

THE MICHIGAN BANNER

Celebrating 16 years of Positive News



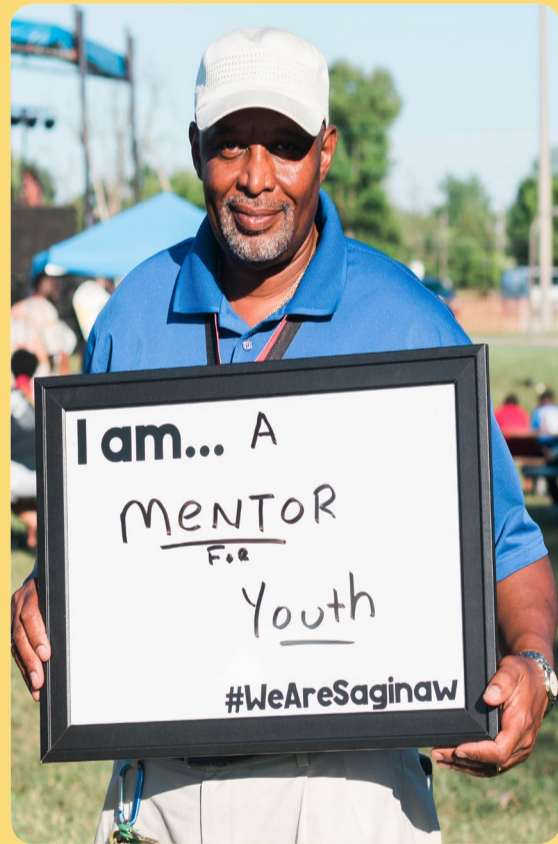
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Leading in Diversity, Empowering Communities and Changing Lives www.themichiganbanner.com



Saginaw Choral Society launches #WeAreSaginaw project

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Bishop Cistone, sixth bishop of Saginaw, dies at 69



courtesy photo

Bishop Joseph R. Cistone of Saginaw, 69, died in his home during the night, according to a diocesan statement Oct. 16.

Born May 18, 1949, Joseph Robert Cistone was the second of three sons born to Josephine R. (Altomare) and Daniel A. Cistone Sr. He was baptized and grew up in the close-knit Italian parish community of Our Lady of Consolation in Philadelphia.

He was ordained to the priesthood May 17, 1975, by Cardinal John Krol for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

On June 8, 2004, St. John Paul II named then-Msgr. Cistone as an auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Cistone chose for his episcopal motto a phrase from his daily devotion to Philadelphia's St. John Neumann: "Father of Mercy and Love."

Cistone was appointed bishop of Saginaw by Pope Benedict XVI May 20, 2009. Two months later, on July 28, at St. Stephen Catholic Church in Saginaw, Cistone was installed as the sixth bishop of Saginaw.

Soon after he arrived in Saginaw, parish leaders called upon Cistone to address the need for parish restructuring.

In 2011, as part of an overall plan to strengthen the church of Saginaw and position parishes to better engage in the work of evangelization, Cistone announced a historic undertaking called "Planning Tomorrow's Parishes."

A diocesan biography of Cistone said he enjoyed spending time among the people, providing "public witness" to the good news of Jesus Christ by celebrating Mass, leading Holy Hours, administering the sacrament of confirmation, particularly to the youth, ministering to migrant workers, speaking at community events and visiting Catholic schools.

On the national level, he was a member of the board of directors for Catholic Relief Services and traveled to El Salvador and Ethiopia on the agency's behalf. CRS is the U.S. bishops' overseas relief and development agency.

TO ALL THOSE MAKING AN **IMPACT.** WE SALUTE YOU.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE 2018 HEART OF THE CITY AWARD RECIPIENTS



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

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

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

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ELECTION GUIDE

The Michigan Banner is striving to provide some of the best pre-election coverage in the Great Lakes Bay Region.

Today we report on local issues:

- A countywide ballot proposal for the Saginaw Intermediate School District to take management of the Saginaw Career Complex (the old Averill COC, or the old Arthur Hill Tech) from Saginaw city schools, and to add a 1-mill property tax.
- Saginaw Board of Education election.
- Saginaw City Council election.

For information on statewide elections and ballot proposals, return in themichiganbanner.com archives to our October 1 edition.

For a sample ballot and a report on how Rev. Roosevelt Austin, now 92, nearly lost his life during the 1950s fighting for voting rights, look ahead to our upcoming Nov. 1 edition.

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THE LATINO BANNER

LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

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PICTURES
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STATEWIDE
HISPANIC
HERITAGE
MONTH
CELEBRATION
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Nosotros Los Latinos Magazine Hosts 2nd Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Awards Gala



courtesy photo

Written by Joe Stricker,
Founder of Nosotros Los Latinos Magazine

I am so overwhelmed at the turn out this past Saturday for the 2nd Annual Nosotros Los Latinos Magazine Hispanic Heritage Month Awards Gala, which took place at the horizons conference center in Saginaw Michigan.

It was a packed house as families and guest arrived to congratulate our 2018 award recipients. I was so honored to be able to present each and everyone of them with an award for this year's Hispanic heritage month event, each and everyone of them are so deserving of this award and so much more.

Hispanic heritage month was founded to recognize Hispanics who have made contributions here in the United States. Nosotros Los Latino Magazine

wanted to take that a little further and recognize those Hispanics who have contributed right here in the Great Lakes Bay region.

Once again I would like to take some time and congratulate our award recipients Augustine Delgado / Faith Award, Eric B Saenz & Angela Rose Saenz / Business Award, DrElsa Olvera / Education Award, Roxanne Chantaca / Culture Award, Monica B. Reyes / Leadership Award and Frank Ornelas / Veterans Award (Korean War). I would also like to take some time to think our guest speaker Cindy Garcia / Michigander of the year & Immigration Activist.

And of course I would like to personally thank each and everyone of you who took the time out of your day to come and join us at this amazing event. Nosotros Los Latino Magazine.

Believe. Do.

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

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





The American
Dream works
when we all work
together.

Remember to vote
November 6th.

The Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan Hosts Statewide Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration

The Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan (HLCOM) recognized leaders from the Hispanic community and celebrated the rich Hispanic heritage of Michigan on Friday, October 12, 2018, during the Statewide Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration. The emcee for this year's event was Q-TV's Somos Hispanos host Nina Hageness and the theme was "Celebrating our Heritage."

The evening included a networking reception, elegant dinner, and keynote address from Jose Angel Gutierrez, PH.D., J.D. founder of the Center for Mexican American Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. Appreciation awards were presented to six community leaders from around the state who have made outstanding contributions to the Hispanic/Latino community in Michigan. The night concluded with the presentation of ten \$1,000 scholarships to current college students from various community colleges and universities.

"Recognizing our community leaders, the top 50 Latinas in Michigan, and scholarship recipients is something the HLCOM is honored to do each year," said HLCOM Executive Director Felipe Lopez Sustaita. "We are proud to lead this Statewide Hispanic Heritage Month event honoring those who are committed to bettering the lives of our Hispanic Latino community, and the future of Michigan."

The Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan was created in 1975 to represent the interests of Michigan's Hispanic and Latino population – one of the fastest-growing ethnic groups in the state. The Commission, made up of 15 individuals appointed by the Governor, advises the Governor and state legislature on policy matters and serves Michigan's Hispanic and Latino population by fostering and celebrating their achievements and promoting their development and welfare.



courtesy photos

Community Board

Submit your announcements and events at themichiganbanner.com/submit



Fiesta Hispana
Gala

December 7, 2018 *29th* 6PM - Midnight
Annual

MICHIGAN HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MGM Grand Detroit | Black Tie Preferred

Presenting Sponsors: **FCA** & **TOYOTA**
FIAT CHRYSLER AUTOMOBILES

2018 Gala sponsorship opportunities are currently available



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

DEADLINES

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



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Great Lakes Bay
Health Centers



YEARS OF CHANGING LIVES

www.GreatLakesBayHealth.org



FUNDRAISING GOOD TIMES

SIX WAYS TO INCREASE DIVERSITY AND EQUITY IN FUNDRAISING

1. When seeking to increase diversity, look at the composition of the organization as a whole, not just the fundraising team. Take time to consciously build a qualified and diverse team. Think about your expectations. Do you want someone to be the “gay employee”? Or do you want an accountant who brings his top game to work on a daily basis? Think about the match — or mismatch — between who you hire and who you serve.

2. Build pipelines for advancement within your organization.

It is not okay for executive and fundraising leadership to be white and for African Americans to deliver services and provide administrative support. Create pipelines to leadership that include authority, decision-making, fundraising, and other forms of revenue generation.

3. Engage people from diverse backgrounds to participate as board members, advisers, and fundraising volunteers.

Bring new members onto the board in diverse cohorts and beware of creating a situation where one person becomes representative of a race, gender, or ethnicity. Create an onboarding process that shares information about the organization, its priorities, fundraising, and finances so that all members have access to information, not just those who already know someone on the board. Create “board buddies” so that each new board member has someone who can help them navigate and understand the written and unwritten rules of the board.

4. Review policies and practices to learn what formal or informal barriers to employment

may be in place.

For example, are the educational requirements for specific positions a job-related requirement or a barrier? What about years as a “fundraising professional?” Could sales experience, volunteer fundraising, or entrepreneurial experience provide comparable skills? Does the time or location of meetings create barriers for fundraising volunteers?

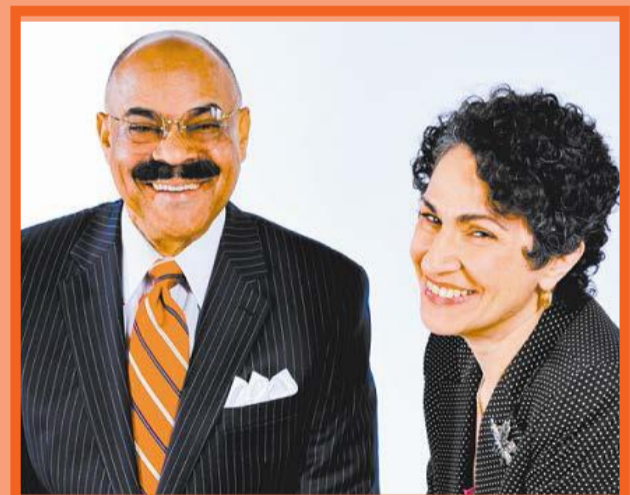
As we build the diversity within our staff and boards we need to engage our donors as well.

Share your vision for inclusion, diversity, equity and access with your donors, especially your major donors. Talk about why it is important and the steps you are taking. Encourage them to ask questions. Ask for their guidance, suggestions, and participation. Don’t let silence pass for acceptance. Create opportunities for long time donors to meet with and get to know your new donors. As you bring on new staff leadership make sure that your board schedules time for your major donors to meet your new leaders. As we increase the diversity of our organizations we must retain the long-time support of donors who have invested in our nonprofits and who believe in Memphis. This is not about “us and them.” This is about all of us.

5. As fundraisers we want to increase the diversity of our donors so that we increase support for the mission and

6. vision of the organizations we represent. We want to build a spirit of inclusion, a valuing of diversity, and a welcoming spirit among all our donors.

With opportunities to “truly know each other” across differences, donor circles, donor receptions, and nonprofit activities can be a unique space where one of the “benefits of giving” is the ability to participate within a diverse community of peers. We want to live our values in how we treat our donors, how we bring them together, and in how we create equity when offering opportunities and visibility.



Mel and Pearl Shaw | Courtesy Photo

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

The Michigan Banner News & The
Michigan Banner Outreach Ministries

presents

Heart of the City Community Awards

Impact Turnaround Award

Laura Biggins, Garber Automotive Group
Cameron Brady, Habitat for Humanity
Gavin Goetz, AT&T
Sonya Surles, Wilson Ford Lincoln

Outstanding Business Award

Team One Credit Union
Catholic Federal Credit Union
Evans & Browne Funeral Home

Leadership Award

Dr. Mamie Thorns
Pastor Chris Pryor
Joyce Seals
Adam Gonzalez
Rita Truss

Rising Business Award

Markeen Baker, The What Don't Kill You Show

Visionary Award

Richard & Wanda Stringfield, Students &
Future Technology Program (SaFT)
Sheilda Braddock, Isabella Bank

Motivation Award

Michael Marsh
Rev. Dr. Willie Casey

Ministry of the Year Award

Francis Irvin, Jail Ministry

Outstanding Journalism/Media/PR Award

JJ Boehm, SVSU
Bob Johnson, MLive

Diversity Award

Willie Haynes, Ezekial Project

Outstanding Non-Profit Award

Daniel Sosa, Samaritas,
(prev. Neighborhood House)
Latrice Goodwine/Torrie McAfee,
Saginaw Restoration
Jeanne Conger,
Positive Results Downtown Saginaw
Sabrina Jackson, ISD Head Start

Celebrate With Us

On Friday, November 2nd, The Michigan Banner Newspaper will celebrate 16 years of positive, informative and inspiring news in the Great Lakes Bay and Flint region.

The Michigan Banner *Heart of the City Awards* luncheon will take place from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm at Horizons Conference Center and will pay tribute to past, present and future community members and organizations who are committed to service and volunteerism in the Great Lakes Bay area.

We understand the vitality and growth of a community depends greatly on its individuals and organizations. It gives us great pleasure to celebrate 16 years of service by recognizing the people who have demonstrated excellence in leadership through deep local understanding and outstanding initiative.

Several community awards will be presented including Community Impact Award, Outstanding Business Award, Leadership Award and more.

There are many sponsorship and advertising opportunities available. As a sponsor not only will you help support The Michigan Banner Newspaper's 16 year Anniversary event but you will also help support our non-profit organization, The Michigan Banner Outreach.

The Michigan Banner Outreach, established by Rae Lynn Tinsley-Buckley in 2010, was developed to meet the needs and challenges of the youth in our communities while creating opportunities for students to gain work-based experience in all phases of media.



Rae Lynn Tinsley-Buckley
Scholarship

The Rae Lynn Tinsley-Buckley Scholarship will be awarded to two High School Seniors. Preference will be given to those students pursuing a degree in journalism.



HEALTH

SVSU-operated health clinic at Bay County Health Department wins statewide award for public health

A primary care health clinic operated jointly by Saginaw Valley State University and the Bay County Health Department has earned a prestigious award from the State of Michigan for its supportive regional services.

The Bay Community Health Clinic received the 2018 Michigan Department of Health & Human Services Director's Award to Local Public Health. Leaders with the health clinic will be publicly recognized Wednesday, Oct. 10, at 12:45 p.m. during the Michigan Premier Public Health Conference at the DoubleTree Hilton Hotel in Bay City.

“This recognition is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the inter-professional team at Bay Community Health Clinic in delivering quality health care to an underserved population,” said Kathleen Schachman, SVSU's Harvey Randall Wickes Endowed Chair in Nursing and a nurse practitioner at the clinic.

“The partnership between SVSU and Bay County Health Department has created this unique clinical training environment that enriches the educational experience of health professions students and benefits the community.”

The award annually recognizes local health departments that adopt strategies to combat leading causes of illness, injury and premature death; promote health and well-being within the community; analyze and distribute data; and build community partnerships with agencies and individuals, both inside and outside of the health care sector.

As this year's recipient of the award, the health clinic will receive \$1,000 in funds that will be used for operational expenses, a plaque, and a trophy that will be showcased over the next year at three locations, including SVSU. The trophy also will spend time at the downtown Bay City offices of the Bay County municipal building as well as the Bay County Health Department facility where the health clinic operates.



courtesy photo

Joel Strasz, the Bay County Health Department health officer, called receiving the award a big accomplishment for all the agencies that contribute to the health clinic.

“The MDHHS Director's Award is a great honor and reflects the hard work and dedication of the staff at the Bay County Health Department, the SVSU College of Health & Human Services, the Bay Arenac Behavioral Health Authority and the community organizations that we work with to make the clinic a success,” Strasz said.

“I cannot stress enough how much hard work and dedication has gone into the clinic as it serves a very important purpose in Bay County, bringing essential and complex services to those in need. This is truly an innovative and groundbreaking initiative and I am grateful to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services for the recognition.”

The health clinic was established in January 2015 through a partnership between the Bay County Health Department and SVSU, which

provides much of the staff and resources for the clinic. The facility largely caters to clients less likely to seek treatment at more traditional medical facilities.

Since its founding, the clinic has been staffed by faculty members with experience as medical professionals. The clinic utilizes an integrated approach - teaming professionals in nursing, occupational therapy, pharmacy and social work - to address physical and mental health issues on multiple fronts. Those professionals are supported by students who provide help while receiving hands-on training.

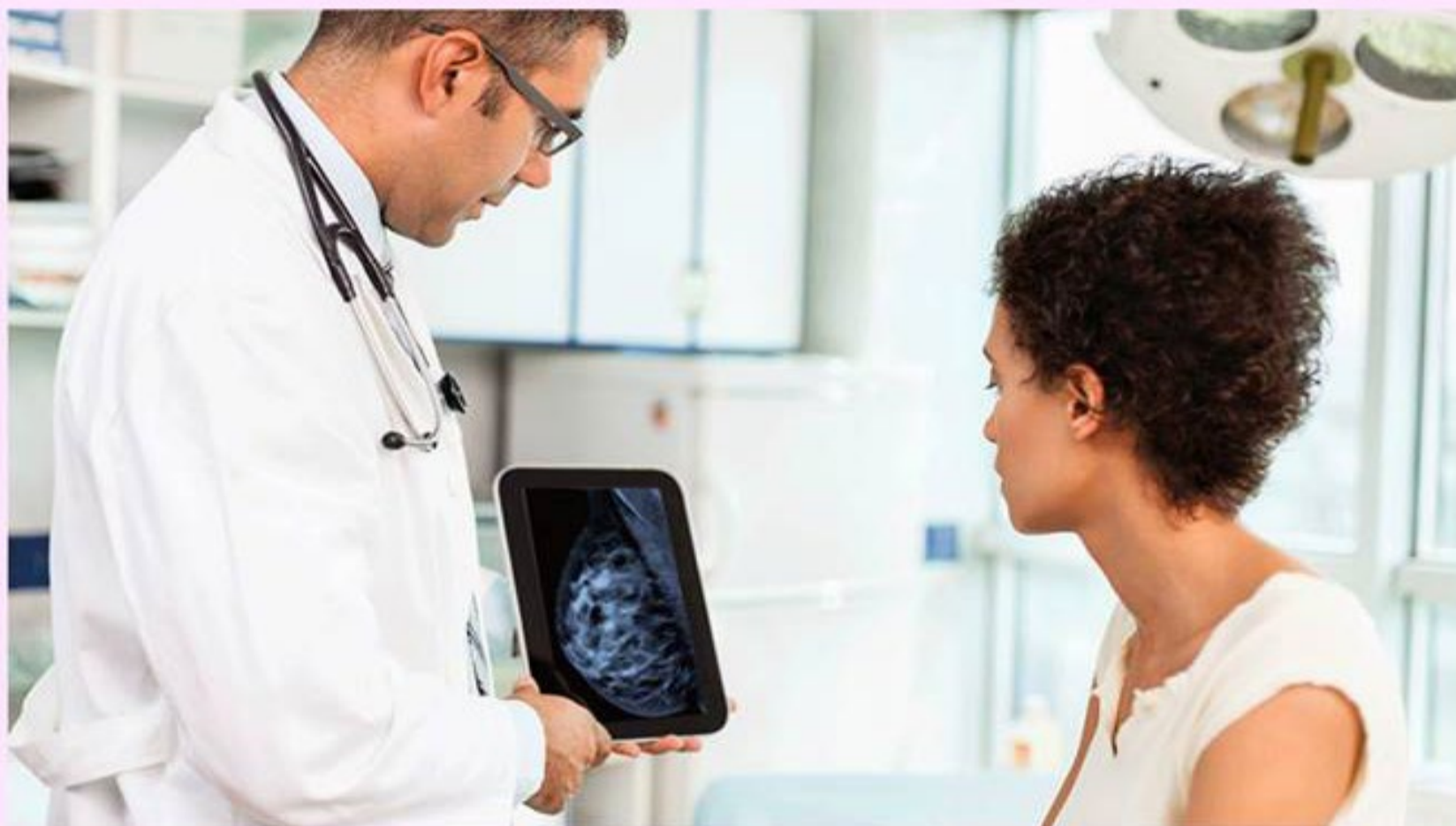
Along with SVSU, students from Ferris State University, Michigan State University and Wayne State University also have worked at the health clinic.

The clinic provides primary care medical services for patients of all ages. Those in need of such services can contact the facility at 989-895-2035.



Janes Street - Mammography
 1522 Janes Street, Saginaw, MI 48601
 (989) 755-0316

Breast Density Breast Cancer Screening



**Not sure if you have dense breasts?
Why does it matter?**
 Ask your doctor which breast cancer screening is right for you!

The American Cancer Society, American College of Radiology, Society of Breast Imaging and American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, among others, recommend that all women have yearly mammograms beginning at age 40. Women at high risk may benefit from starting earlier.
 For more information on breast cancer screening, visit MammographySavesLives.org or RadiologyInfo.org

This flyer is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant #R30CE000689 titled - Health Center Cluster for \$4,038,207 with 51% funded with non-governmental sources. This information or content and conclusions are those of Great Lakes Bay Health Centers, and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government. We are an equal opportunity provider and employer.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The National Domestic Violence
HOTLINE
1.800.799.SAFE (7233) • 1.800.787.3224 (TTY)

The National Domestic Violence Hotline offers phone and chat services for anyone affected by domestic violence. Support is available 24/7/365 by calling **1.800.799.SAFE (7233)** or online at **theline.org**.

The production of this material was supported by Grant #90SV0001-01-00 from HHS Administration for Children and Families/Family Youth Services Bureau. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the National Domestic Violence Hotline and do not necessarily represent the official views of ACF/FYSB.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) evolved from the "Day of Unity" held in October 1981 and conceived by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The intent was to connect advocates across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children. The Day of Unity soon became an entire week devoted to a range of activities conducted at the local, state, and national level. The activities conducted were as varied and diverse as the program sponsors but had common themes:

- Mourning those who have died because of domestic violence
- Celebrating those who have survived
- Connecting those who work to end violence

These three themes remain a key focus of DVAM events today. In October 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. That same year marks the initiation of the first national domestic violence toll-free hotline. In 1989, the U.S. Congress passed

Public Law 101-112 designating October of that year as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Such legislation has passed every year since with National Coalition Against Domestic Violence providing key leadership in this effort. Each year, the Day of Unity is celebrated the first Monday of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

If you need support regarding domestic violence you can call 800-799-7233



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10 Cents a Meal Program Now Serving Nearly 135K Michigan Students



courtesy photo

LANSING – Michigan’s nationally-recognized 10 Cents a Meal for School Kids & Farms program has expanded for a third year, now serving nearly 135,000 students in 57 school districts and 27 counties, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) announced today.

Providing grant-winning schools up to 10 cents a meal in matching funds to purchase locally-grown fruits and vegetables, the successful farm-to-school cafeteria program has more than doubled the number of children served since 2016.

“The 10 Cents a Meal program is akin to a bumper crop in terms of nutritious, locally-produced fruits and vegetables served to students,” Interim State Superintendent Sheila Alles said. “It’s a win-win partnership for local districts and local farms across the state and another example of how the business and education communities, as with our plan to become a Top 10 education state in 10 years, can collaborate toward common goals to the ultimate benefit of our children.”

“The commitment of the people who are a part of this program has been extraordinary,” said Sen. Geoff Hansen, R-Hart, referring to participating schools and agri-businesses. Sen. Hansen chairs the state Senate K–12, School Aid, Education Appropriations Subcommittee, which introduced the initial funding for the program.

“They really want to get local food into local schools to help the farmer and help children understand where their food comes from, and use it as a teaching tool,” he said. “I am excited that the program has blossomed so much in its third year.”

Each year, state legislators have expanded the program’s reach and funding. Last year, schools in Michigan’s Prosperity Regions 2, 4, and 9 (northwest and west Michigan, and the Washtenaw

region) were eligible to apply for the grants. This year, the legislature added Regions 6 and 8 – the Thumb region and southwest Michigan. That expansion meant that school districts in 43 of Michigan’s 83 counties are eligible to apply for 10 Cents a Meal funding.

“We have so many dedicated community farmers all over this area, and they devote their livelihood to making people healthier,” said Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich, D-Flint. “The 10 Cents a Meal for School Kids & Farms furthers our progress in supporting local growers and helps children in our community be healthier.”

Flint Community Schools in Region 6 is among the 55 school districts participating in the program this year. Below is a complete school list.

Health officials are among those praising the 10 Cents a Meal program.

“This program provides increased exposure to healthy, local fruits and vegetables for many children in our service region,” said Grant Fletcher, system director for Healthy Living & Sustainability at Bronson Healthcare Group, with hospitals in Battle Creek and Kalamazoo in Prosperity Region 8. “We are excited to work closely with our community partners in the public school systems and at Kalamazoo Valley Community College to ensure it has the greatest possible impact.”

In 2017–2018, students tried 65 new Michigan-grown fruits and vegetables for the first time as part of the program. One food service director reported in a survey by the MSU Center for Regional Food Systems that, “Students’ plates are becoming very veggie-friendly. We have gotten students to try vegetables just because they are from around [here].”

The program also has impacted the state’s economy and agricultural sector, with schools purchasing a total of 80 products grown by 112 farms spanning 34 counties, and providing business for 19 additional businesses such as processors, distributors, and food hubs.

Said Kevin Robson, Michigan Farm Bureau Horticulture and Industry Relations Specialist: “Michigan Farm Bureau applauds the efforts of all the hard-working members of the project team behind the success of the 10 Cents a Meal program.

“We support the future endeavors of the program and encourage the project team to continue to build on their success and enhance the effectiveness of the program, to remain a paramount program example for other states to follow,” Robson added.

The 10 Cents a Meal program was featured at two national conferences this year: The National Farm to Cafeteria Conference; and the United Fresh Produce Association Convention.

“Michigan is the gold standard in state level farm to school policy incentivizing local procurement, with its innovative new approaches to invest in children’s well-being and local economies,” said Helen Dombalis, Senior Director of Programs & Policy for the National Farm to School Network. “You are collecting data, gathering information, telling the story, and getting it out to the public. Kids’ health and farmer wealth is what it’s about and Michigan is doing it.”

State Sen. Darwin Booher, R-Evart, was the original champion of the program after seeing its results in the Grand Traverse region in a local pilot program coordinated by Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities. He introduced the concept to Sen. Hansen for inclusion in the education budget.

A total of 121 school districts sought 10 Cents grants, with funding enough for 57 districts serving 134,036 students. The legislature allocated \$125,000 each for four of the five prosperity regions, and \$75,000 for Prosperity Region 8.

The following Flint/Genesee area districts received funding: Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker Schools, Genesee Intermediate School District, Grand Blanc Community Schools, Mayville Community School District, Morrice Area Schools, Owosso Public Schools, School District of the City of Flint.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



1 in **8** women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime.

Breast cancer incidents and death rates generally increase with age.

79% of new cases and **88%** of breast cancer deaths occurred in women 50 years of age and older.



Breast cancer is the **most commonly diagnosed cancer** in women.

Breast cancer is the **second leading cause of death** among women behind heart disease.



Although breast cancer in men is rare, an estimated **2,350** men will be diagnosed with breast cancer and approximately **440** men will die from breast cancer each year.

Risk Factors

GENDER

- Simply **being a woman is the main risk** factor for developing breast cancer.
- Breast cancer is **100 times more common** in women than in men.

AGE

- Roughly **1** out of **8** invasive breast cancers are found in women younger than 45, while about **2** out of **3** invasive breast cancers are found in women age 55 or older.

GENETICS

- About **5%** to **10%** of breast cancer cases are thought to be hereditary (i.e. gene defects).
- Those with a first degree blood relative (mother, sister, daughter, etc.) who has had breast cancer are approximately at **double the risk** of developing the disease. Those with two first degree relatives are at approximately **three times the risk**.

LIFESTYLE CONSEQUENCES

- Alcohol consumption is linked to an increased risk of developing breast cancer. Compared with non-drinkers, women who consume **1** alcoholic drink per day have a very small increased risk. Those who have **2 to 5** drinks per day have about **1.5** higher more risk of developing breast cancer.
- Being **overweight or obese** after menopause increases breast cancer risk.

RADIATION THERAPY

- Women who have had **radiation therapy** to the chest (including the breasts) **before age 30** have an increased risk of developing breast cancer throughout their lives.
- Studies show that the younger a woman was when she received treatment, the higher her risk of developing breast cancer later in life.



#MISenate

BUSINESS & WEALTH

‘Catapult’ your business idea to the next phase in the I-69 Thumb Region small business competition



courtesy photo

The I-69 Thumb Region, a seven-county partnership, is accepting entries for the region’s 2018 Catapult Small Business Competition. This contest of ideas aims to help “catapult” entrepreneurs and small-business owners to the next stage in growing their businesses.

Each of the region’s member counties – Genesee, Huron, Lapeer, Sanilac, Shiawassee, St. Clair and Tuscola – will hold a county-level competition in their communities via a public pitch event, with \$2,500 awarded to the first-place winner and \$1,500 for second place. Total cash prizes for the local and regional winners total \$40,000.

Genesee County will host its competition Jan. 10 from 5-8 p.m. at the Ferris Wheel, 615 S. Saginaw

St. in Flint. County-level first-place winners will move forward to compete for additional funds in the finale at the I-69 Thumb Regional Summit on Jan. 24.

The regional competition will award \$6,000 for first place, \$4,000 for second and \$2,000 for third. Competition prizes have been made possible by grant funding through the Michigan Economic Development Corp. and additional sponsors.

Interested companies or individuals may apply online by answering a few questions about their proposed new business venture or existing business. To apply online, visit <http://i-69thumbregion.org/event/2018-catapult-small-business-competition/>.

Once the online application is complete, competitors have until Nov. 1 to submit their maximum three-page executive summary and pitch presentation of up to 10 slides. The Michigan Small Business Development Center and local economic development organizations will provide support to applicants in need of technical assistance, help writing the required executive summary or presentation coaching.

For more information about how to apply, please visit: <http://i-69thumbregion.org/event/2018-catapult-small-business-competition/>. You may also contact Tracy Joseph at the Flint & Genesee Chamber at (810) 600-1406 or tjoseph@flintandgenesee.org.



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EDUCATION

SVSU-based youth leadership program welcomes next class of high school participants



courtesy photo

A year-long leadership development program for local high school students will kick off its 14th year at Saginaw Valley State University with front-row seats to a theatrical performance by one of Detroit's most highly-regarded cultural treasures.

The SVSU-based Great Lakes Bay Regional Youth Leadership Institute will welcome its new class of participants — 90 students from 32 high schools across mid-Michigan are signed up this year — during a day of fun and informative events scheduled at SVSU Friday, Oct. 5.

One of the event's highlights includes a performance by members of Mosaic Youth Theatre, an internationally-touring troupe of actors and singers from Detroit. The group will perform the play, "Speak Up For Yourself," which addresses stereotypes and biases while promoting diversity.

The Great Lakes Bay Regional Youth Leadership Institute ceremony kicks off at 8:15 a.m. and closes at 1:15 p.m. in SVSU's Curtiss Hall banquet rooms. A lineup of SVSU students, faculty, staff and administrators will address the

high school participants throughout the day. The Mosaic Youth Theatre performance is planned from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in SVSU's Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts.

Mamie T. Thorns, SVSU's special assistant to the president for Diversity Programs, has served as the institute's coordinator since its founding. The new class of participants will carry on the tradition of leadership and excellence demonstrated by the program's 935 graduates, she said.

"Our mission is to provide an opportunity for high school student leaders — from diverse racial, cultural and socioeconomically diverse communities — to gain valuable leadership training and acquire new skills that will help them lead in any community improvement projects," she said.

Begun in 2005 as the Saginaw County Youth Leadership Institute, the initiative expanded in 2011 to include Bay and Midland counties.

The Great Lakes Bay Regional Youth Leadership Institute, overseen by SVSU's

Office of Diversity Programs, provides leadership development experience for youths focused on issues relating to diversity and leadership. Participants are paired with 12 SVSU student mentors as well as 16 corporate and community volunteers to participate in training sessions led by professional facilitators and presenters.

Each year, the institute identifies a community partner or cause to support. In past years, participants have provided relief for residents affected by the Flint water crisis, and worked with nonprofits such as United Way, Girl Scouts of the USA, First Ward Community Center in Saginaw, Hope House Maternity Shelter in Midland, and Mid-Michigan Children's Museum in Saginaw. At times, participants reached far outside the region to help individuals in need. In 2011, program participants supported the Ghana-based Royal Seed Orphanage.

For more information about The Great Lakes Bay Regional Youth Leadership Institute, call SVSU's Office of Diversity Programs at (989) 964-4068.

Delta College to Host 6th Annual STEM Festival with Dow and Mind Trekkers



courtesy photo

Walking on water, standing inside a bubble, or playing a piano with bananas for keys are just some of the marvels of science that will be seen at the 6th annual Dow Great Lakes Bay STEM Festival powered by the nationally-known Mind Trekkers of Michigan Technological University.

The Dow Chemical Company and Delta College are teaming up again with Mind Trekkers to present the STEM Festival at Delta College on October 12 - 13, 2018. New this year – the event will be open to the public on Friday evening, October 12, from 6 - 9pm and Saturday, October 13, from 11am - 2pm.

Mind Trekkers – a traveling, hands-on science and engineering show from Michigan Technological University's Center for Pre-College Outreach, and Delta College faculty, staff and volunteers are working with about 30 STEM partners to bring 150-plus science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) activities to the free festival. Mind Trekkers has gained national acclaim for its high-energy

demos of the science behind what looks like magic, like turning a few drops of liquid into huge foam gnomes or shooting ping-pong balls through a soda can. Students will also have opportunities to explore STEM careers in the area as they meet with the many STEM professionals who are also participating in the event.

"Our goal is to create a spark and create an environment of excitement and interest in science and technology," says Cody Kangas, director of the Center for Pre-College Outreach at Michigan Tech.

This will be the 6th straight year Mind Trekkers has traveled to Delta College for a STEM festival. The group travels throughout the United States to schools, festivals and expos to the delight of hundreds of thousands of students, parents and teachers. Delta College Professor of Biology, Cindy Drake, has been instrumental in helping coordinate the Mind Trekkers visits to Delta College.

"STEM Festivals are an excellent opportunity for families to explore the worlds of science, technology, engineering and mathematics in an engaging, exciting and informal environment. Students of all ages can experience the "wow" of STEM through fun hands-on activities while also learning more about the many profitable STEM careers available in our area," says Drake. "Statistics show that fewer students are continuing to study STEM fields past middle school, while at the same time STEM careers are growing, causing a deficit of skilled workers in these areas. This event is an opportunity for students to re-engage in fields that have excellent forecasts for future growth and to see how much fun they can have while learning. They will have opportunities to see how STEM is a part of the Arts as well."

As in the past years, the first day of the festival will involve middle school students during morning and afternoon sessions. Close to 3,200 middle school students and chaperones are registered to attend Friday. However, new this year, a Friday evening session, from 6 – 9pm, will be open to the public. On Saturday, the Festival is open to the public from 11am – 2pm.

The Dow Chemical Company is once again the premier sponsor for the STEM Festival. Dow's educational mission is to build the workforce of tomorrow by supporting educational leaders, motivating student achievement, developing careers, and collaborating with communities to transform education into a driver for innovation, manufacturing, and economic prosperity.

"Events like the STEM Festival provide a perfect opportunity to ignite interest for students in STEM fields, particularly chemistry, engineering and manufacturing, while also fostering participation through hands on experiences," said Reiner Roghmann, vice president of Operations, Canada and USA North and site director for Michigan Operations. "We support events like this to create an appreciation for science and enhance preparedness in technical fields that ultimately develops into great careers for these bright minds."

Nexteer Automotive, Hemlock Semiconductor and the Michigan Department of Transportation are also proud sponsors of this year's festival.

For more information, contact Cody Kangas, director of the Center for Pre-College Outreach, at 906-487-2219 or ckangas@mtu.edu.

Rev. Dr. Roosevelt and Dr. Nurame Austin, Sr. Scholarship Available to Local Students



courtesy photo

Pastor Roosevelt Austin's commitment to his family and community has been evident for more than six decades throughout the Saginaw Community. To start, he pastored the historic Zion Missionary Baptist Church for 44 years.

The Rev. Dr. Roosevelt and Dr. Nurame Austin, Sr. Scholarship has been established to honor his tireless dedication to his church, his community, and to young people.

Born and raised in Opelousa, Louisiana, Pastor Austin married his high school sweetheart,

Nurame, in 1950. They moved to Saginaw in 1953 where they raised their three children, Roosevelt II, Dona, and David. Dr. Nurame Austin, a social worker, shares her husband's passion for the church and served at both the national and state levels of the National Baptist Convention, Inc., teaching in its Ministers Wives Division. She also served as church organist, retiring after 47 years.

Pastor Austin attended Southern University, A&M College, Moody Bible Institute and Detroit Bible College before receiving his Bachelor of Theology from McKinley Roosevelt College.

He later received his Master of Theology from Ohio Christian College in Columbus, Ohio and his Doctor of Divinity Degree from American Divinity School in Chicago. He received an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Saginaw Valley in the mid-1990s.

Characterized as a "people person" by his wife, Pastor Austin's impact has been felt throughout the community's corporate, religious and nonprofit sectors. He has served as the vice president of the Clergy Coalition Against Crack Cocaine, religious commentator for WKNX radio, former City Councilman for the City of Saginaw, Honorary Chair of Delta College's "A Possible Dream Scholarship", and as board member of Citizens Bank, Habitat of Saginaw, the Commission on Quality of Education for all Children, the Opportunities Industrialization Center of Metropolitan Saginaw, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In honor of his many accomplishments and contributions to the city of Saginaw, the Saginaw City Council in February 2018 approved the renaming Saginaw's 2nd Street to Reverend Roosevelt Austin Avenue, marking the first time in the history of the city that a street was renamed for a living individual.

With respect to living a purposeful life, Pastor Austin has consistently advocated two principles. The first is that the authority for the children of God is the Word of God. The second is his firm belief in the power of education and/or training ("Something under your belt, something in your head, to allow you to make it in this technological, increasingly more complex world"), in order to be a productive citizen in this society.

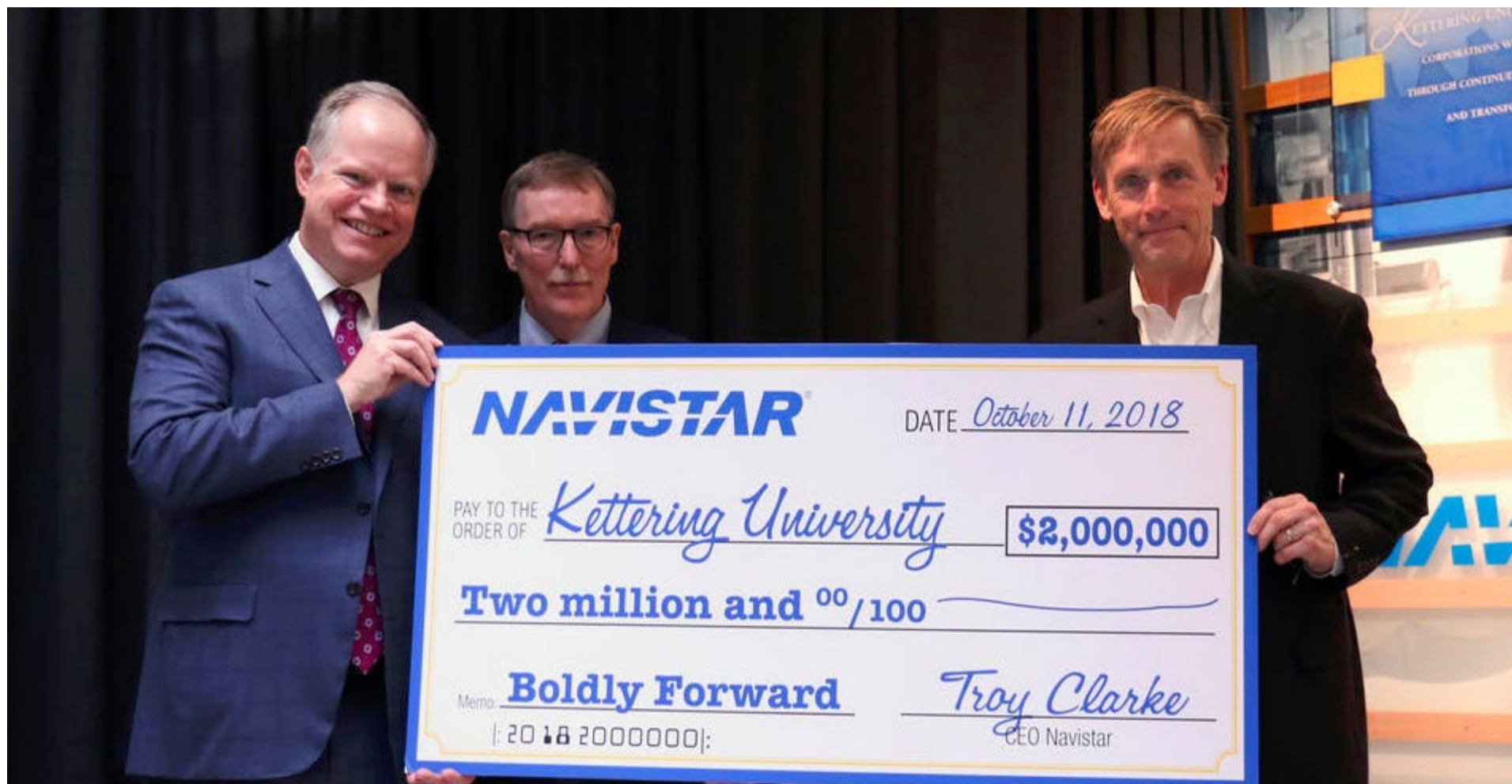
QUALIFICATIONS

- **Minimum GPA 2.5**
- **Graduating high school senior residing in Saginaw County**
- **Part- or full-time enrollment**
- **Pursuing an undergraduate degree or vocational training**
- **Financial need**

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Leadership (25); financial need (20); academic performance (15); awards and honors (5); community service (5); extracurricular activities (5); overall involvement (5); letters of recommendation (5)

Navistar pledges \$2 million to Kettering University to support new building, scholarships, research



courtesy photo

Kettering University announced it has accepted a \$2 million donation from Navistar International Corporation (NYSE: NAV) in support of various initiatives, including construction of a new Learning Commons building where students will learn, collaborate, and create technologies that will shape the future.

The \$2 million gift from Navistar provides:

- \$1 million to name the Navistar International Innovation Commons space in the new Learning Commons building;
- \$750,000 to support research initiatives; and
- \$250,000 in scholarship support for students from the Greater Chicago area.

“We are excited to provide this support for Kettering University,” said Troy Clarke ’78, Chairman, President, and CEO of Navistar. “We believe in Kettering University’s vision and are proud to support educational initiatives and a facility that will play a key role in training the next generation’s engineering and technical leaders.”

Kettering University’s Learning Commons will

create new technology-infused spaces on campus that allow for cross-disciplinary collaboration, mirroring what students will encounter in industry settings. Navistar’s support also allows faculty the opportunity to expand research initiatives. It also provides resources to support student recruitment through new scholarships.

“This generous gift from Navistar highlights the deep and growing partnership we have shared for many years,” said Dr. Robert K. McMahan, Kettering University President. “This gift touches all aspects of our mission. It helps us to add another world class facility to our campus and the Flint community. It also creates new research opportunities for our talented faculty who are inventing the future of mobility. Finally, it creates scholarships that will allow us to enhance recruitment in a key and growing market in the Chicago area. We are grateful for Navistar’s support and partnership, and for the amazing opportunities this gift provides for current and future students.”

Navistar currently employs 16 Kettering University students in co-op positions and has been a corporate partner of Kettering since 2005.

The company’s support for research initiatives will create partnerships between Kettering University Electrical and Computer Engineering faculty and Navistar to develop artificial intelligence for advanced driver assistance systems and machine learning applications for Powertrain.

“Kettering students enjoy impactful experiences at Navistar through our co-op program,” said Walter Borst ’85, Chief Financial Officer of Navistar and member of the Kettering University Board of Trustees. “We are pleased to provide this additional support to Kettering students as part of our gift to the University. We are also excited to work with Kettering faculty on innovative research related to disruptive technologies impacting the transportation industry.”

The Learning Commons will serve as a multi-use academic and student life building with open spaces, food service, and a new, modern library. It will have open spaces, natural light, and have space for academic classrooms, public art, and collaborative spaces.



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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Claytor Administrative Building
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Saginaw, MI 48601
Phone 989.752.2193
Fax 989.921.7146

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Wednesday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM
Thursday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM
Friday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM
Saturday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM
Sunday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM

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

Source: www.saginawheadstart.org

“Head Start graduates are more likely to graduate from high school and less likely to need special education, repeat a grade, or commit crimes in adolescence.”

Joe Baca, former Dem. Calif. Congrmn., Dist. 43.

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

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Casaundra Perry, Delta College graduate, is pursuing her career as a physical therapist assistant.

5

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COMMUNITY

Dow Launches #PullingOurWeight Cleanup Campaign at More Than 50 Locations Worldwide

To date, Dow employees have removed more than 40,000 pounds of waste from waterways



courtesy photo

MIDLAND, Mich. - Employees, families, friends and customers of The Dow Chemical Company (Dow) are collaborating with local organizations across the world and Ocean Conservancy to take part in beach and waterway cleanups at more than 50 locations across the globe to bring attention to the issue of ocean plastic pollution.

The cleanup effort – called #PullingOurWeight – challenged participants to remove at least four pounds of waste per person from local waterways and communities. Four pounds is the average amount of waste that each person on earth produces each day. In the last month, more than 4,500 Dow employees, families and friends participated in cleanup events along with industry peers and Dow customers – the largest participation of Dow volunteers for a single cause in company history.

“This year, Dow volunteers have participated

in more cleanups than ever before and I am so impressed with the level of commitment from our employees around the world and extended Dow family,” said Diego Donoso, president of Dow’s Packaging & Specialty Plastics business. “From Asia to Africa, Europe to the Americas, our cleanups to date have removed more than 40,000 pounds of trash from local waterways. Dow is #PullingOurWeight for a cleaner, healthier ocean and we encourage others to join us in this movement.”

“Dow has long supported Ocean Conservancy’s International Coastal Cleanup and the organization’s ocean plastic mitigation efforts,” says Dow CEO Jim Fitterling. “No waste – plastic or otherwise – belongs in the ocean or anywhere in our environment. Through global and local collaborations with governments, NGOs, and other industry leaders, Dow is working to innovate

technologies to recycle waste, clean up existing waste and support initiatives that prevent waste from entering the environment.”

Dow is partnering across the value chain to advance a circular economy for plastics. Poor waste management infrastructure combined with the careless disposal of plastics after they are used have resulted in too much plastic being lost to landfills and the environment. Appropriately managing the lifecycle of plastics from design to disposal will retain the many social and economic benefits of plastics for society without compromising the world’s ocean, rivers or streams.

“Advancing a circular economy is a key component of Dow’s 2025 Sustainability Goals,” stated Fitterling, “It’s clear to us that addressing end-of-life options for plastics waste will be one of the most important business opportunities of our time. Whether recycling plastics to its original state to capture the energy within, or reformulating waste plastics into new products such as footwear, construction materials, clothing or other valuable products – there are viable options that exist now to close-the-loop on plastics.”

For the #PullingOurWeight campaign, Dow and Ocean Conservancy received support from four of Dow’s valued customers through certified collection bags for cleanups around the world. In North America, bag producer Polykar, Inc. and packaging customer Winpak teamed up with Dow to produce 270,000 collection bags for Ocean Conservancy cleanups in the United States and Canada. In Europe, Dow collaborated with European recycler GCR and Spanish packaging producer Plasticos Romero to produce 128,000 collection bags for Ocean Conservancy cleanups across the world in markets such as Mexico, Portugal, Africa and Guam. The bags were made of recycled plastic, and used Dow’s RETAIN compatibilizer technology.

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Aspiring high school chefs get a taste of MCC's Culinary Program



courtesy photo | MCC Chef David Miller showed GCI students how to make bread dough from scratch.

Students from the Genesee Career Institute (GCI) had an opportunity to work side-by-side with Mott Community College's (MCC) Culinary Arts faculty and students Friday, Oct. 5 at a Culinary Arts Workshop hosted by the College.

"This was a great opportunity for our students to gain experience with community involvement," said MCC Chef Mark Handy. "It gives MCC Culinary Arts students an opportunity to share their college experience, along with demonstrating their knowledge and skills learned in our program."

Partnering with MCC provided GCI students with hands-on lab experiences they need while GCI is conducting a major renovation of their own facilities. "Service learning opportunities such as these provides reciprocal benefits for MCC and our community partners," said Debra Gibes, Faculty Director for Experiential Learning. "We appreciate the CGI chefs working with

our Culinary Arts program to make this event a success," she added.

Forty-five GCI culinary Arts students were paired with six MCC students and chefs in three different rotating hands-on lab experiences for 90 minutes each. Students in the café lab set up a luncheon buffet service and learned different table service styles. In the Bakery Lab students baked rolls and breads, and in the Kitchen Lab, students prepared three soups from scratch.

GCI students said they enjoyed learning how to make braided bread and the Applewood Café's signature turkey and white bean chili. "We had a great bunch of students, they were very enthusiastic, they had a lot of fun, and had a lot of great questions," said Handy.

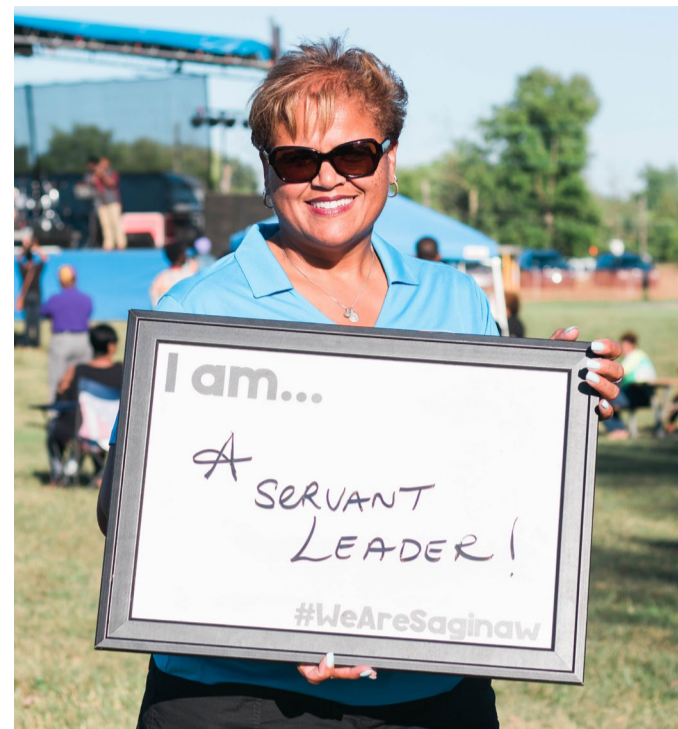
Service Learning opportunities are part of the MCC Culinary Arts Department commitment to partnering with GCI to strengthening working

relationships with vocational education programs in the surrounding area.

Service Learning is a method of study in which students apply course concepts to the "real-world" through volunteer service within the Greater Flint Community. Meaningful service is paired with critical thinking and reflection to create a worthwhile experience and deeper learning of key course objectives.

Experiential Learning is learning through reflection on doing. It focuses on the individual's experience, and is a way to connect academics to the "real world" by actively participating in the world, not just reading about it. Mott Community College is committed to supporting the development and integration of meaningful, active, hands-on experience for students as a method of meeting learning objectives and community needs.

Saginaw Choral Society launches #WeAreSaginaw project



Throughout the next year the Saginaw Choral Society, in partnership with the United Way of Saginaw County, is leading a brand new project called #WeAreSaginaw. This inspiring campaign aims to celebrate the impact and importance of all the people in our community.

From a distance, we shop together, drink coffee together, drive down the same roads together, and live together, yet how well do we really know one

another? The United Way and SCS are working together to bridge that gap and break down those barriers, all around Saginaw county.



another? The United Way and SCS are working together to bridge that gap and break down those barriers, all around Saginaw county.

At various events throughout the year, you will have the opportunity to participate in this project or maybe even already have. SCS has set up tables at local events all summer long and will

continue to do so until they're final concert of the season. If you find yourself at one of these events you'll be asked to tell, in a word or two, how you would respond to the sentence "I AM..." You'll write your description on a #WeAreSaginaw whiteboard, get your picture professionally taken and then are encouraged to share your photo on your own personal social media explaining why you chose the words you did. At the end of the season, the ultimate goal is that the community will all come together to recognize the full impact of what makes us... us!

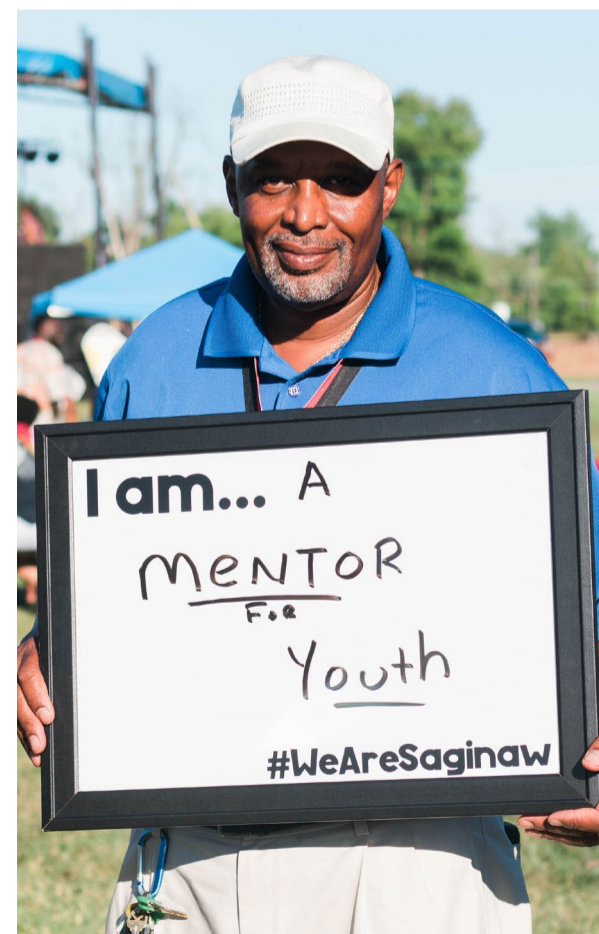
All the photos taken throughout the year will be posted to the Saginaw Choral Society brand new website www.wearesaginaw.com. It is there that you'll be able to find more information on the #WeAreSaginaw project as well as all the "I AM..." pictures.

The Saginaw Choral Society's final concert of the season on May 4, 2019, is titled

appropriately, We Are Saginaw. At this concert, the Choral Society will use the photos and specially selected music to perform a season-ending, multimedia concert that puts everything together into an exciting and revealing look at our community. Images collected throughout the year will be projected onto the screen of the

historic Temple Theatre, as the ensemble performs selections to represent the words chosen by our own community.

But that's just the first step. The photos will also become part of an ongoing social media project that will continue to bring us together as the Saginaw Choral Society strives to build and unite our community through music. Because I am Saginaw. You are Saginaw. Together #WeAreSaginaw.



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Midland's Open Door Building for Change Groundbreaking Ceremony



Open Door's Building for Change Home Rendering

You are cordially invited to join Midland's Open Door and Greystone Homes as they commemorate the Building for Change fundraising initiative with a groundbreaking ceremony on Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at 3 p.m., 3060 Alderberry Ct., Midland. The event will include opening remarks, ground breaking ceremony, and question and answer session with guests in attendance. Light refreshments will be served.

Following the ceremony, Greystone Homes will begin construction on a custom built home, with 100% of the proceeds from the sale of the home benefiting Midland's Open Door. The funds will be utilized for programs that provide mentoring and services for single homeless mothers to find permanent housing, maintain financial stability, and build a community of supportive, life-changing relationships.

We hope you can join us as we celebrate this collaborative effort to create positive change for those in need in our community.

Contact Midland's Open Door: Renee Pettinger (989) 835-2291
or
Greystone Homes: Kelly Wall (989) 835-6965



Flint schools are getting safe water fountains thanks to a promised fulfilled by Tesla's Elon Musk



courtesy photo

Tesla's billionaire CEO Elon Musk will reportedly pay for new water stations and water filtration for the entire Flint Community Schools district.

On Thursday night, the school district tweeted its effusive thanks to Musk and the Musk Foundation, which the tech entrepreneur founded in 2002 with his brother, Kimbal.

The district serves more than 4,500 students K-12.

"You're most welcome," Musk replied. "Hope to do more in the future."

In July, Musk tweeted several times about Flint, claiming that he would pay to fix contamination in Flint homes whose levels were above acceptable U.S. Food and Drug Administration standards.

That led to another promise on the platform to call Flint Mayor Karen Weaver directly. Her office later confirmed to MLive that someone from Musk's office did reach out.

Musk's Palo Alto, California-based foundation focuses on "renewable energy research and advocacy;" "human space exploration research and advocacy;" "pediatric research;" and "science and engineering education," according to its website.

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jdarby@greatlakespace.org

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989-753-7741

The Michigan Banner Outreach Ministries

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— Romans 15:7*

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Pastor Otis Washington
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messiahmbc@att.net
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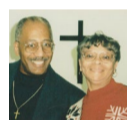
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POLITICS & PUBLIC POLICY

Is Saginaw City Council disappearing?

By Mike Thompson

City of Saginaw voters will find something odd on the flip side (second page) of the ballot.

For City Council, the ballot states, "Vote for not more than 4."

Then there are only 3 names, for the incumbents Michael D. Balls and Brenda F. Moore, and for newcomer Bill Ostash.

Yes, kids, three IS less than four. But when vacancies have taken place during 2018, City Hall has not found scant applicants to fill the spots.

What? Nobody, or hardly anybody, wants to serve on the Saginaw City Council? Back in the day, there used to be about 20 candidates in the

biannual elections. Candidates had to campaign hard, and usually had to raise at least \$2,000. Yard signs were abundant. A few candidates went to the extreme (Joy Hargrove, Roma Thurin) of purchasing billboard advertising.

There were election-day radiothons on W-3-SOUL and later, WTLZ-FM 107.1. Nowadays the KISS lips are silent.

What happened? Theories abound. Some analysts say:

- Citizens have given up.
- Those "young people" simply aren't as socially aware as the older folk.

- The local budget is so tight that the Council really can't make much of a difference, except to provide minimum funds for cops and firefighters and roads.

- With sharp cutbacks in local media, especially the daily paper, news coverage is rare and public knowledge evaporates.

Whatever the case, the fourth winner on Nov. 6 will have to be a write-in. For some odd reason, the Saginaw City Clerk's office staff will not release names of potential write-ins until October 28. One name who has stepped forward on her own to promote herself is Autumn Scherzer.

The following are statements from candidates who have emerged thus far. If any others begin active write-in campaigns, The Michigan Banner will inform readers in our Nov. 1 publication.



MICHAEL D. BALLS

I am seeking my second term on the City Council to continue the work that we already have started.

There is a big difference between 20 years ago and today. There was 100,000 living in the city, now there are 50,000. There were 25,000 - 30,000 auto workers 20 years ago, to about 6,000 today.

Less schools, less newspapers, everything has shrunk, including wages. We have the same operating tax income, \$30 mill for the last 40 years. All said, the city is reinventing itself with the help of the Shaheen family projects in the Great Lakes Bay Region. We really need to lift the tax cap so we can have a vibrant economy and parts division and the school system needs to turn out more skill trades candidates for our area.

Continues on Pg 38 - 39



BRENDA MOORE

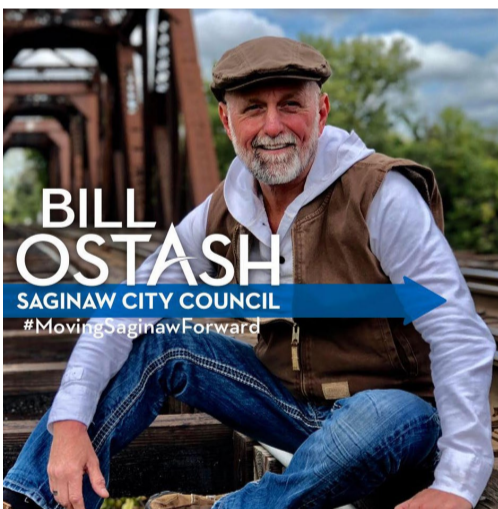
In the past five years of being in office, I have become involved with the Michigan Municipal League (MML) and have completed level three of the four levels of courses they offer in Education, Leadership and Governance. I will be completing the last course in March of 2019. I currently service as the Vice President to the MML Trustee Board, President of the Elected Officials Academy Board (EOA) and 2nd Vice President Michigan Black Caucus (MML). When I came to (MML) I knew nothing of what my duties were in being a good Councilmember but after my first class and going to the 1st Conference in Lansing meeting with other Elected Official I started to network and meet with some of the other Cities that we're going through some of the same issues we were.

Throughout my association with MML they have been a valuable asset and have given me ideals that I have shared with our City. I also service on several boards in the Community: Saginaw County Community Action Center (CAC) Board Chair, Saginaw County 911 Board and City/County/School Liaison Committee.

I was born in Saginaw and attended Saginaw Public Schools. I have always wanted to help make Saginaw a better place to live. During my five years serving on Council I have attended 94% of the meetings (124/132). The meeting which I missed were for work that had me out of the area, and caring for my Mother who has passed away in 2015. My role models were my Parents who taught me and my siblings to always do our best in whatever we did. My Mother had a chance to see me five years ago win my election and I know she is looking down and proud of what we have been able to accomplish as a community.

As a City of Saginaw Council Member, I will work diligently to assist Saginaw by continuing my commitment to the following:

- Breaking barriers and building a future
- Creating a customer friendly effective system to meet the needs of residents and visitors to the City of Saginaw
- Serving under the core competencies of the city to the greatest extent.



BILL OSTASH

I'm a lifelong resident of the Great Lakes Bay Region. I was born and raised in Bay City, where I graduated from T.L. Handy High School in 1983. I attended Delta College and Saginaw Valley State University, receiving my BS in Computer Science with a minor in Management.

I moved to Saginaw in 2004 living on the east side in the Cathedral District. I then purchased a home in the Covenant Neighborhood in 2005. But after 7 years I moved back to the Cathedral District in 2012 and currently live there with Kevin Rooker. Together we've completed restoring a Queen Ann Victorian built in 1893 by one of Saginaw's prominent families, the Wolfarths. Our historic homes history in on Facebook for those who would like to see the commitment to the restoration and history: <https://www.facebook.com/WolfarthHouse>.

I run Preservation Saginaw Facebook page. The mission is: (Advocate, Educate, Preserve) for the importance of historic Saginaw's Past and Future. My ultimate vision is to re-purpose, renovate, and save some of our last historic structures, giving a positive image of the city of Saginaw. I am doing this by working with developers, the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the Michigan Historic Preservation Network (MHPN) and other preservation entities in Saginaw.

Safety with regards to police and fire will be a high priority on my list for our city. With the constraints on the budget, we have to find ways to preserve what we have. Once a new Governor is elected after November 6th, I firmly believe they need to continue to keep the assisted State Police program in Saginaw put in place by Governor Snyder. Saginaw is not at a point yet to operate without this program.

I believe a strong urban city core, with a diverse citizen population, creates a strong community. Last my message: "Develop, Preserve, Safety and Always your Voice!"



AUTUMN SCHERZER

I desire to serve the residents of the City of Saginaw because I am invested in the growth of our community. I am the President of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., Zeta Omega Zeta Chapter, Chairman of The Diaper Alliance, member of the YWCA Advocacy and Racial Justice Committee, current member of the Henry Marsh Institute for Public Policy and Board Member for the Saginaw Economic Development Corporation.

- I have gained more than 10 years of experience in leadership of diverse non-profit organizations.
 - I am interested in our community and in our citizens.
 - I stand proudly with our police and firefighters, and believe in promoting, supporting, and uplifting both departments in all ways possible as they continue to make our community safe.
 - I am passionate about workforce and economic development and believe it is vital to continue promoting growth, innovation and change in our city. I support local businesses and create partnerships/relationships with our local nonprofits and community organizations.
- I believe in transparency and accountability and am dedicated to making Saginaw a vibrant community for all to live, work, and serve in.
 - I have volunteered with such worthy causes as Hidden Harvest, Saginaw VA Hospital and the American Cancer Society.
 - My name is not on the ballot, and so please write in "Autumn Scherzer" below the listed names of Michael Balls, Brenda Moore and Bill Ostash, as your fourth selection for the four available City Council positions.



LATRELL BAILEY

Saginaw is an amazing city with so much potential. And while we've made many strides, much remains to be achieved. It's time for certain barriers to be broken that will open the door to radical "CHANGE" in our city. I'm committed to building a safe and healthy community for our residents to not just survive, but thrive. And this requires new solutions and fresh ideas to progress Saginaw forward. I matriculated through Buena Vista Schools, and my mother was an educator and administrator in the school district for over 40 years. As a native of Saginaw, community advocate, community activist, community volunteer and clergy member, I understand the change we need in our neighborhoods. I served as a longtime member and President of the Board of Directors of Parishioner on Patrol of Saginaw. During that time, I found ways to improve our quality of life through partnerships, by breaking through barriers, and by connecting our community. For, a connected community is not only a safe community; it's a productive community that prospers beyond statistics and expectations. Yes, we should preserve our historic past. But, it's just as important for us to, actively, pursue new ideas to ensure a brighter future for us all. I'm running

for Saginaw City Council to bring the creative, innovative, pragmatic and collaborative solutions we need that will help make our city an even greater place to work, play, live AND prosper.

My priorities for our city are to Strengthen and Diversify Economic Development, Improve Public Safety, Increase Emphasis on Youth Development, Address Socio-Economic & Generational Divide, and Enhance Residents' Quality of Life.

I'm devoted to making our city a better place to live, and that's why I'm running to be your City Councilwoman. I'm asking for your vote so I can take my diverse and effective experience as a community leader to City Council and help find ways to create real, lasting, solutions to the problems facing us all on a day-to-day basis. To learn more about me and my vision for our city, or to contact my campaign, please visit Bailey4CityCouncil.com or email me at: LaTrell@Bailey4CityCouncil.com. Let's help Saginaw achieve its full potential... With my "Radical Heart for the City", your support, and us working collaboratively and collectively as one, we can create that radical "CHANGE" together! I am running as a write-in candidate; on November 6th, cast your vote!

Saginaw Board of Education election in the spotlight

By Mike Thompson

Years ago, Saginaw City Council members used to argue and debate often, but rarely did this take place with the Saginaw Board of Education. Nowadays, the opposite is true. A number of 4-3 votes have occurred on the school board, most recently the decision in March to cut ties with Nate McClain. (However, the decision to hire Ramont Roberts, rather than searching outside the district, was unanimous.)

Other controversies have included not offering the vacant Buena Vista High and Longfellow Elementary facilities to bidders, and not creating a link with LaMarr Woodley's charter elementary school.

The four votes have belonged to the board's officers -- President Rudy Patterson, Vice-President Jason E. Thompson, Secretary Kim Hamilton and Treasurer Mattie Thompson. The opposing trio has included Ruth Ann Knapp, Joyce Seals and Tamara McRae.

Patterson is stepping down from the board, or else this fall's election would be even more in the spotlight. McRae already has departed, moving out of town, replaced by temporarily by Vera G. Harrison.

Knapp and Harrison are incumbent candidates for a pair of full six-year terms. Their opponents are Joseph Manuel Loperena and Charles H. Coleman.

For a separate two-year seat, Jason Thompson is challenged by Ralph Martin.

Following are the candidates responses to a Michigan Banner survey:

SIX-YEAR SEATS (CHOOSE TWO)

RUTH ANN KNAPP (incumbent)

I'm retired from SPSD after 40+ years of teaching. I'm currently serving the Sagina NAACP as



Education Chair and 2nd Vice President. I am on the Positive Results Downtown Board and work on Friday Night Live, Memorial Day and Christmas Parades, Holidays in the Heart of the City, Arson Watch and Light Up The City. I also am still active in

the Michigan Music Education Board.

My former students now have children in SPSD and they too deserve our best. My goals are strong comprehensive curriculum, safe and healthy schools, and sound fiscal policies so we will never go in debt again.

On the plus side, we're still out of debt and have an adequate fund balance but the finances still need to be watched at all levels. We also are decreasing the drop-out rate, while increasing graduation rate and test scores. We're heading in the right direction.

On the minus side, we need to realize we hire a person as Superintendent and need to let that person do the job. We need to avoid micro-managing. Some decisions are NOT Board Decisions.

I voted to retain Superintendent McClain on the basis of his performance. I still do not know the reasons why he is no longer being employed by SPSD. Going forward, I did vote in favor of removing the 'interim' from Supt. Roberts name.

My opinion on board decisions not to take offers for the use of the former BV High and Longfellow Elementary facilities is that do not seem to have an organized process to assess and dispose of properties no longer needed. This may be due to less administration and people being spread too thin. I have not opposed reinstating necessary positions at 550 Millard. With our finances improving, I believe we can take better advantage of positions being reinstated as we have in teacher and other staff positions. It's time to take a good look at this situation.

Regarding LaMarr Woodley and Woodley Academy, I am concerned about any partnership with any charter school -- no matter the person in charge. It's always difficult to create a 'partnership' with any charter school, almost like asking Target to partner with Kohl's. In spite of what Education Secretary DeVos says about being more innovative, the results do not hold up under scrutiny. When the leader of Education in the U.S. does not support public schools, our country and many of its young people are the worse for implementation of that philosophy.

VERA G. HARRISON



I am the Child Abuse Prevention Director at the CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region. I currently volunteer with the Great Start Collaborative Parent Coalition and the Children's Grief Center.

I am running for the school board because I'm passionate about my community and the families that live in it. I work with a lot of families that have children in the Saginaw Schools who have expressed concerns. I know that I am a person that works off facts and believe in making decisions based on those facts. I am the mother of a son who is the product of Saginaw Public Schools. I am also the grandmother of two grandchildren, that I co-parent with my son, that attend Saginaw Public Schools.

Honestly, I am not impressed (with the board's past performance). The board seems to struggle with being united, even to benefit the children. We have to lead by example. If the facts on a situation prove that your view is not the best for the kiddos you need to accept that and work with the entire board on the solution that's best for them. It's not about you or me, it's about providing our kids with the best opportunity to learn and succeed.

As a community member I was under the impression that Superintendent McClain was doing fine. I guess I may be the person on the outside looking in. There was no transparency. If there was a problem with the Superintendent it was never brought to the surface.

It would have been great to somehow have worked with the individuals that wanted to purchase Longfellow and BV Schools so the new school would have fell under the Saginaw Public School umbrella. I assume that the pros and cons were weighed and he best decision was made to benefit our communities and families.

I respect LeMarr Woodley for everything he has done for our community from the food drives to the annual football camps. What Woodley Academy offers the community is options. Saginaw Public Schools must work hard to become the best option. There will always be competition, but if you are providing the best service in that field, it won't matter. I want to be a part of making Saginaw Public Schools the best option.

Continues on Pg 42, Saginaw Board of Education



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DEAR RESIDENTS,

My name is Autumn Scherzer and I ask for your support as a write-in candidate for the open seat on Saginaw City Council. I desire to serve as a voice of our residents and bring continued innovation to our community.

WRITE IN and FILL IN Autumn Scherzer for Saginaw City Council and help me to continue working and supporting our community and making it a vibrant city for all to live, work and serve in.

Autumn L. Scherzer



Write-In | Fill-In

Autumn Scherzer

FOR SAGINAW CITY COUNCIL

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- ★ **Believes in maximizing our resources and opportunities**
- ★ **Values honesty, transparency, and accountability**
- ★ **Over 10 years experience in non-profit leadership**
- ★ **Active in diverse community organizations:**
 - ◆ *President, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Zeta Omega Zeta Chapter*
 - ◆ *Chairman, The Diaper Alliance*
 - ◆ *Saginaw Economic Development Corporation Board Member*
 - ◆ *YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region Advocacy and Racial Justice Committee*
 - ◆ *Henry Marsh Institute for Public Policy member*
- ★ **Proud Supporter and volunteer of:**
 - ◆ *Hidden Harvest*
 - ◆ *American Cancer Society*
 - ◆ *Saginaw VA Hospital*
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Saginaw Board of Education election in the spotlight

By Mike Thompson

JOE MANUAL LOPERENA



(NOTE: Joe Loperena chose The Banner's survey option of responding with a telephone interview. Other candidates opted to submit written statements.)

The candidate indicates that he is employed with the Carrollton Public School's Department of Athletics in game

management, organizing various sports events, arranging for referees and scorekeepers, etc. He lives with his family in Saginaw and has volunteered for the Cinco de Mayo Parade, Friday Night Live and Holidays in the Heart of the City,

This is his fourth attempt for the school board. He notes that his attendance record in the audience as a citizen, at both full board meetings and at various committee sessions, is at a higher rate than some of the trustees themselves. He says he takes an interest because of his concern for the children in the city where he was raised.

He says the current board may have "a hidden agenda" but he is not specific about the nature of this. He disagreed with the 4-3 vote to cut ties with Superintendent McClain and says the four members failed to appreciate McClain's efforts for community outreach, attending various ballgames and other events.

Loperena would propose merging Arthur Hill and Saginaw High, possibly at the Saginaw High building or possibly by relocating SASA and making SASA the unified riverfront location. He explains that Arthur Hill's building infrastructure, especially a leaky and frequently flooded boiler room, is too old to handle a unified central high school.

The current board "kind of blew it," he says, by failing to put together partnerships with Woodley Academy, and with potential buyers for the vacant Buena Vista High and Longfellow Elementary facilities.

REV. CHARLES H. COLEMAN



My current occupation is serving as the Pastor of New Faith Temple Church of God in Christ. I have previously worked as a Chemical Technician for the Dow Corning Corporation, now part of DowDupont. I served for six years as

a member of the Saginaw City Council, and retired due to back surgery. I am currently serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Ezekiel Project, and leading several efforts within the Gamaliel Network.

I am running for a seat as a Trustee of the Saginaw Board of Education because I feel that it is necessary to bring some transparency and order to this table. The administrators and teachers can do the work to bring the District to the testing levels required but the final step toward this action must come from the Board Table. I have the skills and training to bring this to the Board of Trustees.

Some of the decisions made by the current Board have been positive, and have moved the district forward, while others have had the opposite effect. The greatest problem has been a lack of transparency. Decisions have been made with little or no discussion at the table to inform the community of the rationale, which has hindered the ability of the district to move forward.

The decision to cut ties with Superintendent McClain was not adequately explained. Perhaps there were valid reasons, but the Board's failure to answer the community's questions has led to a great deal of distrust among citizens.

There is currently overcapacity in high school buildings, as Saginaw High and Arthur Hill were built for much larger student populations, but this does not suggest that the appropriate response is to close one of the buildings. There are a multiplicity of questions that must be answered before that decision is made. The location of a combined school building is a bit premature at this time. Without appropriate studies and polls of the community, I cannot definitively state that a merger is in the best interest of the students of the district.

Again, when we look at the proposals to purchase or lease closed buildings that have been made negatively by the current Board, there are unanswered questions as to the rationale behind the decisions. It is difficult, if not impossible to comment on decisions made without being sure of the reasons that the decisions were made.

When the Woodley Academy and other charter school programs are discussed, we must begin with the understanding that these programs are in direct competition with the Saginaw Public School System for students and the dollars that follow them. To discuss a relationship with these programs is difficult without, again, having more information on how such a partnership would work, and how such a partnership will benefit the students involved.

Our primary objective, both the public schools, and the for-profit charter schools, should be what is in the best interest of the students. Failure to benefit students as a qualifier for all discussions should make the discussions invalid.

TWO-YEAR SEAT (CHOOSE ONE)

JASON E. THOMPSON

(This candidate is the only one among the six who did not answer multiple Michigan Banner requests for a response.)

RALPH MARTIN



I have served the Saginaw Fire Department for 29 years and now am the city's Fire Marshal. My volunteer time and effort is dedicated as Saginaw Library Commission chairman, Saginaw NAACP Executive Committee, Saginaw African Cultural Committee vice-president, Parishioners on Patrol

Executive Committee, Bethel AME Trustee Board and Men of Bethel President.

I have a genuine passion for students and a lifelong connection with the Saginaw Public School District. My mother, along with three aunts and cousins, all were SPSD employees. I'm confident I can make decisions to positively impact the district's current needs. I believe in transparency among elected officials, and I have the ability to listen, learn and execute when faced with tough decisions.

I believe the school board can improve on its reputation and its ability to serve its constituents. When I engage parents and students, they have expressed higher expectations of their elected board.

Regarding Superintendent McClain, I was disappointed that the board did not share with constituents the reason for the separation of employment. As a community, we deserve to know why Mr. McClain's contract was not renewed. If given the reason, there may have been something we could have done in support. But without transparency from the board, the community is left to its own devices to ascertain why the superintendent was let go. Unfortunately, this does not lead to a positive perception of the SPSD board.

Regarding sales offers for the former BV High and Longfellow Elementary facilities, the benefits of one-time funds vs. the long-term effects of selling to a charter school must be weighed. And with LaMarr Woodley and Woodley Academy, the true cost/benefit of such a partnership should be taken into account. I believe the SPSD should always keep in the forefront how it can best serve its students and parents when formulating partnerships. The sustainability of the local public school district should also be a strong consideration.



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Delta College Trustee election

By Mike Thompson

Delta College trustees are elected, unlike those for Saginaw Valley State University, who are appointed by the governor. Each of the Tri-Counties -- Saginaw, Bay and Midland -- separately elect three representatives. Usually the elections are not contested. However, on Nov. 6 there will be a contest in Saginaw County, with appointed incumbent Kelley A. Peatross challenged by Marcia L. Thomas.

The winner will join the Rev. Robert Emrich and Karen Lawrence-Webster as Saginaw reps on Delta's Board of Trustees. The choice will appear at the top of the rear side of the ballot. Ballots must be flipped for voting to be complete.

Following are the candidates' prepared written statements to The Banner:

KELLEY A. PEATROSS



I believe the future of Michigan is linked to education -- through skilled trades, online learning, partnerships between K-12 and higher education, as well as strategic partnerships with businesses who hire our graduates. I am seeking election, to maintain my seat, on the Delta College Board of Trustees to

expand the opportunities for ALL learners in the Great Lakes Bay Region. Currently serving as a Trustee, I uphold the mission of the college: "educating, enriching and empowering our diverse community of learners to achieve their personal, professional and academic goals."

As one of 10 children, and the proud daughter of 40-year GM-UAW employee Mr. James T. Keyton, Sr. and mother Ruth, I was raised to respect learning and earning, whether it was in the classroom, in athletics or at home. I earned a Bachelor's Degree from Spring Arbor University in Human Resources and Master's and Doctorate degrees in Educational Leadership and Administration from Western Michigan University, and I've never stopped learning. Retired from the Saginaw Public Schools in 2015 after serving most recently as Interim Superintendent/CEO and Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Shared Services since 2011, I am now a Regional Manager for Consumers Energy. I live in Saginaw and have two daughters, Jennifer and Jessica.

My role for Consumers Energy includes community and public affairs, governmental liaison work and franchise renewal. I serve on several boards supporting youth organizations and economic development. As a business and community leader, I see firsthand the

complex issues that affect our region and I believe in the power of education to address them.

Having thirty years of experience with the Michigan Department of Education and the Saginaw, East Lansing and Lansing Public School Districts provides significant insight for the role of a college trustee today. As we seek solutions, it is important to remain committed and inspired by our students, work collaboratively with compassion and rely on the strengths of our community.

I was appointed to Delta's Board of Trustees this summer to fulfill the Saginaw County term of long-time Trustee Earl Selby, upon his retirement. I sought that appointment and commit my best to the students of Delta and the communities that so generously support the college. Noteworthy accomplishments of the Board include maintaining a 10 percent general fund balance reserve, or nearly \$7 million of annual operating revenues; Delta College has no debt. Also, the Trustees provided staff and faculty with salary increases of 2 percent for the 2018-19 academic year, without impacting the budget in a negative manner, despite declining enrollment due to demographic shifts. Lastly, the Trustees approved funding to support two new campuses in downtown Saginaw and Midland casting a wider net to meet the needs of ALL learners. There is more work to do to meet the diverse needs of today's students and assure a place for every learner at Delta College.

I respectfully seek your support on November 6th to continue this work with integrity and strength.

MARCIA L. THOMAS



Catalyst. Advocate. Passionate. Leader. These are my main qualities.

I possess more than 30 years of professional and corporate experience, of which 20 years were with Dow Chemical, and currently serve at Aptar in Midland as human

resources director. I have been married to Darryl Thomas for 28 years and we have two daughters, Erica in Atlanta and Lauren in New York City. Our home has been in the City of Saginaw, and we now live in Saginaw Township

My community involvement includes past board membership on the Saginaw Historical Society, Underground Railroad, SASA Foundation (founding board member), Saginaw Valley State University Alumni Board, Great Lakes Bay Regional MLK

Planning Committee and the Saginaw Branch NAACP. Additionally, I have served in local and regional leadership in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Tri-City Chapter, LINKS Inc. and other non-profit service-based organizations.

Relative to student engagement, I am most proud of my involvement with youth from the elementary school to college. As a mother of two recent college graduates, during their primary years, I was not only involved as a parent but worked diligently with the ACT-SO Youth group and led the youth department at Zion Missionary Baptist Church. Additionally, I serve on the Church Education Advisory Ministry. As the Director of Multicultural Services at Saginaw Valley State University, my accomplishments included the name change of the department to expand the cultural reach for the students as well as improvements to the mentoring program. I also assisted students in classes to take at Delta to bridge the education to SVSU.

My interest in the Delta board seat is supported by my continuous community involvement and desire to be a part of the decision-making body of the college, as well as the contributions to the Great Lakes Bay Region. My interest is enhancing the opportunities for traditional and non-traditional students, (education and transportation); building resources for parents so they are able to help prepare their children for college and lastly for more affordable skills trade learning opportunities. Our region, and across the nation, is continuing to struggle with the lack of persons with skills trade training. I care about our community and have a proven track record of involvement and engagement. I believe my experience and background can make a difference in decisions, particularly in these focus areas.

I am familiar with the great work the Delta College Board has already done in our community. My assessment of the Board's performance is very favorable, which is why I will dedicate my knowledge and expertise in order to continue to listen to the residents in the Great Lakes Bay Region to enrich the Delta College experience.

My employment background, Human Resources, can also be an asset to the Delta College Board of Trustees. My previous employment with Dow Chemical as well as with Saginaw Valley State University also afforded several collaborative events with Delta College. I have been in global roles which enhanced my ability to work across cultures and to ensure that diversity and inclusion were a forefront in project work, team building etc.

I am confident I would be a good choice to fill this vacant seat because of the outside-in perspective that I bring as well as my background in Diversity & Inclusion.

How to vote on career ed millage? More info to come

By Mike Thompson

On the Nov. 6 ballot, the final item on the back page states "Intermediate School District," which in short form is the countywide SISD. We may vote yes or no regarding a proposed 1-mill SISD property tax for career "voc-ed" education. But some of us still need more info.

The Saginaw Career Complex on Weiss Street, near Consumers Energy headquarters, is not mentioned. But the future of the renamed Career Opportunities Center will be affected, and some observers say its survival may be at stake.

Even though this topic has received very scant attention in daily local media, it is among the most important local questions that voters will decide in November.

Saginaw County, through SISD, is home to a dozen local K-12 districts. The City of Saginaw district has operated countywide career education for more than a half century, back to the old days of Arthur Hill Tech. But leaders of the 11 other suburban and small-town school systems all acted as a group last winter to take away the operating control, and the city school board responded Oct. 10 by voting to file a lawsuit.

And so as this Michigan Banner report is written, the local politics still are up in the air. Hopefully we will have more details within the next two weeks for The Banner's final edition in early November, prior to election day. (Sorry, we can't provide more help to all of you advance absentee voters.)

PROS AND CONS

Representatives from SISD say the countywide plan and the 1-mill levy would help all 12 districts, including and especially the city, by expanding the tax base to provide an added \$5 million per year for what amounts to teenage job training and placement. The Chamber of Commerce and local business leaders, such as Dick Garber, are in favor.

The outer school districts have self-interests. They no longer would lose per-pupil state aid equivalents when their teens depart for half-days in the city at the Career Complex, and they also would receive new funds to help cover transportation costs. For them, these two items have been a sore point for many years.

SISD leaders also are trying to reassure the city

school board. They pledge that they would not "take over" daily management of the Career Complex, and that existing staff and programs would remain in place. In turn, this is a sore point for the city school board and administration. They are seeking a written, binding promise that SISD will not use funds to construct or remodel buildings elsewhere in the county to replace or undermine what most folks still know as "the COC."

The dispute will be the topic of at least one joint meeting during late October. If an accord is reached, the city school board would drop the legal action and join support for the countywide millage and switchover on the Nov. 6 ballot. If no agreement is achieved, then conflict will continue.

This explains why Saginaw city voters, especially, must wait and hope for more information.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. What is the Saginaw Intermediate School District (SISD)?

A. State educational governance sets up the smaller regional ISDs as a middle ground for regional cooperation on matters such as joint curriculum and special ed, based on the principle that local districts should support one another and learn from one another. SISD member K-12 districts are Birch Run, Bridgeport-Spaulling, Carrollton, Chesaning, Frankenmuth, Freeland, Hemlock, Merrill, Saginaw City, Saginaw Township, St. Charles and Swan Valley.

Q. Are race-bias implications involved here?

A. Some Saginaw city school activists say so, while most in the outer areas say no. Although the suburban schools have become more integrated, demographic and geographic racial tensions in education have deep-rooted seeds, like in most everything else in life. On the current voc ed question, some city people ask questions such as, "We've done a great job for all these years, now why do they want to take it from us?" Or, "Now that there can be more funds for voc ed, all of a sudden they want to go to the money tree." Or, "This is only the first step in a playbook, a master plan, to move our Career Center to some place like Hemlock or Chesaning (which is where the county fair moved)." If racial concerns did not exist, Saginaw would seem not a part of the U.S.A. This is why Saginaw city school leaders

say they are seeking promises in exchange for sharing control.

Q. Is career ed or voc-ed still for students who are considered "too slow" for college tracking?

A. Nowadays, most of the 19 overall offerings at the Career Complex include college prep, while others head directly into skilled trades. The roster, for example, includes health care, building construction and maintenance, culinary/hospitality, auto and appliance repair, public safety, computer engineering and graphic arts. It's not your father's voc-ed Oldsmobile.

Q. Why is SISD seeking a new tax when the city district managed all those years without a millage?

A. This is a case of seeking improvement through more funding, a concept that even city board members support. SISD leaders argue that among 56 state regions, Saginaw County is 55th in per-student voc ed spending, and one of the few ISDs without a local voc-ed millage. They also state that the Career Complex today functions at only half of its 1,000-student capacity, in large part because of the funding shortage. Under state rules, the SISD can seek this millage but the city district could not.

Q. What would the new tax cost property owners?

A. Countywide businesses and homeowners would pay an added 1 mill, which equals \$1 per each \$1,000 in taxable value, or \$1 for each \$2,000 in sale value. For example, the owner of a house with a \$30,000 taxable value, which might sell for \$60,000, would pay an extra \$30 per year. The owner of a business with a \$250,000 taxable value, \$500,000 sale value, would pay an added \$250. The time span would be 10 years, up for renewal in 2028, generating an added \$5 million per annum. (Some property owners may receive various breaks, such as Homesteaders.)

(READERS: Look forward to the NEXT Michigan Banner for updated information prior to the Nov. 6 election.)

Delta College Hosts Meet The Candidates Event

The Democracy Commitment at Delta College invites the community to attend its Meet The Candidates event on Tuesday, October 23, from 11am – 1pm, in the center hallways of Delta's main campus.

This event offers voters a one-stop-shop to meet candidates and/or their staff across the political spectrum running for local, state and federal offices. It's an opportunity to have a conversation with potential lawmakers about what's important to the residents of the Great Lakes Bay Region.

Across the state, 110 state house seats, 38 state senate seats and 14 U.S. House seats are up for grabs, in addition to the Michigan governorship, attorney general and secretary of state. The Democracy Commitment at Delta College is offering programming throughout the fall



semester to help students cast an informed ballot on Election Day.

The October 23 event will offer coffee and refreshments for those who visit with the candidates.

"This event is intended to break down barriers

between young people and the political process," said Lisa Lawrason, co-campus coordinator of The Democracy Commitment. "We hope that Delta students and the community will find candidates are more accessible than they think and that they really are interested in hearing their concerns."



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SPORTS

Wardynski Nominated for MiLB Award

Rawlings Woman Executive of the Year announced in December at Winter Meetings



courtesy photo

The Midwest League of Professional Baseball Clubs announced its nominees for Minor League Baseball's Post-Season Awards on Friday. Tiffany Wardynski, Vice President of Baseball Operations and Gameday Experience with the Great Lakes Loons, has been nominated for the Rawlings Woman Executive of the Year Award.

MIDLAND, Mich. - The Midwest League of Professional Baseball Clubs announced its nominees for Minor League Baseball's Post-Season Awards on Friday. Tiffany Wardynski, Vice President of Baseball Operations and Gameday Experience with the Great Lakes Loons, has been nominated for the Rawlings Woman Executive of the Year Award.

"It's a tremendous honor to represent the Loons and the Midwest League alongside so many other

deserving and hard-working women in baseball," Wardynski. "I've spent the last 11 years working with so many great friends here. None of us could do what we do without the love and support we have for each other."

Since 1976, the Rawlings Woman Executive of the Year Award has been presented annually to a woman who has made outstanding contributions to her club or league, or to baseball. This year's winner will be the 42nd recipient of the award. "I continue to marvel at the creativity and dedication of our clubs in each of the areas these awards represent," MWL President Dick Nussbaum said. "This year's award nominees succeeded out of a very competitive group of clubs. I am very confident our MWL nominees should provide MiLB with great choices when

making final decisions. Congratulations to our nominees and to all of our Clubs on a great 2018 season."

The four other MiLB Post-Season Awards include:

The Charles K. Murphy Patriot Award is presented to a club or individual employed by a club for outstanding support of and engagement with the United States Armed Forces and veterans, both at the ballpark and in the community.

The John Henry Moss Community Service Award is presented to a club that demonstrates an outstanding, on-going commitment to charitable service, support, and leadership within their local community and within the baseball industry.

The Larry MacPhail Promotional Award is presented to a club that demonstrated outstanding and creative marketing and promotional efforts within its community, its ballpark (including non-game day events), in media and other promotional materials.

The John H. Johnson President's Award honors a "complete" baseball franchise that has demonstrated franchise stability, and significant contributions to its community, league, and the baseball industry.

After nominees from all leagues are reviewed by the MiLB Awards Committee, recommendations are presented to the President and Executive Vice President of MiLB for the final decision. Winners will be announced and presented with awards at the Baseball Winter Meetings in December.

Other 2018 MWL Award Nominees:

- Charles K. Murphy Patriot Award: Dayton Dragons
- John Henry Moss Community Service Award: Kane County Cougars
- Larry MacPhail Promotional Award: Fort Wayne TinCaps
- John H. Johnson President's Award: Wisconsin Timber Rattlers

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PIC OF THE WEEK

Jerome Buckley, Publisher of the Michigan Banner and Andre Buckley are pictured at the 2018 Statewide Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration event in Saginaw, MI on Friday, October 12, 2018, at the Horizon Center. The annual Statewide Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration is an excellent event where leaders are honored from the Hispanic community. This year's theme was "Celebrating our Heritage".





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