

# THE MICHIGAN BANNER

Celebrating 16 years of Positive News




**MidMichigan Health Recognized with Community Health Excellence Award**

Health, Page 15



**Dow Named 2019 "Best Place to Work" for LGBTQ+**

Business, Page 19



**FIRST Robotics state championship expected to bring 8,000 people to SVSU**

Education, Page 27

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

## Remembering Local Leaders



Pastor William L. "Billy" Scott, Jr.  
December 28, 1941 - March 26, 2019



Deacon Tommie Orange, Jr.  
December 6, 1948 - March 24, 2019

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## YWCA GREAT LAKES BAY REGION 2019 WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT CELEBRATION



*courtesy photo*

On March 20, 2019, YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region welcomed over 250 guests to the Horizon's Conference Center to celebrate the achievements of Women Leaders from Midland, Bay and Saginaw counties during International Women's History Month. Joni Boye Beaman, Leola Wilson and Dr. Betty Jones were recognized with YWCA Lifetime

Achievement Awards for their professional and community leadership. Each woman received a standing ovation from those in attendance for their commitment and contributions to the region.

**Continues on pg 2, YWCA Celebration**

# YWCA WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT CELEBRATION

*Continued from cover story, YWCA Celebration...*

Dr. Mamie Thorns of SVSU lead the assembly in a prayer for peace and unity. Meg McLeod, WNEM TV-5 evening anchor served as the event's emcee. Donna Murray Brown, CEO and President of the Michigan Nonprofit Association was the evening's guest speaker. During her remarks, YWCA guests were reminded about the importance of the 2020 census for federal funding in Michigan. She also shared employment demographics for the sector: women comprise 75% of the

nonprofit workforce, lead only a quarter (25%) of the nation's largest nonprofits and women of color 's representation in leadership is closer to 14%. YWCA spotlighted their mission throughout the evening with video clips of their Girls Empowerment Camps, Special Needs Summer Program and "Getting Ahead" - Women's Economic Empowerment Training.

2019 marks the 8th annual YWCA celebratory event. Four students received Emerging Leader Awards and ten women from across

the Great Lakes Bay Region were honored for their professional and leadership contributions in Business, Healthcare, Education, Social Justice and Community Leadership. Each recipient received an award of handmade glass. Generous event sponsors for evening's celebration were SVSU, MidMichigan Health, McLaren Bay Region, Chemical Bank, Independent Bank and Delta College. The mission of YWCA is to eliminate racism and empower women.

## Award Recipients

### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Joni Boye-Beaman, Saginaw Valley State University  
Dr. Betty Jones, Community Leader  
Leola Wilson, State of Michigan, Retired

### THE WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

#### Social Justice

Lisa Coney, Saginaw Intermediate School District  
Tiffany D. Torain, The Dow Chemical Company

#### Community Leader

Dawn Luptowski, MCI Insurance  
Linda Sims, Saginaw Valley State University

#### Healthcare

Dr. Roslyn McQueen, Hurley Medical Center  
Francine Padgett, MidMichigan Health

#### Education

Helen Raica-Klotz, Saginaw Valley State University  
Alice Stricker, Frankenmuth School District, Retired

#### Business & Entrepreneurship

Lee Ann Rouse, Omni Tech International Ltd, Inc.  
Lynn Weaver, McLaren Bay Medical Foundation

### WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT EMERGING LEADER AWARDS

Jamie Dwyer, Delta College  
Reyna Frost, Central Michigan University  
Emma Kirsch, Saginaw Valley State University  
Emily Williams, Northwood University



YWCA Honoree Linda Sims with Jenne Velasquez, Donna Murray Brown, Heather Gallegos and Dr. Mamie Thorns



YWCA Honorees Dr. Roslyn McQueen and Lisa Coney

[View More Pictures on Page 4 & 5](#)

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

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*Celebrating new beginnings*

**Wednesday, April 10 • 2 to 7 p.m.**  
CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region • Saginaw County Office • 1311 N. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, MI 48602

Join us for an open house as we thank Suzanne Greenberg for nearly 25 years of dedicated service as CAN Council President/CEO and wish her well in her new role as Executive Director for the Michigan Children's Trust Fund ... and as we welcome Emily Yeager as our new President/CEO!

*Light refreshments provided.  
A brief program will begin at 5:30 p.m.*

Creative services donated by AGP & Associates, Inc.

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# YWCA WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT CELEBRATION



YWCA Interim Executive Director Kimberly Houston and 2019 Honorees



MNA CEO Donna Murray Brown Board Members Jenee Velasquez and Kimberly Houston



YWCA Lifetime Honoree Leola Wilson with Rhonda Butler and Judge Terry Clark



Moira Branigan, Great Lakes Bay Regional Alliance, Tara Welch, Executive Director Studio 23 and Cathy Geiger, Associated Builders & Contractors



YWCA Lifetime Honoree Dr. Betty Jones with her family



Tamara McGovern, Terri Trotter, CEO Midland Center for the Arts and YWCA Honoree Lee Ann Keller Rouse

# YWCA WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT CELEBRATION



Women Leaders of the Great Lakes Bay Region Hispanic Leadership Institute



Donna Murray Brown Guest Speaker, Michigan Nonprofit Ass. CEO



Emcee Meg McLeod, WNEM TV-5 with Emerging Leaders Jamie Dwyer and Emma Kirsch



Lifetime Achievement Honoree Joni Boye Beaman



Honoree Dawn Luptowski with Women in Leadership

HEALTHFORMATION

4u

P R E S E N T S

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SAGINAW, MI



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& URBAN FUZION  
ATLANTA, GA



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NABORS  
DETROIT, MI

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**MAY 11<sup>TH</sup>**

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FROM 5PM- 6:30 PM*  
CASH BAR

SHOW STARTS AT 7PM

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*THIS YEARS EVENT WILL BENEFIT THE SICKLE CELL DISEASE ASSOCIATION OF SAGINAW, MI.*

## REMEMBERING LOCAL LEADERS



## Pastor William L. "Billy" Scott, Jr.

December 28, 1941 - March 26, 2019



Pastor William "Bill" Scott was born December 28, 1941 in Kimball, Virginia to William L. and Geraldine Scott. He transitioned on March 26, 2019 at the age of 77 years.

He was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army and was a graduate of Central Michigan University with a

BA in Industrial Arts. He has received numerous awards and certificates for ministry and community service. While Pastor Scott appreciated these accolades, his utmost desire was to serve God. He lived this scripture: Matthew 25:40, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers and sisters of mine you did for me. (NIV) His desire was to hear the Lord Say, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your Master's happiness!" Matthew 25:21 (NIV)

He was the Pastor of 9th Street Community Church. Pastor Scott was very active and loyal in the International Mennonite Church. His hobbies were reading his Bible, traveling with his wife, bowling and playing "Words with Friends!"

Pastor Scott leaves to cherish wonderful memories, his best friend and loving wife of 43 years and 3 months, Vivian Scott; four children, Gerri L. (Elder Jeffery) Bowen, Ethelind Scott, Tobin J. (Myra) Williams, Tracey (Greg) McKinney; his only sibling, Robert L. Scott; grandchildren, Angela (William) Burton, Jennifer (Minister Marcelle) Smith, Travis McKinney, Cameron Williams, Roderick Madison, Jessica Scott, Brittany (Benjamin) Craig, Jeffery Bowen, II and William Ware; 10 great-grandchildren whom he LOVED and ENJOYED spending time with. Proverbs 17:6, "Grandchildren are the crown of the elderly!" He also leaves to cherish his memory a HOST of nieces and nephews, and many loved ones, too numerous to name. Billy leaves to cherish wonderful memories the mother of his two daughters, Mary McDonald; three aunts, Pearl Heilig, Roberta Johnson and Patricia Scott; special friends, Pastor Hurley Coleman, Jr., Pastor James Nelson, Pastor Rex Jones and Victor Jones; his personal Prayer Warrior, Mother Ethel Drain.

Cremation has already taken place at the request of Pastor William "Billy" Scott.

Memorial service took place 11:30 a.m. Monday, April 1, 2019 at World Outreach Campus, 2405 Bay Road, Saginaw, MI 48602. Pastor H.J. Coleman, Jr., Host Pastor and Pastor James Nelson officiated.

## Deacon Tommie Orange, Jr.

December 6, 1948 - March 24, 2019



Deacon Tommie Orange Jr. gained his eternal wings on Sunday, March 24, 2019 at the age of 70 years. His earthly journey in life began on December 6, 1948 in Muskegon Heights, Michigan, the son of Tommy and Katie Armstrong Orange.

Tommie relocated to Saginaw, Michigan at an early age. He was a 1967 graduate of Saginaw High School where he was very active in sports. In the school's showcase, there are awards displayed signifying his many accomplishments in wrestling, football and shot-put. After graduation, Tommie went on to further his education by obtaining a Bachelor's degree in Social Work at Saginaw

Valley State University and a Master's degree in Social Work from Wayne State University.

Tommie was very active in the community. He was a long time board member and Trustee for Buena Vista Township where he also served as Township Treasurer for 3 years. Always willing to help those in need of second chances, Tommie established a substance abuse outreach program called New Beginnings. He also served as supervisor for TTI-Training and Treatment Innovations. He was a member of Victorious Believers Ministries for 26 years under the leadership of Bishop Marvin C. Pryor and Superintendent Christopher V. Pryor where he served as a Deacon.

On July 31, 1993 Tommie joined Dorothy Baldwin in holy matrimony. He enjoyed church activities, movies and spending time with friends and family. Gone but never forgotten, his wonderful presence will be truly missed by those who knew and loved him.

Tommie leaves to celebrate his legacy his devoted wife, Dorothy Orange; five children, Jermaine Orange, Debra Burton, Talesha Mills, Tiffaney Baldwin-Ezell and Roy Baldwin II; twelve grandchildren, Shana, Reagan, Devion(Quanika), Brittany, Darius, Kevin, Faithful, Malik, Taybren, Lyniah, Brooklyn and Elijah; two great-grandchildren, Devion II and Paisley; one sister, Katie (Curtis) Mills; one brother, James H. (Elnora) Smith; several nieces and nephews including special nieces, Charlene Coffee Orange, Jennifer and Stephanie Mills; aunts, Lucille and Idell Johnson; uncle, Isreal (Denise) McDonald; sisters-in-law, Fairy (Gerald), Marilyn and Gloria; brothers-in-law, John and Jimmie; many other relatives and friends including special friends, Robert Marshall, Curtis Scott and Steven Barker.

Awaiting Tommie in Heaven is his parents, Tommy and Katie Orange, grandparents, Zillian and Robert McDonald, two brothers, David and Charlie Orange, mother and father-in-law, Violet Alexander and Roy Brown.

The family would like to express special thanks to St. Francis Nursing Home, Covenant Healthcare, Supt. Christopher V. Pryor and the Victorious Believers Ministries family, Pastor Willie R. Hill Jr. and the Mt. Nebo Baptist Church family, and everyone who offered kind words, prayers and condolences.

Funeral service took place at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, March 29, 2019 at Victorious Believers Ministries C.O.G.I.C., 624 South Outer Drive, Saginaw, MI 48601. Elder Christopher V. Pryor officiated with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery, 3210 South Washington Avenue, Saginaw, MI 48601.

# THE LATINO BANNER

LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

Vamos Adelante



## “Enrique’s Journey” author Sonia Nazario is the 2019 Ballenger Eminent Person at MCC



Check out pictures from the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual American GI Forum Cesar Chavez Scholarship Luncheon

LB Pg. 3



*courtesy photo*

Submit your news at

[themichiganbanner.com](http://themichiganbanner.com)

Pulitzer prize winning journalist and author of Enrique’s Journey, Sonia Nazario, is the featured speaker for the 2019 Ballenger Eminent Persons Lecture Series at Mott Community College (MCC) on April 16.

The presentation will be at 7 p.m. in the MCC Event Center on the main campus in Flint. The event is free and open to the public. Doors open at 6 p.m. The presentation will be followed by a brief question and answer session with the audience. Her book will be available for purchase. Nazario will autograph books following the presentation.

“We are thrilled to be able to bring Sonia Nazario to campus as part of the Ballenger Eminent Persons Lecture Series,” said this year’s Lecture Series Chair, Dr. Dalton Connally, Program Coordinator for the Social Work Technician program in the Fine Arts & Social Sciences Division. “Her work has opened important dialog about social issues including immigration, drug addiction and hunger. This is a great opportunity for our students and the community to join the conversation.”

Continues on LB pg 4, Enrique’s Journey





# From dream to reality

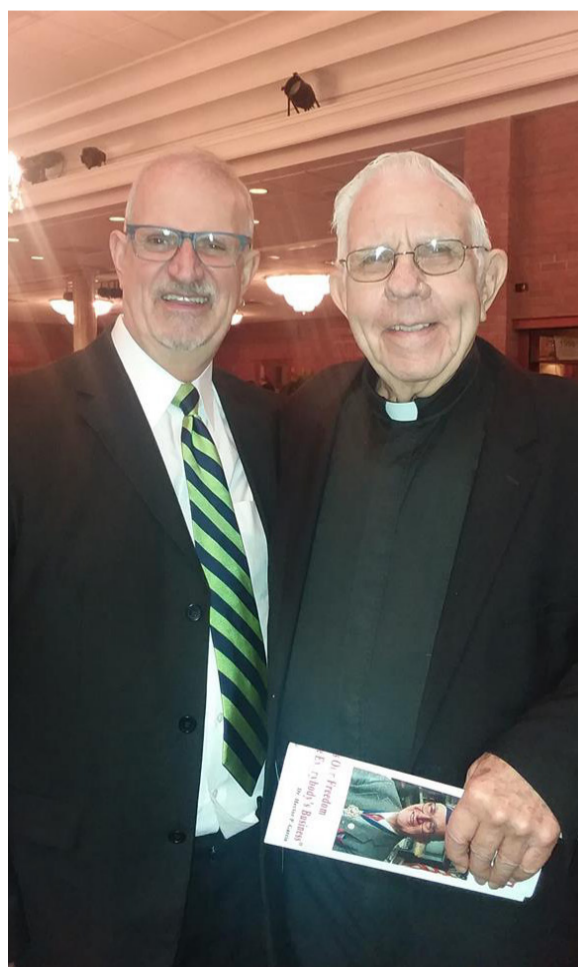
Every big business started out as somebody's dream. With a little faith and a lot of hard work, look how far you've come.

We're proud to connect with businesses and community-action groups. It's part of our commitment to working together to create limitless possibilities.

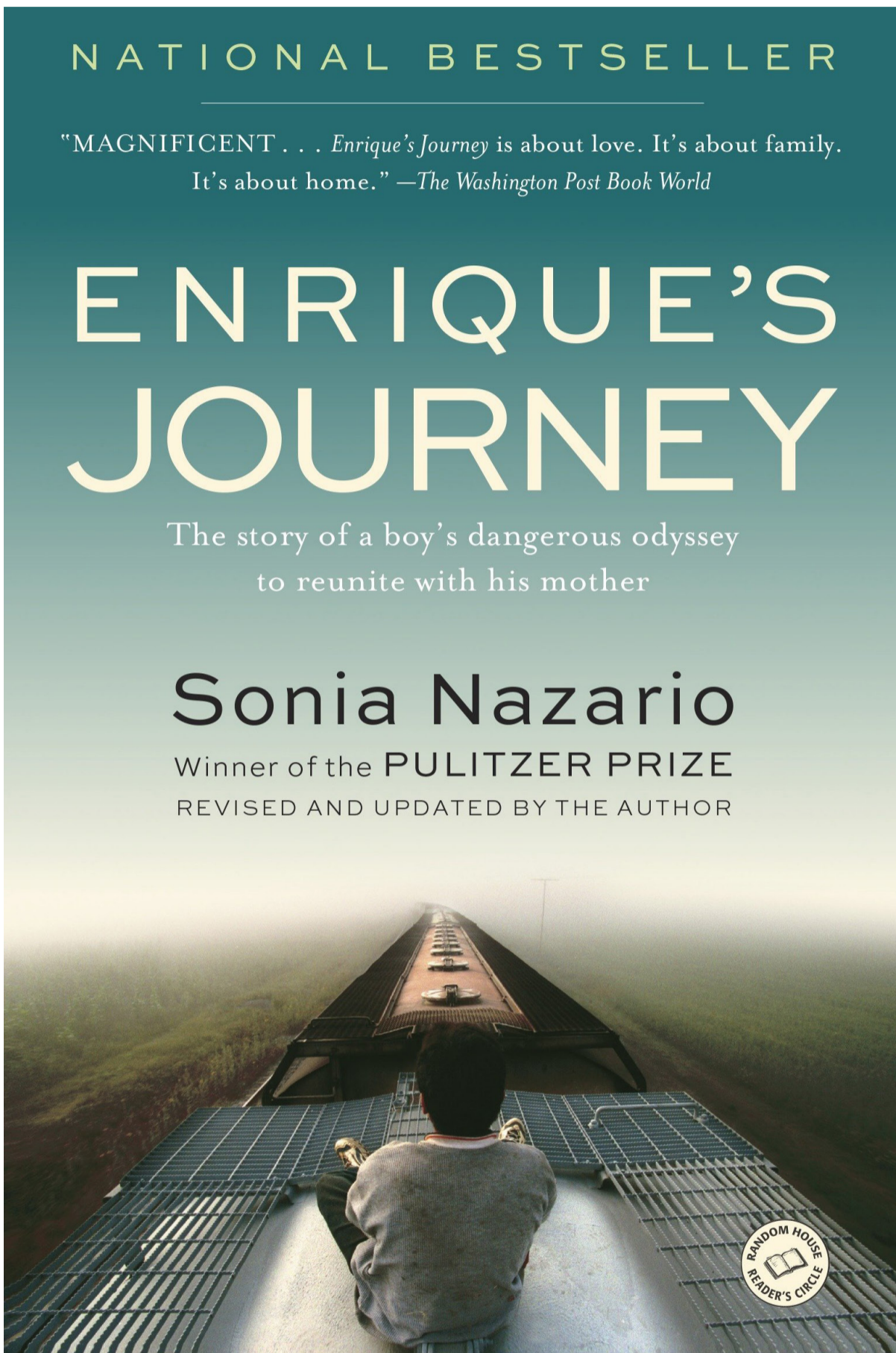
We're pleased to support the Michigan Banner.



# Seen on the Scene: 16<sup>th</sup> Annual American GI Forum Cesar Chavez Scholarship Luncheon held on March 28 at Horizons in Saginaw



# Cover Story, Enrique's Journey



*courtesy photo*

In addition to her public address on Friday, Nazario will also meet with MCC students at a private event in the afternoon.

Nazario spent 20 years as a journalist writing

about social issues before authoring a series of feature stories about a Honduran boy's struggle to find his mother in the U.S. Published as a series in the Los Angeles Times, Enrique's Journey won the Pulitzer Prize for feature

writing in 2003. It was turned into a book by Random House, and became a national bestseller.

Enrique's Journey recounts the unforgettable quest of a Honduran boy looking for his mother, eleven years after she is forced to leave her starving family to find work in the United States. Braving unimaginable peril, often clinging to the sides and tops of freight trains, Enrique travels through hostile worlds full of thugs, bandits, and corrupt cops. But he pushes forward, relying on his wit, courage, hope, and the kindness of strangers. Now updated with a new Epilogue and Afterword, photos of Enrique and his family, an author interview and more, this is a classic of contemporary America.

When a national crisis erupted in 2014 over the detention of unaccompanied immigrant children at the border, Nazario returned to Honduras to report on the violence causing the exodus and argued that it is a refugee crisis, not an immigration crisis. She addressed the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and recruited attorneys to provide pro-bono representation to unaccompanied minors. Her humanitarian efforts led to her selection as the 2015 Don and Arvonne Fraser Human Rights Award recipient by the Advocates for Human Rights. She also was named a 2015 Champion of Children by First Focus and a 2015 Golden Door award winner by HIAS Pennsylvania. In 2016 the American Immigration Council gave her the American Heritage Award. Also in 2016, the Houston Peace & Justice Center honored her with their National Peacemaker Award.

The Ballenger Eminent Persons Lecture Series: The Ballenger Eminent Persons Lecture Series, named for benefactor William S. Ballenger, Sr., brings prominent individuals to the college to lecture on topics of social, cultural, economic, scientific and historical significance. It was created to enhance educational opportunities for MCC students as well as creates a public discussion of issues facing the greater Flint community.

Since its inception in 1955, speakers have included national and international thought leaders and influencers such as rocket scientist Werner Von Braun, journalists Alistair Cooke and Peter Jennings, art critic Stanley Kaufman, talk show host Geraldo Rivera, writers Alex Haley and William Buckley, humorist Art Buchwald, Black activist Julian Bond, businessman Daymond John, musician and author Patti Smith, mental health advocate and actor Sean Astin, former Surgeon General Dr. David Satcher, and actress and activist Jenifer Lewis.

# Community Board

Submit your announcements and events at [themichiganbanner.com/submit](http://themichiganbanner.com/submit)

LA UNION CIVICA MEXICANA PRESENTS

# Cinco De Mayo

## PARADE & FESTIVAL

MAY 4, 2019, 10 AM - 6 PM

**40<sup>TH</sup> CINCO DE MAYO**

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Thursday April 4, 2019 11 am - 6 pm

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May 4, 2019

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# Cinco De Mayo

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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](mailto:latinobanner@gmail.com). Preferred format: Jpeg or PDF



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# FUNDRAISING GOOD TIMES

## How to write a grant proposal

### Part two of a two part series

If your nonprofit wants to learn how to apply for grant funding, this column is for you.

It can be overwhelming to apply for a grant from a foundation or granting agency. Each funder wants to know specific information, but not every one wants the same information. Some ask for a specific word count, others have a page limit, and still others ask you to count the number of characters in an answer to a specific question. The requirements may make you throw up your hands in distress. You can do that, but then we suggest taking a deep breath and focusing on the larger goal: securing funds for your nonprofit.

Here are three things to consider as you prepare to write your first proposal.

**Follow the funder's guidelines.** As noted in part one of this series, many funders have guidelines and deadlines. Following these can improve the chances that your proposal will be read and evaluated, and not immediately declined. Funders receive many applications and they need to process the information per their internal guidelines, and then present the information to their board for approval. They are asking for information in a certain format to facilitate grantmaking.

**Collect the information you need before you begin writing.** Review the application to learn the specific information you need

to include in your proposal. Most funders will want to know answers to questions such as: What is your organization's mission and vision? Are you working from a strategic plan? What are your organizational goals, objectives and outcomes? If applicable, what are your program goals, objectives and outcomes? How do you evaluate your work? What is your impact? Who do you serve?

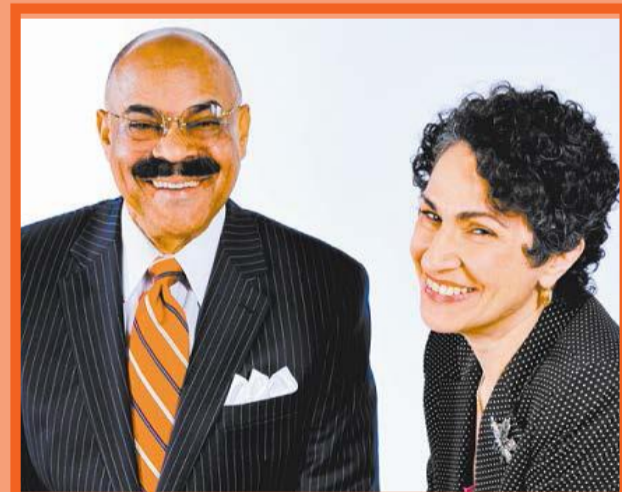
They may also want to know specific financial information such as: What is the total amount of funds you are seeking to raise? What is your organization's annual budget? Are you requesting funds for a specific project, or for the work of your organization in general? Who are your current funders? Have other prospective funding sources been identified?

**Ask someone to read your proposal before you submit.**

This can be another staff person, a board member, or a fundraising professional from another organization. What's most important is that you share both your proposal and the funder's guidelines with your reader. Ask for their honest assessment. Make revisions based on what you have learned, and then submit. After submitting you may feel tempted to "cut and paste" and submit to other funders.

We caution against this: each proposal needs to be tailored to a funder's requirements.

**Special note:** If you are a board member or executive director, you have an important role to play in growing your organization's ability to apply for and receive grants. You are responsible for allocating funds – and time – for the professional development of your staff. There are trainings and webinars that staff, board members and/or volunteers can attend. Your organization is worthy of investment and you can provide the leadership.



Mel and Pearl Shaw | Courtesy Photo

Copyright 2018 – Mel and Pearl Shaw

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

# HEALTH

## MidMichigan Health Recognized with Community Health Excellence Award



*courtesy photo*

MIDLAND, Mich. – The Michigan Health Improvement Alliance, Inc. (MiHIA) has recognized MidMichigan Health with a gold Community Health Excellence Award. This award recognizes outstanding contributions to improving the health status of the community each organization serves. This is the second year MidMichigan Health was awarded recognition from MiHIA, having received the bronze Community Health Excellence Award in 2016.

Organizations applying for the award must show efforts toward improving the health of its employees, including initiatives in organizational support, tobacco control, access to healthy foods and beverages, physical activity and mental health and well-being.

“This award makes it apparent that we are moving in the right direction with regards to the health and wellness of our employees,”

said Diane Postler-Slattery, Ph.D., president, MidMichigan Health. “In 2016, we were recognized with a bronze Community Health Excellence Award, and just two years later, we’re at the gold level. It shows that at MidMichigan Health, we care about the well-being of our employees.”

Recognition is awarded to workplaces who have contributed to improving the culture of health in any capacity. Both evidence-based and innovative actions were considered for the award. This initiative was developed by MiHIA’s Population Health Strategy Team and aligned to the MiHIA Quadruple Aim Leadership Committee of the Board of Directors.

MidMichigan Health is a non-profit health system, headquartered in Midland, Michigan, affiliated with Michigan Medicine, the health care division of

the University of Michigan. MidMichigan Health covers a 23-county region with medical centers in Midland, Alpena, Alma, Clare, Gladwin, Mt. Pleasant and West Branch. In addition to its Medical Centers, MidMichigan Health also offers both home health care and physician services, and has a strong commitment to medical education. MidMichigan Physicians Group provides urgent care and medical offices in more than 30 specialties and subspecialties including cardiology, hematology/oncology, orthopedics, vascular surgery, family medicine and more. The MidMichigan Health Foundation supports patients and families served by MidMichigan Health by raising funds for equipment, services and programs. Currently, MidMichigan has more than 7,400 employees, volunteers and physicians and provided more than \$144 million in community benefits in fiscal year 2018.

# Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is hosting the 2019 Michigan Harm Reduction Summit



LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is hosting the 2019 Michigan Harm Reduction Summit on Tuesday, April 2 to ensure public health professionals are using best practices to protect the health and safety of Michigan residents.

More than 300 public health, public safety, substance use professionals, nurses, physicians, social workers, therapists and educators are

registered for the Summit being held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Lansing.

Topics will include syringe access 101, best practices for syringe services program implementation, harm reduction strategies for reducing the transmission of infectious diseases related to injection drug use, overdose prevention, naloxone distribution, stigma and cultural competency.

“I’m proud the department is bringing together dedicated and diverse professionals around strategies for engaging with individuals in crisis, based on science and with compassion,” said Robert Gordon, MDHHS director. “We will learn from each other and we will better serve all Michiganders.”

This summit is particularly timely after Michigan has worked to respond to the largest hepatitis A outbreak in the state which disproportionately impacted populations in need of harm reduction strategies such as substance users. MDHHS is working with the healthcare community to provide education about these efforts as a preventive measure for future response efforts.

The event is being hosted by MDHHS’ Viral Hepatitis Unit, which provides state-level support on viral hepatitis epidemiology, prevention, testing and linkage to care and treatment. More information about viral hepatitis and available resources is available online at Michigan.gov/Hepatitis.

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**Different name.**  
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## Ascension St. Mary's Offers Free Colorectal Cancer Screening Kits – April 3



*courtesy photo*

Colorectal cancer remains the nation's second leading cause of cancer-related deaths for men and women. The good news is that with regular screenings, lives can be saved.

March – National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month – is the perfect opportunity to learn more about this disease and obtain a screening.

Ascension St. Mary's Seton Cancer Institute will offer a free colorectal cancer prevention and screening program Wednesday, April 3 at 5:30 p.m. in the first-floor conference room of Ascension St. Mary's Towne Centre.

All eligible participants will receive a take-home colorectal cancer screening kit (must be age 50 and older and have a primary care physician). The high sensitivity in-home screening test is painless, easy to perform and takes only a few minutes. Once the test is completed, participants simply mail their test kit in a postage-paid envelope to the Ascension St. Mary's lab where the samples are analyzed. Results will be sent to participants as well as their primary care physician for review and follow-up.

In addition, Maggie Rettelle, a registered dietitian and clinical nutrition manager at Ascension St.

Mary's, will discuss how eating a healthy diet can help prevent and fight colorectal cancer.

Registration is required; call Ascension St. Mary's Seton Cancer Institute at 989-907-8115 to reserve your spot.

Ascension St. Mary's Towne Centre is located at 4599 Towne Center Road in Saginaw Township at the corner of Towne Centre and Schust (Conference room is located off the Towne Centre Road entrance).

## Six Hospitals Announce Formation of Covenant Regional Thumb Network

The Covenant Regional Thumb Network (CRTN), a network of six independent hospitals, is pleased to announce its formation. The network is composed of Covenant HealthCare, located in Saginaw, and five critical access hospitals located throughout Michigan's Thumb area including Deckerville Community Hospital, Harbor Beach Community Hospital, Hills & Dales General Hospital, Marlette Regional Hospital, and Scheurer Hospital. While CRTN formed in late 2018, these hospitals have been working together for more than a decade to ensure quality healthcare

is available to patients in the Thumb.

Having an independent relationship with Covenant allows for a streamlined flow of resources and services that might not be available outside of a major metropolitan area. The partnership enables patients to choose a hospital close to home that best fits their needs while utilizing the capabilities and strengths of CRTN. Instead of losing their local hospital to an acquisition by a large hospital conglomerate, the Thumb communities have strengthened local hospitals.

The relationship among the Covenant Regional Thumb Network ensures that Thumb communities have an independent hospital close to home that they can continue to depend on for quality care. It provides the assurance that if there is a need for more advanced procedures, the appropriate care is delivered through the coordinated relationship that the Thumb hospitals have with Covenant.

# Measles cases reach 30 in Southeast Michigan



*courtesy photo*

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has confirmed eight additional measles cases, bringing the state total to 30 for this year. The cases were all in Oakland County, bringing the case count to 29 in Oakland County and one in Wayne County. Infected individuals range in age from 1 to 63.

The measles vaccine is highly effective and very safe. A single dose of measles vaccine protects about 95 percent of children, but after two doses, almost 100 percent are immune.

The first of two routine childhood measles vaccine doses is given at 12-15 months of age. A second vaccine dose is given before the start of kindergarten, between ages 4 and 6. MDHHS follows Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance and does not recommend routine measles vaccinations for children less than 12 months of age unless there is a suspected measles exposure; there is thought to be an imminent measles exposure such as being in areas of known measles; or international travel planned. For international travel, infants as young as 6 months should be vaccinated against measles. Measles vaccine, or other acceptable documentation of immunity to measles, is recommended for all persons travelling internationally.

You cannot get measles from the vaccine. It is effective within 72 hours of exposure to prevent illness. In addition, immune globulin

(Ig) treatment is effective within six days of exposure for high-risk individuals. Talk to your healthcare provider to determine if immune globulin is right for you and if it is available.

High-risk individuals include those who are unvaccinated or unsure about vaccination status, pregnant women and those who are immune-compromised (have a weakened immune system due to illness and diseases like HIV, malnutrition and/or medications).

MDHHS is working closely with Oakland and Wayne county health departments to identify possible exposure locations. Known exposure sites in Oakland County are listed at [Oakgov.com/health](http://Oakgov.com/health). Additional sites of potential exposures may be identified as more information becomes available.

The Oakland County Health Division (OCHD) is offering vaccination at their offices in Southfield and Pontiac on Monday, 8:30 a.m.- 6 p.m. and Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.- 5 p.m. Since March 14, OCHD has vaccinated more than 1,900 people. For more information, call 800-848-5533. Please note these offices are not testing centers:

- North Oakland Health Center, 1200 North Telegraph Road, Building 34 East, Pontiac
- South Oakland Health Center, 27725 Greenfield Road, Southfield

The Wayne County Health Department offers walk-in vaccination at 33030 Van Born Road, Wayne on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8 – 11 a.m. and 12:30 – 4 p.m. and on Wednesday, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. and 3:30 – 7 p.m. Call 734-727-7101 for more information.

Measles is a highly contagious, vaccine-preventable disease that is spread by direct person-to-person contact, and through the air.

The virus can live for up to two hours in the air where the infected person was present. Symptoms of measles usually begin 7-14 days after exposure, but can appear up to 21 days after exposure and may include:

- High fever (may spike to over 104°F).
- Cough.
- Runny nose.
- Red, watery eyes (conjunctivitis).
- Tiny white spots on the inner cheeks, gums, and roof of the mouth (Koplik Spots) 2-3 days after symptoms begin.
- A rash that is red, raised, blotchy; usually starts on face, spreads to trunk, arms, and legs 3-5 days after symptoms begin.

If symptoms develop, residents are urged to not visit their doctor or emergency room unless they have called ahead so they can take precautions to prevent exposure to other individuals.

So far this year, there have been 387 cases of measles confirmed in 15 states. In 2018, Michigan had 19 cases of measles. The last time the state had this many measles cases was in 1991 when 65 cases were reported.

For more information about measles, visit [CDC.gov/measles](http://CDC.gov/measles). For more information about Michigan's current measles outbreak, visit [Michigan.gov/MeaslesOutbreak](http://Michigan.gov/MeaslesOutbreak).

In an effort to help parents protect their children from serious vaccine-preventable diseases, MDHHS is participating in the I Vaccinate campaign. I Vaccinate provides the facts parents need to make informed decisions about vaccinations. For more information about immunizations and the I Vaccinate campaign, visit [IVaccinate.org](http://IVaccinate.org).

# BUSINESS & WEALTH

## Dow Named 2019 “Best Place to Work” for LGBTQ+ Equality by Human Rights Campaign Foundation



*courtesy photo*

MIDLAND, Mich. - In recognition of its inclusive workplace, Dow has been named by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Foundation as a 2019 “Best Place to Work” for LGBTQ+ equality. This marks the Company’s 14th consecutive year receiving a perfect score on HRC’s Corporate Equality Index, a national benchmarking tool on corporate policies and practices pertinent to LGBTQ+ employees.

“This recognition reaffirms our longstanding commitment to driving a diverse workplace where everyone can bring their whole selves to work every day,” said Jim Fitterling, chief executive officer of Dow. “Recruiting and retaining diverse talent is a business imperative which enables Dow’s ambition to become the most innovative, customer-centric, inclusive and sustainable materials science company. From the board room to the shop floor, we aim to promote a fair and inclusive work environment for everyone because it is the right thing to do.”

“We are proud of our track record on LGBTQ+ rights and inclusion; and we will continue working to achieve the highest standards for policies and practices, championing equality for all of our employees,” said Karen S. Carter, Dow’s chief human resources officer and chief inclusion officer.

Dow offers best-in-class policies and practices for LGBTQ+ colleagues, including equal benefits to same-sex partners for health, dental and life insurance, bereavement leave, relocation, dual-career assistance and survivor benefits.

The Company also advocates for state and federal public policies bringing fairness and equal treatment to LGBTQ+ citizens. As part of this commitment, Dow recently reinforced its support for the Equality Act, a comprehensive federal framework that ensures fairness and opportunity for all.

Globally, Dow actively shares best practices

with other like-minded organizations, leading the way toward a more diverse and inclusive culture. One notable example includes Dow achieving a 100 percent score on the 2018 HRC Equidad MX certification in Mexico for the second consecutive year.

In 2018, five Dow leaders were honored on OUTstanding’s “Leading” lists, including LGBT+ Executives (with Fitterling at No. 1), Leading Ally Executives and Top LGBT+ Future Leaders, presented by the Financial Times.

In addition to OUTstanding, Dow maintains strong partnerships via philanthropy, board of director positions, and joint programming, with several organizations, including: the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Foundation, Out & Equal Workplace Advocates (O&E), PFLAG National, Victory Institute, Workplace Pride and GLAAD, amongst others. These partnerships are aligned to Dow’s inclusion and diversity vision.



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## Isabella Bank Corporation Announces First Quarter 2019 Dividend

Isabella Bank Corporation (OTCQX:ISBA), announced today that the Board of Directors of the Corporation declared a first quarter cash dividend of \$0.26 per common share at its regular meeting held on February 27, 2019. The dividend will be payable on March 29, 2019 to shareholders of record as of March 26, 2019. Based on ISBA's closing stock price of \$24.00 per share as of February 28, 2019, the annual dividend yield is 4.33%.

"I am pleased to announce our Board approved a dividend of \$0.26 per share for the first quarter," commented Jae

A. Evans, President and Chief Executive Officer of Isabella Bank Corporation. "We recently shared our fourth quarter 2018 and full year 2018 financial results which included strong earnings and continued growth in loans and deposits. Our continued success last year and in recent years has allowed us to provide attractive dividends to our shareholders."



## The Sawmill Golf Club Under New Ownership



*courtesy photo*

Over the past months, negotiations have been made to purchase The Sawmill Golf Course, it's Pub and Grill, along with outlying structures and equipment. Located at 19 Sawmill Blvd. in Saginaw Township, the golf course consists of 18 holes of Championship Golf. The property is 160 acres in size with challenging terrain along with the best practice facility in the Great Lakes Bay Region.

The investment group consisting of Wilbert Long, Jr., Jim Nightingale, Adam and Carol Fairchild are very excited with the possibilities that the property has to offer. The Fairchild's will oversee the course's daily operation as well as the Pub & Grill, just as they have over the past 14 seasons and are elated to now be part of the ownership.

Course maintenance is high on their list of priorities, but will take some time to accomplish all that is required to restore the grounds to its fullest potential. There will also be a focused effort to create a more consistent approach to the management of the Pub and Grill, making it a go to destination not only for golfers but for the public as well.

As the season is about to unfold, the new ownership is looking forward to provide the best experience to all it's members, leagues, outings, and patrons. The Sawmill will also host the 2019 Saginaw County District Championship in June. For further information, please contact Adam Fairchild at (989) 793-2692.

# Three Rivers Corporation Receives the Associated Builders and Contractors Award



*courtesy photo*

Representing Three Rivers Corporation, Paul Crivac, Safety Director, accepted the Associated Builders and Contractors National Safety Excellence Award at the 29th Annual Excellence in Construction Gala on March 27, 2019 in Long Beach, California. Three Rivers outperformed contractors from around the nation to win this prestigious award and was the only company honored from Michigan in this category. This award demonstrates that Three Rivers Corporation is dedicated to working safe.

The ABC National Safety Excellence Award recognizes companies who exhibit a continued commitment to jobsite safety and whose safety performance and programs are judged to be exemplary by the ABC National Environment, Health & Safety (EH&S) Committee. Awards are based on data submitted via STEP applications, essay questions and video interviews with company Presidents/CEOs/Principals about their corporate safety culture. Award categories are based on a company's total work-hours per

calendar year and placement within the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

“We are honored to achieve the National Safety Excellence award. Safety is part of who we are and receiving an award like this demonstrates that when our company works together, we can achieve great things. I am very proud of the women and men who earned this award and their commitment to safety at Three Rivers,” said Paul Crivac.

Colin Dole represented Three Rivers in the National Craft Championships competition on March 27th, as a pipefitter. Craft apprentices come from across the country each year to compete for top honors in their chosen craft. For the competitors, this competition allows them to demonstrate their superior skills, training and safe work practices. This is an intense, daylong, hands-on skills competition.

“The quality, craftsmanship, dedication, and safety Colin displayed during the National Craft Championships competition this year was truly remarkable. With the skilled labor shortage we are very lucky to have such talented people on our team,” said Jon Lynch, President of Three Rivers Corporation.



# TRC

# What Small Business Owners Need to Know About Predictive Scheduling Laws



*courtesy photo*

Small business owners typically take into account their employees' needs, working with them to accommodate their schedules when challenges arise.

Predictive scheduling laws being introduced across the country, however, regulate how employers schedule hourly employees' time. While such legislation varies from state to state, it generally requires businesses to provide hourly employees with work schedules several weeks in advance—something that isn't always possible or realistic for small businesses. It severely limits owners' control over their scheduling decisions and urgent business needs.

In some states, employers face fees or are required to pay employees for changing or canceling a shift. Oregon, Seattle, and San Francisco have already passed such legislation, and Chicago has an ordinance under consideration.

"We're taking it up several notches in terms of making our members aware of [predictive scheduling proposals]," says Mark Grant, NFIB's Illinois State Director.

RELATED: Have You Considered Alternative Workweek Schedules?

## Harmful for Workers and Employers

For some of the smallest companies who lack access to large-company resources, such as a human resource or accounting department, the unpredictability of staff needs in certain industries like construction and hospitality raises concerns.

The laws not only prevent employers from adjusting to market changes, bad weather, or other demands outside their control, but they also prevent employees from picking up additional work hours at a moment's notice or requesting unanticipated time off.

Cities like San Francisco and Seattle have passed rules requiring certain retail and food services to provide workers with schedules up to two weeks in advance. Oregon has the first statewide predictive scheduling rules, but they only apply to businesses with at least 500 employees worldwide in hospitality, retail, and food service, according to Oregon.gov.

A recent proposal in Chicago will leave business owners with a much broader and costlier outcome. It would subject employers who alter schedules within two weeks of being posted to covering "predictability" pay and \$500 fines.

## Big Challenges for Small Business

Grant recently testified against a statewide proposal that would have regulated scheduling and imposed penalties on businesses.

He testified that business owners have told him the proposed rules would affect in-home healthcare, conflict with an existing Patient's Bill of Rights, and pass costs onto the elderly and disabled. It would affect trucking business owners, given they have to schedule their trucks 48 hours in advance or less since their customers expect same-day service. And weather conditions, safety issues, and delays in product deliveries are inevitable, especially for those who work in the construction industry.

## Grassroots Efforts

Mike O'Halloran, NFIB's Maryland and Delaware State Director, is also working to prevent predictive scheduling laws. (At the moment, O'Halloran says predictive scheduling laws have not yet been passed in either state.) "As often as possible, we bring our member stories to legislatures and provide testimony in person," O'Halloran says.

If predictive scheduling laws are proposed in your area, O'Halloran suggests contacting your state representatives about the potential impact that the regulations could have on your ability to run your business. Stay in contact with your state director, and to receive action alerts for your states, download the NFIB Engage App—the app built with your small business in mind.

# Minimum Wage Increase for Michigan Employees Takes Effect



*courtesy photo*

On March 29, 2019, Michigan's minimum wage increased from \$9.25 to \$9.45 per hour. A copy of the Improved Workforce Opportunity Wage Act (Public Act 337 of 2018) and related resources – including the required poster – can be found here. Overtime requirements remain the same under the Improved Workforce Opportunity Wage Act; non-exempt employees should be paid 1.5 times their

regular rate of pay for hours worked over 40 in a 7-day work week.

## Employees 16 to 19 Years of Age

An employer may continue to pay minors 16 to 17 years of age 85% of the minimum hourly wage rate. On March 29, 2019, that rate will increase

from \$7.86 to \$8.03 per hour. There is no change to the training wage of \$4.25 per hour that may be paid to newly hired employees, 16 to 19 years of age, for the first 90 days of their employment.

## Tipped Employees

Public Act 337 of 2018 allows employers to take a tip credit on minimum wage under certain conditions for employees who customarily and regularly receive tips from a guest, patron or customer for services rendered to that guest, patron, or customer.

Tipped employees may be paid 38% of the minimum hourly wage rate, provided:

- Employees are informed in advance of being paid about the tip provisions, and
- Employees receive tips and they are proven gratuities as indicated by the employee's declaration for Federal Insurance Contribution Act, and
- The tips received plus the wages paid equals or exceeds the minimum hourly wage rate and, if not, the employer pays the shortfall.

Effective March 29, 2019, 38% of the minimum hourly wage rate will increase from \$3.52 to \$3.59 per hour.

## Save the date for The 2019 Small Business Day in Lansing!



Save the date! The 2019 Small Business Day Roundtable with Legislative Leaders will take place on Wednesday, April 10, 2019 from 9 AM to 1 PM in Lansing, MI.

Speaker of the House Lee Chatfield, and Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, along with other special guests and speakers will be joining us at the event.

- Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich will talk about the Democrat Agenda in Michigan
- Dan Cohen – Labor Law Attorney with Ogletree,

Deakins, PC will talk about Legalized Marijuana and Mandated Paid Sick Leave issues for employers

- Bill Ballenger with The Ballenger Report will tell us what redistricting under Proposal 1 will mean to Michigan voters
- Kipp Maloney from our Washington DC office will give us an update on federal issues

To register and learn more details visit <http://bit.ly/NFIBMISBD>





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# EDUCATION

## FIRST Robotics state championship expected to bring 8,000 people to SVSU



*courtesy photo*

For the third consecutive year, Saginaw Valley State University will host one of the state's largest competitions featuring future generations of STEM professionals.

About 5,500 high school students are expected to participate in the FIRST Robotics state championship Wednesday through Saturday, April 10-13, at SVSU's Ryder Center. The competition is expected to attract more than 8,000 visitors to the Great Lakes Bay Region, including parents, professional mentors and spectators.

Adrienne Cole, director of STEM at SVSU and one of the competition's coordinators, said FIRST Robotics fits well with the university's mission to stimulate interest in the sciences among the young.

"Through STEM at SVSU programs,

students explore real-world problems through project-based learning and interact with STEM professionals," she said.

FIRST Robotics competitions follow that educational model, she said.

"STEM education fosters tenacity in students so that they can successfully face adversity in the future," Cole said.

The FIRST Robotics event at SVSU will feature 160 teams from high schools across Michigan that qualified for the state championship after performing exceptionally during earlier regional competitions. On average, 40 students participate on each team. Along with handling the robotics-related work, students throughout each season of FIRST Robotics competition are involved in several

activities relating to strengthening their respective teams including fundraising and marketing.

Teams that qualified for the state championship will arrive April 10 for inspections. The qualifying rounds of competition are scheduled April 11-12. The playoff rounds are scheduled April 13. The champions will be crowned that afternoon.

Practice sessions and robot repairs will take place in SVSU's Fieldhouse while the competition will be held in O'Neill Arena of the Ryder Center.

In each round of competition, three teams compete, using autonomous and remote-controlled robots piloted by students, battling to earn points during a two-minute round. The type of game played changes during each FIRST Robotics competitive season, which largely spans the length of the high school academic calendar.

Each year, an overarching theme — often relating to a STEM industry — is reflected in the rules and mechanics of the games played at the competition. The theme for the 2019 FIRST Robotics competition is "Destination: Deep Space," presented by The Boeing Company. "Destination: Deep Space" features two alliances of "deep space travelers" competing to place polycarbonate hatch covers and cargo on "rockets and cargo ships" before returning to "a safe habitat."

Major sponsors for the state championships include DTE Energy, Consumers Energy, The Dow Chemical Company and Ford Motor Company.

For more information on the state championship, visit [svsu.edu/FirstAtSVSU](http://svsu.edu/FirstAtSVSU). For more information on FIRST Robotics, visit [firstinspires.org](http://firstinspires.org).

# Ten Outstanding Michigan Educators Named 2019-2020 Regional Teachers of the Year



*courtesy photo*

LANSING – The 10 new Michigan Regional Teachers of the Year were selected for their dedication to the profession, as evidenced by their commitment to their students and track record of service in the teaching profession, both in their school and throughout Michigan, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) announced today.

“Recognizing and tapping the skills and expertise of outstanding educators across Michigan helps improve all of our schools,” said Interim State Superintendent Sheila Alles. “We benefit greatly from the broad perspectives of teaching and learning taking place in our great state. Michigan is fortunate to have many talented educators.”

This year, MDE received more than 400 nominations from students, staff, and community members across the state. Those nominees then were invited to take part in a multi-part competitive application process through which the 10 Regional Teachers of the Year were selected by a panel of reviewers. A map of the ten regions can be found on the Michigan Teacher of the Year program webpage.

The 2019-20 Regional Teachers of the Year are:

**Region 1:** Rachal Gustafson, a special education/resource room teacher at Rapid River Public Schools.

**Region 2:** Amanda Clemons, an English and AP psychology teacher at Manistee Middle/High School in Manistee Public Schools.

**Region 3:** Katie Farrell, a 1st grade teacher at Bauer Elementary in Hudsonville Public Schools.

**Region 4:** Jeremy Winsor, an earth science, biology and environmental science teacher at Fulton Middle School-High School in Fulton Schools.

**Region 5:** Jessyca Mathews, an 11th and 12th grade English teacher at Flint Carman-Ainsworth High School in the Carman-Ainsworth Community Schools.

**Region 6:** Tricia Zeman, a 3rd grade teacher at Sycamore Elementary in Holt Public Schools.

**Region 7:** Douglas Duncan, an art teacher at Prairie Ridge and Indian Prairie Elementary Schools in Kalamazoo Public Schools.

**Region 8:** Kristalyn Musselman, a health and leadership teacher at Tecumseh High School in Tecumseh Public Schools.

**Region 9:** Cara Lougheed, an English and history teacher at Stoney Creek High School in Rochester Community School District.

**Region 10:** Michele Pizzo, an English language arts teacher at Davison Elementary-Middle School in Detroit Public Schools Community District.

Together, the Regional Teachers of the Year form the Michigan Teacher Leadership Advisory Council (MTLAC). The group’s mission is to bring the teacher’s voice to a wider audience, including working directly with MDE and providing input on proposed policies and initiatives.

In addition, these outstanding educators will interview with a panel of statewide education stakeholders on April 15-16 and one will be selected as the 2019-20 Michigan Teacher of the Year.

Each year since 1952, the Michigan Teacher of the Year program has recognized outstanding teachers and provided an opportunity to those teachers to advocate for students and the teaching profession with a wider audience.

The Michigan Teacher of the Year also has a seat at the table with State Board of Education members as a non-voting member; and is Michigan’s candidate for the prestigious National Teacher of the Year and participates in several national conferences with fellow state Teachers of the Year.

Program expenses for the Regional Teachers of the Year and Michigan Teacher of the Year are covered through a generous partnership from Meemic.

# MCC to host summit on male diversity in education

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Section 504 Coordinator: Sarah L. Johnson, 1401 E. Court St., Mott Community College, Flint, MI 48503, (810) 762-0425

*courtesy photo*

advocate for diversity and helping minority youth achieve their full potential

Committed to initiatives aimed at enhancing retention and graduation rates, MCC launched its Closing the Achievement Gap initiative in 2016. The “achievement gap” in education refers to the disparity in academic performance between groups of students. It is often used to describe performance gaps between male students of color and their white peers.

According to the Center for Community College Student Engagement, 68% of African American men who start college do not graduate within six years, which is the lowest college completion rate among both sexes and all racial/ethnic groups.”

The achievement gap for degree completion among MCC’s male students of color is wider than comparable state and national average graduation rates for males. A 10.5% achievement gap exists between the completion rates of Black/African American males and White males at MCC, with 6.6% of African American/black males and 17.1% of white males completing an academic degree or certificate in six years. (Voluntary Framework of Accountability).

As part of its commitment to improving the retention and graduation rates among male students of color, Mott Community College will host “Awaken My Youth: Stay Woke!” a summit supporting male diversity in education Saturday, April 6 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Event Center on the main campus in Flint.

The summit is designed to address challenges faced by young men of color – barriers that prevent them from fulfilling academic and professional goals – and help them develop the skills to overcome those barriers.

“We are excited to be able to present Jarrett M. Adams, Co-Founder of Life After Justice and Dondré T. Whitfield, Actor and Social Activist, as our keynote speakers,” said Lennetta Coney, President of The Foundation for Mott Community College. In addition to the speakers, there will be a series of breakout sessions focused on education, health and safety, targeted at two

age groups, young men aged 12-17, and men aged 18+ and older.

The event is free and open to the public. Those interested in attending can register by calling The Foundation for MCC at (810) 762-0425 or at [mccEVENTSONLINE.COM](http://mccEVENTSONLINE.COM), as seating is limited.

Jarrett M. Adams, Co-Founder of Life After Justice, is an attorney at The Law Office Of Jarrett Adams, PLLC. He is a re-entry specialist and advocate for criminal justice reform. Before Jarrett founded Life After Justice, he served nearly 10 years of a 28 year sentence. He was exonerated with the assistance of the Wisconsin Innocence Project.

Dondré T. Whitfield, Actor and Social Activist, began his career appearing in a recurring role as Robert Foreman on the NBC sitcom The Cosby Show, before playing Terrence Frye in the ABC daytime soap opera, All My Children. He is an





Sabrina Beeman-Jackson

Saginaw ISD Head Start/Early Head Start  
Program Director

**About Saginaw ISD HE/EHS**

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

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

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

women and their families.

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

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

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

**Saginaw ISD Head Start**  
Claytor Administrative  
Building  
3200 Perkins Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
Phone 989.752.2193  
Fax 989.921.7146

**Office Hours**  
Monday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM  
Tuesday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM  
Wednesday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM  
Thursday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM  
Friday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM  
Saturday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM  
Sunday: 8 AM - 4:30 PM

For additional information concerning  
Saginaw ISD Head Start visit:  
[www.saginawheadstart.org](http://www.saginawheadstart.org)

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

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

**Joe Baca, former Dem. Calif. 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**

# CMU champions for diversity



*courtesy photo*

Central Michigan University Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer A.T. Miller has many ideas about ways to improve diversity, equity and inclusion on campus. He also knows there are hundreds more just waiting to be heard.

"Many people on campus have been working on initiatives and projects related to diversity, equity and inclusion for years through their research and volunteer service. We needed a way to bring those ideas forward and to leverage the expertise that already exists at CMU," he said.

That's why he launched the Faculty Diversity and Inclusion Fellowship Program last year and began working with René Shingles and Cherie Strachan in January.

## Building capacity for positive change

The fellowship lasts for one full calendar year and is open to tenured faculty members who wish to build leadership skills and improve campus culture and climate, Miller said.

Fellowship applicants submitted project proposals they wished to complete during the fellowship along with personal goals for improving their own knowledge and skill set in the areas of diversity, equity and inclusion.

Miller worked with a committee nominated by the Academic Senate, the CMU Faculty Association and the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to choose the first two fellows. The selection committee members were:

- Concha Allen, faculty, marketing and hospitality services administration
- Frim Ampaw, faculty, educational leadership
- Misty Bennett, faculty, management

- Sapphire Cureg, director, diversity education
- Steven Johnson, vice president, enrollment and student services
- Leela Rakesh, faculty, mathematics

The fellowship provides a three-credit-hour release each semester for the faculty fellows. This time can be used for reading and reflection, project planning and implementation, attending meetings and conferences, and work with Miller's office.

"We have to cultivate the infrastructure to make it all possible. One person alone — one office alone — cannot achieve all that is possible. The fellowship expands our reach by building a network of resources across campus," Miller said.

Custom training for academic areas

## Custom training for academic areas

Each semester, CMU offers several workshops René Shingles wishes she could attend. Unfortunately, like many faculty members, she often misses out due to her busy teaching schedule. For her project, Shingles plans to take diversity, equity and inclusion teaching tools and resources directly into individual departments, allowing everyone to take advantage of opportunities to grow their knowledge and skill.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to advance the work being done at CMU in diversity, equity and inclusion in a way that is very different from how things have been done in the past," she said.

Shingles said health care professions such as athletic training have been addressing issues of cultural competency — ensuring students have the ability to understand, communicate and work with patients from many cultural, racial and ethnic backgrounds — for many years. She even wrote a book about it in 2011.

Some other programs are just getting started, Shingles said.

For her project, Shingles will meet with department chairs to learn about the specific needs of the area and work collaboratively with campus partners to create trainings for the faculty team. Her goal is to complement the excellent workshops already being offered on campus by the Office of Diversity Education

and the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, she said.

Shingles also is looking forward to having time to broaden her own understanding of emerging issues that her patients may face. She and Miller attended the national White Privilege Conference in March, and she plans to look into other opportunities to learn more about social justice and advocacy throughout the year.

"I am grateful for this time to read, reflect and build my own understanding and skill set," she said.

## Bringing together tribe, town and gown

For political science faculty member Cherie Strachan, the fellowship presented an opportunity to complete a project she's been thinking about for a long time: a campus-community advisory board.

She envisions a group including representatives from the city of Mount Pleasant, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and local nonprofit organizations, who can advise university leaders on issues most pressing to the local community.

The project is something she's wanted to do for quite a while, but never had the time or resources to devote to completing — until now.

"Faculty are often so pressured for time with end-of-the-semester projects, grading, deadlines and such. I appreciate having time to focus, to think and to implement," she said.

Miller said Strachan's expertise in community and civic engagement make her an ideal candidate to reach beyond the university's walls to bring new partners to the table.

In addition to working on her community advisory board project, Strachan said she's taking advantage of opportunities to learn more about the administrative side of diversity in higher education. She recently accompanied Miller to the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education conference and came back with a deep appreciation for the energy, enthusiasm and determination required to create institutional change.

"There are so many opportunities for CMU to grow. One of the most important is to provide our students more opportunity to participate in engaged, experiential learning that helps them grow into public-spirited citizens," she said.

# Delta College Student-run Newscast Earns Apple Award



*courtesy photo*

The Delta Collegiate student news organization at Delta College has been recognized for creating the best student-run TV newscast in the nation. The team that produced the newscast "DeltaBeat" – specifically the February 27 episode – was presented the prestigious David L. Adams Apple Award in New York City on March 9 as part of the College Media Association's spring conference.

"DeltaBeat" was the brainchild of Michael Pieper, video editor for the Collegiate, and Arts & Letters faculty members Crystal McMorris, who teaches journalism courses, and Kimberly Wells, who teaches broadcasting. From the launch in September through the latest award-winning newscast, the student staff strived for continual improvement, with critiques and coaching from Wells, who draws on years of experience as a TV news producer, and McMorris, a former newspaper reporter and columnist.

"Through trial and error, we were able to hone in on our mission and produce a broadcast that not only serves as a fresh news outlet for Delta students, but also one that we are very proud of," Pieper said. "'DeltaBeat' was created to bring a visual element to our news coverage, in a compact video broadcast format that will engage students."

Several student journalists have had work

featured on "DeltaBeat," which airs on YouTube every two weeks and runs for 3-7 minutes. The most recent episodes have been shot in a local grandmother's attic to allow for more flexible production hours and backdrop construction than available in the campus studio.

Pieper, of Midland, is an Electronic Media Broadcasting major who serves as chief videographer, editor and executive producer. Other student-journalists from the Collegiate featured in the winning newscast include:

- Page Designer Robynn Verhaeghe of Essexville, an Art + Design major, served as news anchor
- Videographer Kevin Lazzaro of Midland, an Electronic Media Broadcasting major, was videographer and boom operator
- Editor-in-Chief Joseph Thornton of Saginaw, an Economics major, delivered a Pioneer sports update
- News Editor Michael Piowawarski of Hemlock, an Electronic Media Broadcasting major, wrote scripts and reported
- Reporter Zach Parfuniak of Midland, a Sociology major, delivered a movie review

Thornton says the newscast helps busy students keep on top of important news and local events.

"'DeltaBeat' gives everyone the opportunity to become knowledgeable about their community just by watching a short five-minute video," he said. "It's a great way for the average college student to know what is going on around them if they don't have the time to read each article within the print version of the Collegiate."

The David L. Adams Apple Award for Best Television Newscast is a "Best of Show" category at the annual CMA spring conference. The awards are named in honor David L. Adams, a longtime College Media Association stalwart and adviser at Indiana University, who died in 2007. Appalachian State University and the University of Connecticut were second and third after Delta.

CMA represents advisors to the nation's collegiate media outlets, with more than 800 members nationwide. More than 1,200 college students and their advisors took part in this year's convention, including a team of eight from the Collegiate. In an onsite copy editing contest, the Collegiate's Franklin Thornton earned third place for demonstrating keen knowledge of grammar, punctuation, Associated Press style, current events, politics and geography.



# COMMUNITY

## SVSU student to compete among nation's top college actors, follows in brother's footsteps



*courtesy photo*

Jared Kaufman is no stranger to the limelight, but landing the leading role in a Saginaw Valley State University production during his freshman year still managed to rattle his nerves leading up to opening night.

"It was a bit terrifying for a while there," the Bay City native said of the Wednesday, Feb. 20 showing of "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time." "I just wanted to get it right."

It appears he did, at least by the high standards of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival representative in the audience that evening. Based on that first performance, Kaufman was invited to the festival's Region III conference January 2020 in Madison, Wisconsin. There, he will compete against the top college actors in the Midwest for the prestigious Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship.

He will be among familiar faces. One of his co-stars, Megan Mitchell, an art major from Saginaw, also will compete for the scholarship. And four crew members working the technical aspects of "Curious Incident" received individual certificates of merit from the festival representative. The honor means the students

will be invited to participate in competitions and workshops at the conference along with the entire cast, which received a group certificate of merit.

"I'm so proud of the work and artistry of our students," said Tommy Wedge, the SVSU assistant professor of theatre who directed "Curious Incident." "It's thrilling that we are being recognized by this national organization."

Kaufman and Mitchell, who played multiple roles, initially will compete for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship's regional award, worth up to \$500. If one of them earns that distinction, the recipient will be invited to the festival's April 2020 national conference in Washington, D.C. to compete for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship's top \$5,000 scholarship.

Kaufman is familiar with the national conference. His brother, Jacob Kaufman, an SVSU alumnus who was a member of the technical crews in campus productions, earned a trip there in April 2017 after receiving the festival's first-ever Region III Arts Management Fellowship.

"Neither of us are in this for the awards - we love what we do - but he was proud of me," Jared Kaufman said of his older brother, who received a bachelor's degree in theatre from SVSU last May.

The younger Kaufman's love for the stage began when he was a sixth grader at Handy Middle School in Bay City and blossomed during his time at Bay City Central High School. During those formative years, he participated both in technical aspects of stage production as well as acting.

During his first semester as a communication and theatre education major at SVSU, Kaufman saw the casting call for the February production of "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time." He gravitated toward the lead character, Christopher, a 15-year-old boy who is accused of killing a neighborhood dog and quickly goes on a quest to find the true culprit.

Kaufman, 19, was attracted to the challenge of the role. While it is never stated in the dialogue, the play's narrative suggests Christopher falls within the spectrum of autism. The obscurity of the character's disorder meant Kaufman would need to perform with a measure of subtlety when portraying the autistic behaviors. In other words, Kaufman would need to walk a thin line to make sure he did not over-act the part.

"I wanted to give an honest performance for the audience, to give them an idea of what it is like to see someone within the spectrum," he said.

Kaufman said he felt his nerves heightening as opening night approached, but the support of his fellow cast and crew members helped him perform with grace. When the curtains closed and the cast curtsied, the audience applauded.

"I was really pleased to see how they appreciated my performance," he said. "And we received a lot of kind reviews from critics. I've never been in a show where I had a review written about me before this. That was very nice."

Learning later that a Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival representative praised his performance was the cherry on top, he said. Kaufman said he understands recognition from such an organization can be an indicator of promising days ahead in the performing arts industry. He has witnessed that effect, as he recently helped his Kennedy Center-honored brother move to Connecticut to begin work as production manager for The Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center.

Jared Kaufman, meanwhile, already is preparing for his next role as the son of one of the main characters in SVSU's April musical about female empowerment, "9 to 5." So far, he feels more confident his nerves won't affect him as much during this production.

"It's not as big of a role as Christopher, which is OK," he said. "I'm more than happy to take it more easy this time."

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# Renaissance Faire headed to Saginaw



*courtesy photo*

Knights, Vikings, pirates, fairies and other Renaissance era types will take over downtown Saginaw Friday evening, April 12, when the Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy (SASA) Foundation hosts its inaugural spring gala at the Saginaw Club.

History and fantasy combine at The Dragon's À Faire: A New Renaissance Celebration, featuring Renaissance-style food, entertainment, music and fun from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Saginaw Club, 219 N. Washington. Tickets for the 18-and-over event are \$50 per person.

The festivities, taking place throughout the second and third floors of the club, will feature contact jugglers, fortune telling, live music, magic, comedy, folk dancing, henna painting,

caricatures, storytelling, poetry readings, interactive performances and more.

Professionals, SASA students and alumni will provide the entertainment. There also will be a photo booth and costume contest, with a prize for the best Renaissance era garb.

Among the professionals are (pictured) magician Ric Roc Zoo and the Celtic band Roane.

Ric Roc Zoo is a regular at the annual fall Michigan Renaissance Festival, performing his award-winning repertoire of magic, juggling, improvisation and more.

Roane takes its name from the legend of the Selkie, a mythical creature of Celtic legend.

The group features acoustic instruments and intricate harmonies and specializes in Celtic, folk and maritime music.

Funds raised will support projects and programs at SASA, a Saginaw based gifted and talented school for 6th through 12th graders. SASA students have access to half-day and full-day programs. The school mascot nickname of the Dragons, hence the title of the event.

For tickets, visit the SASA main office at 1903 N. Niagara during regular school hours, contact the SASA Foundation Board by phone at 989-272-2767 or by e-mail at [sasafoundationboard@gmail.com](mailto:sasafoundationboard@gmail.com), or to purchase online, visit <https://sasa-celebration.eventbrite.com>.



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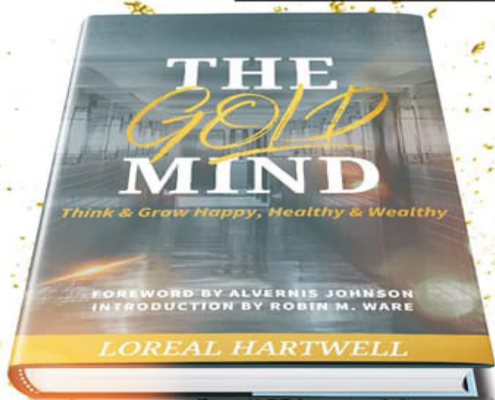
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# Tips for Purchasing Your Next Vehicle

By: Hurley J Coleman III  
Guest Contributor / Sales Consultant for Garber Buick



Buying a car is right up there with some of the most important purchases in one's life. I remember sitting on the other side of the desk wondering if my salesperson was trying to take advantage of me. I remember being nervous to show my cards in fear that he/she would devour me into shreds with high priced cars that I knew I couldn't pay for. To avoid that fear from hitting your mind, I wanted to take a moment and give you a few tips and tricks that could put you in the best position to get your next car!

## #1 – Research what you want!

The worst thing you can do is go into a car dealership without a clue about the next car that you're planning to purchase. Read up on the features, check out the website, and learn what you can about your personal and family needs.

## #2 – Get Preapproved for Loan

This gives you an idea of how much you can afford, and you'll have an interest rate that you can then compare to the dealership's financing, which [many do not know] could have the lowest annual percentage rate. Know where you are before you apply for loans. Everyone's financial and credit situations are totally different. You'll always have more leverage with a stronger credit score as the banks do not take you as a higher risk.

## #3 – Be Truthful with your Trade-In

If you're adding a trade-in to your deal, be truthful! When you're cloudy on the real details of your trade-in, you can set yourself up for a decrease in its value. Engine light; car trouble, exterior blemishes, and interior damages will go against you.

These are just a few tips that can help you put yourself in the best position to win. Finally, find a good salesperson that you know, like, and trust. He or she will not steer you in the wrong direction. They'll put you in position to get you into the best vehicle possible. You can always reach out for questions or concerns about your car needs at (989) 492-4444; extension 1676 or email me at [hcoleman@garberbuick.com](mailto:hcoleman@garberbuick.com)



## Isabella Bank Welcomes Mike Williams



*courtesy photo*

Michael Colby, East Region President of Isabella Bank welcomes Mike Williams as Vice President, Commercial Lender. Mike will serve the commercial lending needs of the Great Lakes Bay Region.

“I am pleased to have Mike join our team. It is exciting to have someone with his caliber of commercial lending experience and network size represent us in the Great Lakes Bay Region. I am confident he will take great care of our customers,” stated Colby.

Williams is a graduate of Albion College, Leadership Midland, and Great Lakes Bay Region Alliance Leadership. Mike has 20 years of banking experience, spending the majority of his career in commercial lending and credit underwriting. He is actively involved in his community, volunteering with the Midland Noon Rotary, The Legacy Center for Community Success, United Way of Midland County, Midland Business Alliance, Greater Midland Community Center Operating Board, Midland Center for the Arts NextGen Council, Junior Achievement of Central Michigan, Midland Center City Project Committee, and Midland Girls Softball League. He is an avid outdoorsman, enjoys watching girls fast pitch softball, and college football. Mike and his wife, Amy, reside in Midland with their two daughters, Morgan and Caroline.

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## Youth Quest Biz Expo Returns to Flint Farmers' Market



*courtesy photo*

For the second year in a row, YouthQuest is hosting the YQ Biz Expo at the Flint Farmers' Market. YouthQuest students will sell their own products which they have been planning and developing for the past several months.

"Last year's event was a hit with the students and community," says Cheryl Adkins, program director of YouthQuest. "We want to build on that by continuing to foster entrepreneurship in students while supporting creativity and financial literacy."

Over the last few weeks, students from each YouthQuest site participated in a Shark Tank-style competition, presenting a pitch for their business idea or product to a panel of judges. The judges consisted of local community members and business leaders.

YouthQuest staff is currently tallying the results and students who are selected to move on to the business fair will team up with other students to create products to sell at the business expo.

"Students have embraced the entrepreneurial spirit," says Adkins. "Some students have continued to build businesses outside of the

program."

Sikaya Hale, an 11th-grade student at International Academy of Flint, participated in the business expo last year selling candles. This year, she is competing again to be part of the event – this time to launch her new business: Sikaya Sunshine Scrubs.

"I liked that I was able to interact directly with customers," says Hale. "Last year, I wasn't sure if people would be honest with what they thought about the product, but they were, and I appreciated that."

The YQ Biz Expo will be held May 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Flint Farmers' Market.

YouthQuest is made possible through the generous support of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

## A Lot of Dimes: Michigan 10 Cents a Meal Now Providing Fruits, Vegetables to 135K Children

LANSING – Michigan's nationally-recognized 10 Cents a Meal for School Kids & Farms program is filling 135,000 young bodies across the state with a cornucopia of nutritious produce and building relationships with local farmers.

Fifty-seven grant-winning school districts purchased 93 different fruits and vegetables grown by 143 farms in 38 Michigan counties so far this year under the program. The districts span the western Lower Peninsula and the state's Washtenaw and Thumb regions.

Providing these 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 Michigan Department of Education (MDE) recently released the pilot program's latest results to the state Legislature in a mid-year report. Now in its third year, the program consistently has shown increases in the numbers of nutritious products served to students and of participating farms.

"Michigan recognizes food as an education issue

and when we all meet the needs of the whole child, serving healthy food to our children, we all contribute to Michigan becoming a Top 10 education state in 10 years," Interim State Superintendent Sheila Alles said.

"Students are taking more fresh apples this school year and more importantly they aren't throwing them away once they leave the register," Jessica Moody, Food Service Director for Mancelona Public Schools, stated in the report. "The switch to all local apples, which taste better, have made a huge difference."

Of the 93 products purchased under the program, food service directors cited 67 new Michigan-grown fruits and vegetables that they tried for the first time with their students, according to preliminary results of monthly surveys conducted by the MSU Center for Regional Food Systems.

Program records, examined by Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities, showed that besides farms, food processors, distributors, food hubs, and other types of businesses also benefit from the program supply chain.

School food service directors said the 10 Cents

program's top benefits are the increase in variety of produce served to students, followed by directors' greater certainty in planning of produce purchases.

"Our distributors know we are committed to local farmers and 10 Cents has made them better at sourcing and identifying the source," one food service director said in the monthly surveys. "I describe it as a 'win, win, win' situation," said another. "The farmers are happy, my food service budget is happy, and the students are happy."

The report includes data from taste tests and surveys of students; quotes from farmers, food service directors, and other school officials; and "ideas in action" at 10 Cents grantee districts. In all, schools listed 588 different promotional or educational activities they'd implemented through December of the 2018–2019 school year, including taste tests, Harvest of the Month features, and nutrition education in the cafeteria and classroom.

The full 2018–2019 legislative report is available at <https://www.tencentsmichigan.org>

## Catholic Federal Credit Union Plans New Name



*courtesy photo*

Catholic Federal Credit Union will reveal its new name and brand that celebrates and reflects the credit union's passionate spirit and dedication to serving members as well as being welcoming to everyone in the community. Although the new name and brand will no longer have a religious affiliation or meaning, it will be inclusive and reflect the entire membership. Starting June 3, 2019; the credit union will make the switch to the new name.

Catholic Federal Credit Union's membership has been impacted by the decreasing number of Catholics in the area as well as the exclusivity challenges with the word Catholic. The general public believes they must be Catholic to be a member of the credit union. The new name and brand will put the credit union in the best position possible for long-term growth.

Catholic Federal's membership voted in favor of converting to a State charter conversion in February 2019 allowing the credit union to expand its field of membership to persons to 19 counties in Michigan to provide greater opportunity for growth and strengthening the ability to serve everyone in the community.



## The Temple Theatre Brings the Ultimate Queen Celebration to Saginaw



*courtesy photo*

The Temple Theatre brings The Ultimate Queen Celebration starring Marc Martel to Saginaw on April 12, 2019. An 80's themed pre-show party to benefit the Temple Theatre Foundation will take place before the show which will include a meet and greet with Martel. Proceeds from the party will continue to ensure the Temple Theatre Foundation is able to bring enriching programming and events to the Great Lakes Bay Region.

"The iconic sound of Freddie Mercury inside our iconic theatre is sure to delight every Queen fan." says Stacey Gannon, Executive Director of the Temple Theatre Foundation. "Having the 80's Pre-Show Party before the concert is going to really set the mood for the night. We are looking forward to seeing all the 80's attire in our ballroom before the show."

Martel is the ideal match for the Ultimate Queen Celebration, an explosive, attention-commanding tribute where some of the most incredible rock anthems of all time collide with a theatrical performance style and eye-popping production. At its core, the riveting show focuses on the extremely diverse body of the band's greatest hits, but also incorporates an entirely unique angle that will have die-hards and casual appreciators alike clamoring to hear several other sides of Martel.

The Ultimate Queen Celebration is sponsored by Tri-Star Trust Bank, Wanigas Credit Union, Caravan Facilities Management, White Orthodontics, and Hemlock Semiconductor. Additional sponsorship opportunities are still available for organizations or individuals wishing to participate in what is sure to be an memorable night. Fundraiser tickets and show only tickets are available through the Temple Theatre box office or online. Queen fans can call or visit the Temple Theatre box office at (989)754-SHOW or go online to [www.templetheatre.com](http://www.templetheatre.com) for tickets.



# SVSU exhibition organizers seek to shift blame away from sexual assault survivors



*courtesy photo*

There are few crimes, Shawn Schutt points out, where the victim bears some burden of blame from the public. Survivors of sexual assault too often are blamed for the crime committed against them, he says.

“They will sometimes be asked, ‘How much did you have to drink,’ or, ‘What were you wearing when it happened,’” says Schutt, a prevention education coordinator at Underground Railroad Inc.

“But it isn’t the victim’s fault.”

Raising awareness and shifting that burden of blame away from sexual assault survivors is the objective behind a Saginaw Valley State University-hosted exhibition next week, titled “What Were You Wearing?”

The exhibition, which will display clothing worn by survivors of sexual assault when those crimes happened, will open with an event featuring Schutt as a guest speaker Monday, April 1, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in SVSU’s Alumni Lounge in Curtiss Hall. Later, the exhibition will be moved to the hallway outside SVSU’s Student Counseling Center in Curtiss Hall, room C112, from Tuesday to Friday, April 2-5, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day.

Staff and student interns in the Student Counseling

Center are collaborating on the project with Underground Railroad Inc., a Saginaw-based nonprofit that services victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking and human slavery. Underground Railroad Inc. donated the clothing that will appear in the exhibition.

Among the items that will be displayed are children’s pajamas, casual attire and swimwear.

The idea was inspired by a similar exhibition at University of Arkansas.

“We really want to debunk the myth that what they were wearing is the reason a survivor was sexually assaulted,” says Ashley Corwin, a student intern at SVSU’s Student Counseling Center.

Corwin hopes attendees will better empathize with survivors when seeing the variety and common types of clothing worn during those crimes.

“The installation, we hope, will allow the viewers to see themselves reflected in the outfits,” says Corwin, who received a bachelor’s degree in social work from SVSU in 2018 and is pursuing a master’s degree in social work there now.

Schutt, who earned a bachelor’s degree in health science from SVSU in 2016, said he hopes “What Were You Wearing?” connects with attendees.

“By asking victims those types of questions — like ‘What were you wearing?’ or ‘How much did you have to drink?’ — we’re making it easier for perpetrators to get away with these crimes,” he says. “It’s important to raise awareness about this.”

The initiative also will serve as an educational tool for student interns in the SVSU Student Counseling Center, says Dana Carley Kaczynski, an assistant director with the office helping to supervise the effort.

“The exhibit gives the interns an opportunity to participate in an outreach project that involves collaborating with a community agency, and see it from beginning to end,” she says.

“Ultimately, the message of this particular project is something that hits home for us as counselors as we work with survivors of sexual assault here at our Student Counseling Center every day. It is very important to each of us to share this message with the campus community.”

The opening event and week-long exhibition are free and open to the public.

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# POLITICS & PUBLIC POLICY

## Congressman Dan Kildee unveils new bill to protect people with pre-existing conditions



*courtesy photo*

On March 26, 2019, Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05), Chief Deputy Whip of the House Democratic Caucus, joined House Democrats in introducing a bill to make health care more affordable and protect individuals with pre-existing medical conditions. The bill comes after President Trump asked the courts to eliminate the Affordable Care Act, which would once again allow insurance companies to discriminate against those with pre-existing conditions.

“In the richest country in the world, access to quality, affordable health care should be a right,” Congressman Kildee said. “No American should go bankrupt just because they get sick, experience an accident, or have to take care of a loved one. Michiganders deserve affordable care to keep their families healthy and safe. I’m fighting for people with pre-existing conditions, those that rely on Healthy Michigan Medicaid expansion, and seniors that need affordable prescription drugs. This stands in stark contrast to

President Trump’s cruel actions to eliminate the Affordable Care Act and take away health care from millions of Americans. I believe that we should be making health care more affordable, not taking away health care from millions of Americans, which is why I am proud to introduce this important legislation to expand access to health care and lower out-of-pocket costs.”

Congressman Kildee’s legislation:

- **Lowers health insurance premiums** by expanding tax credits that make health insurance more affordable to middle-income families.
- **Strengthens protections for people with pre-existing conditions** by curtailing the Trump Administration’s efforts to give states waivers to undermine protections for people with pre-existing conditions and weaken standards for essential health benefits.

- **Stops insurance companies from selling junk health insurance plans.** This would halt the Trump Administration’s efforts to push Americans into junk health insurance plans that do not provide coverage for essential medical treatments and drugs.
- **Restores outreach and enrollment assistance** funding, putting new accountability requirements on the Trump Administration, and empowering states to innovate and invest in enrolling more people in affordable health coverage.

If President Trump’s attempt is successful in court and the ACA is repealed, it would reduce health care coverage for millions of Americans. His actions would allow lifetime and annual limits on care, reduce the Medicaid expansion, and decrease help for seniors as they pay for prescription drugs.

# Gov. Whitmer Signs Equal Pay Proclamation



*courtesy photo*

LANSING, Mich. -- Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued a proclamation declaring April 2, 2019 Equal Pay Day in Michigan.

“Equal pay is not only a women’s issue. This is an economic issue that is hurting hardworking families in our state,” said Whitmer. “When we ensure all women in Michigan can earn the same amount as their male counterparts for doing the same job, we can help hardworking families get ahead, grow our economy, and attract the business and talent we need to compete.”

According to the National Partnership for Women & Families, women in Michigan’s workforce make 78 cents for every dollar that men make for doing the same job. African American women make 63 cents for every dollar, Latinas make 54 cents and Asian women make 87 cents.

Gov. Whitmer previously signed Executive Directive 2019-10 aimed at securing equal pay for equal work for State of Michigan Employees. State policies and procedures will require compensation based on the nature of work performed and services provided, and not be differentiated due to gender.

## Equal Pay Day Full Proclamation

WHEREAS, more than 50 years after the passage of the Equal Pay Act, women in Michigan still earn 78 cents for every dollar their male counterparts earn for the same work, and women of color earn even less; and,

WHEREAS, in 2009 the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act was signed into law, a step towards employees’ fight for equal pay, however, the efforts to close the pay gap are not over, and we now must encourage the passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act, which would amend the Equal Pay Act by closing loopholes and improving the law’s effectiveness; and,

WHEREAS, according to Graduating to a Pay Gap, a 2012 research report by the American Association of University Women (AAUW), the gender pay gap is evident one year after college graduation, even after controlling for factors known to affect earnings, such as occupation, hours worked, and college major; and,

WHEREAS, according to one estimate, college-educated women working full time earn more than a half million dollars less than their male

counterparts over the course of a lifetime; and,

WHEREAS, nearly four in ten mothers are primary breadwinners in their households, and nearly two-thirds are primary or significant earners, making pay equity critical to families’ economic security; and,

WHEREAS, a lifetime of lower pay means women have less income to save for retirement and less income counted in a Social Security or pension benefit formula; and,

WHEREAS, fair pay strengthens the security of families today and eases future retirement costs while enhancing the American economy; and,

WHEREAS, Tuesday, April 2nd symbolizes the time in 2019 when the wages paid to American women catch up to the wages paid to men from the previous year; and,

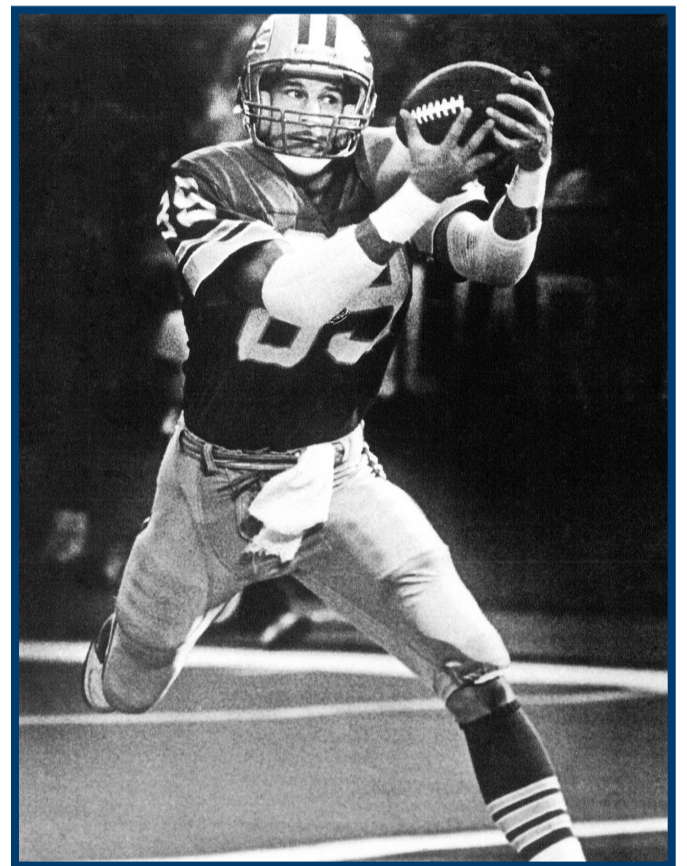
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, April 2, 2019, as Equal Pay Day in Michigan.

## SPORTS

## Former Detroit Lion Headlines Annual Fundraiser

A NORTHERN  
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*An Exclusive Evening* at Jay's Sporting Goods

courtesy photo

Mid Michigan College is excited to announce Jeff Chadwick, former NFL wide receiver, as the special guest at its annual fundraiser, A Northern Tradition, planned for Sunday, April 14, 2019 at Jay's Sporting Goods in Clare. As the special guest at A Northern Tradition, Jeff Chadwick plans to share stories from his time in the NFL and sign autographs.

Jeff Chadwick, a former NFL wide receiver, played for the Detroit Lions, Seattle Seahawks, and Los Angeles Rams. During his career, Jeff totaled 292 pass receptions for 4,546 yards and 27 touchdowns.

Chadwick is a graduate of Grand Valley State University (GVSU), where he earned five letters in football and track from 1979-1982. He also held GVSU's high jump and 400 meter dash records and was inducted to

the Grand Valley Hall of Fame in 1993. He currently resides in Clare, Michigan where he helps operate Sunset Shores Cottages on Stevenson Lake.

"We're very excited to have Jeff as our guest at A Northern Tradition," said Scott Mertes, Vice President of Community Outreach & Advancement at Mid Michigan College. "He's a great guy with many accomplishments and great stories to share from his time in the NFL."

Tickets are now available for A Northern Tradition, Mid Michigan College's annual fundraiser, which is planned for April 14 at Jay's Sporting Goods in Clare. Last year, more than 750 people attended the event, helping the College raise over \$100,000 to support student scholarships, enhanced

educational opportunities, improved facilities, and programs for local youth. More than \$1.6 million has been raised by this event in the last 17 years.

Each \$50 ticket, provides the attendee with a \$25 gift certificate to Jay's Sporting Goods, a commemorative art print, and a chance to win a \$1,000 gift certificate to Jay's. Many area restaurants also plan to be in attendance serving free appetizers and desserts, and a number of interesting demonstrations, from live music to fly tying, make it an evening to remember.

For more information about A Northern Tradition, visit [midmich.edu/ant](http://midmich.edu/ant) or contact Scott Mertes at [smertes@midmich.edu](mailto:smertes@midmich.edu) or (989) 386-6622 x230.

# Spartans Beat Duke, Advance to Final Four for 10<sup>th</sup> Time in School History



*courtesy photo*

WASHINGTON – Redshirt senior forward Kenny Goins (Troy, Mich./Warren Mott) hit the go-ahead 3-pointer with 34 seconds remaining to give second-seeded Michigan State a 68-67 victory over top-seeded Duke in the East Regional Final on Sunday at Capital One Arena as the Spartans advanced to the Final Four for the 10th time in school history.

Junior guard Cassius Winston (Detroit, Mich./University of Detroit Jesuit) scored a team-high 20 points and handed out 10 assists, and sophomore forward Xavier Tillman (Grand Rapids, Mich./GR Christian) had 19 points and nine rebounds. Winston joined Magic Johnson (vs. LSU and Penn in 1979) and Draymond Green (vs. UCLA in 2011 and LIU-Brooklyn in 2012) as the only Spartans

to score at least 20 points and dish out at least 10 assists in an NCAA Tournament game.

Winston was named the NCAA East Regional Most Outstanding Player after scoring 37 points and handing out 18 assists in two games. Tillman was named to the East Regional All-Tournament Team with 31 points and 17 rebounds combined in the Spartans' two wins.

With the Spartans trailing 66-65, Goins hit the game-winning 3-pointer from the top of the key, giving MSU a 68-66 advantage. Duke's RJ Barrett was fouled with five seconds remaining, but only made his second attempt, cutting the Spartan lead to 68-67. Duke fouled with four seconds left, but the Spartans weren't in the team bonus, and on the ensuing inbound pass, Winston ran out the clock, sending Michigan State back to the Final Four for the first time since 2015.

Goins finished with 10 points and nine rebounds, while senior Matt McQuaid (Duncanville, Texas/Duncanville) scored nine points for the Spartans.

## Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame's press conference to announce its Class of 2019



The Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame's press conference to announce its Class of 2019 inductees will be held Wednesday, April 17, 2019, at the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History, 500 Federal Avenue in Downtown Saginaw.

A social hour will start at 5:30 p.m. with the press conference starting immediately at 6 p.m. Most, if not all, individual inductees will be on hand for interviews.

The press conference is open to the public. While at the Castle Museum, the Hall of Fame room will be open for people to view the current exhibits.

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