

THE MICHIGAN BANNER

Celebrating 16 years of Positive News



**Saginaw Promise
Accepting Scholarship
Applications**

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Leading in Diversity, Empowering Communities and Changing Lives www.themichiganbanner.com



LOCAL ORGANIZATION HIGHLIGHT: Boys and Girls Club of The Great lakes Bay Region

Community, pg 33



Valerie Jarrett, former senior adviser to President Obama, to keynote regional MLK event at SVSU

MLK Regional Celebration
Wed., January 23, 2019 • 7 p.m.
Curtiss Hall, Saginaw Valley State University

Keynote Speaker
Valerie Jarrett
Senior Advisor to President Obama and Assistant
to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs
and Public Engagement (2009-2017)

Saginaw Valley State University will welcome Valerie Jarrett, a former senior adviser to President Barack Obama, to deliver the keynote address during the 10th annual Great Lakes Bay Regional Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration at SVSU.

Jarrett will deliver her address Wednesday, Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. in the Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts. The event is free and open to the public.

Jarrett served as Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement from 2009-2017. She first entered

the White House with a diverse and unique background, having served in the private and public sector. Jarrett received her bachelor's degree from Stanford University in 1978 and her law degree from the University of Michigan in 1981. She then went on to serve as the chief executive officer of The Habitat Company in Chicago, chairman of the Chicago Transit Board, commissioner of Planning and Development, and deputy chief of staff for Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley.

Continues on pg 2, SVSU MLK Event

Cover Story, SVSU MLK Event



getty images

Throughout her time at the White House, Jarrett worked tirelessly to assemble elected officials, business and community leaders, and diverse groups of advocates behind efforts to strengthen and improve the lives of the American people.

Jarrett helped President Obama develop a broad coalition of partners to execute a vigorous agenda that campaigned to end sexual assault and to empower working families and promote early childhood education. She currently serves as a distinguished senior fellow at the University of Chicago Law School.

Jarrett joins a prestigious list of keynote speakers featured during the Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Celebration at SVSU. Most recently,

Karen Carter, the chief inclusion officer for The Dow Chemical Company, spoke in 2018. Former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder was the 2017 keynote speaker.

In addition to Jarrett's keynote address, the program will include the presentation of regional scholarship awards by the Bay Area, Midland Area and Saginaw community foundations to high school seniors who have embodied Martin Luther King's ideals.

Officials also will announce the winners of the Drum Major Award at the event, which recognizes people whose community involvement in the Great Lakes Bay Region serves to advance King's vision.

The event is sponsored in part by the Bay Area, Midland Area and Saginaw community foundations; Dow; Garber Automotive; Nexteer Automotive; UAW Region 1-D; local chapters of the NAACP; Delta College; SVSU and many others. A full list of sponsors is available online at www.svsu.edu/mlk.

Admission to the event is free of charge, but tickets are required. Tickets are available online at www.svsu.edu/mlk/tickets.

For more information about the event, please contact SVSU's Office of Diversity Programs at (989) 964-4068.

THE MICHIGAN BANNER
301 E Genesee Ave, Suite 201B
Saginaw, MI 48607
989.992.2600
publisherthemichiganbanner@gmail.com

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

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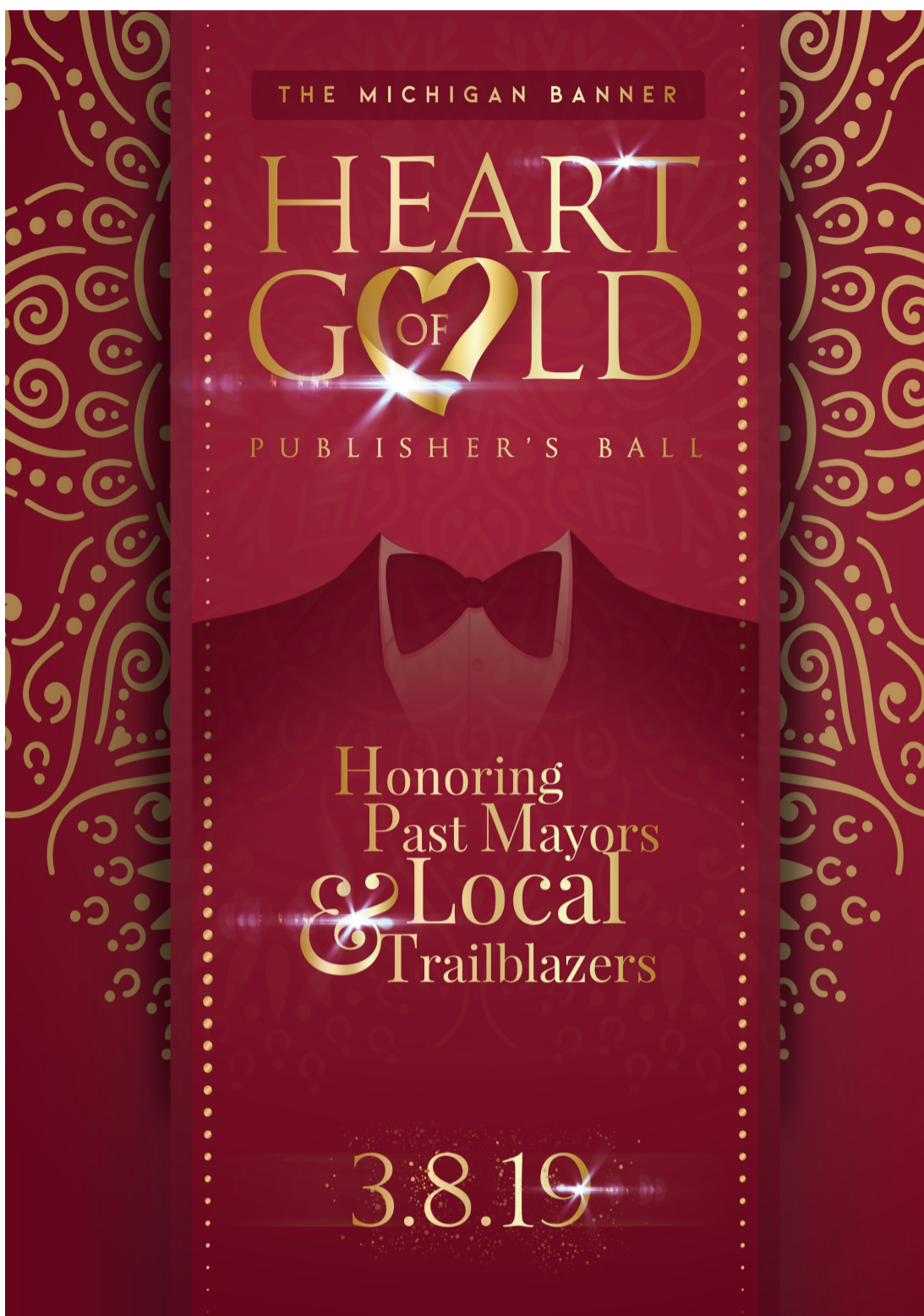
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The Michigan Banner operates and serves as a print and online media venue committed to educating, informing and enlightening our readership regarding events and news that directly and indirectly affect the communities regionally and globally. Furthermore,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

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

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE
Mailed or e-mailed
Preferred format: Jpeg or PDF

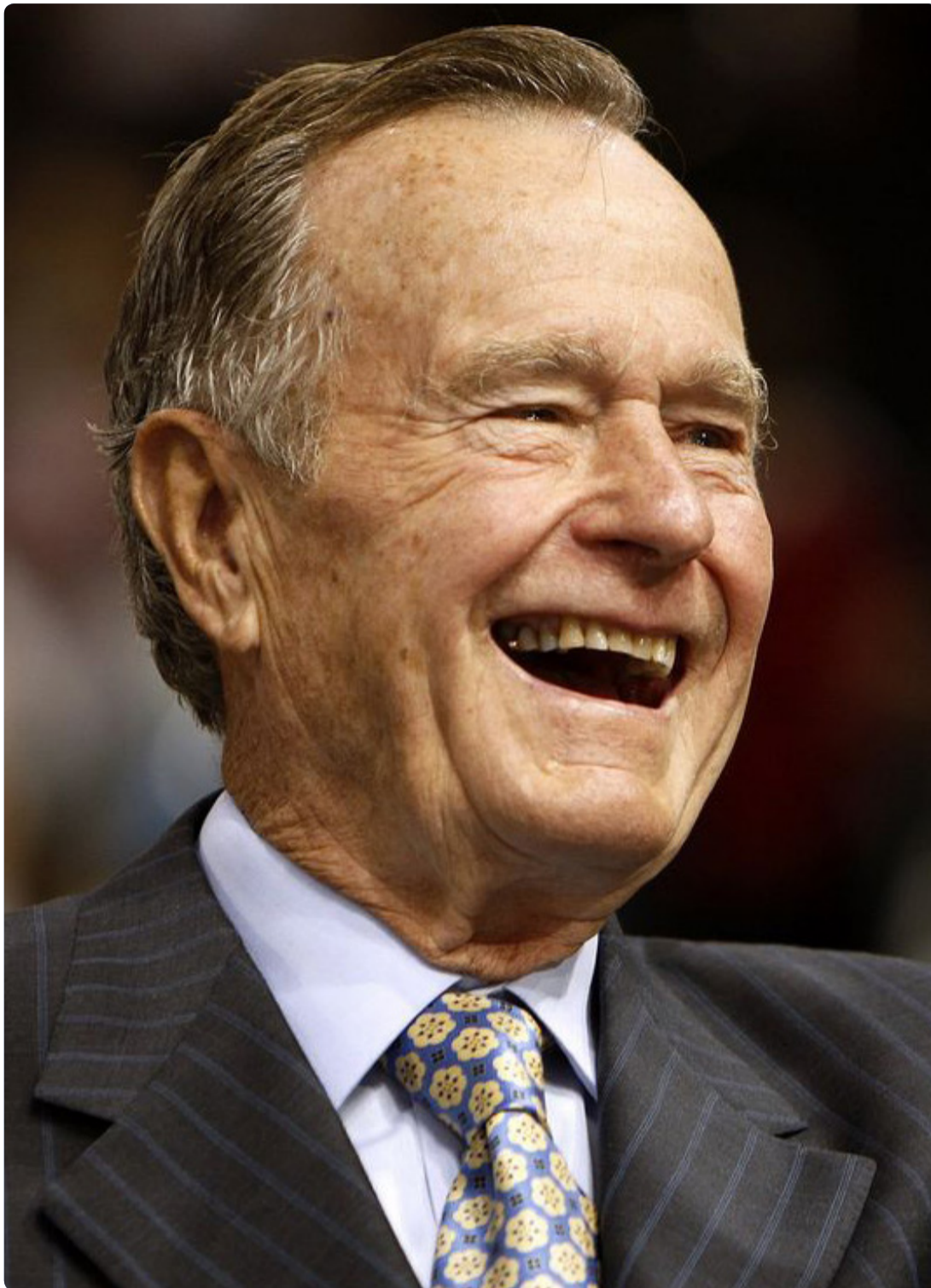
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President George H.W. Bush Remembered



Committee for the Preservation of the White House and helped establish the White House Endowment Trust, which continues to provide financial assistance for acquisitions, refurbishing, and conservation work in the White House collections.”

As president, Bush brought to the White House a wish for Americans to be “points of light” and make the United States “a kinder and gentler nation.” He created Points of Light, a foundation to promote the importance of volunteerism, a position that succeeding presidents have acknowledged and shared. Having come from a family with a tradition of public service, Bush felt the responsibility to make his contribution in times of war and peace.

Born in Milton, Massachusetts, on June 12, 1924, Bush became a student leader at Phillips Academy. He delayed his enrollment at Yale University during WWII to enlist in the armed forces on his 18th birthday. He went on to fly as one of the youngest pilots in the United States Navy, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for bravery in action after being shot down by Japanese antiaircraft fire and then rescued from the water by an American submarine.

In January 1945, Bush married Barbara Pierce. They had six children -- George, Robin (who died at age three), Jeb, Neil, Marvin, and Dorothy. Bush was father to the 43rd President, George W. Bush, only the second time a father and son have both served as presidents of the United States.

After a successful career in the oil industry in Texas, Bush followed his father and began a career in politics and public service. He served as a member of the United States Congress, candidate for United States Senate, ambassador to the United Nations, chairman of the Republican National Committee, chief of the U. S. Liaison Office in the People's Republic of China, and director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

In 1980, Bush lost the Republican nomination for president but was chosen as a running mate by Ronald Reagan, eventually becoming Vice President. In 1988, Bush won the Republican nomination for president and went on to become President of the United States from 1989 to 1993. He was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Obama in 2011.

Dec 01, 2018 Washington, D.C. — The White House Historical Association joins the nation in remembrance of and the character, prudence and leadership he brought to his role as 41st President of the United States.

Beginning Saturday, December 1, 2018, an official condolence book for George H.W. Bush will be available for the public to sign at the White House Visitor Center, located at 1450 Pennsylvania, Ave, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20230. The Center is open daily from 7:30a.m. – 4:00p.m.

“President Bush, along with First Lady Barbara Bush, deeply appreciated their opportunity to be stewards of the White House and understood the importance of preserving its rich history for future generations,” said Stewart McLaurin, President of the White House Historical Association. “They reactivated the





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For more information or to get involved, please visit www.samaritas.org, or call DeeDee DeVety at (248) 953 - 1944

THE LATINO BANNER

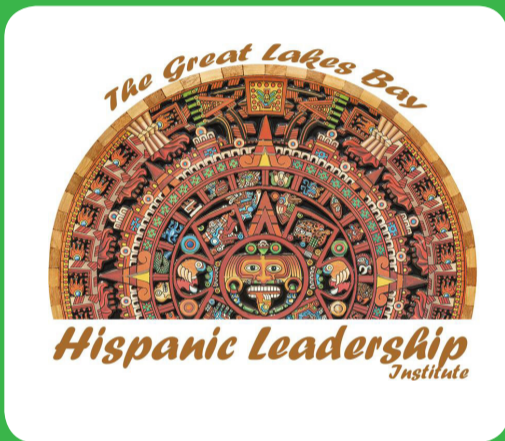
LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

Vamos Adelante



First we were Mexicans (Primero fuimos Mexicanos)

By José Antonio López



Great Lakes Bay
Hispanic Leadership
Institute Recruiting
New Members

LB Pg. 4

Submit your
news at
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courtesy photo

For those of us with Spanish Mexican-descent origins in Texas and the Southwest, the title above is a statement of fact.

The reason? The entire U.S. Southwest was once part of Mexico's northern territories.

When the U.S. took the land after the 1846-48 U.S.-Mexico War, our Mexicana/Mexicano ancestors were living in the conquered territory's towns and self-sustaining rancho communities.

That's why: (a) we (their descendants) continue to preserve our long heritage "on this side of the U.S.-Mexico border" — remaining "Mexican" strictly in a cultural sense; (b) is exactly why the present-day U.S. Mexico border is in the middle of "Old Mexico"; (c) it's the reason why most everything historically old in Texas and the

Southwest is named in Spanish; and (d) our Mexican-Native American character gives the Southwest its world-renowned spirit.

Yet, today our community is under attack due to the hostile immigration debate. That's because when a certain segment of U.S. mainstream society hears the word "Mexican", they automatically assume that it only refers to citizens of Mexico; ignoring that over 36 million U.S. citizens use the term as a heritage (historical) identifier, and not political allegiance. The difference between those two perceptions is discussed below, but first some background.

Continues om LB, pg 3, First we were Mexicans

Believe. Do.

When a community works together, anything is possible. That's why we strive to create opportunities through jobs, education, and promoting the responsible use of our technology.

That's why we proudly support the Michigan Banner and congratulate its team on the occasion of the Banner's 16th anniversary!



LB Cover Story, First we were Mexicans

When fellow Texan President Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) signed the Civil Rights Act on July 2, 1964, he explained the historic moment's meaning:

"Americans of every race and color have died in battle to protect our freedom... have worked to build a nation of widening opportunities. Now our generation of Americans has been called on to continue the unending search for justice within our own borders... All men are created equal, yet many Americans do not enjoy those rights because of the color of their skin. The reasons are deeply imbedded in history but it cannot continue. Our Constitution, the foundation of our Republic, principles of our freedom, and Morality forbid it. And the law I will sign tonight forbids it. ... Let us close the springs of racial poison. Let us pray for wise and understanding hearts. Let us lay aside irrelevant differences and make our nation whole."

While the epic legislation was mostly received with jubilation, not everyone was willing to equally extend "liberty and justice for all". Some southern states' legislators, once LBJ's political allies, weren't happy. Not surprisingly, they quit the president's party in protest.

To put President Johnson's legislation in perspective, he extended equality to members of racial/ethnic minority groups in all facets of life; civil/voting/housing/health/employment/education, etc. If you are female, in 1964 and 1968, President Johnson signed bills protecting women's rights in the workplace (hiring, promotion, and equal pay) that are still valid today.

The racism didn't go away. It became dormant until recently; revived by today's anti-immigrant hysteria. Blatantly, so-called white nativist hatred toward immigrants has spilled over to include African-descent and Hispanic U.S. citizens. That is, anyone perceived as "foreign" (different) than mainstream white society. (Incidentally, the label white nativists is a contradictory term, since if they're "white", their roots are immigrant Anglo-Saxon and/or of Nordic descent from Europe, not America.)

The result? A modern-day battle for equality is now upon us. Unimaginable just a few years ago, no one ever expected minorities to again worry about losing their civil rights, but here we are.

Thus, in reviewing the following points, think about the "racial poison" that President Lyndon

B. Johnson warned us about in 1964.

- African-descent citizens are more likely to disproportionately experience violence and death while in police custody. Their daily lives and voting rights are constantly threatened by intolerance.
- Muslim men, women, and children are likewise victims of hate.
- Sikh men, mistakenly thought by some white U.S. citizens as being from the Middle East, have been attacked for wearing religious turbans.
- Equally alarming, anti-Semitism incidents have steadily climbed for the last few years. Reaching a tragic peak, eleven Jewish worshippers were recently murdered while praying at a Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania synagogue.
- For the record, Native Americans have faced discrimination longer than any other group in the U.S. Still, bigotry continues. For example, Native Americans in North Dakota were targeted with absurd state-directed voter ID laws to discourage them from voting during the recent mid-term elections.

Closer to home (and the reason for this article), not since 1848, have Spanish Mexican-descent people of the Southwest found it more difficult to prove valid U.S. citizenship, even though they are descendants of the founders of Texas and Southwest.

As the title of this article implies, our ancestors were Mexicanas/Mexicanos first. What does that mean and why does it matter?

The answer is that early pioneers arriving in Mexico's most northeastern province of Texas came from population centers (Coahuila, Nuevo León, Nuevo Santander, etc.). As such, "Mexicanas/ Mexicanos" was the only national identity used for many years in Texas, even before the term "Tejana/Tejano" first appeared in the 1820s.

Incidentally, how old is the word Mexicana/ Mexicano? According to historian Hugh Thomas, it was already being used in Mexica pictograph documents to describe themselves before the 1519 Spanish arrival. That explains the reason why the most respected mapmakers in early 1500s Europe adopted the name "America Mexicana," whose northwestern border stretched

to Canada.

Regrettably, the U.S. antagonistic policy toward Mexico was crafted almost immediately after the 1846-48 war. While some supporters in the U.S. defended Mexico's sovereignty, the U.S. won the war and the Republic of Mexico lost over half of its sovereign land.

Politically, after the war, people living south of the current U.S.-Mexico border (and west of the Rio Grande in Texas) remained Mexican citizens. Conversely, their close-knit family members living on the land the U.S. had just taken from Mexico, became "estadounidenses" (United States citizens). Sadly for them, their reception wasn't friendly. That's because the country's prevailing anti-Mexican/Native American mood treated them as strangers in their own land.

It wasn't always that way. Three examples follow:

(1) President George Washington openly thanked Spanish General Bernardo de Gálvez and Mexican-born troops who helped the U.S. win its War of Independence (1775-1783);

(2) In 1811 at the White House, President Madison welcomed my ancestor José Bernardo Gutiérrez de Lara (later, first president of independent Texas), as a fellow American; and hailed Mexico as a sister American republic and trading partner.

(3) Some readers may be surprised to learn that Stephen F. Austin willingly sought to become a Mexicano. The record shows that he and his 300 immigrant families eagerly accepted becoming Mexicanas and Mexicanos in 1822 to begin new lives in Mexico.

Finally, a reminder. If you are of Spanish Mexican-descent, originate in the Southwest, and assume that you and/or your family aren't affected by the revived 1960s-style bigotry, think again. You are most definitely a target due to your name, the way you look, and/or speak.

However, you don't have to accept it. Don't be intimidated in defending your pioneer ancestors' heritage in Texas and Southwest. Don't let others define who we are.

Our long Spanish Mexican record speaks for itself. In President Thomas Jefferson's words, "In matters of style, swim with the current; in matters of principle, stand your ground."

Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute Recruiting New Members



Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute Alumni

facebook

The Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute is currently recruiting members for their prestigious leadership program. They are looking for individuals who have exemplified leadership qualities in their personal or professional environment and who are looking to expand their leadership skills as well as individuals who would be under the radar for traditional leadership programs.

The Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute provides individuals the opportunity to develop the skills and relationships to become effective leaders and provides a program that prepares and supports future visionary leaders who improve their lives and the community.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION

- Individuals, ages 21 to 50, male or female, who reside in and plan to stay in Great Lakes Bay Region (Saginaw, Bay, Midland Counties and Mt. Pleasant)
- Must be a U.S. Citizen.
- Must have a High School Diploma or GED minimum.
- Must show a willingness to learn and to be introduced to local community organizations and businesses.
- Individuals who have exemplified leadership

qualities in their personal or professional environment and who are looking to expand their leadership skills. Also, individuals who would be under the radar for traditional leadership programs.

- Must be able to attend classes/training once a month, 8 am – 5 pm. (Schedule is provided in advance).

COST

An initial deposit of \$40 is required from all individuals that are accepted in to the program and \$35 for your official GLBHLI Class Polo Shirt (Total Check of \$75 due) by January 18, 2019. Make check payable to: GLBHLI. The full cost of the program is supported by our sponsors and three major fund-raisers throughout the year.

MANDATORY MEETING & EVENTS REQUIRED:

- Participant must attend all meeting dates as listed in application. Failure to do so will be grounds for termination from the program. Meeting Dates as scheduled– (8:00am to 5:00 pm).
- Participant must complete 80 hours of Community Service prior to graduation from the program. Qualified hours are restricted

to United Way affiliate program.

- Participant must walk in the parade representing the group and work/participate in the GLBHLI fund-raising.
- Participant must submit by January 18 a \$40 registration deposit and \$35 polo shirt fee and In lieu of full registration fee: participant must sell a minimum of 30 tickets for Loons fundraiser, graduation fund-raiser and various other events, or you have the option of paying the equivalent up front.
- Participants must attend a minimum of four (4) LLEAD meetings prior to December 2017 and attend at least 3 Sponsor Volunteer Events.

**For additional Information contact
Monica B. Reyes at mbreyes@glbhispanicleadership.org**



Community Board

Submit your announcements and events at themichiganbanner.com/submit



"I'm so honored as a mother and an American right now! My oldest son Adam Banda Gonzalez II has been asked to honor our late president this morning in Washington for the funeral service!! He will be 1 of 30 airman! I'm so proud!!! Look for him he is the cute one!!!!"

- Debbie Renea Vasquez-Hinderliter

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

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2 weeks before each publication date of the 1st and 16th of each month. Submission Procedure: Mailed or e-mailed to the latinobanner@gmail.com. Preferred format: Jpeg or PDF



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FUNDRAISING GOOD TIMES

What a feasibility study can reveal

How brave are you, and what are you willing to learn and act on in order to grow your fundraising? If you have courage you may be ready for a fundraising feasibility study.

If your nonprofit is considering a major fundraising campaign in the next 12 to 36 months now is the time to prepare for your feasibility study and define what you want to learn from it.

What is a feasibility study? It is a series of interviews with individuals who can give or influence resources and major gifts for your organization or institution. A feasibility study is conducted when planning for a major campaign. It is typically conducted by consultants on behalf of your nonprofit. A draft "case for support" is used during the process. This draft provides interviewees with information about what your proposed campaign; during the interview they will be asked questions about the case.

The good and the bad. A feasibility study is about more than fundraising. And, reading the feasibility report will show your organization what it is made of. No report will be all good news. In most cases you will learn some things you don't want to know. But, if you put on your "grown up pants" you will find a way to deal with the good and the bad, and use it all to grow.

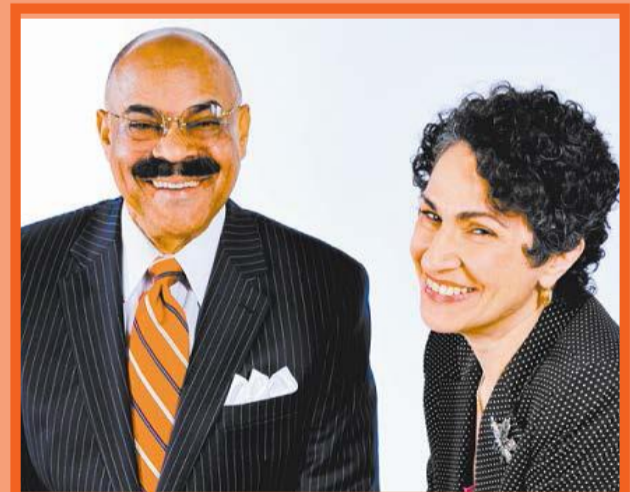
Our experience conducting feasibility studies has shown us that this can be the beginning of a great growth opportunity. Here are 10 examples of what you can learn.

1. **Funds available.** Learn the range of funds that interviewees would be willing to consider giving if you were to launch your proposed campaign. You need this information before you make a move.
2. **Strength of your case.** Interviewees will share their emotional response, and their questions about facts presented, and goals or new programs proposed. You will learn what resonates and what can be improved.
3. **Involvement.** Do people care? Are they willing to roll up their sleeves and get involved with your program?
4. **Programs.** Do your programs meet current and anticipated community needs?
5. **Readiness.** You may think you are to embark on a major fundraising campaign, but there may be things on the horizon that you cannot see or have not considered. People will let you know.
6. **Competition.** Interviewees will share what's going on in the philanthropic marketplace and how you rank.
7. **Priorities.** Do people relate to your fundraising priorities? Do they understand these? Do they support them? They will let you know.
8. **Strengths and weaknesses.** This information can be invaluable. If you picked

your interviewee pool wisely you will gain guidance that will advance your work in ways you've never imagined.

9. **Relationships.** A study will reveal those who care, and who has questions about your impact, management and legitimacy.
10. **Leadership.** You will learn of potential endorsers, fundraising volunteers, potential board members, and – as stated earlier – donors and funders.

Fundraising is 90% preparation: your feasibility study is key to your organizational and campaign success.



Mel and Pearl Shaw | Courtesy Photo

HEALTH

Ascension St. Mary's celebrates new name/logo, will host Annual Light up a Life Campaign



courtesy photo

New Name, Logo

Associates from Ascension St. Mary's Hospital gathered last week to celebrate the hospital's new name, new logo, bless the care teams and facilities and recommit to the Ascension mission of providing care to all the organization is privileged to serve, especially those who are most vulnerable.

The new logo integrates the Christian trinity symbol with an "A." The logo is a visible sign of a call to unity, community and love as a healing ministry of Jesus. The three colors each represent the hospital's mission: green for growth, blue for health and purple for compassion.

Annual Light up a Life Campaign

Ascension St. Mary's Foundation will host its annual Light up a Life campaign during the month of December. This annual holiday campaign is an opportunity to remember those who were such an important part of our life during the holidays ... and throughout the year.

For a gift of \$20, a white light will be illuminated in honor or memory of your loved one. For a gift of \$35, a commemorative ornament will be mailed to an address of the purchaser's choice. Donations of \$125 will sponsor a tree in front of the hospital which

be illuminated in honor or memory of a loved one. A sign will be placed in front of the tree and notification of your gift will be sent to the address of your choice.

A Remembrance Reception will be held on December 18 in the Ascension St. Mary's Hospital Health Education Center beginning at 5:30 pm.

Proceeds from Ascension St. Mary's Foundation Light Up a Life will support cancer patients on their journey through treatment and recovery. For more information on Light up a Life campaign, call at 989-907-8300.



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CAN Council of Saginaw, 1 of 19 Employers receive Healthy Michigan Worksite Awards

CAN Council of Saginaw is one a nineteen employers to receive the Healthy Michigan Worksite Awards for wellness practices

Nineteen employers were awarded Healthy Michigan Worksite Awards by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) for investing in wellness programs designed to improve the health of their workforce.

This new award is part of the Designing Healthy Environments at Work program and for the first time, recognizes employers across the state that have committed to enhancing the culture of health within their workplace by focusing on the work environment along

with organizational practices and policies. This effort is part of Gov. Rick Snyder’s Michigan Health and Wellness 4 x 4 Plan, which lays out strategies for reducing obesity and improving health and wellness.

“These organizations have established outstanding worksite wellness programs that serve as models for other Michigan businesses that seek to develop and enhance a culture of health,” said MDHHS Director Nick Lyon. “Their efforts are paying off in improved employee wellbeing, more effective management of healthcare costs and the ability to attract and retain top talent.”

Awards are presented to worksites meeting the criteria for bronze, silver or gold status. To be awarded bronze, companies had to complete a Designing Healthy Environments at Work Assessment; complete at least one action for improvement; and submit a success story. To receive silver, awardees also had to receive an assessment score between 60 and 79 percent and complete at least two actions for improvement. Gold awardees had to score 80 percent or more on their assessment and complete at least four actions for improvement.



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Michigan Becomes First State to Lower Acceptable Blood Lead Levels for Workers

According to the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA), an important step toward keeping Michigan workers safe from lead exposure in the workplace was realized this week with the filing of updated administrative rules that lower acceptable blood lead levels, replacing decades-old standards. The new rules became effective December 11, 2018.

“Fact-based rule promulgation is an essential element of MIOSHA’s mission to protect the safety and health of Michigan workers,” said MIOSHA Director Bart Pickelman. “These updated worker blood lead levels reflect today’s knowledge and are considered necessary to safeguard employees in this great state from the hazards of lead.”

The work environment can be the greatest source of lead exposure for adults; a few examples of work activities that may result in exposure to lead:

- abrasive blasting of bridges, overpasses or water towers
- manufacturing or refurbishing batteries
- demolition or remodeling activities
- working in gun ranges

The diagnosis and treatment of lead exposure is based on the blood lead level (BLL) measured in micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood ($\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$). Former MIOSHA rules allowed workers to have BLLs of 50 - 60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ before they had to be removed from lead exposure. Under the former rules, they could return to work when their BLL was below 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$. The new MIOSHA rules require that employees be removed from lead exposure when their BLL reaches 30 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ and may not return to work involving lead exposure until their BLL is below 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$. The average BLL in the general population is 1.12 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$.

Existing federal OSHA standards for lead – as well as the previous MIOSHA standards for lead -- are based on scientific information that is more than 35 years old. Federal OSHA plans to issue an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on BLLs for Medical Removal in 2019 and other state OSHA plans



courtesy photo

like Michigan are currently in the process of updating their rules.

MIOSHA was approached by members of the Michigan Occupational and Environmental Medical Association (MOEMA) with a proposal to lower existing limits for worker lead exposure. In response, an advisory committee composed of representatives from industry, labor, management, construction, and health/medicine was tasked with drafting rule revisions for consideration by the department. A public hearing on the proposed rule revisions was held on August 3, 2018.

“We can say with pride that Michigan now leads the nation in protecting workers from harmful lead exposure on the job by being the first state in the nation to update its standards to dramatically reduce allowable blood lead levels,” said MOEMA President

Dr. Michael Berneking. “We hope that other states and the federal government will look to Michigan as an example and work toward making changes in the lead standard in their jurisdictions to safeguard the working populations”.

The revised rules were filed with Michigan’s Office of the Great Seal on December 11, 2018, with an immediate effective date. MIOSHA’s enforcement divisions are implementing a 60-day temporary stay on the enforcement of new blood lead levels in order to allow employers time to ensure compliance with the new requirements.

The newly revised rules will be published on MIOSHA’s website with further notification going out through social media and MIOSHA newsletters.

Isabella Citizens for Health Announces Payoff of \$1.2M Line of Credit from McLaren Central Michigan



courtesy photo

Isabella Citizens for Health, Inc. (ICH), a Federally Qualified Health Center providing primary health care to residents of Isabella County and surrounding communities, has successfully paid off its nearly \$1.2 million line of credit from McLaren Central Michigan.

What began as a \$20,000 loan in November of 2010, grew into a \$1.2 million interest-free line of credit by 2015 extended by McLaren Central Michigan to ICH to establish a community health center in Isabella County. The McLaren Central Michigan Board of Directors approved the financial support of this initiative as a strategic vision for ensuring future access to care for all residents of central Michigan, regardless of insurance status.

“In 2010, a small group of concerned residents got together to see how the community could ensure access to primary healthcare to all residents of the county. McLaren Central Michigan, under the leadership of then President and CEO Bill Lawrence and the Hospital Board, was also dedicated to this cause and joined the community group to form Isabella Citizens for Health, Inc. Without the initial loan from McLaren Central Michigan, the

community health center might not have gotten off the ground”. Stated Steven Berkshire, EdD, President of the ICH Board of Directors and one of its founding members. “On behalf of the ICH Board, its providers and staff, we want to thank McLaren Central Michigan and, in particular, Bill Lawrence for their vision and belief in our endeavor.”

The funds enabled the center to begin operations with just one physician in 2013. In 2015, ICH received its official designation from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as a Federally Qualified Health Center. HRSA is an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The center’s focus is to improve a person’s overall health and offer a variety of services not typically found in a medical office such as integrated nursing case management, outpatient therapy and counseling, and substance use services. In addition, ICH provides prescription assistance, transportation assistance, and a sliding fee discount for under- and uninsured patients. All of these services are available to people of all ages regardless of insurance status.

Today, the health center is the primary care medical home to more than 6500 individuals and will provide approximately 22,000 patient medical visits in 2018. ICH employs nine primary care providers and two outpatient therapists in two office locations in the Central Michigan Health Park in Mt. Pleasant. In 2019, ICH will move into its new 24,000 sq. ft. medical building which includes space for additional services including onsite lab and pharmacy.

“We congratulate Isabella Citizens for Health on their success,” said Martin Tursky, current President/CEO of McLaren Central Michigan. “The Hospital is proud to have played an integral part in assisting with the formation of the FQHC, and have fully supported their efforts to establish themselves as a leading healthcare provider in this area. This is a great accomplishment for them, and we look forward to continuing our positive working relationship in the years to come.”

Isabella Citizens for Health, Inc. is one of 39 FQHCs in Michigan and 1400 FQHCs across the United States.

BUSINESS & WEALTH

United Financial Credit Union Introduces UFirst Financial



Pictured from Left to Right: Isaac Zimmer; Partner at Michigan Valley Insurance Agency, Richard Marotzke; President/CCO at RichMark Private Wealth Management and Barbara Appold; CEO/President of United Financial Credit Union.

United Financial Credit Union is pleased to announce UFirst Financial. UFirst Financial is a new service offered between United Financial Credit Union, Michigan Valley Insurance Agency and RichMark Private Wealth Management. With this new relationship, the Credit Union is now able to offer their members a full range of additional Wealth Management, Investment and Insurance products and services.

Richard R Marotzke is President of RichMark Private Wealth Management a state Registered Investment Advisory Firm and one of the Co-Owner's of Michigan Valley Insurance Agency a state licensed Property and Casualty Agency. He has 13 years experience in the financial industry

serving clients needs through fee based advising. Marotzke is able to provide members with a personalized financial plan in multiple different areas; including Estate and Financial Planning, Tax Management, Investment Management and Retirement Strategies. RichMark has locations in Frankenmuth and Saginaw to conveniently serve their clients. Marotzke lives in the Great Lakes Bay Region, with his wife Joanne, who is a 5th Grade teacher at Auburn Elementary School. They have two children that attend Valley Lutheran High School. Marotzke has also served as the president for the Saginaw Township Youth Football program and has coached High School Football.

Isaac Zimmer, who is part owner of Michigan Valley Insurance Agency, has over 5 years experience in the insurance field. Isaac is able to provide members with a wide range of insurance products; including Property, Home, Auto, Life and Health Insurance. Zimmer lives in Reese with his wife Nicci. He helps coach basketball at Reese High School and also played football at Saginaw Valley State University, where he received his degree.

UFirst Financial is based out of United Financial Credit Unions main office at 4685 State Street in Saginaw. Marotzke and Zimmer will both be available for appointments.



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Catholic Federal Credit Union Appoints Diane Fong as a Board of Director



courtesy photo

Catholic Federal Credit Union is pleased to announce the appointment of Diane Fong to its Board of Directors, following the retirement of long-serving director Mr. C. Patrick Kaltenbach.

Ms. Fong is currently the President & CEO of the Bay Area Community Foundation. In combination with her role at BACF and her demonstrated commitment to community building and philanthropy, she will bring a wealth of expertise to the Board that includes strategic planning, research and evaluation and media and communications.

"I have been a long-time proponent of credit unions and a member of Catholic Federal Credit Union," said Diane Fong. "Catholic Federal Credit Union is committed to the communities it serves, provides services and educational offerings to improve the well-being of its members and supports area youth through scholarships and financial literacy programs. I am honored to be able to serve my fellow credit union members on the Board of Directors."

Ms. Fong also volunteers her time with several organizations, including the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Nominating Committee, Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance Quality of Life Council, Blue Cross Blue Shield Community Advisory Council.

"Diane's knowledge and skills will add great value to the Board of Directors and her past involvement with the "Run for Your Heart Community Races" is a true testament of her commitment to her community," said President & CEO Alan Watson.

Catholic Federal Credit Union is a full-service financial institution offering loans, savings accounts and checking accounts. The credit union has locations in Bay City, Essexville, Saginaw and Vassar in Michigan.

Graham Construction Announces Acquisition of Florida General Contracting Company

Graham Construction Corp. of Saginaw and southern Florida is announcing its acquisition of Walker Design and Construction of Boca Raton, Florida. Walker is a leading design-build general contracting company serving south and central Florida for over 40 years. Divisions within Walker specialize in pre-engineered metal buildings and specialized aluminum fabrication/erection.

For over 30 years, Graham Construction has provided exceptional construction services throughout Michigan and has become an industry leader. The acquisition of Walker Design and Construction will continue Graham's mission in its commitment to excellence and exceeding clients' expectations.

"Our continued expansion in Florida allows us to provide products, services, additional professionals and economies of scale to the Great Lakes Bay area market and the state as a whole," said Graham Construction President Grady Graham. "Our mission as a company is to provide the best possible service by employing ingenuity, top personnel and experience. The acquisition of Walker Design gives us new and expanded ways to continue to serve our customers effectively."

Like Graham Construction, Walker Design and Construction is a full-service general contracting company that has erected millions of square feet of manufacturing and storage facilities, hospitals, schools, retail centers, agricultural facilities, sports complexes, business offices and more. In addition, Walker is one of Florida's largest contractors for pre-engineered metal buildings, manufactured Butler Building Systems.

Graham Construction's ability to grow and expand to new markets is not only seeded in client satisfaction but also their loyal employees. Graham's success has been largely attributable to the fact that their employees have been with the company on average for 14 years.

Sean White has been promoted to Vice

President of Operations at Graham Construction. White is a graduate of the Michigan State University School of Construction Management and has worked for Graham Construction for more than 13 years. Sean started out as a laborer in 2005 and has worked through the ranks as a carpenter, project engineer, manager and estimator. Since joining Graham Construction, White has estimated and managed several notable projects including Central Michigan University's Grawn Hall and Theunissen Stadium, several projects at Saginaw Valley State University, and the Marriott Hotel in Albion.

"Graham Construction is continuously looking for ways to expand and improve our contracting services to meet the evolving needs of our market," White said. "I think that our vision and our top-notch workforce is what sets us apart."

Patrick Graham launched Graham Contracting Corp. in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, in 2016. He has been appointed Vice President of Walker Design and Construction and will be working with Lee Walker, former owner and transition President. Patrick Graham is a graduate of Purdue University and holds dual Bachelor of Science degrees in construction management and building demolition. Patrick started out as a laborer in 2003 and worked through the ranks as a laborer, carpenter, project engineer, manager and estimator. Upon graduation, Patrick worked for Fort Lauderdale-based Baker Concrete, the largest concrete contractor in the world, estimating and managing several notable projects including the tallest building in Fort Lauderdale 100 Las Olas and the Hard Rock Cafe and Hotel in Miami. He continues to be involved in Graham Michigan.

"Sean and Patrick, along with current Graham managers Brooke Meunier and Matthew Kretz have the vision, dedication, education and experience to lead the Graham companies into the future while maintaining our commitment to excellence in customer satisfaction," said Grady Graham.

How Funding Black Businesses Can Help Bridge the Racial Wealth Gap



Vicktor Stevenson and Ariana Marbley pose in front of Stevenson's recently opened craft lemonade store Gourmonade | Photo by Ru'Lon Marbley

Richmond, California, native April Fenall didn't grow up with aspirations of becoming an entrepreneur. But upon moving from Sacramento back to the Bay Area in 2015, she couldn't find work. A past conviction—even though it had been expunged from her record—and severe scoliosis made it difficult to find gainful employment. So she became an entrepreneur out of necessity.

"I wasn't able to show up as my complete self," Fenall said, referring to her struggle to integrate into the workforce. "And I made an assumption that other people were probably encountering the same thing, of having all of these different identities that make up a whole person but not being able to show up as that whole person because of embarrassment or judgment."

Fenall realized she had the potential to become a business owner and to hire others struggling to secure steady work. But she lacked the capital necessary to get started. The San Francisco Bay Area has the highest cost of living of all large metropolitan areas in the U.S. The median price of a single-family home in San Francisco sits at nearly \$1.6 million, while the median monthly rent is \$3,500—the highest in the world.

But this year, Fenall launched her delivery service, Piikup, with the assistance of a loan

from the Runway Project Oakland, a nonprofit incubator that provides funding and a support network for Black entrepreneurs looking to launch and sustain successful businesses.

The Runway Project offers small business owners five-year, collateral-free loans of up to \$25,000. For the first 18 to 24 months, depending on the size of the loan, repayments are interest-only at 4 percent. This is so that borrowers can build a steady stream of revenue during the initial startup period. Payments increase to include the principal afterward, when a company would be generating more revenue. There are no penalties for paying off loans early.

Runway Project founder Jessica Norwood describes the initiative as a response to generations of racist policies, such as redlining and housing discrimination, that has deprived Black communities of the wealth collectively maintained by White people.

In the 2017 report "The Road to Zero Wealth," researchers from the Institute for Policy Studies predicted that if the racial wealth divide remains unaddressed, Black household wealth—defined as the sum of one's financial assets rather than income—will fall to zero by 2053, while White household wealth is projected to rise to \$137,000

by that same year. The current median net worth of White families is more than 12 times higher than that of Black families, and that disparity widens by nearly 69 times when durable goods such as electronics, cars, and furniture are removed from the picture.

"When you see those numbers, you realize in short order that [Black people] don't have the kind of friends and family that can put capital into their businesses," Norwood said. "It starts to create this narrative that Black businesses aren't as strong competitively as other businesses and that the entrepreneurs aren't prepared enough."

One essential detail often left out of the entrepreneurial narrative, Norwood says, is that business owners typically lean on a network of family and friends for startup capital. That financial support system isn't as readily available to Black entrepreneurs as it is to groups with more collective wealth.

The Runway Project, which was founded in 2016, has now loaned to a dozen business owners—ranging from chefs to web designers—for its pilot program. The project spent its first year raising philanthropic donations and investments, many of which were made in the form of \$500-minimum certificates of deposit opened with Self-Help Federal Credit Union, a community development financial institution.

CDFIs are private financial institutions that provide affordable lending to underserved and low-wealth communities. Self-Help's client base is 75 percent people of color with a significant portion living below the poverty line, according to investment associate Annie McShiras. CDs for the Runway Project mature after five years, earning between 1.8 and 2.6 percent interest. The deposits' principal goes toward the Runway Project's loans for business owners.

Though the lending protocol for the Runway Project outwardly mirrors that of applying for a standard bank loan, borrowers' credit ratings have no bearing on their eligibility for a loan. Defaulted loans are not reported to the credit bureaus and all losses are recovered from Runway's collateral fund. This way, Runway's borrowers don't have to put up their own assets as collateral.

Continues on pg 22, Black Businesses

Cont. from pg 21, Black Businesses

“That allows for an entrepreneur to be the great entrepreneur that they can be without that being involved in all of this,” Norwood explained. “There’s already a lot of trauma inside of not being able to repay something in general, and it isn’t the way we’d like to be in community with folks.”

Kate Poole, a 31-year-old investment adviser and early Runway Project donor, got into local investing work a decade ago after inheriting wealth. She, along with a larger movement of other rich millennials, is aiming to redistribute the top 1 percent of wealth by putting capital into organizations working toward economic justice.

“At first, I was just divesting from mining companies or Exxon and these other extractive industries,” she said. “I thought I had it figured out that I was going to move my money off of Wall Street and onto Main Street.” But then, after she attended a Resource Generation conference, Poole said, she “started thinking about the history of wealth accumulation with a reparations lens and what might be owed to communities that wealth has been extracted from.”

Poole and her business partner recently opened Chordata Capital, an investment advisory firm that works with people who want to explicitly invest in racially and economically conscious enterprises. The enthusiasm to start such investment portfolios exists, Poole said, but many wealthy people need guidance regarding how and where to make the biggest impact. For her, supporting initiatives that place capital directly into the hands of those who need it is pivotal.

About 80 percent of Black business owners surveyed by Guidant Financial in 2017 reported a lack of financial resources as the No. 1 challenge to successfully launching and operating a business. Runway Project organizers are looking to expand the program into four more markets within the next year, while continuing to fund Oakland: Chicago, the Washington, D.C., metro area, Atlanta, and Memphis.

After being denied loans by four banks, Ariana Marbley, 33, almost gave up on her dream of opening Esscents of Flowers, a mobile floral retailer.

“It felt like the business was going to fail,” Marbley said. “I got into a little bit of a funk and just felt like maybe it’s not meant to work.”

Before the Runway Project, Marbley and several other Runway participants worked on business plans and marketing strategies with Uptima



Ariana Marbley prepares a bouquet of flowers in Jack London Square in Oakland, where small business owners can sell goods and services every second Saturday of the month | Photo by Rhett Jones.

Business Bootcamp, an Oakland based mentorship network for up-and-coming entrepreneurs. Though it was clear that she had a good shot at finally getting the support she needed, the prospect of actually becoming a business owner was intimidating.

“It took me until the deadline of the application to turn it in because I was afraid that it could actually work—like this could actually become a thing,” Marbley said. “As an entrepreneur, you feel like you’re alone a lot of times. You’re faced with making all of the big decisions with your business, and they’re just there to remind you that you don’t have to do it by yourself.”

But while the Runway Project has cultivated a strong sense of camaraderie and support within its network, entrepreneur and Runway Project borrower Victor Stevenson says there are still some outside challenges. Mere days after opening his craft lemonade stand Gourmonade in San Francisco in the summer of 2018, Stevenson was confronted by police as he tended to the store’s security system. Someone in the neighborhood had erroneously reported a burglary.

“The fact that I’m Black and doing business in a predominately White neighborhood, I feel that. It’s just a part of being there,” Stevenson said. “There are a ton of people that don’t like the fact

that I’m there but that’s just going to have to be their problem.”

He also added that he knows other Black entrepreneurs who avoid publicly associating themselves with their businesses, lest they alienate clients. Furthermore, Stevenson frequently contends with purportedly would-be customers criticizing his prices.

“The same people that walk on by my \$8 lemonade stand will go down the street and pay \$20 for a salad,” Stevenson said. “So the money’s not the issue—it’s whatever they believe in.”

But notwithstanding the naysayers, Stevenson has remained focused on building Gourmonade up to its full potential. Now that the logistics to getting started are out of the way, he’s looking into ways to maximize the business’s social impact on the surrounding community.

“You know how people are like, ‘Oh, let’s raise money for the dolphins?’ I want to raise money for kids in the neighborhood. Especially the children of families that have been affected by police brutality.”

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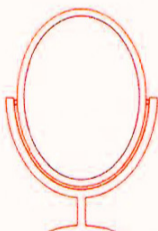
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EDUCATION

Saginaw Promise Accepting Scholarship Applications



courtesy photo



The Saginaw Promise is making an investment in the future of Saginaw and in the lives of its students through postsecondary education. The Saginaw Promise is an organization working to affect positive change in Saginaw through a “residence based” scholarship; a benefit for families who live in Saginaw.

The Saginaw Promise scholarship benefits students who reside in and graduate from a high school in the Saginaw Promise Zone (Saginaw,

Zilwaukee, Kochville and that area of Buena Vista designated to the Saginaw Public School District). The Saginaw Promise scholarship can be used at technical schools, community colleges and universities throughout Michigan for tuition and mandatory fees only and is renewable up to two years. Students must apply for the scholarship within two years of graduation and have up to six years from graduation to use the scholarship.

Since 2012, the Saginaw Promise has awarded \$780,902 in scholarships to 479 students who have attended 27 colleges, technical schools and universities throughout Michigan. The goal of the Saginaw Promise is for every graduating

student in Saginaw to earn a program certificate or degree.

How to apply: Students are required to complete the online Saginaw Community Foundation scholarship application at saginawfoundation.org/site/scholarships/ and FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>.

Application deadline is February 15, 2019. For information about the Saginaw Promise, programming or scholarship, visit www.saginawpromise.org or telephone (989) 755-0545.

SVSU forensics students impress judges; 9 qualify for national tournament



Saginaw Valley State University forensics students who competed at the Michigan Intercollegiate Speech League State Tournament at Eastern Michigan University Saturday, Dec. 8. Front row, from left: Courtney Perrou, Darios Henry, Josh Lloyd, and Ashley Murdock. Back row, from left: Tiler Jewell, Samantha White, Gina Kearly, Aubree Harrell, and Kennedy Bachman.

The Saginaw Valley State University forensic team continued to collect the rewards of its determined preparation, winning several honors at the Michigan Intercollegiate Speech League State Tournament at Eastern Michigan University Saturday, Dec. 8.

SVSU students claimed six of the 11 top novice awards, given to the student who places highest in an event and who has participated in fewer than six competitions. The SVSU team is largely comprised of novice competitors.

Three students qualified for the National Forensics Association competition in April 2019 by virtue of their impressive public speaking at the tournament:

- Aubree Harrell of Essexville and Josh Lloyd of Bay City, both communication and theatre majors, earned top novice as well as second place for their duo interpretation performance.
- Tiler Jewell, a communication and creative writing major from Midland, earned third place in persuasion.

Students on the SVSU forensics team say they have grown through the many hours of study and rehearsing, and from the team camaraderie.

“Coming from a theatrical background, I assumed I knew all that I needed to know about public speaking, and boy was I wrong!” Lloyd said. “Forensics has helped to broaden my horizons in public speaking, as well as creative thinking.”

Jewell said her involvement has helped her academically and socially.

“Forensics has given me a place to belong at SVSU when I was unsure of myself,” she said. “I’m proud of how far I’ve come and I’m even prouder of our amazing team.”

Six SVSU students qualified for nationals at previous tournaments. They are:

- Kennedy Bachman, a communication major from Grand Blanc
- Monae Hawthorne, a criminal justice major from Detroit

- Darios Henry, a communication major from Chesterfield Township
- Gina Kearly, a communication major from Midland
- Ashley Murdock, a communication major from Oxford
- Courtney Perrou, a communication major from Pinconning

Other SVSU students to place at the Michigan Intercollegiate Speech League State Tournament include:

- Samantha White, a communication major from North Branch, who earned second place in rhetorical criticism, along with earning top novice award in that event.
- Henry, who earned third place in dramatic interpretation and fourth place in persuasion. He also earned top novice awards in both events.
- Kearly, who earned third place in the POI event.
- Hawthorne, who earned fourth place in poetry and top novice award in that category.
- Perrou, who earned fourth place in prose as well as top novice award in that category.

SVSU finished third overall among the seven Michigan colleges and universities who competed at the event.

The SVSU forensics team is coached by Amy Pierce, associate professor of communication, and Ryan Rigda, lecturer of communication.

“Seeing students apply what they have learned in a competitive, academic environment is rewarding to me as a professor of communication,” Pierce said. “These tournaments provide an opportunity for academic debate and foster an environment of inclusivity. SVSU students contribute to this dialogue and serve as ambassadors for our university.”

The next forensics tournament for SVSU is MISL Novice States, held for students competing in their first six tournaments. That will be hosted by Northwood University Saturday, Feb. 16.

Academic Achievement Focus of Federal Grants to 72 Michigan School Districts



courtesy photo

LANSING — Seventy-two school districts statewide are receiving nearly \$4.5 million in grants to increase academic achievement through high-quality educator instruction and administrator leadership, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) announced today.

Under the Teacher and Leader Instruction Support Competitive Grant Program, \$4,482,842 in federal Title II, Part A funding is being dispersed to 72 local districts and public school academies (PSAs) across Michigan.

“I’m very pleased that this funding will help improve the skills of our state’s teachers and administrators and support our plan to make Michigan a Top 10 education state in 10 years,” Interim State Superintendent Sheila Alles said. “Ultimately, it is the students who will benefit from our goal of growing a workforce of highly-qualified teachers and administrators.”

Specifically, Alles said, one of the plan’s strategic goals supports efforts to develop, support, and sustain a high-quality, prepared, and collaborative education workforce.

Title II, Part A allows grant recipients to use the federal funds creatively to address challenges to teacher quality, whether they concern teacher preparation and qualifications of new teachers; recruitment and hiring; professional development; teacher retention; or the need for more capable principals and assistant principals to serve as effective school leaders.

In return, the districts are expected to see improvements in student academic achievement.

“High-quality professional development” meets the criteria contained in the definition of professional development in Title IX, Section

9101(34) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

Professional development includes activities that:

- improve and increase teachers’ knowledge of academic subjects and enable teachers to become highly qualified;
- are an integral part of broad, school-wide and district educational improvement plans;
- give teachers and principals the knowledge and skills to help students meet challenging state academic standards;
- improve classroom management skills;
- are sustained, intensive, and classroom-focused and are not one-day or short-term workshops;
- advance teacher understanding of effective instruction strategies that are based on scientifically-based research; and
- are developed with extensive participation of teachers, principal, parents, and administrators.

According to MDE’s Office of Educator Excellence, the 72 grant-receiving districts were chosen in three rounds from a pool of 182 applicants. The grant review protocol was based on an application rubric resulting in scores of 0-63.

The three rounds were funded by carry-over dollars from 2017-19 State-Wide Activities Funds. The first round was prioritized for academically-struggling Partnership Districts.

Grant recipients are:

Round 1:

- David Ellis Academy West, Detroit
- Henry Ford Acad School for Creative Studies, Detroit
- Detroit Leadership Academy
- Kalamazoo Public Schools
- Detroit Public Schools Community District
- Mildred C. Wells Preparatory Academy, Benton Harbor
- Eastpointe Community Schools
- Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System
- Ecorse Public Schools
- Saginaw Preparatory Academy
- Grand Rapids Public Schools
- William C. Abney Academy, Grand Rapids

Round 2:

- Caniff Liberty Academy, Hamtramck
- Hartford Public Schools

- Coloma Community Schools
- Johannesburg-Lewiston Public Schools
- Dryden Community Schools
- Manton Consolidated Schools
- Eau Claire Public Schools
- Mayville Community School District
- Essexville-Hampton Public Schools
- North Branch Area Schools
- Freeland Community School District
- Petoskey Public Schools
- George Crockett Academy, Detroit
- Schoolcraft Community Schools
- Gibraltar School District
- Summit Academy North, Romulus

Round 3:

- Alpena Public Schools
- Kentwood Public Schools
- Birch Run Area Schools
- Landmark Academy, Kimball
- Center Line Public Schools
- Livonia Public School District
- Charlton Heston Academy, Saint Helen
- Marysville Public Schools
- Chesaning Union Schools
- Mattawan Consolidated Schools
- Cover Public Schools
- Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy, Lansing
- Decatur Public Schools
- Oakland International Academy
- Detroit Collegiate High School
- Oscoda Area Schools
- Detroit Innovation Academy
- Otsego Public Schools
- East China School District
- Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
- Flex Tech High School-Novi
- Reese Public Schools
- Frankenmuth School District
- Saugatuck Community Schools
- Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools
- Southgate Community School District
- Godfrey-Lee Public Schools
- State Street Academy, Bay City
- Godwin Heights Public Schools
- St. Charles Community Schools
- Goodrich Area Schools
- Swan Valley School District
- Harper Woods School District
- Taylor Community Schools
- Holly Area School District
- Traverse City Area Public Schools
- Hope of Detroit Academy
- Van Buren Public Schools
- International Academy of Flint
- Vassar Public Schools
- International Academy of Saginaw
- Warren Consolidated Schools
- Jonesville Community Schools

Apply for a Delta College Scholarship!

Delta College is currently accepting scholarship applications for the Fall 2019 and Winter 2020 semesters. The deadline to apply is midnight on February 7, 2019.

To apply for a scholarship, visit delta.edu/scholarships to see all of the different Delta scholarships that are made possible by generous supporters in our community.

Scholarships are awarded based on two essay questions, as well as other criteria including G.P.A., community service activities, chosen field of study and financial need.

Some of the scholarships require you complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and some of the scholarships do not. However, it may be in your best interest to fill out a FAFSA regardless, which can be found online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Last academic year, 538 students received privately funded scholarships totaling \$600,000. Not to mention, community organizations and associations supplied scholarships to 460 different students adding an additional total of \$623,000.

"Receiving a Delta scholarship surprised me and made me very happy to be able to come to a school that I really wanted to come to," said Delta nursing student and 2018 scholarship recipient, McKenna Fluder.

If you have any questions about the different scholarships or the applications process please feel free to contact the Delta College Foundation Office at 989-686-9224 or foundation@delta.edu for more info.





Sabrina Beeman-Jackson

Saginaw ISD Head Start/Early Head Start
Program Director

About Saginaw ISD HE/EHS

Established in 1965, Head Start promotes school readiness for children, ages three to five, in low-income families by offering educational, nutritional, health, social and other services.

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.

Early Head Start, launched in 1995, provides support to low-income infants, toddlers, pregnant

women and their families.

EHS programs enhance children's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development; assist pregnant women to access comprehensive prenatal and postpartum care; support parents' efforts to fulfill their parental roles; and help parents move toward self-sufficiency.

Together Head Start and Early Head Start have served tens of millions of children and their families.

At Saginaw ISD Head Start our attentive staff is available Monday through Friday to answer all your questions and make every effort to ensure you are 100 percent satisfied.

Saginaw ISD Head Start
Claytor Administrative
Building
3200 Perkins Street
Saginaw, MI 48601
Phone 989.752.2193
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
Saturday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM
Sunday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM

For additional information concerning
Saginaw ISD Head Start visit:
www.saginawheadstart.org

Source: www.saginawheadstart.org

“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.

“Our mission is to provide high quality services, developing school readiness and family empowerment for prenatal to age five children and families by working in partnership with parents and the community.”
-Saginaw ISD HE/EHS

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COMMUNITY

Bring in the New Years at Midnight on Main



facebook.com

MIDLAND, Mich. - The countdown is officially on for the midnight ball drop in Midland!

The Great Lakes Loons and Sound Productions are excited to announce that Midnight on Main will once again be held at Dow Diamond to ring in 2019. This year's party will be on Monday, December 31, with doors opening at 8 p.m.

"We're happy to be back at Dow Diamond for another year, especially with the success of the VIP area in the Great Lakes Reserve last year," owner of Sound Productions Jim Paetschow said. "The Rock Show is a great local band with a great local following. We're encouraging people to buy their tickets early

with the expectation that the event will be sold out."

General admission tickets are \$25 and will be sold right until midnight on New Year's Eve. VIP tickets are \$125 each and include drinks, strolling dinner, hors d'oeuvres, and access to the VIP area, sponsored by Downtown Midland, in the Great Lakes Reserve. VIP tickets will be sold until 2 p.m. on December 31.

All tickets are on sale now at the Dow Diamond box office and online at Loons.com. Guests must be 21 years of age or older.

Dow Diamond's concourse will be transformed into two separate nightclubs

featuring live music and DJ's, along with a lounge for watching the night's biggest sporting events. Sound Productions will be providing the hottest dance music, as well as an amazing sound and light show. The Rock Show be performing live inside the enclosed concourse. The event will feature cash bars stocked with beer, wine and mixed drinks. Food will also be available for purchase.

The box office will open at 5 p.m. on the day of the event and will remain open throughout the night for attendees to purchase tickets.

Parking will be free and bus shuttles will be available for transportation following the event to and from Dow Diamond's rear parking lot. A coat check will be available.

Local Organization Highlight:

Boys and Girls Club of The Great lakes Bay Region

What is the Boys and Girls Clubs?

Boys & Girls Clubs are a safe place to learn and grow – all while having fun. They are a place where great futures are started each and every day and we offer life-changing programs to youth between the ages of 6 to 18 years old. Members have access to programs in five core areas: Character & Leadership; Education & Career; Health & Life Skills; The Arts; Sports, Fitness & Recreation. These programs promote and enhance members' sense of accomplishment and ability to make positive, healthy life choices.

In many communities, family situations don't allow for parents to be as involved in their children's lives as they'd like to. Boys and girls are left to find their own recreation in unsupervised manners. Our community is no exception. An increasing number of children are at home with no adult care or supervision. Young people need to know that someone cares about them. Boys & Girls Clubs of the Great Lakes Bay Region offers youth safe outlets to play, to learn and to grow. We also provide youth the opportunity to have ongoing relationships with caring, adult professionals.

We offer hope and opportunity through multiple different services. Our Club programs and services promote and enhance the development of our youth by instilling a sense of competence, usefulness, belonging and influence. We're able to offer life-enhancing programs and character development experiences.

Most people have heard of Boys & Girls Clubs (BGC), but how many really know what we do? BGC began over 100 years ago in Connecticut when some women tried to help some young boys wandering the streets. It has morphed into the oldest youth development organization in the country with over 4000 clubs serving over 4 million young people. It is NOT daycare or a place just for poor kids in the inner city. The



courtesy photo



courtesy photo

national umbrella organization, Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA), has a philosophy that ALL young people need a safe, positive place to go to have fun, enhance their academic skills, participate in the arts, grow their character and leadership skills, participate in giving back to the community, learn about healthy lifestyles, and learn ways to enjoy sports or stay physically fit. Most programs are proven curriculum that are provided by BGCA and require staff training. Some are ongoing like Power Hour; where members get homework help and tutoring. Art programs vary-- simple crafts, painting, knitting, sewing, music, skits, and digital photography. Tech Club allows students to explore today's varied computer uses, learn Internet safety, and practice coding. Members get hope, responsibility, and recognition through the Youth of the Year / Month program. For some, it becomes a home away from home.

Most clubs are open daily after school and when school is not in session, including holidays and summers. What a child receives in attending, is a safe place with educational programs and fun activities, it is a great value. One unusual aspect of clubs is that youngsters from various socioeconomic levels, ages and academic levels mingle, learn from, and help each other. Another vital aspect of this organization is the powerful impact that the well-trained youth development

professionals who serve as positive role models, often have on our area youth.

Local clubs have to be chartered by the national organization and adhere to strict safety and quality rules. BGCA provides world-class management training for its staff, proven curriculum programs, and regional and national conferences to learn and share best practices.

With all the outside stimulation young people get from so many forms of media and technology today, it is so important for youngsters to be able to relate to each other and adults so they can grow up to become caring, productive, responsible, tax-paying citizens. We are not a daycare. We are a "life skills learning center" that is staffed by professionals who care. We challenge our members to learn. We push them to become better citizens and we provide them with the tools they need to succeed.

Our BGC (and non-profits in general) must rely on grants from private foundations, government grants, fund raising events, business sponsorship, membership fees, and most importantly; donations from individuals in our own community. If you are not already involved with your local Club, please consider contacting us at any one of our five (5) units or at our administration office at (989) 892-6723.

Dow, Good360 Donate and Distribute 57 Trailers to Families in Need



courtesy photo

In Response to the Critical Need of Long-Term Recovery Efforts, Dow and Good360 Give Families Impacted by Hurricane Harvey a Home for the Holidays

MIDLAND, Mich. - December 17, 2018 - The Dow Chemical Company (Dow) and Good360, a global leader in product philanthropy and purposeful giving, have joined together to donate and distribute 57 trailers to families whose homes were destroyed by Hurricane Harvey and volunteers assisting in recovery. This effort is a continuation of the commitment made by both organizations to aid disaster recovery efforts not just in the immediate aftermath, but also to rebuild and ensure community resiliency in the mid- and long-term.

“After a disaster like Harvey, it takes years to rebuild a community and return its members to security. At Dow we make it our priority to support our communities as safe, healthy and resilient places to be,” said Rich Wells, vice president of operations, U.S. Gulf Coast and site director, Dow Texas Operations.

“The donation of these trailers is making an incredible impact in Texas as communities are still on the road to recovery after Hurricane Harvey,” said Howard Sherman, CEO of Good360. “Because this disaster initially occurred over a year ago, it’s easy to forget that many individuals and families are still months, if not years, away from full recovery. The commitments from partners such as Dow ensure that Good360 can

get the right goods to the right people during all phases of a disaster.”

In the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Harvey in its communities, Dow mobilized resources for relief with a keen focus on the safety of its people. In addition to deploying volunteers, resources and dollars – and aiding reconstruction efforts with the launch of a new initiative with long-standing partner, Habitat for Humanity, called Habitat Hammers Back – Dow also purchased 135 trailers for displaced company employees to live in while their homes were being rebuilt.

Today, the hurricane has passed, waters have receded, and as their houses are repaired, Dow employees have begun to move back home. Maintaining its commitment to long-term recovery efforts, and fueling community resiliency, the company is extending the lifecycle of its initial relief investments – gifting 57 trailers no longer occupied by its employees to Good360 (a fair market value donation of approximately \$807,350) for distributing the trailers to two organizations that have identified Hurricane Harvey survivors still in need of a place to call home and volunteers assisting in recovery efforts.

Recipient organizations of the trailers include:

Sandcastle Church receiving 30 trailers as temporary housing for citizens. As many houses in Port Aransas have yet to be recovered, area workers and volunteers have been forced out of the area, with the closest physical place for residency approximately 50 miles away.

Wharton Recovery Team will use 17 trailers for volunteer housing, as well as housing for families whose homes have either been destroyed by Harvey, or need to be demolished because of Harvey.

“We have found trusted partners are critical when it comes to convening forces for amplified impact and making recovery possible. Identifying Good360 to distribute these unused trailers to people in need is one way Dow continues its commitment to build sustainable communities in the long-term,” added Wells.

With both the frequency and intensity of natural disasters on the rise around the globe, there is an urgent need for a more thoughtful approach to the way companies, organizations and governments respond and help impacted communities recover. To give voice to these critical needs, Good360 joined forces with All Hands and Hearts – Smart Response and Global Citizen to pioneer a new initiative taking a “Resilient Response” pledge and raise awareness to build stronger communities that can better withstand future disasters.

Additionally, as part of its pledge, Good360 makes an effort to partner with companies with shared values, values that activate resources for long-term, intentional disaster relief. A key illustration of these efforts is showcased by the partnership between Dow and Good360 to extend the aid invested in Texas communities impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

Leadership NOW's Fourth Cohort Graduates, Shares Plans for 'Challenge by Choice'



(FLINT, Mich., Dec. 14, 2018) – Leadership NOW's fourth cohort today celebrated their completion of the intensive leadership development program, offered through the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce and United Way of Genesee County.

"Today, Leadership NOW welcomes nine exceptional professionals to its alumni group," said Steven Elkins, director of member services at the Flint & Genesee Chamber. "They join a network of leaders who are prepared to work together to address challenges and pursue opportunities in Flint and Genesee County."

Over the last year, the cohort has participated in more than 100 hours of training and one-on-one coaching, focused on honing personal leadership styles and developing effective partnerships. Additionally, to fulfill a key requirement of the program, participants must team up to spearhead a sustainable, collaborative community project.

Specifically, the cohort decided to focus on working toward bridging gaps in local youth programming. As highlighted during today's celebration ceremony, held this afternoon at Brick Street of Grand Blanc, the participants compiled survey data identifying some of the different challenges faced by local youth organizations.

Their findings will be shared during "Challenge by Choice" at Diplomat on Jan. 18. The community event will encourage attendees representing youth organizations to build relationships, identify resources and find ways to collaborate with each other.

"There are so many people and organizations doing great work around our community," said Ashnee Young, assistant director of Neighborhood Services Center for Genesee County Community Action Resource Department (GCCARD) and Flint resident. "By bringing the necessary players together and encouraging some powerful conversation, we believe we can help them identify ways to work together and better serve our local youth."

In addition to Young, the graduating cohort includes the following nonprofit and business professionals who work and/or live in Genesee County:

- Katie Curnow, Grand Blanc, is marketing manager at the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce.
- Ebonie Gipson, Flint, is president and CEO of I'm Building Something Consulting, LLC.
- Doug Hartwell, Fenton, is director of operations at Sorensen Gross Construction Services.

- Shay Newell, Grand Blanc, is program manager for Children's Protective Services at the Michigan Department of Health & Human Resources.
- Valerie Popelier, Clarkston, is organizational development manager at Diplomat.
- Jason Rogers, Flint, is restorative practices and school climate specialist at Genesee Intermediate School District.
- Nicholas Sievers, Clarkston, is quality systems manager at Domico Med Device.
- Tenesa Thompson, Burton, is administrator at Church Without Walls Ministries.

In addition to learning how to develop partnerships and their personal leadership styles, participants also benefit from building their networks, according to Popelier.

"Our cohort couldn't have been more diverse in industry, experience or personality, but we all learned from each other and held each other accountable," Popelier said. "It's been great to build those connections."

For more information about Leadership NOW, which will launch its fifth cohort in January, visit flintandgenesee.org or call (810) 600-1404.

Lake Trust Credit Union Donates \$2,500 Worth of Pajamas to Jamar's Jammies



Lake Trust Credit Union recently donated \$2,500 worth of pajamas to Jamar's Jammies. Cleary University senior and baseball team member Jamar Bray conceived the unique effort to bring a smile and warmth to children in need this holiday season.

On Nov. 29, Lake Trust presented the donation at Cleary's Howell campus 2018 Holiday Tree Lighting Event, which was also sponsored by the credit union.

"Today, we're celebrating Jamar Bray and his home run, Jamar's Jammies," said David Snodgrass, president and CEO of Lake Trust Credit Union, at the event. "What's impressive in this young man, in addition to the great education he gets at Cleary, is wisdom. Jamar remembers where he comes from. And he remembers others in need. So I think of all the children whose hearts will be touched this holiday

because Jamar said, 'I can at least do something so that a child in need has something this year.' He started it all with a thought that he needed to try. Now it's an impressive cause that we're proud to support."

Jamar grew up in a single parent household and recalled his mother's struggles, including the sacrifices she made so he could live life and play baseball. He envisioned Jamar's Jammies as a pajama drive to give back and positively impact families and underprivileged youth in troubled areas during the holiday season.

"We all know what a fine young man Jamar is," said Jason Boyers, president and CEO of Cleary University. "He exemplifies the spirit of Cleary that extends beyond the classroom and baseball field to the community. We also would like to thank our partner Lake Trust Credit Union."



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BETHEL A.M.E. PRESENTS NEW YEARS SING

December 31st at 10:30 pm

Bethel A.M.E Church

(535 Cathay Street, Saginaw, Michigan 48603)



New Year Sing is a celebration of gospel music featuring three of our area's best singing preachers: Rev. Joyce Redfearn, pastor of St. Luke C.M.E Church, Rev. Dr. Willie Casey, pastor of New Hope M.B. Church, and Rev. Dennis Laffoon, pastor of Bethel A.M.E Church. It will be a wonderful evening of great music and even greater fellowship for the entire family.

Bethel has chosen a wonderful community cause to champion that evening, in The Saginaw County Sickle Cell Support Group. We will share some information on how Sickle Cell effects our community and take up a free will offering to support their efforts. We invite you to join us on Monday, December 31st at 10:30 pm at Bethel A.M.E Church (535 Cathay Street, Saginaw, Michigan 48603) for an evening that we know will be an excellent close of 2018 and entry into 2019.

Catholic Federal Credit Union Donates \$1,000 to Santa's Cupboard



courtesy photo

Catholic Federal Credit Union loves helping incredible non-profit organizations that do amazing things in their community. They recently partnered with Santa's Cupboard, a 501C3 non-profit organization who is dedicated to providing Christmas presents for hospitals, homeless shelters, women's centers and for families that have an ill child at home.

The credit union launched a Facebook campaign to help spread the news of Santa's Cupboard and for every person who shared the post, the credit union donated a \$1. The credit union presented Santa's Cupboard with a check for \$1,000 on December 13, 2018.

Santa's Cupboard provides presents to a growing list of locations throughout Michigan including: Bay Area Women's Center, Boy's & Girls' Club of Bay County, Inc., Covenant Hospital, Hospital Hospitality House, Hurley Medical Center, McLaren Bay Region, MidMichigan Medical Center, Pinconning Food Pantry, Salvation Army, Whaley's Children's Center and many more.

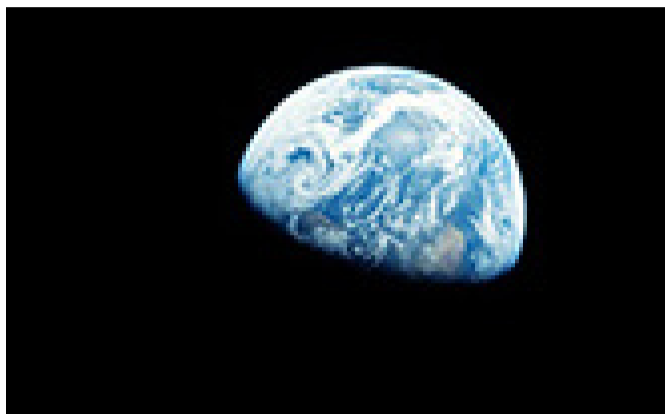
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For more information call 989-475-1165

Planetarium Show Commemorates the 50th Anniversary of Apollo 8



courtesy photo

On Friday, December 21 at 7pm the Delta College Planetarium in Bay City will present The Greatest Adventure, a special original program about America's first crewed mission to leave the Earth and orbit the Moon.

The first in a series of events commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Apollo program, The Greatest Adventure, examines the flight of Apollo 8. Launched on December 21, 1968, Apollo 8 carried three American astronauts to become humanity's first visitors to another world. Using the immersive environment of the Dome360 Theatre, the production recounts the events that allowed the bold mission to occur, what Apollo 8 brought back to the Earth and how it changed us forever.

Produced and presented by Planetarium Show Specialist Brian Kennedy, this one-hour, live show combines computer graphics with actual video and photographs as we follow along with the crew of Apollo 8 on the first journey from the Earth to the Moon. The program includes photos and scenery rarely before seen.

Other Apollo missions will be highlighted in 2019, culminating in exhibits, demonstrations, and a new major feature show to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Apollo 11, the first manned lunar landing carrying Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin in July.

The Greatest Adventure plays at 7pm December 21 in the Planetarium Theater. Tickets are specially priced at \$3 per seat and go on sale at the Planetarium one hour before show time. All ages are welcome. For more information go to the Planetarium's website at www.delta.edu/planet or call 989-667-2260. An accompanying blog about the mission is available at bit.ly/TheGreatestAdventure.

The Delta College Planetarium is located in downtown Bay City at 100 Center Avenue.

Faith Temple Ministries seeking vendors for Bazaar in January



courtesy photo

On Saturday, January 12, 2019 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Faith Temple Ministries will host a bazaar and they are still seeking vendors for the event.

The fee per space is \$25.00 for an 8' x 5' space which includes 2 chairs. All fees must be included with the applications. No spaces will be reserved until all fees are received. All special requests are filled on a first-come, first serve basis and must be made in writing at the time of the application. Fee not refundable.

If a table is needed, the rental fee is \$10.00 per table. Tables are to be covered to the floor with a covering in the front and on both sides.

Vendors can set-up the day before the bazaar (Friday, January 11) from 9:00am-7:30pm UNLESS otherwise notified. Notification will be sent either by email or phone/text, no later than Wednesday January 9, 2019.

Bazaar day set-up to begin at 7:00am and completed by 8:45am. No expectations. All vendors must check in before setting up their displays.

No exhibitors may depart from the show before 2:00pm. Please bring adequate stock as well as money to make change; we will not have money at the site. Sales tax is the responsibility of the exhibitor.

NO flea market items, garage sale items, or store resale items are permitted. Faith Temple Ministries also asks that items to be sold do not consist of homemade bread, noodles, cookies or baked goods.

If there are any question and or would like an application, please call Ms. Linda Bolton at 989.280.2378 or Faith Temple's office at 989.310.6022.

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community foundation

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Saginaw, Michigan 48607
(989) 755-0545 • saginawfoundation.org



NON-PROFIT DIRECTORY

CAN Council Saginaw County

1311 N. Michigan Avenue
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989-752-7226
Fax: 989-752-2777
www.cancouncil.org

The New Ezekiel Project

P.O. Box 3470
Saginaw, MI 48605-3470
989-755-1620
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jamie@theezezielproject.com

Great Lakes PACE

3378 Fashion Square Blvd.
Saginaw, MI 48603
989-272-7610
Fax: 989-272-7669
www.greatlakespace.org
jdarby@greatlakespace.org

Great Lakes Bay Health Centers

501 Lapeer Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48607
989-759-6400

Houghton-Jones Task Force

1708 Johnson Street
Saginaw, MI
989-752-1660

Samaritas Community Center

3145 Russell Street
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-752-5805

Public Libraries of Saginaw Butman-Fish, Hoyt, Wickes & Zael Libraries

505 Janes Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48607
989-755-0904
www.saginawlibrary.org

Restoration Community Outreach

1205 Norman
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-753-1886 / fax 989-753-2880
rcosag@yahoo.com

Saginaw County Business & Education Partnership

1213 South Washington Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-399-0016

Saginaw County Community Action Agency, Inc. (CAC)

2824 Perkins Street
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-753-7741

The Michigan Banner Outreach Ministries

301 E Genesee Ave, Suite 201
Saginaw, MI 48607
989-992-2600

The Saginaw Community Foundation

1 Tuscola, Suite 100
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989-755-0545

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*“Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.”
—Romans 15:7*

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Annointed Temple Ministries

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989-341-4286

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Saginaw, MI 48601
989-755-7011

Bread of Life Harvest Center

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Saginaw, MI 48603
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Rev. Robert Davis, Jr.
818 N. Washington Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-754-4435
PastorD818@gmail.com

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104 S. 10th St.
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989-799-4200
www.faithharvestministry.org
office@faithharvestministry.org

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Saginaw, MI 48601
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Saginaw, MI 48601
989-752-1455
260-515-6456

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608 E Remington St
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-755-5291



Jacob's Ladder

Pastor Dempsey Allen
1926 Fairfield Street
Saginaw, MI 48602
989-799-6601

Life in Christ Ministries

Pastor Dennis Cotton, Sr.
2915 S. Washington Road
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-401-4465
LifeInChristMinistries07@gmail.com

Messiah Missionary Baptist Church

2615 Williamson Road
Saginaw, MI 48601
Pastor Otis Washington
Phone: 989-777-2636
Fax: 989-777-2640
messiahmbc@att.net
www.messiahsg.org



Mt. Olive Baptist Church

Pastor Marvin T. Smith
1114 N. 6th Street
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-752-8064



New Beginnings Life Changing Ministries

Pastor Otis Dickens
2312 S. Washington Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-755-3650



New Birth Missionary Baptist

Pastor Larry D. Camel
3121 Sheridan
Saginaw, Michigan
989-327-1755



New Covenant Christian Center

Pastor Ron Frierson
2395 S. Outer Drive
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-752-8485

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

Rev. Dr. Willie F. Casey
1721 Tuscola Street
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-753-7600



New Life Baptist Church

Pastor Rufus Bradley
1401 Janes St.
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-753-1151

New Mt. Calvary Baptist Church

Pastor Alfred "AJ" Harris Jr.
3610 Russel St.
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-754-0801

New Way Ministries

Pastor Dwight & Princess Dobbins
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POLITICS & PUBLIC POLICY

The Michigan Banner salutes Saginaw's mayors

BY MIKE THOMPSON

Unlike most mid-size and larger cities, Saginaw does not have an elected mayor, or a mayor with the power of an administrator to hire and fire employees, or with the power to issue a veto.

The reason? At a turning point during the 1930, most local leaders did not want a singular strong leader, and neither did the citizens.

Even so, as The Michigan Banner salutes Saginaw's 32 mayors under our 83-year-old form of government, plenty of leadership strength has come from our so-called "weak mayor/strong manager" form of government.

But first, some history:

-- When East Saginaw and Old Saginaw City initially merged across the river in 1890, local government consisted of 30 City Council members (two apiece from each of 15 wards) and an elected mayor.

-- After a while, this group was considered too large, and so a 1913 change established not a single Council nor a single mayor, but five separate operations -- public works, finance, parks and cemeteries, health and safety, water and sewer -- with elected chief commissioners of each department. This was intended to streamline things.

-- Again, this didn't work. Various commissioners were accused of taking bribes, nepotism and patronage in hiring, and so forth. "Politics" became a dirty word.

-- The final change, in 1936, gave us our current City Charter form of government, which is highly similar to a school board. The nine-member Council functions as a nonpartisan Board of Directors, selecting a city manager as CEO and appointing a chairman (mayor) who has no more supposed power than to run the meetings. In fact, it could be argued that the most powerful Saginawian of the past 72 years was neither a council member nor a mayor, but Edward H. Potthoff Jr., the long-time city manager from 1961 to 1977.

Therefore, most of the earlier mayors were basically ceremonial figures, businessmen who would cut ribbons at community events and give annual New Year's toasts at the Saginaw Club.

For the first 25 years, mostly in two-year increments, they were Frank Marxer, Francis J. McDonald, John W. Symons, William J. Bridges, Eric F. Weineke, Harold J. Steinglein, Edwin W. Koepke, William R. Hart, George H. Fischer, Maurice E. Brown, R. James Harvey (future GOP congressman and federal judge), and R. Dewey Stearns.

Two of the most important decisions were basically unanimous. The first was to pipe drinking water from Lake Huron near Tawas. The second was in regard to requiring suburbs to annex in order to receive this water. The City of Saginaw did not annex; the City of Midland did annex. We see the everlasting results today, as Midland city possesses a far more lucrative property tax base.

At that point during the early 1960s, the role of the mayor gradually became stronger. Saginaw leaders aimed to bolster their weaker financial standing, and G. Stewart Francke became the leading advocate for voter approval a new city income tax, which began as a one penny/half penny levy in 1965. That's why the Council appointed Francke to a then-uncommon two terms as mayor. Council members traditionally had taken turns.

James W. Stenglein and Warren G. Light followed Francke. Sandwiched between them was Henry G. Marsh, appointed in 1967 as one of the nation's first black men to serve as an urban mayor. Marsh was known as conservative on civil rights, but a review of history reveals that this was not true -- as a newcomer to town during the 1950s, for example, he was a driving force behind creation of the Human Relations Commission, and he fought as mayor for passage of an open housing ordinance.

Paul Wendler (1971-73) was a leading activist to convert the old Saginaw Auditorium site into the Civic Center, which is why the sports and entertainment arena bears his name. The final four old guard mayors followed -- William F. Nelson

Jr., Raymond Tortora, Paul P. Prudhomme and Ronald M. Bushey. In between them arrived the second black mayor, Joe Stephens (1977-79), a retired city police officer who was among the first advocates to racially integrate the department more fully.

Five factors during the early 1980s created major change: (1) The GM decline began. (2) Professional people began moving out en masse, ending the Saginaw Club/United Saginaw Citizens/Committee of 50 stronghold on city government. (3) Blacks and Latinos began to join the white population flight across city boundaries. (4) The police slaying of Oliver Bruce Mooror was a major civil rights touchstone. (5) Voters in 1983 elected the first black majorities to the Council and to the school board.

Lawrence D. Crawford (1983-87) was the mayor during the first years of the transition. He tried to orchestrate racial outreach to fearful whites, such as establishing Andersen Enrichment Center at the swimming pool's old bathhouse, and adding West Side federal block grant zones. Still, there was backlash. Delbert J. Schrems (1987-89) campaigned with a reverse "Balance the Power" slogan and yard signs.

Labor and civil rights giant Henry H. Nickleberry expanded on the concept of multi-term, more prominent mayors when he held the post from 1989 to 1993. Gary L. Loster went beyond, serving an unprecedented four terms from 1993-2001. Wilmer Jones Ham became the first female mayor from any ethnic group, 2001-2005. Joyce Seals (2005-07), the only one-term mayor of the past three decades, overcame a public episode with breast cancer and continues to serve today on the school board.

After the Council's controversial 5-4 firing of Deborah Kimble in 2004, Greg Branch with two terms and Dennis Browning with three terms became unifying mayors.

Browning and the newest mayor, Floyd Kloc, are the first two formerly worked professionally in city government. Browning was a police officer and Kloc served as assistant city attorney.

Bipartisan Bill Doubles Funding for a Program Supporting Michigan's Double Up Food Bucks and Prevents Cuts to Food Assistance for Michigan Families



courtesy photo

On December 12, 2018, Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) applauded the bipartisan passage of the Farm Bill that included his legislation to expand access to healthy and locally-grown fruits and vegetables in Michigan and prevent cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

The Farm Bill includes Congressman Kildee's legislation, the Gus Schumacher Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Program Reauthorization of 2018, which doubles funding for the fruit and vegetable incentives program from \$125 million to \$250 million over the next five years. This will help fund programs that increase access to fruits and vegetables like Michigan's successful 'Double Up Food Bucks' program. These programs double the purchasing power of SNAP benefits if recipients use them to buy nutritious fruits and vegetables at participating local grocery stores and farmers markets.

In addition, Congressman Kildee has fought vigorously against cuts to food assistance, commonly referred to as SNAP. Today's Farm Bill passage makes no cuts to food assistance, which over 1.3 million Michiganders rely on to provide food for themselves and their families. Earlier this year, Congressman Kildee led the fight

against a Republican Farm Bill that would have kicked more than 200,000 Michiganders off of the program. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), nearly two thirds of SNAP recipients are children, disabled or elderly.

"I am proud to work with my colleagues on a bipartisan Farm Bill that doubles funding for fruit and vegetable food incentive programs like Michigan's Double Up Food Bucks program," Congressman Kildee said. "This Farm Bill supports Michigan's family farmers and increases access to healthy food for those on food assistance. In Michigan, Double Up Food Bucks has helped thousands of families put healthy fruits and vegetables on the table, including families in Flint who are still dealing with the consequences of the water crisis. I want to thank Senator Debbie Stabenow, along with Congressmen Colin Peterson and Jim McGovern, for their tireless work to pass this legislation."

"Congressman Dan Kildee has been a longtime champion of SNAP incentives, which are a win for families and for farmers—which means they're a win for the American people. Such wins are proof both parties can come together to work for the good of the country," said Oran B. Hesterman, Founder & CEO, Fair Food Network.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Farm Bill by a vote of 369-47. The U.S. Senate previously passed the Farm Bill on December 11, 2018, and the bill will now move to the President's desk.

Since being elected, Congressman Kildee has worked to expand access to locally-grown, affordable and nutritious food for Michigan families. Kildee successfully pushed bipartisan legislation in the 2014 Farm Bill to provide \$125 million for SNAP fruit and vegetable incentive programs like Michigan's successful Double Up Food Bucks Program.

In 2017, Michiganders used \$4.5 million in combined SNAP and Double Up Food Bucks sales of fruits and vegetables at over 250 sites, including 95 grocery stores. 95 percent of Michigan residents live in a county with a Double Up Food Bucks site. This program has benefited over 1,000 farmers in Michigan.

In 2013, Congressman Kildee lived on a food stamp budget for an average Michigander – \$31.50, or \$4.50 a day – for one week to raise awareness about billions of dollars in SNAP cuts proposed by Republicans.

SPORTS

Great Lakes Bay Region Awarded the 2019 US Youth Soccer Regional II Championships



courtesy photo

Saginaw Township, MI - US Youth Soccer is proud to announce that Saginaw, MI., and the Michigan State Youth Soccer Association will host the 2019 US Youth Soccer Region II (Midwest) Championships as part of the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series, the country's oldest and most prestigious national youth soccer tournament. The games will take place at Saginaw Township Soccer Complex.

The championships are expected to draw more than 4,100 players and an estimated 12,000 spectators.

The US Youth Soccer Regional II Championships consist of US Youth Soccer State Champions from 14 state associations (including host Michigan State Youth Soccer Association), US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional League Premier Division champions and select wild cards. Following

individual state championship tournaments, the Regional Championships are the second leg of the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series.

The tournament will attract more than 200 boys and girls teams, ages 13-and-Under through 19-and-Under, from the 14 Midwest US Youth Soccer State Associations that make up US Youth Soccer Region II (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio South, Ohio North, South Dakota and Wisconsin).

Saginaw, MI., is familiar with US Youth Soccer events as the city also served as the host of the Region II Championships in 2012.

"I can feel the excitement that the Great Lakes Bay Region and Saginaw Township Soccer Association have toward hosting the Region II

Championships again in 2019, after successfully hosting our event in 2012," said Jonathan Meersman, Region II Championships Chair. "We look forward to working with the Michigan State Youth Soccer Association and the local volunteers as they prepare to host another spectacular event."

Regional winners of the 13U through 19U brackets earn a berth to the 2019 US Youth Soccer National Championships in Overland Park, Kan.

2019 US Youth Soccer Region II Championships | Saginaw, MI.

Saginaw Township Soccer Complex

Round Robin: June 21-23

Semis: June 25

Finals: June 26

The US Youth Soccer National Championship Series gives US Youth Soccer teams the opportunity to showcase their soccer skills against the best competition in the nation while emphasizing teamwork, discipline and fair play.

Annually, the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series provides the nation's top collegiate coaches with the premier stage to identify and scout the most coveted players in the country.

To learn more about the US Youth Soccer, visit USYouthSoccer.org. For more about the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series, visit championships.usyouthsoccer.org, the online home for the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series, providing the latest in news, information and more.



Saginaw Sports Hall of Fame: Class of 2018

On Sunday, November 3, 2019, The Saginaw Sports Hall of Fame hosted the 18th Annual Induction Banquet. The following individuals and teams were inducted this year:



Sue Guevara

Sue Guevara was born in Saginaw and attended the St. Stephen High School, where she graduated in 1972. She attended Saginaw Valley State where she was a standout basketball player. Guevara, who has over 300 career college basketball coaching victories, is the 2018 recipient of the Kay Yow National Coach of the Year Award, which was established in 2010 to honor the Division I women's head coach who embodies a winning spirit and displays great character both on and off the court.



Rick Havercroft

Rick Havercroft began his long and distinguished umpiring career in 1964 at the North Saginaw Township Little League. He played baseball and football at Douglas MacArthur High School, where he attained All-Conference honors in both sports. After graduating in 1970 he became a registered Michigan High School Athletic Association baseball umpire and softball soon followed.



Danielle (Kamm) Carter

Danielle Kamm was a four-year basketball, volleyball and softball standout at Nouvel Catholic Central High School where she graduated in 2003. Her basketball talents shined at a relatively young age as she scored 1,085 points in grade school, which included a 46-point game and a high of 23 rebounds. She was named the Outstanding Michigan Female High School Athlete her senior year by the Detroit Athletic Club and she also won the Miss Basketball Award.



Dennis Konuszewski

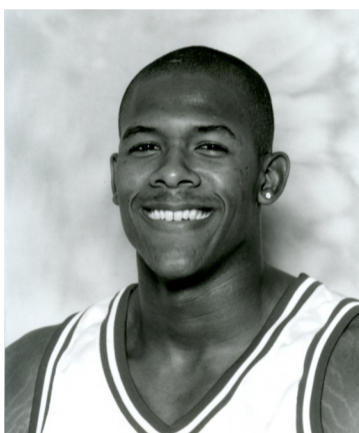
Dennis Konuszewski was an exceptional three-sport athlete at Bridgeport High School, playing football, basketball and baseball for the Bearcats. However, it was on the baseball diamond where he achieved his greatest success. Konuszewski had a 5-2 pitching record during his sophomore year. He has coached a number of youth baseball teams, including serving as head coach for Saginaw Township North Little League's Junior (14U) baseball team that won the 2017 District 14, Sectional, State and Little League Central Division championships.

Saginaw Sports Hall of Fame continued...



Tory Jackson

Tory Jackson was an outstanding four-year basketball standout at Buena Vista High School. The 5-foot-10 guard scored 2,518 career points, the most of any boys' basketball player in Saginaw County history, and the fourth-most in the state of Michigan. He played in the National Basketball Association's Developmental League with the Fort Wayne Mad Ants and professionally overseas in Mongolia. Jackson, who coached at Buena Vista in its last year of existence, now serves as the boys' varsity basketball coach at Bay City John Glenn High School.



Terrance Roberson

Terrance Roberson is one of the most decorated basketball players from Saginaw County. The 6-foot-7, 215-pound power forward was a four-year starter for Buena Vista High School and helped the Knights to a pair of Class B state basketball championships. He signed as a free agent and appeared in three games for the Charlotte Hornets during the 2000-2001 season. He went on to play for the Stampede and the Trenton Shooting Stars of the International Basketball League that same season. Roberson then played professionally for 11 years in several different countries.



Stuart Schweigert

Stuart Schweigert was a three-sport standout at Heritage High School, where he graduated in 2000. Schweigert, who played in the 2004 Senior Bowl, was drafted in the 3rd round – 66th overall - of the 2004 National Football League draft by the Oakland Raiders. Schweigert started 53 games in the National Football League, where he recorded 386 tackles, 4 interceptions, 4 forced fumbles and 5 fumble recoveries.



1999 Saginaw High Football Team

Saginaw High School's 1999 football team was one of the most talent-laden high school varsity football teams ever assembled in the state of Michigan. The Trojans, coached by Don Durrett, finished a difficult regular season at 7-2. After early season losses to Midland High School (27-6) and Heritage (35-12), Saginaw High outscored its remaining Saginaw Valley League opponents 162-7. In the Division 2 playoffs, SHS topped Muskegon Reeths-Puffer 44-13 in the district semifinal before they avenged the Heritage loss by posting a 20-0 shutout over the Hawks in the district championship game.

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PICS OF THE WEEK

On December 6, 2018, Team One Credit Union hosted their annual Holiday Mixer at the Saginaw Club.





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