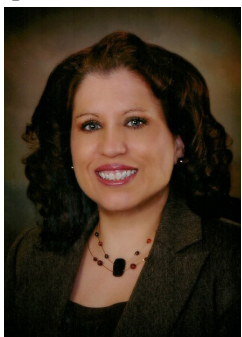




# Celebrating Women's History Month Locally

By Dalia Smith, Saginaw MAX System of Care Cultural and Linguistic Competency Coordinator

In 1987 Congress established the month of March as Women's History Month to honor the significant contributions women have made to U.S. history and the world. It is important to take time to remember and celebrate the successes of women who have contributed to the advancement of society through their work and strong spirit – they have forged the path for generations to come, and our country wouldn't be where it is today without their influence. Today, Saginaw Max System of Care is proud to recognize three women who are addressing serious issues experienced by many individuals in our community through education, hard work, and challenging the status quo.



**Carmen Stricker-Gonzalez** is the Assistant Director of Admissions at Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) where she earned her bachelor's degrees in criminal justice and secondary education, as well as a master's degree in organization leadership administration. Through

her work in the Admissions Department, she is involved with recruitment and outreach, and provides information to students and parents about scholarships and financial aid opportunities. As part of her outreach work, she presents college-based information to groups of potential students and is involved with many community events on behalf of SVSU. "I especially enjoy talking to students in 9th grade because many don't realize how important it is for them to understand education planning early on," says Stricker-Gonzalez of her favorite aspect of her outreach work. "My dad came from a large family and was taught to work hard, to give it your all and go after big goals in life. Growing up he taught me those values and not only did he encourage me to go to college, it was an expectation."

Carmen says that she is able to help students in a more direct way in the role she has in the

Admissions Department, connecting them to resources suited specifically to their needs and diverse cultural backgrounds to support them as they make the commitment to furthering their education. "My dad taught me to be humble and grateful for what I have in my life," she explained. "I remember his pride in my accomplishments and his life lessons, and because of what he taught me I am able to serve and connect with the students I work with on a really meaningful level." Carmen has a strong family-centered sensibility which comes through in her work ethic and her home life – she has 12 God-children and has been known to take in youth who are in need. She finds it especially rewarding to be able to give guidance to the Latino population at SVSU, in particular Latina students. "I love Saginaw and I'm the first to say that I'm proud of the progress I see in our community," she shared. "I'm passionate about my work, my community, my family and caring for my husband and my niece. I find the more you learn the more you realize you don't know; my education is for my own satisfaction, but I will always give a helping hand."



**Keva E. Clark** is the Lead Family Representative for Saginaw Max System of Care. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree and a master's in educational leadership and administration, both earned at SVSU. Keva is responsible for organizing family involvement for Saginaw Max System of

Care - covering all of the human service systems including public mental health, child welfare, juvenile justice, and education. "Saginaw County has recognized the need for families to be at the (decision making) table," says Keva. "To achieve the vision often recited 'nothing about us without us,' it is essential for families to help make decisions about the care of their children as well as give input and guidance to the decisions that affect their lives across systems."

Keva's mentors, Dr. LeCretra Clark and Dr. Pamela Ross-McClain - who are both pillars in the higher education community - understood that Keva's drive to obtain a master's in education was not limited to teaching or being an administrator. Her deep desire to contribute to the healthy growth of the families in the community and skills to help shape policy developments at the ground-level, led Keva to apply for and earn her current position. "Dr. LeCretra Clark and Dr. Pamela Ross-McClain have achieved something that I am working on myself, a doctorate degree," states Keva. "Through the work they have done as African-American women and their support, I can see that it (doctorate degree) is obtainable and success is obtainable in today's society."

The list of training opportunities Keva offers to parents receiving services in any of the human service systems through her work with Saginaw Max is extensive; however, there are three that are expanding due to the impact on the families and individuals who have completed them. Keva is a national trainer and co-author of the Team Up for Families (TUFF) Training Program; and is in charge of coordinating, overseeing and training the Strengthening Families Training and Resource Parent Training (RPT) Programs in Saginaw. RPT provides foundational information on trauma in a way that is easy to understand, sessions can be modified to meet specific needs and can vary in length from 1-day long or offered in a series of eight Modules. Keva is proud of her accomplishments, however finds her work teaching the community about the impact of trauma on children to be her most fulfilling. "I wish I had known before how much trauma affects children," she reflects. "It can affect aspects of their life we wouldn't expect, and how they view their parents, the world and themselves. The importance of educating parents and the community on trauma is extraordinary – because symptoms can present in a multitude of ways, it can be difficult for anyone who doesn't know what to look for to offer meaningful help.

**JUMP TO WOMEN, PG 29**



### About Saginaw ISD HE/EHS

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Head Start programs promote school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to enrolled children and families.

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Fax 989.921.7146

**Office Hours**  
Monday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM  
Tuesday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM  
Wednesday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM  
Thursday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM  
Friday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM  
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For additional information concerning  
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[www.saginawheadstart.org](http://www.saginawheadstart.org)

Source: [www.saginawheadstart.org](http://www.saginawheadstart.org)



Sabrina  
Beeman-Jackson

Saginaw ISD Head  
Start/Early Head  
Start Program  
Director

**"Head Start graduates are more likely to graduate from high school and less likely to need special education, repeat a grade, or commit crimes in adolescence."**  
*Joe Baca, former Dem. Calif. Congrmn., Dist. 43.*

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***-Saginaw ISD HE/EHS***

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**CONTINUED FROM WOMEN, PG 25**

And the longer trauma isn't effectively addressed and treated, the more damaging the effects can be in the long run." While talking with Keva it is clear that she gets energized by women who are strong leaders and that she gives back to the community just as much as she receives, if not more. Keva believes in being the best she can be in this moment in time; strives to pay it forward and hopes to inspire others to be change agents in their communities.



**Erin Nostrandt** is the Director of Westlund Guidance Clinic in Saginaw and the Vice President of Behavioral Health Services for SVRC Industries, Inc. She has a bachelor's degree in psychology and sociology from SVSU and a master's degree from Michigan State University (MSU) in

clinical social work. Erin has been involved with Saginaw County's Great Start Collaborative for several years. The collaborative is involved with

creating a system of early childhood services ensuring that every child is safe, healthy and ready to succeed in school and in life. When the collaborative was tasked with creating a trauma informed community and thus challenged to figure out how to bring resources and services into the community to address the unmet needs of individuals experiencing the effects of trauma, Erin took up the reins. Due to her hard work and dedication, Saginaw is now home to its very own Trauma Assessment Center through a partnership between Westlund Guidance Clinic and the Easer Seals of Michigan. When an opportunity to receive grant funding became available, Erin connected with Jim Henry of Western Michigan University (WMU), co-founder of Western Michigan University's Children's Trauma Assessment Center. Erin was able to observe the facility in person and found their work inspiring. "It's important to be thorough when assessing for trauma because trauma can be complicated," she explained. "There is a need for quality, standardized assessments especially when trauma is involved. We need to move away from just observing someone briefly and

saying; ok we're going to try such and such. It's extremely helpful to know the trauma history and how the treatment strategy will impact the trauma. Doing assessments more often would prevent kids being in services for a long time and kids would get a more appropriate diagnosis." It's also meaningful to Erin that trauma assessments provided through Westlund include information that examines the executive functioning of the brain as well as an individual's resiliency factors. Knowing how the brain is functioning and what resiliency factors someone has or does not have helps to better illustrate the individual effects of trauma that person is experiencing. Trauma affects people differently - knowing how to work with an individual and what factors need to be emphasized or deemphasized is essential to providing quality treatment.

Erin is no stranger to hard work; growing up on a farm in Belding, MI, her parents ingrained a strong work ethic in Erin and her two older sisters. "It's important to me to do my part," she said. "If I can make a difference to improve an area where there is a need, I want to work collaboratively to achieve it."



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# Women's History Month Spotlight



## *Carla Hayden*

Carla Hayden was sworn in as the 14th Librarian of Congress on September 14, 2016. Hayden, the first woman and the first African American to lead the national library, was nominated to the position by President Barack Obama on February 24, 2016, and her nomination was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on July 13.

Prior to her latest post she served, since 1993, as CEO of the Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore, Maryland. Hayden was nominated by President Obama to be a member of the National Museum and Library Services Board in January 2010 and was confirmed to that post by the Senate in June 2010. Prior to joining the Pratt Library, Hayden was deputy commissioner and chief

librarian of the Chicago Public Library from 1991 to 1993. She was an assistant professor for Library and Information Science at the University of Pittsburgh from 1987 to 1991. Hayden was library services coordinator for the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago from 1982 to 1987. She began her career with the Chicago Public Library as the young adult services coordinator from 1979 to 1982 and as a library associate and children's librarian from 1973 to 1979.

Hayden was president of the American Library Association from 2003 to 2004. In 1995, she was the first African American to receive Library Journal's Librarian of the Year Award in recognition of her outreach services at the Pratt

Library, which included an after-school center for Baltimore teens offering homework assistance and college and career counseling. Hayden received a B.A. from Roosevelt University and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago.

Follow Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden on Twitter. <https://twitter.com/libnofcongress>



**Learn more about about Women's History Month at [womenshistorymonth.gov](http://womenshistorymonth.gov)**

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— Romans 15:7*





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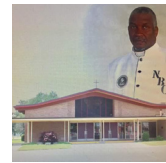
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# Spirit Unable to Keep Face with Powerful Spits; Fall 4-1

WINDSOR, Ont. - On Thursday night, the Saginaw Spirit took on the Windsor Spitfires for the fourth and final time at the WFCU Centre this season. The Spitfires walked away with victories in each of the first three games. Unfortunately, it was more of the same on Thursday as Windsor took the 4-1 decision.

The Spirit drew blood first just two minutes into the game when Keaton Middleton scored his third goal of the season. The puck was caught in a scuffle in the left corner of the Windsor zone. After it was freed, the Windsor defense tried to clear the puck. However, the Toronto Maple Leaf prospect intercepted it at the blue line and let off a shot. The puck slipped by four bodies and over Michael DiPietro's glove for the 1-0 Spirit lead.

The Spitfires retaliated at 12:15 when Adam Laishram tallied his 12th goal of the year. Luke Boka collected the puck behind the net after he brought it into the Saginaw zone. He kept the puck away from two defenders, and made the centering pass to Laishram who shot it under Brendan Bonello's left glove.

Windsor scored the only goal of the second period at 8:48 when Aaron Luchuk notched his 22nd goal of the season. Gabriel Vilardi won a faceoff at the right circle, and Luchuk gained possession of the puck. He quickly sent off a shot from the circle, and it sailed past Bonello for the 2-1 lead. Despite the goal, Saginaw led Windsor in shots on goal, 8-4.

The final period produced two goals, but they both went to the Spitfires. Graham Knott tallied his 13th goal of the year at 5:48 when Mikhail Sergachev found him open after leaving penalty box. The Chicago Blackhawks prospect snuck past two defenders, and found himself alone on a breakaway. He settled the puck down, and sent the puck between Bonello's legs for the 3-1 lead.

With two and a half minutes left, Windsor manufactured one more goal when Gabriel Vilardi added his 24th goal. Jeremiah Addison skated the puck into the Saginaw zone, and wound up in the trapezoid area. He battled with three defenders until he passed it to Aaron Luchuk near the crease. Luchuk found a streaking Vilardi who

shot the puck over Bonello's glove for the 4-1 score. Windsor finished with 27 shots on goal to Saginaw's 17.

Applebee's Three Stars of the Game:

Aaron Luchuk (WSR) - GWG, A

Gabriel Vilardi (WSR) - G, A

Adam Laishram (WSR) - G

The Spirit return home Saturday night to take on the North Bay Battalion in their only trip to The Dow Event Center. The puck drops at 7:05 p.m. for Holy Cross Children Services night.

*Affordable season ticket packages and flex plans for the 15th anniversary season of Saginaw Spirit hockey are on sale now! For more information on tickets, visit [www.saginawspirit.com](http://www.saginawspirit.com) or call (989) 497-7747.*

*Stay current with the latest from your Spirit by logging on to [www.saginawspirit.com](http://www.saginawspirit.com).*

*Follow the Spirit all season long on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/spirithockey](http://www.facebook.com/spirithockey)), Twitter (@SpiritHockey), Instagram (@saginawspirit), and Youtube (SaginawSpirit)*

## The Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame has announced its 2017 Hall of Fame ballot

Lifetime voting members of the Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame will vote for 4 Athletes, 1 Coach, 1 Contributor, and 1 Team, which will make up the Hall of Fame's Class of 2017.

Ballots must be postmarked by March 20, 2017, to be tabulated.

In the Interscholastic/Professional category, voters will select from the following nominees:

- Dale Brown (Carrollton)
- Danielle Kamm (Nouvel Catholic Central)
- Preston Murphy (Nouvel Catholic Central)
- Erinn Reed (Saginaw High)
- Terrance Roberson (Buena Vista)
- Charles Rogers (Saginaw High)
- Clifton Ryan (Arthur Hill)
- Marvin Wright (Arthur Hill)

In the Coaches category, Voters will choose

from the following nominees:

- Jim Eurick (Football)
- Sue Guevara (Basketball)
- Ralph Munger (Football)
- Bob Quinn (Tennis)

Nominees in the Contributor's Category include:

- Jim Buckley (Media)
- Len Callard (Athletic Official)
- Helen Fry (Gymnastics Club Founder)
- Stanley Krajkowski (Volunteer/Booster)

Voters will select from the following nominees in the Teams Category:

- Arthur Hill Football Team (1991 state champion)
- Hemlock Cross Country Teams (2001 & 2002 state champions)
- Saginaw High Football Team (1999 state

champion)

- St. Stephen's Golf Teams (1981 & 1982 state champions)

Winners will be announced at the Hall of Fame's Press Conference on Wednesday, April 26 at 6 p.m. at the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History, 500 Federal Avenue, Saginaw. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. The Press Conference is open to the public and winners will be notified in advance.

There is still time to join the Hall of Fame as a Lifetime Voting Member and receive a ballot for this year's voting. Simply send a check or money order for \$50, a one-time fee, to SCSHOF, 500 Federal Ave., Saginaw, MI 48607-1253. Additional information can be found at [saginawcountysports.org](http://saginawcountysports.org).

# Loons Promotion Schedule for 2017 Season

**Live music, scarf and hat giveaways, MWL All-Star Game and more!**

MIDLAND, Mich. - The Great Lakes Loons are excited to announce their 2017 promotional schedule.

The season begins on April 6 with the Opening Day Celebration, presented by Maple Hill Nursery. This year's festivities will once again be kicked off by a parade on Main Street beginning at 4:30 p.m. Following the parade, the Loons will play the Lansing Lugnuts at Dow Diamond at 6:05 p.m. The first 1,000 fans to enter Dow Diamond will receive a commemorative 2016 Midwest League Championship banner.

Added in the middle of the schedule this season will be the marquee event of the year, the 2017 Midwest League All-Star Game presented by Go Great Lakes Bay. The festivities will begin on Monday, June 19, at 4 p.m. with a high school all-star game, followed by the Midwest League Home Run Derby. Then on Tuesday, June 20, the premier players in the MWL will take the field at Dow Diamond for the league's mid-summer classic at 7:05 p.m.

"No different than in the previous 10 years, our packed promotional schedule has us extremely excited for the upcoming season," Loons Vice President of Baseball Operations & Gameday Experience Tiffany Wardynski said. "Each year we try to offer more than just a night at a baseball game. We want Loons baseball to be a fun, unique experience that offers tremendous value for our fans."

Returning, but with a twist, for 2017 will be "Fridays at Five" in The Cove. The bar area on the third base side will feature live music and drink specials, including \$3 craft beers, every Friday home game in June, July and August. Gates will open at 5 p.m., but a specific theme will take over the ballpark that night, including accompanying music acts.

June 2: 80's Night feat. Jedi Mind Trip

June 9: Polish Heritage Night feat. The Steve Drzewicki Band

June 23: Dueling Pianos Night presented by MidMichigan Health

June 30: 260 Days 'til St. Patty's

July 14: Latino Night with Postgame Salsa Party

July 28: Country Western Night feat. Steve Armstrong and the 25¢ Beer Band

August 25: Cheeseburger in Paradise Night feat.

Leaky Tiki's Jimmy Buffet Tribute Band

The Loons will be offering the ever-popular Fireworks Loontaculars once again in 2017.

Fans have the chance to enjoy a free fireworks display following the game. There are 13 firework displays scheduled for next season: June 3, June 10, June 20, June 24, July 1, July 3, July 15, July 28, August 5, August 16, August 25, August 26 and September 2.

Wednesdays, excluding May 17, will be Hump Day Happy Hour at the ballpark. Fans ages 21 and up can purchase select domestic drafts for \$2 from the time gates open till one hour after first pitch.

One of the most bang-for-your-buck nights you'll find, \$1 Family Feast Night presented by Chemical Bank, is back for every Thursday home game. On these 11 dates, fans can enjoy \$1 hot dogs, 16 oz. Pepsi products, Better Made chips and ice cream sandwiches throughout the game. Now entering its third season, Kids Eat Free Sundays presented by the Soaring Eagle Water Park and Hotel is back offering all kids ages 5-12 a food voucher good for a free kid's meal during all 10 Sunday home games throughout the season. Farm Bureau Insurance will present two Pre-Game Youth Baseball Clinics (June 4 and June 11) featuring baseball instruction from Loons players. Each child attending the Sunday clinic will receive a free baseball autographed by Loons players. Farm Bureau also returns as the presenting sponsor of Kids Run the Bases, which will follow every Sunday home game, and Winning Wednesdays on July 12, July 26 and August 23.

School Kids Days presented by Mid-Michigan Health will take over the ballpark on three separate occasions in 2017: May 4, May 17 and May 25. Local schools are encouraged to bring groups of students to the ballpark with first pitch at 10:35 a.m.

Fellowship Nights are set for June 22, July 15, July 27 and August 6 this season. Groups participating have the opportunity to get in to the game early that night for various activities.

Numerous giveaways will be offered to fans during the upcoming season: Commemorative Championship Banner (April 6), 2017 Magnet Schedule (April 6-7), Poster Schedule (April 13-15), Championship Posters (May 16, May

23, May 30), Loons Hat (June 10), Team Photo (July 2), MWL All-Star Photo (August 15), Loons All-Star Photo (August 22), Scarf (September 3), 2018 Magnet Schedule (September 4). In all, 14 different days at Dow Diamond in 2017 will have an item for fans to take home.

Every Tuesday home game will be a Route of Champions Night presented by the Loons flagship radio station ESPN 100.9-FM. Throughout those games different former Loons players and storied sports moments from the region's past will be highlighted.

Many other promotions mark the promo calendar this summer: Baseball BINGO Night (May 24, July 12), PRIDE Night (May 31), Greek Heritage Night (June 1), Bark in the Park (June 12, August 14), Superhero Night (July 1), Team Autograph Day (July 2), Military Appreciation Night (July 3), Christmas in July (July 15), World Record Night (July 26), NASCAR Night (July 27), Star Wars Night (August 5), Lucky Hot Dog Night (August 17), Storybook Princess Night (August 26) and Red, White, and Blue Appreciation Night (September 2) recognizing area first responders. To go along with the many unique events and promotions happening during the 2017 season, some special guests will be making appearances at the ballpark: PBS Characters (June 25, July 16, August 27) including Buddy the Dinosaur and Sid the Science Kid, the X-Pogo stunt team (June 30 and July 13), Star Wars characters (August 5), Zooperstars (August 24), Birdzerk! (August 25) and Belle, Elsa and Friends (August 26).

A full listing of the 2017 promotional schedule will be available soon on Loons.com by clicking on the tickets and promotions listing. Individual game tickets for the 2017 season go on sale March 1, and can be purchased at Loons.com, in person at the Dow Diamond box office, or by phone at 989-837-BALL.

The 2016 Midwest League Champions and hosts of the 2017 MWL All-Star Game presented by GoGreat.com have been a Single-A partner of the Los Angeles Dodgers since the team's inception in 2007. For tickets and more information about the Great Lakes Loons, call 989-837-BALL or visit Loons.com.

# Quit calling us 'angry'

By Mike Thompson

Media reporting these past few days renews for me a very old bone to pick.

The media reports "angry voters" and "angry citizens" are protesting against Trump on the streets, and at some of the legislators' local town hall forums, like Mitch McConnell, for instance. Indeed, some of the people for sure are angry and mad, and leave it to TV to select footage of the ones who are most dramatically acting the fool.

But whenever citizens assemble, is it part of the college journalism curriculum to ALWAYS describe them as "angry?" Cliché. Trite.

This old bone to pick comes from my late 1970s/early '80s years as a volunteer community organizer for the Northeast Saginaw Neighbors group, from us perpetually being described as "angry," as though we somehow had lost our minds.

Our members (I was the organizer, house to house, door to door, and the instigator) had as much passion, if not more, than other advocate groups. When the neighbors found a need to speak in public, they carried full loads of emotion and concern. But in the circumstances of the First Ward at that time, most were middle-age or elders, and many of them carried a certain "stately" quality.

Thinking back, if you listened to three of

the leaders -- David Jones, John Kemper, Robert Taylor -- you would have thought you were listening to James Earl Jones or Roscoe Lee Browne or Sidney Portier. Or with Cora Kirksey or longtime chairwoman Ardella Carter, tall and strong, maybe Maya Angelou.

Very dignified in their approach. As organizer, I didn't guide them or coach them or encourage them in this direction, and it's not like they all were orators. Still, that's how their self-selected leaders presented.

Not loud or "angry." Foremost, persistent. We wouldn't go away, whether it was the closings of Potter School, Norman Fire Station, Third Street. Or -- more positive and more success -- the need for cleaning vacant lots, getting rid of rats, knocking down empty houses, paving streets or putting up street lights.

The most fire I recall was when a City Council member implied that the neighbors were stupid dummies who were being manipulated by outside agitators (namely, me) into false premises, and that they didn't know what they were talking about. For one, tiny big-hearted Janie Mayes (Cicely Tyson as Miss Jane Pittman at age 60 or 65) took the insult to heart, trembling at the rostrum as she lectured the Council, "This is the future of OUR neighborhood at stake. We SPEAK

for OURSELVES!"

Yet in The Saginaw News regular coverage -- back when SN actually had reporting staff to regularly cover local happenings -- it seemed like we always were described as "angry residents" in the write-ups from the council meetings.

Advice to reporters (local or national media) covering these town halls: (1) Maybe describe individuals as "angry," but not everyone, unless everyone is acting equally flipped out, like with the right-wing Tea Party in 2009 and 2010. (2) As for Trump claiming these town hall groups are being commie-style organized, he has a small kernel of truth (although what would be wrong with that?). They ain't paid pros, but there is some loosely linked leadership going on. If you're a good and alert reporter, ask around among the audience, and try to find and interview the leaders who are the sparkplugs putting the booties in the seats.

**HARD TO BELIEVE:** 1970s, neighbors were concerned that GM might move into and take over the First Ward, across North Washington Avenue and on into Farwell and Norman and Kirk streets. Instead, GM pretty much rode the rails out of town. The old days...!!!

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## Statement by Congressman Dan Kildee on Trump Administration Attacks on LGBT Community

Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) issued the following statement today after President Trump and his Administration attacked the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community and reversed federal guidance directing schools to allow transgender students to use the bathroom that matches their gender identity:

"President Trump has broken yet another

campaign promise, this time rolling back non-discrimination protections for the LGBT community. Just last month, the President said he was 'respectful and supportive' of LGBT rights, yet he has now shamefully attacked transgender students, rescinding federal protections ensuring equal access and preventing discrimination. All children deserve to feel safe in school, including

transgender students.

"To any transgender Americans questioning their value after the President's disgraceful actions, know that you are loved, valued and important. I will continue to stand with you and the LGBT community and fight these attacks seeking to deny every American equal rights under the law."

# "More pain for Flint Kids"

*By Delmon Marshall*

I'm Heartbroken! Look where the local Flint politics & public school "mismanagement leaders" have LED us.. GET IT???? LED US? If not, Google : Flint Water Crisis. smh I can't believe after nearly 700 phone calls, nearly 250 emails to every shoe brand in the United States and 15 meetings with no deal agreed upon, that ALL o the legendary Sports programs will cease to exist next year for the kids at Flint Northwestern!

Being the youngest son of Mr. Ben Marshall, a tennis coach & educator at Flint Northwestern High School for over 40 years, I was a 3 sport athlete myself at Flint Northwestern. My sports career & the friendships I made as a child is what I cherish the most. I heard that sports was going to be eliminated at NW and I went to work. I've tried my best to be the spokesman for Flint Sports to these major brands, trying to get them to care about the grief stricken Flint, Michigan community & try to lend a hand to a people living through an unimaginable crisis of epic proportion. I was around some Northwestern kids today after school when the noise broke and they were crushed. Their basketball, Football, Track, Volleyball and many other dreams of somehow getting to ANY college on a scholarship has been dashed. For many of our children on the Northwest side of Flint, may not come from the best of circumstances or economic funding to attend college. Sports, of any kind ,is normally their only way out of their environment. My cousin, Trevis Rouser (may he Rest In Peace) an area intramural Basketball Coach of Flint boys & girls & myself used to pay for kids physical exams & shoes because their family just couldn't afford to clothe their own child to play team sports. By doing this, we were able to help some kids cope with their situations by not laughing about their conditions, but being a positive role

model and helping them get through it by giving them the helping hand they needed so they could compete in sports. Trev & I were again to help many area children get through junior high & high school, and helped get some of these kids off to various colleges . Again, sports & teamwork were the catalysts to get the kids to work through their unjust conditions & reach for the sky- That someone cares for them & about them as a person first, student second & as an athlete last. Trev passed on & through the farming initiative I'm trying to carry on our grassroots support of teaching our young people health & fitness their team sports. This is an embarrassment to all the great coaches, staff of ALL sports players ever to play @ NDUB. Other ppl in area have the funds to get new schools built from the ground up, and Flint Northwestern do not have the money or local support just continue sports? High school Sports is the foundational building block of kids self esteem and learning teamwork and discipline. It's not about winning but learning how to compete. Deal with adversity. As many nba & nfl stars who's careers started wearing the Sweet Sweet Green & Gold, I don't understand how this could happen. Magic Johnson, the MSU & Laker star that did not attend Flint Northwestern, has donated the funds for the new cafeteria equipment & chairs for the school etc. For that I'd like to thank Magic Johnson & Flint Northwestern Alum, MSU star & NBA veteran Morris Peterson on the gifts to Flint Northwestern this past Thanksgiving. Sports put Flint, Michigan on the map back in the day. If it wasn't for sports, many area kids wouldn't have been able to attend college. I remember meeting Michigan Legend Coach Bo Schembechler when he was recruiting the #1 player in the nation at the time, Andre Rison. I remember the athletes gaining the notoriety from their play & it sparked

school pride. Supporting the school teams inspired the non sports playing students to do better in class. Many students got excited about attending college themselves from watching their classmates talk & decide on which college they plan on attending from sports. I remember the Boys & Girls Basketball team both going 28-0 winning state titles!! I remember My dad starting the boys and then the girls tennis team.. going 0-12 his first season to the next year going 7-5 and winning Coach of the year award, to retiring as a 7 time Tennis Head Coach of the year. With tennis, my father made an avenue to help get kids into college that otherwise may not have had the chance to attend by getting ull or partial scholarships for tennis! Even in my old age, I've worked my old \$\$\$ back into shape playing semi-pro tennis last year, just so I could coach and bring summer tennis back to the Northwest side of Flint to help the kids learn the game and stay active in my father's honor. I'm crushed for the city of Flint with the Flint Water Crisis still ongoing, but I've devastated for the kids on the Northwest side of Flint. Everyone seems to be content with the decision & excuses for it. I am not. I've been trying for 3 years to get the closed down Wilkins Elementary School to be the headquarters of the Ben Marshall Family Foundation,, were we are committed to inspiring the youth of Flint, Michigan through Education, Fitness, Farming & Gardening. We've had a plan in place to help our community ( <http://acure-foundation.yolasite.com/youth-group-activities.php>) just few is willing to assistance us help others that need it, and I.m baffled by it. I'm going to continue to seek assistance from people & companies on behalf The Marshall Family Foundation willing to work with us and help us bring sports back to Flint Northwestern High School.



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Ordinance No. 269BUENA VISTA CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
SAGINAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Date of Consideration for Adoption at regular board meeting on February 27, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BUENA VISTA CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
ESTABLISHING A BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

An Ordinance of Buena Vista Charter Township establishing a Beautification Committee of the Township to advise and assist the Township in creating a more beautiful and aesthetically appealing community because the Buena Vista Township Board of Trustees desires to engage the citizens of Buena Vista Township in enhancing the visual and aesthetic appeal of its community.

The Board of Trustees of Buena Vista Charter Township ordains as follows:

**Section 1. Title.**

This chapter shall be known and cited as the Charter Township of Buena Vista Beautification Committee Ordinance.

**Section 2. Establishment**

A. There is hereby establish a Beautification Committee for Buena Vista Charter Township. There shall be a minimum of seven (7) voting members of the Committee and who shall meet as provided in this article to consider, recommend and implement programs for the beautification of public spaces and for the increased use, expansion of and preservation of the Township's passive and active spaces.

**Section 3. Composition and term of office**

A. The composition of the membership of the Beautification Committee shall consist of the following:

- i) A Township trustee designated by the Township Supervisor to serve a one year term.
- ii) Six members to be appointed by the Supervisor. The initial appointment of members shall be two (2) members for a term of three (3) years, two (2) members for a term of two (2) years and two (2) members for a term of one (1) year. Successor members shall be appointed for two-year terms. Members shall be residents of Buena Vista Charter Township with expertise and knowledge pertinent to this Committee.

**Section 4. Compensation**

A. The committee members may be compensated for their services as provided by township board resolution. The planning commission may adopt bylaws relative to compensation and expenses of its members for travel when engaged in the performance of activities authorized by the township board, including, but not limited to, attendance at conferences, workshops, educational and training programs and meetings.





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