

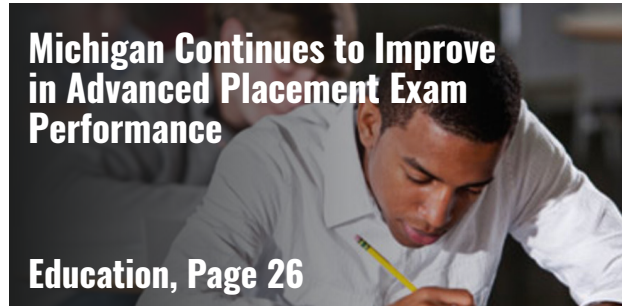
# THE MICHIGAN BANNER

Celebrating 15 years of Positive News!



**Fitness brand partners with Michigan natives Draymond Green to open 20 gyms in Michigan**

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**Michigan Continues to Improve in Advanced Placement Exam Performance**

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Leading in Diversity, Empowering Communities and Changing Lives

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**Dolores Huerta, Latino And Labor Rights Icon, Visits Michigan State University**

LB, Cover Story



**Maternal Infant Health Statewide Conference to focus on reducing infant and maternal mortality**

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## **Pictured: William Federspiel, Mike Hanley, Bishop Larry Camel and guests attend The Ezekial Project's 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual MLK Prayer Breakfast on February 24**





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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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Barbara M. Littles  
**BML**  
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When the plane landed in Atlanta Georgia I was thrilled to be able to spend the night with our daughter, son in love and my precious new grand baby Eden. I would only be able to spend the night because the next day I was to drive to South Carolina to be with my twin sister as she had breast cancer surgery. It was the day after Christmas but I would have gone to the moon and back to be with her. Five of my other siblings were flying and driving in to be by her side. The few days turned out to be a great time as she came through surgery well, was up the next day and we just laughed and enjoyed one another for the next few days. On the morning I was to return to Michigan I received the call from my husband (an only child) that his mom had stopped breathing. She had been put on a ventilator. He was headed to the airport to get a flight to South Carolina. He told me I could come home to Michigan as planned. Of course, being only one hour and half drive time from her and desiring to be there when he arrived, I sought what course of action I could take. I had a rental vehicle that was to be returned to the Atlanta airport. I called the company but there was no drop off point in SC. so I quickly decided to extent my lease at which point I was informed that they would double the rate. Of course my natural negotiation skills went into play and within 30 minutes I was on my way (at the original rate of course).

Little did I know that the next few weeks would be a true test of my resilience; my ability to make quick decisions, identify alternatives, chart a

strategy and a course to move forward. It reminded me of the negotiation skills that I speak and teach about. Resilience is defined as the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties. After two weeks of speaking with physicians, making arrangements with caregivers, asking questions, staying on top of medical personnel, keeping business commitments virtually, flying between multiple cities in between to keep other commitments, taking turns with my husband at her bedside while assuring my mother in love that she was going to be ok, I finally made it home to Michigan. The next call would be my daughter indicating that the baby had the flu. I took a deep breath and I rode the wave again as I consoled her and assured her things would be ok. In the middle of January I found myself regrouping and preparing for another trip out to spend additional time with mom.... our new normal for the time being. As I sat there, I thought 2018 must be a great year for me since it started off requiring so much RESILIENCE. We need resilience in our business, in our careers, in our relationships, in our lives. I thought I would share a few tips on developing resilience for those unexpected situations that we will all face at some point this year:

- Take care of yourself spiritually. Find the place that centers you and brings peace. Engage in positive thought meditation.
- Make sure you engage in self-care by identifying the priorities in your life and living your core values

- Surround yourself with people who support you mentally, physically, spiritually and emotionally
- Ask for prayer; ask for help and receive the gift of friendship.
- Think into the future but get through the moment
- Know that the best laid plans are interrupted but that you are still on course; you just need to navigate change.
- Rest in knowing that God is still on the throne.

Remember you don't get what you deserve in life, you get what you negotiate. Negotiate well my friend.

In spite of it all 2018 is going to be a GREAT year! I'm encouraged because I'm resilient!!

Schedule a free 15 minute coaching session with me at [barbaramlittles.com](http://barbaramlittles.com) and see how I can help you discover how to negotiate your best life.

Resiliently yours,

Barbara

# Working Families Eligible for Michigan Earned Income Tax Credit



Working families and individuals with low to moderate income who receive a federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) can receive a 6 percent matching tax credit from the state of Michigan, according to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

To qualify, individuals must meet certain requirements and file a federal income tax return, even if no tax is owed or there is no requirement to file a return. If a federal EITC is granted, the state of Michigan will provide a 6 percent supplemental EITC when the taxpayer files his or her state income tax return.

“I strongly encourage all eligible Michiganders

to take advantage of this important tax credit,” said Deputy State Treasurer Glenn White, head of Treasury’s Tax Administration Group. “This puts extra income in the pockets of individuals and families in most need.”

The amount of the federal EITC depends on income, filing status and number of qualifying children claimed as dependents on the taxpayer’s federal income tax return. The EITC reduces the amount of tax owed and may provide a refund.

During the 2016 tax year, more than 770,000 claimants received the Michigan EITC, totaling nearly \$114 million with an average credit amount

of \$148.

The state Treasury Department estimates there are thousands of eligible Michiganders who are eligible for both the federal and state EITCs and do not claim them each year.

To learn more about the EITC, go to [www.irs.gov/eitc](http://www.irs.gov/eitc). More information about state of Michigan income taxes can be found at [www.michigan.gov/incometax](http://www.michigan.gov/incometax).

# Art Van Furniture's 10th Annual Art Van Charity Challenge To Award \$305,000 To Midwest Nonprofits



WARREN, Mich., Feb. 26, 2018 /PRNewswire/ -- Celebrating a Decade of Giving Back! Art Van Furniture opened the application process today for Midwest charities to compete in its 10th annual Art Van Charity Challenge. For the fourth consecutive year, Cindy Crawford is the campaign's official ambassador. Nonprofit organizations will vie for \$305,000 in grants, ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

Art Van Charity Challenge applications will be accepted from February 26 through March 31, 2018. The competition is open to any 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization focusing on women, children or human

services located near an Art Van Furniture store in Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, St. Louis and Iowa. The fundraising portion of the Art Van Charity Challenge will run May 1 through May 20, 2018.

"Let the Art Van Charity Challenge games begin," said Kim Yost, president and CEO of Art Van Furniture. "As this spirited competition marks its tenth year, Art Van Furniture is steadfast in our commitment to reward charities dedicated to improving their communities."

"I've been so inspired by the extraordinary individuals I have met over the past four years in

my role as Art Van Charity Challenge Ambassador," said Crawford. "The impact these nonprofits have in people's lives is immeasurable. I am honored to be part of such a worthwhile campaign."

Powered by CrowdRise, the Art Van Charity Challenge raised \$1.4 million in 2017 and granted \$180,000 to winning charities. Since the competition began in 2009, more than \$8 million has been donated and over \$24 million has been raised for 350 charities. For additional information, visit [www.artvancharitychallenge.com](http://www.artvancharitychallenge.com).

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## Dolores Huerta, Latino And Labor Rights Icon, Visits Michigan State University



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Civil Rights icon Dolores Huerta was in East Lansing Tuesday as part of Michigan State University's eighth annual César E. Chávez Commemorative Celebration.

Dolores Huerta is 87 years old, but you wouldn't be able to tell when talking with her. Huerta has been an activist for over half a century and was instrumental in fighting for civil and economic improvements for farm workers, Latinos, and unions.

Speaking to WKAR, Huerta explained how the "Me Too" movement has resonated even to women who work in labor jobs.

"People have to understand that nobody is going to do this for you." Says Huerta. "You've got to stand up and you've gotta fight for yourself. To me that's what the "Me Too" movement stands for. And I think that the

"Me Too" movement is inspiring women at all walks of life and in all occupations to get out there and stand up for themselves."

Huerta delivered the keynote address for this year's Cesar E Chavez Commemorative celebration at MSU's Kellogg Center. Later, she attended a screening of the PBS Documentary Dolores at WKAR studios. The film highlights Huerta's fight for racial and labor justice alongside Cesar Chavez.

Following the film, Huerta was part of a Q & A panel that ended with a rallying cry for unity.

"Who's got the power?" Huerta asks, followed by a roar of "we've got the power" from the audience.

The Independent Lens documentary Dolores premieres on WKAR-TV on March 27th.

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*The Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute is Now Recruiting for the 10th Anniversary Class*



Established in 2009, the Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute is a community leadership development training program in the Great Lakes Bay Region. The program provides individuals the opportunity to develop the skills and relationships to become effective leaders and provides a program that prepares and supports highly skillful visionary leaders who improve their lives and the community. The Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute is now accepting applications for the 10th Anniversary cohort, 2018-19 training program.

For program information and class dates, please visit our web site at [www.glbhispanicleadership.org](http://www.glbhispanicleadership.org) or email [glbhli@svsu.edu](mailto:glbhli@svsu.edu)

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

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# The Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (MHCC) Hosts first Tercer Jueves Business Networking Event of 2018

The Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (MHCC) held their February 2018 Tercer Jueves signature business networking event at the Armando's Restaurant in Mexicantown, Detroit. Members and guests enjoyed a festive atmosphere of networking, prizes and reacquainting with members and area business leaders. The event was also an opportunity for members to meet the MHCC's new leadership team which includes:

- Executive Director – Jorge Morales
- Sales Coordinator/Program Manager – Ana Cecilia Delgado Bolton
- Office Manager/Program Manager – Laura Huber
- Event Coordinator/Program Manager – Katerina Pavlovich
- Corporate Relations Executive – Camilo Suero
- Customer Service – Bella Parker



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**SPEAKERS** will be notified by no later than Friday, March 9th.

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HISPANIC/LATINO COMMISSION OF MICHIGAN

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If you are a college graduate, faculty/staff/administrator, or community member, we encourage you to let us know you are coming by registering at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018HLCOMGradCeremony>

If you are interested in volunteering for the event, please register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018HLGradVolForm>

# 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 15th anniversary!**



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# This Detroit teacher launched a mobile museum that educates communities on African American history all year round



*Khalid el-Hakim speaking to children at Xavier University in Cincinnati, OH February 24, 2010.*

Written by **Zenobia Jeffries**

As a social studies teacher in Detroit in 1994, Khalid el-Hakim used African American artifacts he collected to supplement information about Black history he found lacking in middle school textbooks.

It was a charge, el-Hakim says, by Minister Louis Farrakhan at the Million Man March in 1995 to men to go back to their cities and “join a community organization and try to make some type of contribution to our community,” that was the catalyst to start a mobile museum.

El-Hakim went from having tabletop displays at meetings of the local organization he joined to setting up exhibits for various organizations and institutions—first throughout the city and then across the state and nationwide.

His Black History 101 Mobile Museum travels throughout the year from coast to coast sharing African American history through the ages—from the trans-Atlantic slave trade to the Civil War, Reconstruction, Jim Crow, the civil rights and Black Power movements, hip-hop and Black Lives Matter—with artifacts he’s collected from around the globe.

“I came to learn that not only are my students missing Black history, but there’s a whole bunch of people who have not been exposed to Black history,” el-Hakim says. “As word spread about the museum and the visibility grew on a national level, the audience grew well beyond my expectations—in size and diversity.”

Today, the mobile museum’s attendees get to experience the exhibits free of charge at the expense of host institutions that bring in el-Hakim at a nominal fee.

Before the museum’s 2018 tour, which began last month and will exhibit artifacts from 1968, el-Hakim and I chatted briefly about the museum, its significance today, and the impact he believes it’s making.

**Zenobia Jeffries:** What made you start collecting?

**Khalid el-Hakim:** I started collecting in 1991 after taking a sociology class with David Pilgrim at Ferris State University. He’s the one who started the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia. I took his class, prior to him starting his museum. He was just a collector at the time, and he was using artifacts to teach about the history of racism in America. I found that his methodology of using artifacts to teach about very controversial subjects like racism was an effective way of teaching about racism.

But to teach that without the context of other people at the time and seeing how they were responding to White supremacy and racism, it just made more sense to include other material.

So, I took it to a different level [to show] what Booker T. Washington or W.E.B. Dubois or other individuals were doing during the Jim Crow era. It just made more of a powerful impact for me to see Aunt Jemima imagery next to somebody like a Paul Laurence Dunbar, and what he was doing at the time. So, I just started collecting everything that

had something to do with the Black experience in America.

**Jeffries:** How do you decide what items you’re going to exhibit?

**el-Hakim:** So, the exhibits are tabletop exhibits. They’re usually about 10 tables of 150–200 artifacts. Themes have emerged over the years based on the growth and diversity of the collection.

In the early years it was just a wide array of material in one big exhibit. I decided to make thematic exhibits to be more nuanced in my approach to teaching history and to amplify the artifacts that may otherwise be overlooked in a larger exhibit. Currently, we have the following themes: women, hip-hop, Jim Crow, civil rights/Black Power, music, leadership, sports, and science/technology.

For ’68, it’s the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King’s assassination, so there’s a lot of King material in the exhibit. Also you have the 1968 Olympics with Tommie Smith and John Carlos, as well as musical performers of that year, like Sly and the Family Stone, Jimmy Hendricks, James Brown’s “Say it Loud I’m Black and I’m Proud.”

Aretha Franklin, Ike and Tina Turner.

Shirley Chisholm runs that year [becoming the first black woman elected to the United States Congress]. I got Angela Davis pieces, Adam Clayton Powell pieces. In terms of sports, we got Arthur Ashe, Muhammad Ali. So, it’s material that represents music, politics, it’s a very diverse collection of material.

**Jeffries:** Where do you get your pieces?

**el-Hakim:** The majority of the pieces come from me going into antique shops and used bookstores, and record shops—not just in the Detroit area.

**Continues on Pg 13**

One of the ways I was able to travel to so many different places [and pick up so much material] is because I worked in the entertainment business for 20 years touring with hip-hop groups and poets.

So, anytime I was on tour, around the United States, or overseas—in Europe, Australia—I was able to go into different antique shops when those guys were out doing whatever.

**Jeffries:** What would you say has been your most impactful exhibit, or is your most impactful artifact?

**el-Hakim:** All of them are. We build on the historical context of the time, starting with the trans-Atlantic slave trade. So, there's original shackles in the exhibit, and there's original advertisements for the runaway enslaved Africans.

There's Jim Crow-related material. There are things from the Reconstruction era. There are original photos of lynchings, and postcards of lynchings that are very emotional. The Mammy images, the alligator bait phenomenon in America is represented. There're a lot of different types of material.

**Jeffries:** What is the rarest? Something where folks are like, "Oh my God, how did you get that?"

**el-Hakim:** A lot of the exhibits are original documents signed by historical figures. So, I have documents signed by Frederick Douglas, Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver, Carter G. Woodson, W.E.B. DuBois, Marcus Garvey, Malcolm X, Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks, Mary McLeod Bethune, Angela Davis.

And then from hip-hop: Ice T, Chuck D, KRS-One, MC Lyte, Yo-Yo, Ice Cube. I have original photographs of Tribe Called Quest. Everybody from Busta Rhymes to Redman and Method Man.

There's a lot of rare material. I have a collection of hip-hop photography from Ernie Paniccioli, who's considered to be hip-hop's pioneer photographer. I guess he would be the Gordon Parks of hip-hop, if you can say that. I have about 60 or 70 original photographs from him, of everybody from Queen Latifah to 17-year-old Jay Z and young Kanye West.

I have a lot of stuff from the Black Panther Party: original photographs, newspapers, coats.

Original artifacts and photographs from the Nation of Islam—early years. Letters written by the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. I have a very early letter written by Minister Farrakhan from the '50s when he was still Louis X, a minister in Boston.

There's a lot of very unique material. I even have clothing items. I have a hat from Aretha Franklin. I have one of Minister Farrakhan's suits.

I have some things from the Jackson 5, stuff signed by Michael Jackson. Michael Jackson dolls. Things from just about every era, from slavery to hip-hop.

**Jeffries:** Why is there such a heavy focus of items on hip-hop?

**el-Hakim:** Hip-hop is what informed me in the '80s growing up. My sense of Black history came from listening to groups like Public Enemy and KRS-One, and Queen Latifah, and Ice Cube. Having that social-political context in hip-hop is what informed me, informed my work.

I wouldn't have known who Assata Shakur is if I didn't listen to Public Enemy. If I didn't listen to KRS-One's *By All Means Necessary* album, I wouldn't have picked up and read the *Autobiography of Malcolm X* back in the '80s. So, I see a direct connection between my experience, listening to hip-hop, then reaching back studying Black history.

**Jeffries:** Are the responses you're getting now any different from what you were getting before Trump?

**el-Hakim:** I think it's more real to people now that Trump is in office. Prior to Trump you could see some of this material and you would think that you were kind of disconnected from it. Because I have a lot of White supremacist and KKK material. I have an original Klan hood, and Klan bumper stickers, business cards, original photographs from the Klan.

But over the past year, you have a lot of people seeing it and making that connection between Trump and his supporters, and how there's very much of a White supremacist undertone to a lot of the campaigning that went on, and what you're seeing at some of the rallies and in some of the speeches that he's doing. His response to Charlottesville. So you see it. It's more real to people now.

**Jeffries:** Do they make that connection on their own by seeing the artifacts, or do you make that connection in your program/lecture?

**el-Hakim:** Really it's just me presenting the materials so that people can make their own interpretations through their own lived experiences.

I can't dismiss somebody's lived experience. If your experience is based upon the fact that you're a Black man and you have been a victim of police brutality, or you have been a victim of some type of racism, I can't deny that. So if you see this material and the way you respond to it is based on your lived experience, then we can use that as an opportunity to talk about your experience and how it relates to those artifacts.

And then on the flip side, if you walk through that exhibit, like [what] happened in Pennsylvania just a few years ago, and you're a White female college student, and you walk into that exhibit and you start crying because you see KKK material. And because of your lived experience of seeing your father and your grandfather as Klansmen, and this material that you see represented in this exhibit is what you see at home every day. I can't minimize or disregard that being your lived experience.

**Jeffries:** What do you hope your attendees take away?

**el-Hakim:** I want us first and foremost to become critical thinkers, which is key.

I don't want this to be just information that I'm giving people and they getting my opinion. I want them to see the material interpret it for themselves. Ask critical questions and have dialogue with me, and other people who are in the space.

I also want to spark people to go out and start their own research. If you see a name that you haven't seen before, or an object that just resonates with you—and one thing I've learned is that different artifacts will resonate with different people based on their lived experience—I want you to walk away and do your own research, and learn something that you did not know about history already.

*This article was republished with permission from [yesmagazine.org](http://yesmagazine.org)*

## HEALTH

# Maternal Infant Health Statewide Conference to focus on reducing infant and maternal mortality



istock

LANSING, Mich. – To improve the health of Michigan’s mothers and babies, 500 midwives, social workers, doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals will gather to learn about and share best practices from across the country at the Maternal Infant Health Statewide Conference March 5.

Hosted at the Lansing Center by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Infant Mortality Advisory Council and the Alliance for Innovation on Maternal Health, this free statewide conference will provide educational opportunities to help attendees keep abreast of the latest developments in the field.

“Bringing together stakeholders from the public

and private sectors to learn from one another can improve health outcomes for mothers and infants,” said Dr. Eden Wells, MDHHS chief medical executive. “This conference will help programs collaborate to ensure pregnancy, labor and delivery are safe and healthy in Michigan.”

Sessions will be led by national, state and local subject matter experts on preeclampsia, maternal smoking cessation, breastfeeding, oral health during pregnancy, preventing preterm birth, birth spacing and much more. In addition, the following plenary sessions will focus on collaborative efforts to improve health outcomes:

- Working Together to Improve Maternal & Infant Outcomes, Dr. Elliott K. Main, medical director,

California Maternal Care Collaborative; Dr. Herman Gray, chair, Wayne State University Department of Pediatrics; and Bernadette Kerrigan, executive director, First Year Cleveland.

- Making Change at Scale: The Value of State Collaboratives, Dr. Elliott K. Main, medical director, California Maternal Care Collaborative.
- Opioids in Pregnancy: Mitigating the Risk to Mother and Infant, Dr. Robert J. Sokol, Carl Christensen, medical director, Eleonore Hutzel Women’s Recovery center.

# Michigan Primary Care Association Presents Award to Sen. Proos for Criminal Justice Pilot Program



*courtesy photo*

On February 28, the Michigan Primary Care Association (MPCA) presented Sen. John Proos (R–St. Joseph) with the Champion for the Medically Underserved Award. This award, given annually during the MPCA’s Legislative Forum, recognizes leaders for their work in promoting and protecting affordable, quality health care for medically underserved populations in Michigan.

“The justice-involved population is so often overlooked when it comes to access to health care and social services,” said Loretta V. Bush, Chief Executive Officer, MPCA. “Sen. Proos’ willingness to tackle recidivism by funding increased access to care through community partnerships is a step in the right direction.”

Recidivism is one of the primary drivers of

increased state General Fund expenses for the state as it relates to the criminal justice-involved population. Research suggests that when returning residents have access to health care and social support services, they may be less likely to reoffend. Sen. Proos worked in conjunction with the MPCA to provide a budget appropriation (Section 406, FY17–18) designed to fund a pilot program to address these complicated issues and help returning residents get and stay healthy.

The pilot program, called Connection to Care, involves facilitated hand-offs from the Michigan Department of Corrections to the MPCA to ensure returning residents are connected to MyCare, a community health center, within seven days of release. At the health center, returning residents have access to medical, dental, behavioral, and

substance use disorder services, as well as a health coach with lived experience. The health center also connects the returning resident with appropriate social services, such as Michigan Works! or food services, temporary and permanent supportive housing assistance, or transportation.

“It is truly an honor to receive this award from the Michigan Primary Care Association, which is doing so much to help increase access to comprehensive and affordable health care,” said Proos, (R–St. Joseph). “I am proud of the bipartisan criminal justice reforms that we enacted last year. At the heart of the reforms was a refocus on meaningful rehabilitation. As rehabilitated offenders reenter society, it benefits everyone to ensure that they are able to get coverage for medical care instead of using costly ER services.”



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# More isn't always better when it comes to health care, older Americans say – but many see mismatch in need & use

## *U-M/AARP National Poll on Healthy Aging looks at perceived overuse of tests and medicines from the patient's perspective*

ANN ARBOR, MI – Doctors and older patients may disagree more often than either of them suspects about whether a particular medical test or medicine is truly necessary, according to findings from a new poll of Americans over age 50.

Improving communication about that mismatch of opinions, the poll suggests, might reduce the use of unneeded scans, screenings, medications and procedures – and health care costs as well.

Only 14 percent of people over age 50 believe that more is usually better when it comes to health care, according to the new findings ([link is external](#)) from the National Poll on Healthy Aging ([link is external](#)).

But one in four say their health providers often order tests or prescribe drugs that they don't think they really need. One in six said it had happened in the last year -- but about half of them followed through with the test or filled the prescription anyway.

On the flip side, about 1 in 10 of those polled said their doctor or other health provider had told them that a test or medication they'd asked for wasn't needed. Most of them said the provider explained why, but 40 percent didn't completely understand the explanation.

The poll was conducted in a nationally representative sample of 2,007 Americans between the ages of 50 and 80 by the University of Michigan Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation ([link is external](#)). It was sponsored by AARP ([link is external](#)) and Michigan Medicine, U-M's academic medical center.

“The new findings suggest patients and providers need to work together more to prevent overuse of health care services that provide the least value to patients,” says U-M's Jeffrey Kullgren, M.D., M.S., M.P.H. ([link is external](#)), who designed the poll and analyzed its results.

“Patients should speak up when they aren't sure if a test or medication recommended to them is needed,” he says. “And providers need to communicate about how a

particular service will – or will not – affect the patient's health, both when they're recommending it and when a patient has requested it.”

### Overuse from the patient perspective

Kullgren, an assistant professor of internal medicine and a member of IHPI, has studied overuse and appropriate use of many types of health care. But, he says, most studies have been done from the point of view of providers or health care systems. That has led many to focus on patient demand, and resistance to being denied a service they expect or have asked for, as major drivers of overuse and cost.

The new poll data give the perspective of those who use the most health care in America – older adults. In all, 54 percent of those polled said that in general, they believe that health providers often recommend tests, medications or procedures that patients don't really need.

This means doctors and other clinicians may have more leeway than they might realize to hold back on recommending services that hold little or no value for a particular type of patient – or to help patients understand why a service they're asking for probably won't help them.

“These survey results show us that more attention needs to be focused on improving communication between patients and doctors,” says Alison Bryant, Ph.D., senior vice president of research for AARP. “Encouraging patients and doctors to routinely discuss the need for recommended procedures and medications should help prevent unnecessary treatments and cut health care costs.”

To help providers and patients accomplish this, Kullgren points to the “Choosing Wisely ([link is external](#))” website created by medical professional groups as a central source of information about which tests and treatments hold low value for certain patients. It provides specific examples, based on medical research,

and gives explanations using language that both patients and providers can understand.

“Using such information during a clinic visit, and providing it to a patient after recommending a service or turning down a request, could go a long way toward reducing overuse,” says Preeti Malani, M.D. ([link is external](#)), director of the National Poll on Healthy Aging and a professor of internal medicine at the U-M Medical School who specializes in infectious diseases and geriatrics.

And when a provider recommends a medical service but the patient isn't sure it is needed, better communication could increase use of services that provide the most value, she adds.

In the poll, 50 percent of the patients who had been told they needed an x-ray, blood test or other test, but weren't sure they needed it, went on to have it anyway. Among those who had received a medication recommendation that they didn't think they needed, 41 percent still filled the prescription.

If the provider had recommended those tests or medicines based on evidence that they held high value for that particular patient, then it's concerning if some patients didn't follow through. But past research has shown that providers sometimes order tests or prescribe medications without being aware of the latest evidence about who gets the most benefit from them, and who doesn't. They may even order them to avoid patient dissatisfaction or legal liability.

The poll results are based on answers from a nationally representative sample of 2,007 people ages 50 to 80. The poll respondents answered a wide range of questions online. Questions were written, and data interpreted and compiled, by the IHPI team. Laptops and Internet access were provided to poll respondents who did not already have it.

A full report of the findings and methodology is available at [www.healthyagingpoll.org](http://www.healthyagingpoll.org)



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**INTERSECTION OF BUSINESS & WEALTH**

# Gov. Rick Snyder: Marshall Plan investment will make Michigan the national model in developing and attracting talent

DETROIT – Michigan needs to make dramatic, innovative changes to the way it prepares people for careers to address an expanding talent gap in key industries, Gov. Rick Snyder said today, unveiling his Marshall Plan for Talent.

The announcement was made at the Michigan Science Center’s engineering theater, surrounded by interactive exhibits that allow youth to experience hands-on how mechanics and engineering move the world. Gov. Snyder explained how investments and partnerships to invest, develop and attract talent will keep the state’s surging economy on track. This will help more Michiganders find good-paying jobs in high-demand career fields well into the future.

“Our state’s economic reinvention already has connected more than 540,000 Michiganders with new private-sector jobs, but many more jobs are still going unfilled,” Snyder said. “The demand for talented workers in dynamic fields like computer science and the professional trades is going to continue to grow as Michigan grows and we need to be ready.”

The plan calls for investing \$100 million in new funding dedicated to innovative programs, including competency-based certification, assistance for schools to improve curricula and classroom equipment, scholarships and stipends, and support for career navigators and teachers. The funding will complement the more than \$225 million in funding dedicated to ongoing talent development efforts in Michigan. Since 2011, the state has increased K-12 education funding by \$1.9 billion, including significant investments in resources for career and technical education, middle college programs and equipment, and increased spending in science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs to get

students excited about opportunities in these fields of study.

“The Marshall Plan will transform how we prepare our talent for the careers of tomorrow,” said Lt. Gov. Brian Calley. “By thinking outside the box and investing in the training that will prepare Michiganders for well-paying, in-demand careers, we will not just be competitive, Michigan will be the talent leader.”

Michigan will need to consider talent preparation changes for many fields, but shortages are likely to be most severe in increasingly high-skill, high-tech fields such as in information technology and computer science, manufacturing, healthcare, and other professional trades careers.

Gov. Snyder has worked with Roger Curtis, director of the Department of Talent and Economic Development, and Brian Whiston, the state superintendent, to encourage the business community to connect more closely with educators in K-12 districts, community colleges and universities. Employers also need to adapt to changes in the supply of talent by changing their requirements for hiring, recognizing many in-demand skills can be acquired through certificate programs and two-year degrees. Some employers statewide have already committed to working with community college and high-school certification programs to prepare more students to get hired in these fields. Existing job providers with partnerships include Microsoft, Cisco, FANUC, Ford and GM.

Michigan will have more than 811,000 career openings to fill through 2024 in fields that are facing a talent shortage. To be successful, students need to master skills that lead to lifelong learning.

“The Marshall Plan for Talent is a comprehensive effort that will challenge and inspire government, educators and employers to work more closely than ever and recognize Michigan’s economic future depends on their collaboration – because none of them can do this alone,” Curtis said. “The world is changing at a pace we could not even imagine. It’s not going to let up, nor will it wait for Michigan to catch up. This is our moment. We must decide Michigan will be the leader in investing, developing, and attracting talent, and then make it happen.”

The Marshall Plan for Talent builds on the work of Snyder’s 21st Century Education Commission, the recommendations of the Michigan Career Pathways Alliance and the Michigan Department of Education’s Top 10 in 10 initiative.

Curtis, who was a member of the commission and is co-leader of the Career Pathways Alliance, said the state has some school districts and colleges with exceptional programs, and the state has partnerships with tech leaders, including Cisco, Microsoft and Facebook. But the efforts need to reach all parts of the state so more students are aware of these career pathways and have access to strong programs, allowing employers to attract talent to create more and better jobs.

“The Marshall Plan will accelerate innovation at every level of Michigan’s system of education,” Whiston said. “Our schools will be hubs for career exploration, education, training, and partnerships. I’m excited to see how far and wide this will reach!”

Additional details about the Marshall Plan are available at [michigan.gov/marshallplan](http://michigan.gov/marshallplan).

# New York-based fitness brand set to make first foray into Michigan with 20-gym agreement with Michigan natives Draymond Green and partner Tom Shumaker



Blink Fitness and Golden State Warriors forward Draymond Green today announced a franchise development deal to bring at least 20 gyms to Michigan and Illinois. This announcement marks the two-time NBA Champion, All Star, Olympic Gold Medalist and Defensive Player of the Year's first investment in the premium-quality, value-based fitness brand as Blink launches its first venture into the Great Lakes region.

Blink has long challenged industry norms by celebrating how exercise makes you feel, not just how it makes you look, which is intrinsic to Green's personal fitness philosophy. He began his fitness journey at a young age, spending numerous hours at the local rec room in his hometown of Saginaw. With the self-confidence he built in the gym, Green has since achieved unparalleled levels of success in his basketball career. His investment in Blink marks a commitment to providing communities across the Midwest with a better option for physical fitness.

"I'm really excited about bringing Blink gyms to Michigan and Chicago. I think about where I grew up and the people I grew up with. We didn't have anything like Blink," said Green. "Everyone wants a cool place to get fit and workout. But lots of communities don't have any options. The places are either terrible or too expensive. We're going to change that. This is not an endorsement deal for

me. I'm going to invest my money and my time to partner with Blink to bring an amazing gym experience to these communities. "

Blink Fitness made the announcement official today, February 26th, with the release of a lighthearted video that shows Green serving as the President of Blink Fitness for a day in place of Blink's Todd Magazine.

The development agreements are signed with Green and Tom Shumaker, an experienced finance professional, to bring Blink's affordable, inclusive, high-quality fitness concept to their home state.

"Draymond and I both have the passion, drive and desire to win – and love putting in the work to get there. We are both ecstatic to be early franchise adopters of the Blink brand. I couldn't be more thrilled to have such a resilient, energetic and confident business partner with whom to tackle this new venture," added Shumaker.

While no locations have been formally announced, Green and Shumaker have been actively evaluating Detroit and its surrounding suburbs, Lansing, Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids and parts of the Chicagoland region.

A native of Saginaw, Michigan, Green played four years of basketball at Michigan State University where he led the school to two Final Four appearances and earned numerous NCAA and Big Ten awards. In 2015, he gave back to the university through a \$3.1 million donation, one of the largest sums ever given by an active athlete to their alma mater, to create a strength and conditioning center and fund scholarships for student-athletes. Green also sits on the advisory board and is an active member of RISE (Ross Initiative in Sports for Equality), a nonprofit dedicated to improving race relations and driving social progress through the unifying power of sports.

Shumaker, originally from Grosse Pointe, Michigan, attended the University of Detroit Jesuit High School and has an extensive athletic background of his own. At Georgetown University, he played tennis as a freshman and then switched to rowing for his last three years. After graduating, Shumaker spent over a decade as an investment banker in New York and Chicago. He also continued his athletic pursuits including four Boston Marathons, two Ironman triathlons and regular competitions as a masters rower.

"Draymond and Tom are the perfect franchisees for Blink because of their complementary skill sets, shared passion for fitness, and deep knowledge of the Midwest market," said Blink Fitness President Todd Magazine. "This deal is extremely significant to Blink's national expansion because it represents a stronghold in the Midwest, adding to our East and West Coast footprint."

Blink offers a truly unique experience to its members based on a company philosophy of Mood Above Muscle™, which celebrates the positive feelings you get from exercise rather than just the physical benefits. Their Feel Good Experience® comes to life in each gym through a commitment to providing contemporary and colorful design, elevated customer service, relentless focus on cleanliness, energizing music and confidence-boosting training programs.

Since launching the brand in 2011, Blink has opened nearly 70 company-owned locations serving over 370,000 members throughout New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and California. The company also has more than 40 additional gyms, both corporate and franchisee-owned, under contract in various U.S. markets.

According to Magazine, Blink will have approximately 90 locations open and operating by the end of the year. He also expects Blink to surpass the 300-unit mark over the next five years.

# Michigan Growth Capital Symposium Final Call for Early to Mid-Stage Midwest Companies Seeking Funding



ANN ARBOR, Mich., Feb. 22, 2018 / PRNewswire/ -- The Michigan Growth Capital Symposium (MGCS) issued its final call for applications from Midwest startups seeking early through mid-stage investments for the opportunity to pitch to its audience of national investors. The 37th MGCS will be held at the Marriott Resort in Ypsilanti, Mich. on May 15-16, where 400 investors, founders and tech transfer professionals are expected to attend.

Companies applying to present will be preferably from the Midwest and seeking seed, series A or B rounds of funding. Each application is reviewed and evaluated by a team of venture capitalists. Selected companies will be given a 15 minute presentation slot and will have access to presentation coaching prior to the symposium. Companies are also offered table-top exhibit space for the duration of the two-day event. Selected

companies will be notified on March 27.

Year after year, the MGCS provides important visibility to companies and connections with top investment firms throughout the United States. David Grandin, president and CEO of Kiio in Madison, Wisconsin made a presentation to investors at the 2017 Michigan Growth Capital Symposium in an effort to raise a \$5 million Series B round of financing. "I met multiple potential investors," he reports. "Our story was appealing to them, and we've kept in touch." Grandin hopes to close on the B round in the first half of 2018.

Applications are due before 11:59 p.m. ET on Tuesday, March 6. Apply online at [www.michigan-gcs.com](http://www.michigan-gcs.com) under the "Presenting Company" tab.

## About the Michigan Growth Capital Symposium

The Michigan Growth Capital Symposium (MGCS) is the original university-based venture investment fair, which was first held in 1981. This decades-old nationally attended event is the largest Midwest fair of its kind that brings together venture capital investors, business angels, start-up companies, university tech transfer officers and research faculty. MGCS provides an opportunity for participants from the venture capital community to connect with Midwest start-ups seeking funding and to learn about emerging innovations that span tech and the life sciences. MGCS is presented by the Center for Venture Capital & Private Equity Finance and the Zell Lurie Institute at the University of Michigan Ross School of Business, with support from the Michigan Venture Capital Association.

## Means Industries, Inc. Appoints New President



has great depth in product, process, transmission and systems knowledge," Holt said. "The core technologies are highly relevant to today's high efficiency transmissions and will have an evolving role in tomorrow's electrified transmission requirements. I look forward to working with the team to support our customers internationally with our full range of capabilities."

Holt succeeds Bill Shaw, who during his successful 24-year tenure as president of Means Industries Inc., built the company into a leading Tier 1 supplier of clutch systems and advanced powertrain components. During Shaw's tenure, Means Industries Inc., acquired TransForm Automotive, an industry-leading manufacturer of precision powertrain components and assemblies. In recent years, Means Industries Inc., laid the groundwork for future growth, winning business on the new generation of 8/9/10 speed transmissions for the global markets.

Holt has a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering, and a Master of Business Administration, both from the University of Bradford, England. He is a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), presently serving as a member of the leadership committee for the SAE North American Powertrain Conference.

Means Industries, Inc., headquartered in Saginaw, Michigan, is an automotive technology company focused on producing pioneering solutions for propulsion systems and powertrain products. Means is a division of AMSTED Industries, based in Chicago. AMSTED Industries is a diversified, global manufacturer of industrial components serving the railroad, vehicular, construction, and building markets.

SAGINAW, Mich., Feb. 19, 2018 / PRNewswire/ -- Powertrain product supplier, Means Industries Inc., announced today the appointment of Jeremy Holt as its new president.

Most recently, Holt was with TREMEC SA de CV, where he was global vice president for business development, marketing, sales, application engineering and strategy, as well as the head of TREMEC's U.S. business since 2012.

Prior to TREMEC, Holt was CEO of Nxtgen Emission Controls and served in senior leadership positions at both Ricardo PLC and the Piston Products Group of T&N plc (acquired by Federal Mogul).

"I am excited to join the Means team that

## Opperman Appointed as Interim President & CEO of the Midland Business Alliance



Midland, Michigan – The Midland Business Alliance (MBA) is pleased to announce it has appointed Sarah Opperman as interim President & CEO. This announcement follows the resignation of Bill Allen, who will vacate the role on February 28.

Opperman, a retiree of The Dow Chemical Company, brings 28 years of public affairs and leadership experience to the MBA. She joined The Dow Chemical Company in 1981 and served in a variety of public affairs roles during her career, retiring in 2009 as vice president of Global Government Affairs and Public Policy. During her tenure, she was awarded the Genesis Award for people excellence.

"We are thrilled to bring Sarah on board as the new leader of the MBA," said Diane Postler-Slatery, chair of the MBA board and President & CEO of MidMichigan Health. "We are confident that she has the skill set to keep our strategic plan on track and move the organization forward in this time of transition. She has demonstrated strong leadership skills that make her a great fit for this role."

Opperman also brings extensive community involvement to the organization. She has been a director of Isabella Bank Corporation since 2012, serves on several committees and chairs the Loan Committee. In addition, she chairs the MidMichigan Health Foundation and serves on the board of the United Way of Midland County. She was appointed to the Central Michigan University (CMU) Board of Trustees in 2009, and served as chair twice during her eight-year appointment.

A native of Frankenmuth, Opperman graduated from CMU with a B.S. degree in Business and Journalism. She and her husband, Dan, have made Midland their home for more than 25 years. They have two grown sons, Thomas and Matthew.

Opperman will begin her role at the MBA in early March. During this time, the MBA Board of Directors will take time to evaluate this position before beginning the search for a permanent leader.

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## EDUCATION

# SVSU forensics team continues strong season, takes second place in the state



*courtesy photo*

Saginaw Valley State University's competitive public speaking team placed second overall in the 2018 Michigan Intercollegiate Speech League Novice States Tournament.

SVSU students were among those from seven Michigan colleges and universities who competed in various public speaking categories at Hillsdale College Saturday, Feb. 17.

Coached by Amy Pierce, associate professor of

communication, SVSU's current team has shown determination in preparing for their tournaments. The group is almost entirely comprised of novice competitors, meaning they have performed in fewer than six tournaments.

Three SVSU students won their respective events, and all seven SVSU students involved in this competition placed in the top of their respective categories.

Kelley Gray, a communication major from Sandusky, won the programmed oral interpretation category. Darius Henry, a communication major from Chesterfield Township, won first place in the prose category. Tiler Jewel, a creative writing major from Essexville, placed first in the informative category. Gray also placed fourth in the impromptu category, and Jewel also placed fifth in the persuasion category.

Other SVSU students who placed in their events include:

- Jenna Brown, a secondary education major from Saginaw, who won second place in the prose category.
- Jill Castle, a communication major from Standish, who earned a third-place finish in the after dinner speaking category.
- Jeremy Flood, a communication major from Freeland, who placed fourth in the extemporaneous speaking category.
- Jayla Gaskins, a communication major from Detroit, who finished second in both the dramatic interpretation and programmed oral interpretation categories.

By virtue of their success at the fall Michigan Intercollegiate Speech League tournament, three SVSU students already have qualified to compete in the National Forensic Association National Championship tournament scheduled April 19-23 at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. Castle and Jewel will be joined by Jew Brickel, a criminal justice major from Midland.

SVSU's forensics team will continue their season in March, when they will travel to Eastern Michigan University for the next Michigan Intercollegiate Speech League States Tournament.



# CMU President addresses Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education



*courtesy photo*

Central Michigan University President George E. Ross testified Thursday afternoon before the Michigan Senate Appropriations Subcommittee in Lansing, talking about Central Michigan University's economic impact, scholarship funding, student academic experiences, and efforts to maintain a safe campus.

Ross praised the Legislature and Gov. Rick Snyder for seven years of reinvestment in higher education yet noted the state lags much of the nation.

Michigan ranked 20th in per capita state fiscal support of higher education in 2001, compared with 43rd today. In 2001, average state support was

nearly \$10,000 per student. Today, it falls shy of \$5,400.

"We at Central Michigan University believe strongly that if our Great Lakes state wants a shot at the next Amazon second headquarters-type project, we must propel our economy forward by investing in students and families pursuing degrees," Ross said.

"CMU students find academic excellence, personalized learning, leadership opportunities, hands-on experiences, a strong sense of community, and an extraordinary network of support."

Highlights of Ross' testimony include:

- CMU had a \$1.2 billion economic impact statewide in fiscal year 2016. A study by the Anderson Economic Group also shows that CMU accounted for the creation of nearly 12,000 Michigan jobs.
- CMU has increased financial aid and scholarship funding by 87 percent over the past eight years. Students receive more than \$61 million in university-funded scholarships and more than \$300 million in private, state and federal awards and grants each year.
- CMU's inaugural class of medical students graduated last May, and all 62 physicians were placed in residencies. Nearly half of these residencies are in Michigan, upholding CMU's mission of providing medical care in rural and medically underserved urban communities.
- Nearly 90 percent of CMU's on-campus students are Michigan natives and represent every county in Michigan. Most choose to stay in the state after graduation, contributing to Michigan's economic rebirth.
- CMU is a leader in procedures, policies and services regarding sexual misconduct and maintaining a safe environment for all students, faculty, staff and community members. Ross cited CMU's 40-year history on the forefront of Title IX; online training for faculty, staff and students; cross-campus collaboration to educate and support students and to address issues; and resources such as the nationally renowned "No Zebras, No Excuses" program and CMU's Sexual Aggression Peer Advocates.

"We are redoubling our efforts to be responsible, accountable and ultimately aware of what's happening around us. We are committed to equal educational and employment opportunities and to the elimination of all forms of prohibited discrimination, harassment and sexual misconduct," Ross said.

# Michigan Continues to Improve in Advanced Placement Exam Performance

LANSING – Over 20 percent of Michigan’s 2017 class of graduating high schoolers scored a 3 or higher on the national Advanced Placement (AP) Exam, qualifying them for college credit, placement, or both, the Michigan Department of Education announced (MDE) today.

According to College Board’s AP Cohort Data Report for the nation’s public schools’ graduating class last year, Michigan’s score of 20.6 percent ranks it 21st nationwide, marking a continuous improvement over the past 10 years. In 2007, Michigan had 11.5 percent of its graduating class score a 3 or higher. That nine-point improvement ranks Michigan 14th nationwide for growth.

“This continued growth shows we’re making progress to make Michigan a Top 10 education state in 10 years,” State Superintendent Brian Whiston said. “We all have more work to do and I have great confidence that our schools will continue to improve and provide a great benefit to Michigan families.”

AP Exams are college-level tests administered by the College Board. Michigan transitioned to using the not-for-profit organization’s standardized college admissions exam, the SAT, as part of the Michigan Merit Examination in 2016. The state began offering the PSAT 8/9 to freshmen; the PSAT 10 to sophomores; and the SAT to juniors during regular school hours at no charge.

In 2017, 20,069 Michigan high schoolers, or 20.6 percent, scored from 3 to 5, according to the College Board. Based on students’ opportunity to earn at least three college credits for each AP Exam score of 3 or higher, this represents an estimated 208,484 college credits. At an average rate of \$431.17 per credit hour, the total potential cost savings for the state’s students and families was \$90.3 million.

Nationwide, 1.17 million public high school students took 3.98 million AP Exams.

Research shows AP students are more college ready, and more likely than their non-AP peers to graduate



*istock.com*

from college in four years. Students earning prior college credit can save what they would otherwise have to pay for another year of college – on average, \$20,770 at public, four-year, in-state colleges; \$36,420 at public, four-year, out-of-state colleges; and \$46,950 at private, four-year colleges or universities.

Meanwhile, 21 Michigan public and private school districts were named to the College Board’s 8th Annual AP District Honor Roll, an award recognizing districts that increase both student AP access and student percentage earning scores of 3 or higher.

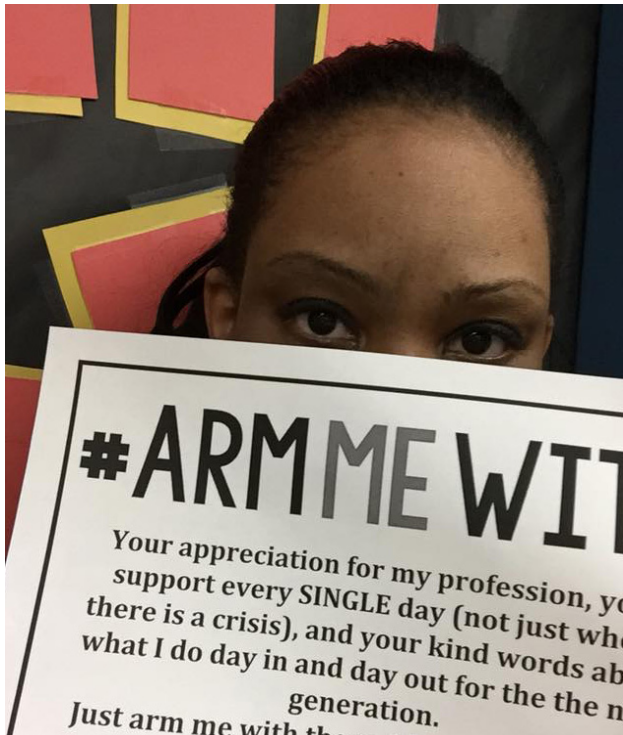
They are:

Anchor Bay School District  
Bath Community Schools  
Capac Community Schools  
DeWitt Public Schools

Diocese of Lansing Education Office  
East Lansing Public Schools  
Glen Lake Community Schools  
Holt Public Schools  
Kalkaska Public Schools  
Lakeview School District (Battle Creek)  
Lakewood Public School District  
Marshall Public Schools  
Novi Community School District  
Paw Paw Public Schools  
Rochester Community Schools  
Rockford Public Schools  
Roscommon Area Public Schools  
South Lyon Community Schools  
Swartz Creek Community Schools  
Tecumseh Public Schools  
Vicksburg Community Schools

For more results, visit:  
<https://reports.collegeboard.org/ap-program-results>.

# Michigan Education Association Members Speak Up About Gun Violence



Jessyca Mathews is one of many MEA members engaging online with the #ArmMeWith movement.

From newspaper editorial pages, to social media hashtags and MEA's petition drive, Michigan Education Association members are raising their voices against calls by President Donald Trump to arm teachers – especially given that such a proposal has already passed the state Senate in Michigan.

Glen Young is an 18-year English teacher at Petoskey High School, secretary of the local union, and a freelance writer and sportsman. He's also a gun owner opposed to allowing school employees and others to carry concealed weapons in schools.

After watching a meeting between Trump and school shooting victims and their family members last week on television, Young drafted an open letter to the president and pressed for it to be published as a guest column in the Petoskey newspaper.

"Unless we find a way to limit access to semi-automatic and automatic weapons, keeping them from citizens bent on mayhem, all the handguns in the country in the hands of all the teachers in our schools will not prevent the next mass shooting," he wrote in the column.

Young said he moved quickly to write and deliver the editorial to the newspaper to capture the momentum in the conversation. It's important for MEA members to speak up, because the trained, experienced classroom professionals need to be heard, he added.

"I think a great deal of the noise surrounding the problem of school shootings and how teachers might or should be involved in addressing the problem is driven by folks who spend no time in the schools, so are misinformed often about the practical ways suggestions like this might look in classrooms and hallways and other school spaces."

Several thousand people have signed MEA's petition against allowing concealed weapons in schools, but we're looking to increase that number – and deliver loud and clear messages from our members and parents.

The petition asks respondents to share real solutions educators need to be armed with instead of guns. So far, suggestions have included smaller class sizes to allow for more individual attention; a ban on military-style assault weapons which have no place in the hands of civilians; more resources for families and students to receive counseling and other support services.

"Students are struggling with depression, anxiety, mental health issues, domestic parental issues, and basic life needs (food, clothing, housing, safety, etc.)," wrote one petition respondent. "Why don't you come spend a week in my world before telling schools what we need or don't need?"

That plea is echoed again and again in the MEA petition:

"I have had students who were very clearly disturbed individuals (some even diagnosed with conduct disorder), but we were unable to get these students proper placement, services, or treatment because of 'budget constraints.' There needs to be a system in place that actually works to catch these students who are falling through the cracks."

School psychologists are trained and uniquely qualified to play that role, but they are stretched too thin in Michigan and elsewhere, according to Erin Henze, an MEA member and associate professor of psychology at University of Detroit Mercy.

The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) recommends a student-to-school-psychologist ratio of 500-700:1. However, most school psychologists are dealing with a ratio of two to three times that number, Henze said.

"The effect is that they... do not have enough time to engage in other areas in which they are well trained, such as consultation, direct intervention, and developing and implementing school-wide programs to prevent academic and behavioral difficulties."

Many MEA members have also joined the social media movement known as #ArmMeWith. Flint social justice activist Jessyca Mathews used her platform to promote the movement, introducing her #ArmMeWith message with a yearning for educator voices to be heard and respected.

"Ask me what I want to be armed with instead of telling me. Ask me. Listen TO me. Save me from insanity," she wrote on Facebook. The post included a selfie with her holding a placard: "#ArmMeWith your appreciation for my profession, your support every single day (not just when there is a crisis), and your kind words about what I do day in and day out for the next generation. Just arm me with these things so that I have the strength to continue for your kids."



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.

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3200 Perkins Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
Phone 989.752.2193  
Fax 989.921.7146

**Office Hours**  
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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](http://www.saginawheadstart.org)

Source: [www.saginawheadstart.org](http://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. Congrsmn., 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***

## FUNDRAISING GOOD TIMES

# The Reality of Change

Change is at the core of life. It is who we are at our very core. Like it or not, we – and our organizations – are always changing. Sometimes we are conscious of it, sometimes not. But that doesn't mean it isn't going on. Change can be about growth, it can be about deterioration, and everything in between. Related to this, what appears to be growth from one perspective can be experienced as deterioration when viewed from another lens.

There are times when we are forced to change. The impetus can be internal or it can come from the outside. On a personal level we may learn that we need to “change our ways” during a visit to the doctor, or when talking with a loved one. As an organization we may be “encouraged” to change by funders, investors or the communities we represent and serve. In all cases we respond, for even a delay or no response is in fact a response.

But change is hard. How do we live up to our personal and professional aspirations? How do we as leaders engage ourselves and others in creating organizational and community change?

When we say “change is hard” we don't mean that change is negative or insurmountable. What we know is that making and sustaining change requires more than good intentions. Those intentions are a critical starting point and building block, but they are not enough. They need to be supported by resources, systems and infrastructure. These three – when combined with intention – are key to who we are and what we can achieve. They are also often overlooked.

Many of us – as individuals and organizations – are asked to do more with less and are held accountable to a standard that is defined by those with greater access to resources, systems and infrastructure, and who may not be aware of the imbalance or inequity.

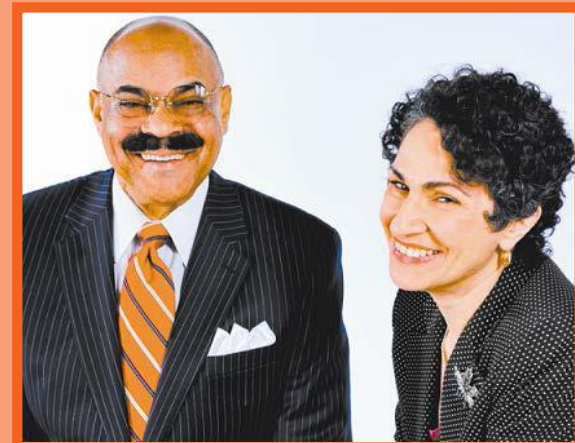
The question “Why can't you get to work on time?” is a reasonable question when asked by a person with consistent access to reliable transportation and child care. Here's an organizational example, “Why can't you hire and retain a strong fundraising professional?” Again, a reasonable question if the organization has a healthy work culture, engaged executive, a history of successful fundraising, technology and volunteers, and the ability to compensate at a level commensurate with skill and experience. That may not be a lot to ask of some organizations. It is almost impossible when asked of others, especially those that are historically under-resourced and over-committed.

The resources, systems and infrastructure that support change can be expensive in terms of time and money. Many of us can change when we are in a crisis – at such times we feel forced to.

The question is this: how do we as a culture and community support change and transformation outside of a crisis situation?



**“What if we don't change at all ... and something magical just happens.”**



*Copyright 2018 – Mel and Pearl Shaw*

*Mel and Pearl Shaw are authors of four books on fundraising available on Amazon.com. For help growing your fundraising visit [www.saadandshaw.com](http://www.saadandshaw.com) or call (901) 522-8727.*

## COMMUNITY

# SVSU students collect \$25k for cancer research during Relay for Life



Pictured: Saginaw Valley State University students, faculty and staff are shown walking around the track of O'Neill Arena during Relay for Life Friday, Feb. 23. The SVSU community raised more than \$25,000 to benefit the American Cancer Society. (Photo credit: Kyle Will)

Saginaw Valley State University students raised more than \$25,000 during the annual Relay for Life fundraiser on campus Friday, Feb. 23.

“The event went really well,” said Jessica Hacker, a Kawkawlin native who graduated from SVSU in December with a degree in psychology and helped organize the event. “From a committee standpoint, we were excited to see the profitable outcomes of the various teams that joined as well as the great participant turn out.”

SVSU students, faculty, and staff; former and

current cancer patients; their caregivers; and members of the community filled the O'Neill Arena at SVSU on Feb. 23, when they took turns walking or running around a track and taking part in various activities to raise money. Proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society.

Silent auctions, donation-based activities, and competitive fundraising all contributed to the success of this year's Relay for Life.

“Along with the money raised, the interesting games and group performances contributed to the success

of the night, keeping things fun and upbeat,” Hacker said.

The money raised support the American Cancer Society's efforts to fund groundbreaking cancer research, and provide information and critical services for people with cancer.

With \$25,750 already received, SVSU students will continue to promote the cause, as online donations will be accepted through August.

## Never-Before-Seen Objects to display at the Castle Museum



*Pictured: Waldo mandolin*

SAGINAW, Mich. – Not all artifacts donated to museums go on display in exhibitions. The Castle Museum of Saginaw County History, however, will showcase never-before-seen objects from its collection in the new exhibit, Stories from Saginaw County’s Attic opening Feb. 23.

“The Castle Museum collects hundreds of artifacts each year to preserve the community’s stories,” said Vice President and Chief Historian Tom Trombley. “Many of the things showcased in this exhibition are new to the collection or have not been displayed in a long time.”

Visitors will be able to see items such as: a sleigh made by Johann Friedrich Meyer, a miller and wagon maker who emigrated from the town of Auhausen and settled in Frankenmuth in 1857, objects from the 1884 Saginaw County Courthouse cornerstone and interior fittings from a 1930s beauty salon in Shields.

“Although many of the objects are seemingly unrelated, careful study will reveal important relationships, connections and layers of history,” Trombley explained. “We hope visitors leave with an understanding of the breadth and diversity of the museum’s collection, and encourage them to look at their family’s heirlooms to learn more about their history.”

Stories from Saginaw County’s Attic will be on display to the public Feb. 23 through the end of April 2018.

Historical Society of Saginaw County members will have the opportunity to attend a special exhibit preview opening Thursday, Feb. 22 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

For more information about this exhibit, please call 989-752-2861 or visit [www.castlemuseum.org](http://www.castlemuseum.org).



*Pictured: model of the Niagara ship*



Get ready!! It is time to mark your calendar for the premier cooking event of the year....These Men Can Cook! We are rolling out a brand new name for this signature event with a brand new look and logo too. The name may be new, but the event stays as great and fun as it has always been. Now is the time to start planning your recipe, saving the date and telling your family and friends.

### EVENT DETAILS

**Date:** Thursday, April 19, 2018

**Location:** Apple Mountain Resort

**Time:** 5:30 p.m. Cocktails and Conversation  
6:00 p.m. Parade of Chefs  
6:15 p.m. Food Tasting and Festivities  
7:45 p.m. Announcement of Winners

As one of our chefs, you prepare one of your favorite dishes and then share sample servings with the guests attending the night of the event. We draw a large crowd, but you are only responsible for providing 30-40 sample size servings. You and the other chefs will have stations all set up in the main room and then the fun really begins. It is an event like no other in Saginaw and we know you will want to be a part of this year’s festivities.

Proceeds from this event benefit the programs of the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to: Ashley Lister, Chairperson at [alister@wildfirecu.org](mailto:alister@wildfirecu.org) or call 989-249-8292 or Kristina Kukla, Co-Chair at [marketing@saginawbayorchestra.com](mailto:marketing@saginawbayorchestra.com) or call 989-755-6471.



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*Tom Metiva, Trustee for Tittabawassee Township  
A Founder and Board Member - Freeland Sports Zone*



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# Visit these Flint Art Exhibits before they go



## FLINT INSTITUTE OF ARTS

The second largest art collection in Michigan features rotating exhibitions in their Hodge Galleries, Ann K. Walch-Chan Gallery and Graphic Gallery. Don't miss these current exhibits:

### **Ubuhle Women: Beadwork and the Art of Independence**

*Through March 31*

This exhibition features a new form of textile art known as ndwango developed by a community of women living and working together in rural South Africa.

### **The Art of Containment – Vessels from the Sidney Swidler Collection**

*Through March 18*

This exhibition features 100 pieces from Sidney Swidler's large collection. Pieces show the versatility of the vessel.

### **Rhythms and Experiences: Everyday Life in 19th-century Japanese Prints**

*Through April 15*

This exhibition features works from some of Japan's most prominent print artists.



## MOTT-WARSH GALLERY

The permanent home of the Mott-Warsh Collection, MW Gallery provides a welcoming environment to engage with fine art created by artists of African diaspora. Don't miss its current exhibit:

### **Visual Freedom: African American Abstractionist from the Mott-Warsh Collection**

This exhibition features over 30 artworks dating from post-World War II to the present.

## BUCKHAM GALLERY

Built from an artist collaborative project in the 1980s, Buckham Gallery seeks to fulfill the city's need for a local exhibition and performance venue. Don't miss its current exhibit:

### **Never Done – The Work of Five Women** *Through March 3*

This exhibition features work for five different women artists.



# Consumers Energy Employees Taking Part in Walks for Warmth to Help Michigan Residents Stay Warm This Winter

With Michigan enduring a historically cold winter, Consumers Energy employees are encouraging community members to join them in Walks for Warmth across Michigan, raising funds to help families to stay warm.

"We want to do everything we can to help people in the communities we serve to stay warm and safe," said Brian Rich, Consumers Energy's senior vice president for customer experience. "Walks for Warmth provide immediate help to those who need it the most, and that's especially important during a cold winter like this one."

Over 2,000 Consumers Energy employees, friends and family members raised nearly \$200,000

through Walks for Warmth last year. The company is matching every dollar that employees, family members and friends raise through 30 Walk for Warmth events.

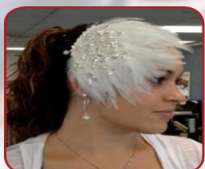
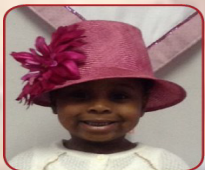
Since 2012, Consumers Energy and employees have raised more than \$1 million through the walks. This year, Consumers Energy also has provided another \$10 million to help people with heating bills.

Hundreds of Consumers Energy employees already took part Friday, Feb. 16, in the Walk for Warmth event in Jackson, which started at noon at the company's headquarters and extended through downtown.

Community Action Agencies organize local Walk for Warmth events. Participants raise money that assists Michigan residents with energy bills. No money is spent on administrative costs.

Consumers Energy employees and community members participated or will participate in walks throughout Michigan, including Flint, Lansing, Saginaw and Macomb County. See the full schedule at [www.ConsumersEnergy.com/walk](http://www.ConsumersEnergy.com/walk).

Consumers Energy, Michigan's largest energy provider, is the principal subsidiary of CMS Energy (NYSE: CMS), providing natural gas and/or electricity to 6.7 million of the state's 10 million residents in all 68 Lower Peninsula counties.



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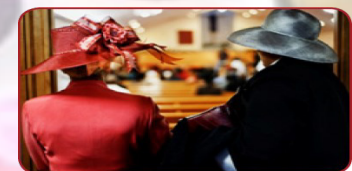
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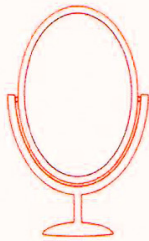
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# Michigan Law Enforcement Memorial Launches New Website, Honors Michigan's Fallen Officers

MICHIGAN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL MONUMENT  
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ABOUT DONATE NEWS

**SUPPORT MICHIGAN'S FALLEN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**

Donations for the construction and endowment of the Memorial are ongoing. On June 30, 2014, Governor Rick Snyder signed into law 2014 PA 252, supporting the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Monument Fund with a special grant. The grant provides up to \$2 million in matching funds from the Michigan Legislature. Matching funds will continue until October 2018. Donations can be made by credit card online at the state of Michigan e-Store. Clicking on the link below will take you directly to the official state of Michigan e-Store donation page for the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Monument. Donations can be made in increments of \$10.

**DONATE TODAY**

In the ongoing efforts to pay tribute to those that have given their lives in protection of all Michiganders, The Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Monument Fund Commission unveiled a new website today at [www.mleom.org](http://www.mleom.org).

The new, easy-to-use site provides information about the Commission and efforts underway to fund and build a memorial monument to pay tribute to the approximately 600 Michigan law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

“This new website clearly lays out the vision for our memorial honoring the brave officers who sacrificed everything to keep us all safe,” said John Szczubelek, assistant attorney general and chairperson of the Michigan Law Enforcement

Officers Memorial Monument Fund Commission. “Visitors can easily access donation opportunities as well as see major project milestones.”

The new website features a simplified donation process, a feature the Commission hopes will push them over their \$350,000 fundraising goal.

“All donations leading up to Oct. 1, 2018 are doubled through a state matching grant,” Szczubelek stated. “Each and every donation, no matter how large or how small, is important in making the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Monument a reality.”

The Commission asks residents and businesses to consider donating to support the Michigan Law

Enforcement Officers Memorial Monument. Tax deductible donations can be made online by visiting [www.mleom.org](http://www.mleom.org).

The website was redesigned through a collaboration between the Commission and the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget.

The Michigan Legislature created the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Monument Fund 12 years ago to oversee the financing, design and construction of a permanent memorial monument to honor the approximately 600 Michigan law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

## NON-PROFIT DIRECTORY

**CAN Council Saginaw County**

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Fax: 989-752-2777  
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jdarby@greatlakespace.org

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Saginaw, MI 48607  
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**Houghton-Jones Task Force**

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**Lighthouse Outreach Center**

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**Mobile Medical Response**

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**Saginaw County Business & Education  
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**Saginaw County Community Action  
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**The Saginaw Community Foundation**

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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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office@faithharvestministry.org

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**Life in Christ Ministries**

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989-401-4465  
LifeInChristMinistries07@gmail.com

**Messiah Missionary Baptist Church**

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

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989-752-8064

**New Beginnings Life Changing Ministries**

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989-755-3650

**New Birth Missionary Baptist**

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989-327-1755

**New Covenant Christian Center**

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989-752-8485

**New Hope Missionary Baptist Church**

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989-753-7600

**New Life Baptist Church**

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Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-753-1151

**New Mt. Calvary Baptist Church**

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Assistant Pastor Rex Jones  
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**Prince of Peace Baptist Church**

825 North 24th Street  
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989-754-2841  
Pastor Robert C. Corley Jr.

**St. John Ev. Lutheran Church**

Pastor Connie Sassanella  
915 Federal Avenue  
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Pastor Richard Sayad  
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## POLITICS &amp; PUBLIC POLICY

# Kildee Leads Michigan Congressional Delegation in Urging Action to Fund PFC/PFAS Health Study



Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) this week led a bipartisan letter, along with 10 Republicans and Democrats in the Michigan congressional delegation, asking Congress to support funding to address harmful chemicals that are linked to cancer and other health problems.

The letter, addressed to the House Appropriations Committee, seeks full funding for a health study on the human health impacts of exposure to perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs) and Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) to servicemembers and their families. The group also asked the committee to allow for the Department

of Defense (DOD) to use funding to study human exposure to PFAS at military installations.

In July 2017, the U.S. House of Representatives passed two bipartisan amendments championed by Congressman Kildee that authorized the DOD to conduct this study. The amendments also required the DOD to submit a report to Congress on the status of developing an alternative to PFAS.

In the U.S. Senate, Senators Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters also sent a letter to the Senate Appropriations Committee requesting full funding for the health study and the modification needed to allow the DOD to study human health exposure.

“Ensuring clean drinking water for Michiganders and taking care of veterans exposed to harmful chemicals like PFAS must be a priority for Congress and the Department of Defense,” Congressman Kildee. “Conducting a health study on the impacts of human exposure to PFAS will help us to better identify and take care of veterans and residents exposed to them. I will continue to work with Republicans and Democrats in Congress to address contamination issues around military bases like Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda and other military installations around the country.”

Firefighting foam used at former Wurtsmith Air Force Base and other military installations nationwide contain some types of PFAS that are causing health issues for veterans and local residents exposed to them. In 2013, high levels of these chemicals were discovered in fish in the Au Sable River close to Wurtsmith and then

subsequently in groundwater wells near the base. The concentrations are above the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) health advisory level, leaving many residents at risk to harm from these chemicals in their drinking water.

Years after high levels of PFAS were discovered near Wurtsmith, the DOD is still not acting with enough urgency to complete testing around military bases and develop a long-term solution to mitigate the health effects of people already exposed. Additionally, the EPA has not yet finalized its health standard for PFAS.

In 2013, a study was completed on people who were exposed to PFOA, a type of PFAS, outside of a factory in West Virginia. The study found that this PFAS exposure is linked to health issues such as high cholesterol, ulcerative colitis, thyroid disease, testicular cancer, kidney cancer and pregnancy-induced hypertension.

Since learning of PFAS contamination in drinking water around Wurtsmith Air Force Base, Congressman Kildee has repeatedly called on the Air Force to do more to help residents in the surrounding area get access to safe drinking water. Congressman Kildee also visited Oscoda multiple times to meet with local, state and air force officials to push for swift action. Congressman Kildee also met with Pat Breyse, then-Director of the CDC’s ATSDR to discuss PFAS’ impact on human health. Congressman Kildee continues to work closely with Oscoda Township, and federal, state and local agencies to prevent the further exposure to PFAS and provide residents with clean drinking water.



# Gov. Rick Snyder announces resignation of MDARD Director Jamie Clover Adams, appointment of Gordon Wenk as replacement



Lansing – Gov. Rick Snyder today announced that Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Director Jamie Clover Adams is stepping down, effective March 3, 2018. She has accepted a new position with the U.S. Department of Agriculture as an advisor in the office of the secretary. Snyder also announced that Gordon Wenk, currently MDARD's Chief Deputy Director, will be her replacement.

Clover Adams was appointed MDARD Director by Gov. Snyder in July 2012 and was the first woman to be appointed director of the state's agricultural department. Prior to becoming director, she worked in various governmental leadership roles for nearly 25 years, including the Michigan Senate, as well as Director of the Kansas Department of Agriculture from 1999-2003.

"Jamie has served the state of Michigan with incredible commitment and leadership," Snyder said. "She has been instrumental in the agricultural sector's job growth and in helping to push Michigan over the \$100 billion mark in economic impact from the food and agriculture industry. She will be missed, but we're proud to have her serving farmers at the national level."

Clover Adams said her time as MDARD director has been invaluable and that she is looking forward to taking her diverse experience in Michigan to help achieve Secretary Sonny Perdue's goal of making USDA the most efficient and effective federal department, providing the best customer service to farmers.

"I would like to thank Governor Snyder and his team for the opportunity to lead MDARD's amazing staff and serve the great people of Michigan," Clover Adams said. "Through a shared vision for the food and agriculture industry in Michigan, we have been able to rebuild the department to better serve our partners, create jobs, and protect consumers throughout Michigan and all the other states and countries that enjoy Michigan-made, Michigan-grown products. I know the department is being left in very capable hands, and I look forward to making an impact for farmers and conservation efforts on a national scale with the USDA."

As MDARD director, Clover Adams created the Food and Agriculture Investment Fund, repealed 44 percent of the department's antiquated rules, significantly improved customer service, created a performance excellence culture, and, most recently, took a key leadership role in addressing environmental stewardship in the Western Lake Erie Basin area.

Replacing Clover Adams will be Gordon Wenk, who currently serves as MDARD's Chief Deputy Director. Wenk began his professional career with the department in 1978. He was integral in the implementation of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program in partnership with the USDA and the Michigan Departments of Natural Resources and Environmental Quality. He also led in the development of the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program—a voluntary, farmer-led program now used as a national model for environmental programs. Wenk became MDARD's Chief Deputy Director in 2008.

"We're very fortunate to have an experienced leader like Gordon who can move seamlessly into his new role as MDARD director," Snyder said. "He has committed his entire career to the food and agriculture community and has done so with a focus on protecting and preserving our state's incredible natural resources. It's reassuring to know that the successful progress and goals of MDARD will continue."

"I look forward to continuing the positive momentum and critical projects that have been put into motion by Jamie," Wenk said. "Under her leadership, and that of Governor Snyder, the department has become an essential partner for our state's thriving food and agriculture industry, our capacity for providing quality customer service has improved tremendously, and we're operating more efficiently and effectively than ever. My goal is to build upon this success and continue to move MDARD forward."

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# Loons Ballpark Improvements Planned for 2018

## Playground, team store to receive upgrades during the summer



loons.com

MIDLAND, Mich. - With an exciting new upgrade already in place for the start of the 2018 season, the Michigan Baseball Foundation and the Great Lakes Loons are pleased to share two more improvements on the way at Dow Diamond over the next few months.

The popular playground area "Lou E's Lookout" presented by MidMichigan Health, has been a staple for children and families during Loons games since 2007. The two main structures provide kids of all age's innings of entertainment on summer evenings. Additional equipment will be added this season to give even more kids a chance to play together. The surface, designed to be soft and forgiving, will be completely replaced to guarantee the utmost safety.

Lou E's Lookout will be available to fans during every home during the season, with construction taking place in late June. Miracle Midwest, a premier outdoor recreation company based in Holly, Mich., will assist with the project. The new-look playground is tentatively set to be unveiled on June

28, the first Loons home game after the all-star break against the Lansing Lugnuts.

Located on the northwest side of the stadium, the "Loon Loft" team store is a two-story space filled with team merchandise. Coming this season, a yet-to-be-named retro gear store will occupy 400 square feet on the 1st floor of the Loon Loft. Fans will have a view of the retro store as they enter the home plate gates of the stadium.

The space will feature retro gear of the Loons, MLB teams, local colleges and other Michigan merchandise. Apparel will include tees, fleeces and caps in men's and women's sizes only. The grand opening is slated for May 1, with the store being open during the Loons season.

"Commitment to our fans is always top-of-mind with us and it's something we have and will continue to strive to do," Loons General Manager Scott Litle said. "Our hope is to continue to keep Dow Diamond a world-class entertainment venue

for our fans. From young to old, we want everyone to have an exceptional experience whenever they visit our ballpark."

These two projects come on the heels of the \$3 million investment in September 2017 to revamp the digital presentations throughout the stadium. Partnering with Daktronics, the Michigan Baseball Foundation installed the 5th largest video board in Minor League Baseball and largest in the Midwest League, measuring 31 feet tall by 80 feet wide. New 13HD pixel layout ribbon displays measuring 3.5 feet tall by 120 feet wide were placed on the front façade of the suite level down each baseline.

These capital improvements are made possible by the generous support of the Dow Corning Foundation, the Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow Foundation, the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation, the Charles J. Strosacker Foundation and the Michigan Baseball Foundation.

# Tri-City Motor Speedway Roars Into Eighth Season, announces 2018 Entertainment Schedule



*tricityracetrack.com*

AUBURN, MICHIGAN – Tri-City Motor Speedway (TCMS) is dropping the green flag on the 2018 Season Opener Friday, April 20, 2018. The entertainment hot spot has packed the schedule full of action all the way through the season finale on Labor Day Weekend.

Families will be looking forward to getting their kids involved in the fun. Bringing the kids to meet the drivers in person, sending the kids around the big track on their pedal bike and pairing up the youngsters in the box cars will leave a smile on everyone's face.

## FOR FAMILY & KIDS

June 15: Kids Night and Autographs  
July 27: Kids Night and Autographs  
August 10: Back to School Bike Bash  
August 17: Kids Box Car Races

Throughout the season, entertainment seekers will be in awe during the jaw-dropping firework finales. Everyone will be on the edge of their seat for the near misses and daredevil moves in the Figure 8 race. The crowd will be roaring for their favorite pastor in the annual Faster Pastor Race for Charity. The racing will heat up in August when the drivers give it their all racing for the title of the 2018 season champion and attempting to conquer the ring of fire.

## FOR ENTERTAINMENT SEEKERS

May 12: Wolverine FREE Fireworks Demo Display  
June 8: Full fireworks show at dark  
July 6: Figure 8 Night  
July 13: Faster Pastor Race and full fireworks show at dark  
August 17: Season Championship  
August 24: Ring of Fire

Sprint car enthusiasts will have to look no further for their adrenaline needs with five winged sprint car shows. Taking the season to the checkered flag will be a weekend of wings and sprint cars that will bring drivers from the mid-west and Canada to put on a show to remember.

## FOR SPRINT FANS

May 25: Winged Sprints  
June 22: Winged Sprints  
July 20: Winged Sprints  
August 31: Winged Sprints vs Winged Outlaw Late Models  
September 1: Great Lakes Fall Sprintacular

TCMS continues to give back to the community with the return of the fifth annual Faster Pastor Race for Charity, Blood Drive Donation Night and the weekly Hero Discount taking \$4 off grandstand admission for active military & veterans, police, firefighters, mobile first responders. Big Brothers Big Sisters & Royal Family Kids mentors will also receive complimentary admission when bringing their mentee to the races. As always, TCMS keeps your entertainment affordable for the family; coolers are welcome with your favorite snacks and drinks, no glass containers please.

To get all the details for each race, visit the schedule page on our website <http://www.tricityracetrack.com/schedule/>.



*tricityracetrack.com*

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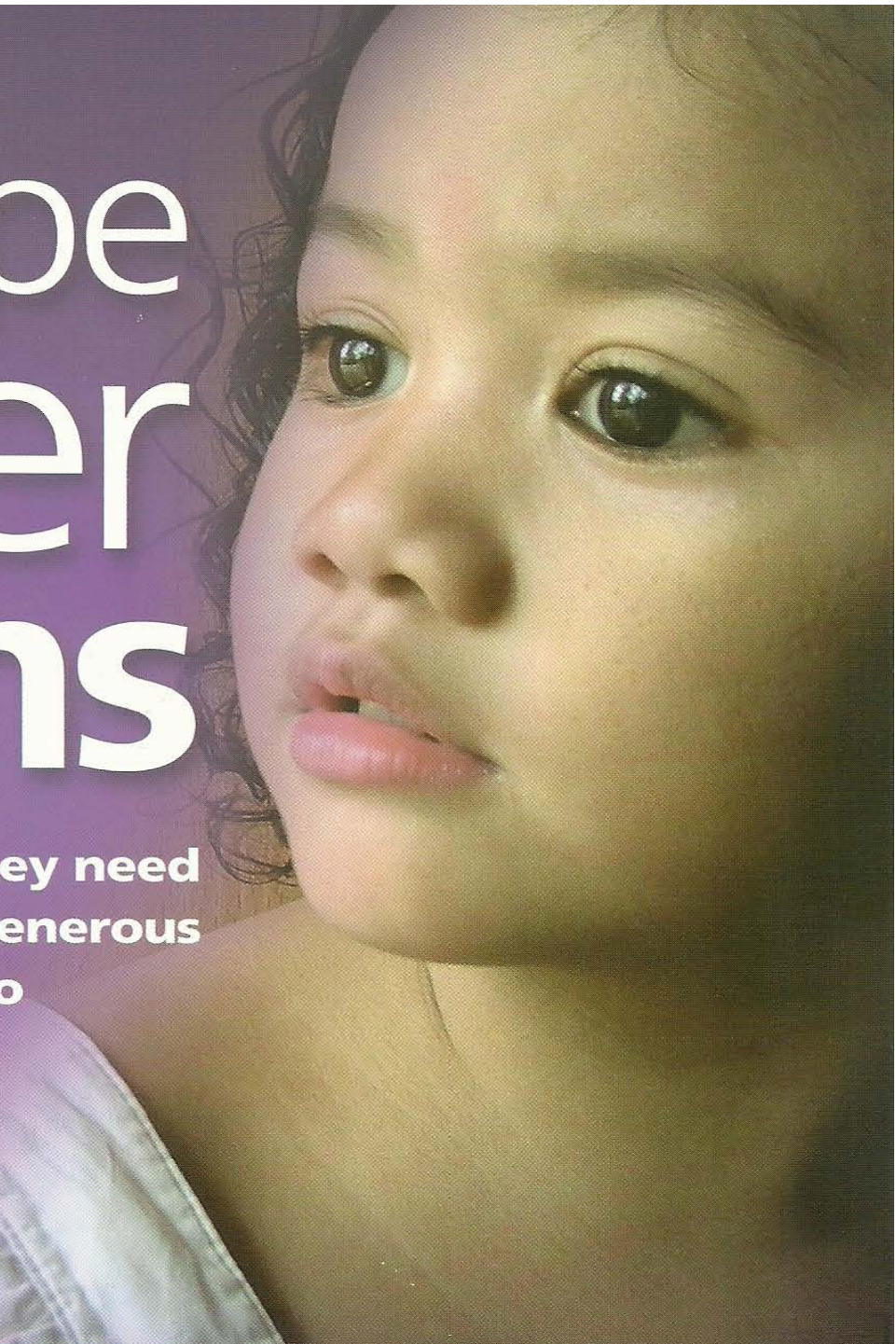
Every family with which Habitat works must perform Sweat Equity hours. Sweat Equity is volunteerism done on the home the family will purchase, on the homes of others, in the Habitat office, or in any other manner in which the family is able to help the affiliate.



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# CHANGES TO OUR NEW ROUTES

START DECEMBER 31, 2017

### Route 1:

Was: (INBOUND) Congress > Mason > State  
Change to: (INBOUND) Congress > Bay > State

### Route 211 becomes Route 112:

Was: Perkins > Outer > Woodbridge  
Change to: Woodbrige > Outer > Perkins  
Adding: Ricker Center

### Route 3:

Stays on Michigan to Superior - No bridge crossing  
Drops: YMCA (YMCA on Route 7)

### Route 54:

Drops Ricker Center (Ricker Center added to Route 112)

### Route 6 changes to Fashion Sq and SVSU Express:

Was: Weiss > Bay > SVSU > Tittabawassee > I-675  
Change to: I-675 > Fashion Sq > SVSU > Fashion Sq > I-675  
Adds: Fresnius Dialysis Center

### Route 7:

Adds: Ruffin Clinic, YMCA, MI Works, DaVita Dialysis  
Drops: Michigan Ave (added to Route 3)

### Route 82:

Was: Vets > Jefferson > Warren  
Change to: Jefferson > Warren > Vets  
Will take Jefferson to Williamson (Drop Holland, Weber, Hess)

### Route 9:

Drops inbound WalMart stop (Route 6 adds a WalMart stop)

### Route 106 - Big Changes!:

Will now Depart at top of hour (:55) instead of bottom (:25)  
Was: I-675 > Tittabawassee > Fashion Sq > Bay > Weiss  
Change to: Weiss > Covenant Mackinaw > Fashion Sq > Tittabawassee > I-675  
Adds: Covenant Mackinaw  
Drops: Bay Pointe Apts, Southbound Bay (Route 9 Adds Southbound Bay)





## PIC OF THE WEEK

**On Sunday, February 25, the Saginaw Public School District celebrated Diversity Appreciation Day. The event featured African drummers and dancers, cultural food samples and more.**





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