

THE MICHIGAN BANNER

Celebrating 16 years of Positive News



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Conquering
Transportation Issues**

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



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Naming Rights to
Chemical Bank**

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Graduation Rate
Continues to Climb**

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YWCA Announces 2019 Women of Achievement Awards Honorees

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Joni Boye-Beaman
Saginaw Valley State University



Dr. Betty Jones
Community Leader



Leola Wilson
State of Michigan, Retired

YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region (GLBR) will honor seventeen local leaders at the eighth annual YWCA Women of Achievement Awards on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at Horizons Conference Center in Saginaw.

These awards honor women from the Great Lakes Bay Region who have demonstrated volunteer or professional activities and have made outstanding contributions in the categories of social justice, business and entrepreneurship, healthcare, education, community leadership, and lifetime achievement.

The Lifetime Achievement Award is granted to women who have, through a lifetime of volunteer and/or professional activities, made outstanding contributions to her community.

The 2019 honorees include:

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

Continues on pg 2, YWCA Women of Achievement Awards

Cover Story, YWCA Women of Achievement Awards

The **Women of Achievement Awards** are granted to women who have made outstanding contributions in volunteer and/or professional activities in their prospective fields. The 2019 honorees include:



Lisa Coney
Saginaw Intermediate School District



Dawn Luptowski
MCI Insurance



Dr. Roslyn McQueen
Hurley Medical Center



Francine Padgett
MidMichigan Health



Helen Raica-Klotz
Saginaw Valley State University



Lee Ann Rouse
Omni Tech International Ltd, Inc.



Linda Sims
Saginaw Valley State University



Alice Stricker
Frankenmuth School District



Tiffany D. Torain
The Dow Chemical Company



Lynn Weaver
McLaren Bay Medical Foundation

The **Women of Achievement Emerging Leader Awards** are granted to women, between the ages of 18- 25, who demonstrate emerging leadership skills and have exhibited through their character, accomplishments, and activities, a philosophy of empowering women, and commitment to their community. The 2019 honorees include:



Jamie Dwyer
Delta College



Reyna Frost
Central Michigan University



Emma Kirsch
Saginaw Valley State University



Emily Williams
Northwood University

YWCA GLBR is proud to feature Donna Murray-Brown, president and CEO of the Michigan Nonprofit Association as a special guest and Meg McLeod Anchor/Reporter for WNEM-TV5, as emcee at the 2019 YWCA Women of Achievement Awards.

“It’s a privilege to celebrate the achievements and contributions our honorees have made to the Great Lakes Bay Region. Each woman is a superior role model in their field of expertise, and we are particularly pleased to honor their

accomplishments,” said Ann Coburn-Collins, YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region board president.

“Women’s dedication to their communities within the Great Lakes Bay Region is strong and their professional accomplishments are stellar. YWCA’s recognition of an increased number of Women of Achievement honorees this year illustrates that exact point.” said Kimberly Houston, Interim Executive Director of YWCA GLBR. “Our 2019 women achievers will inspire others to excel and to always bring their best to growing our community

and empowering women in the Great Lakes Bay Region.”

The awards dinner is open to the public. Tickets are \$65 each or \$500 for a table of 8. To purchase tickets please contact the YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region at (989) 894-9055 or visit ywcaglbr.org/women-of-achievement-awards.

YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region is on a mission to eliminate racism, empower women and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

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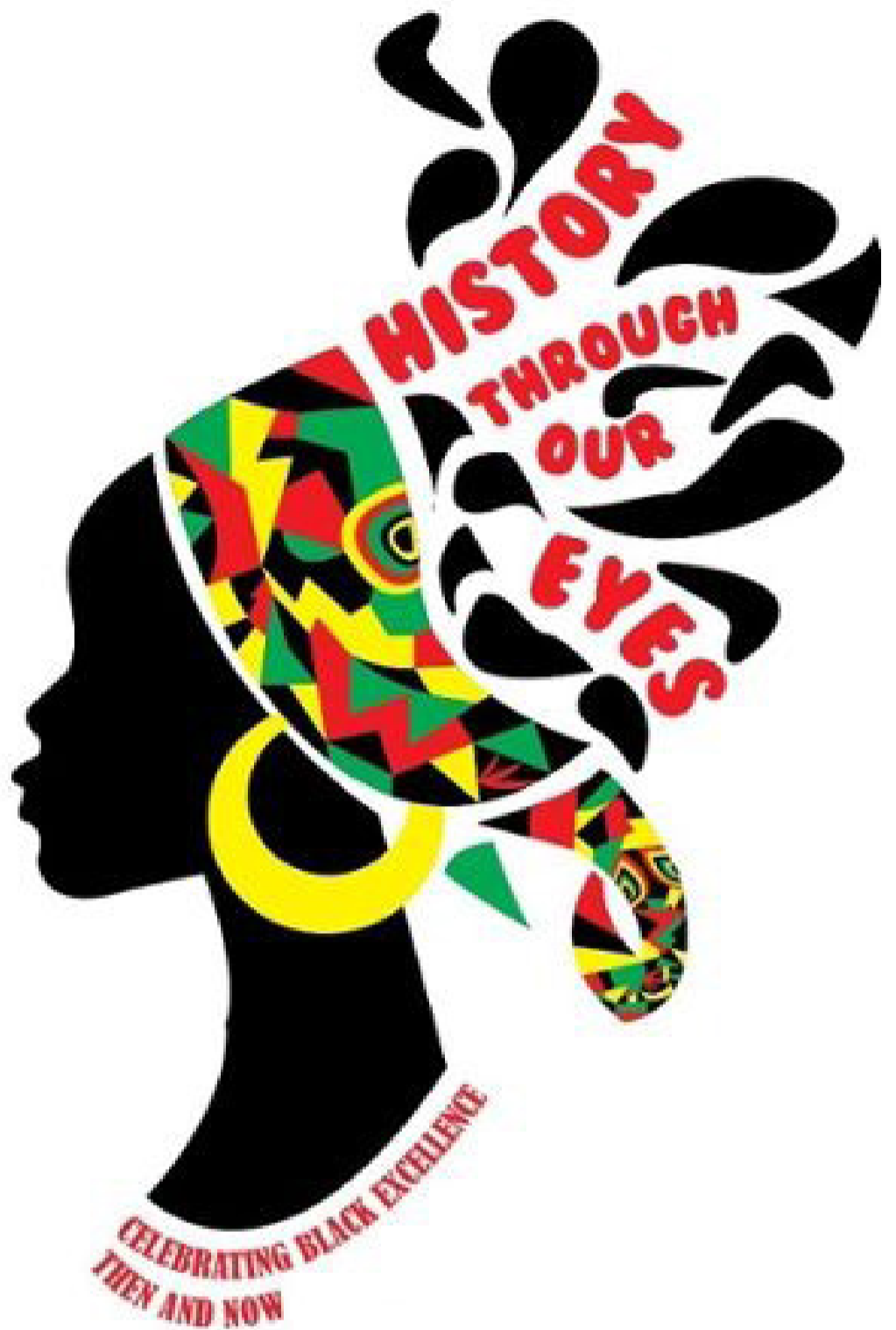
MISSION
The Michigan Banner operates and serves as a print and online media venue committed to educating, informing and enlightening our readership regarding events and news that directly and indirectly affect the communities regionally and globally. Furthermore, to serve as a catalyst and a link for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

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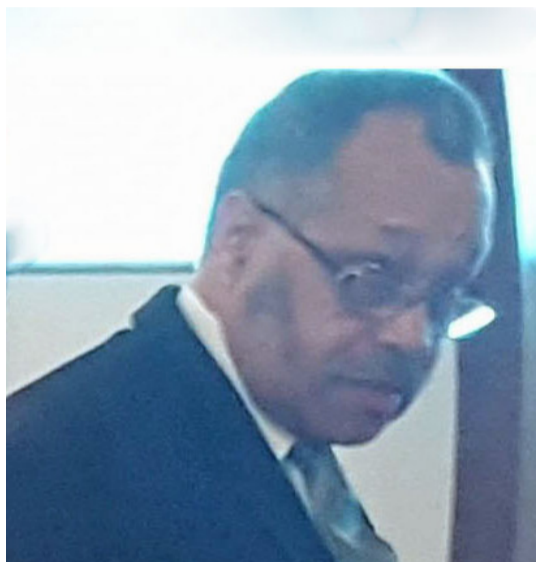


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Local Black History Highlight: Alonzo L. Betts & Lois A. Dale of Evans & Browne's Funeral Home

ALONZO L. BETTS



courtesy photo

Mr. Alonzo L. Betts hales from Jackson, Tennessee. He moved to Saginaw, Michigan in 1972 and gained employment with Browne's Mortuary. He was formerly employed with Hall & Jordan Funeral Home in Cincinnati, OH and James L. Cole Home for Funerals in Detroit, MI. He is a graduate of Saginaw High School, Delta College and Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science.

Alonzo is a proud Veteran of the United States Army serving from 1984 to 1990. He is a graduate of the Primary Leadership Development Course (PLDC)

and Basic Non-Commissioned Officers Course (BNOC). While on active duty he received the following awards, the Army Achievement Medal (4th Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Commendation Medal (3rd Oak Leaf Cluster) and the Good Conduct Medal (2nd Award).

Mr. Betts has a Courtesy License in the States of Ohio and Indiana, a Professional License in the states of Michigan and North Carolina. He is currently the director of Evans & Browne's Funeral Home in Saginaw.

LOIS A. DALE



courtesy photo

Lois is a native of Saginaw and a longtime resident of Buena Vista Township. She is a graduate of Buena Vista High School, attended Delta College and did an apprenticeship in Mortuary Science. For many years she was a member of Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church and currently is a faithful member of Mt. Olive Institutional Missionary Baptist Church where she serves as part of the Greeters Ministry, the Decorating Committee and Body & Soul Ministry. A passionate, enthusiastic, devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Lois is known for her cooking and baking skills, especially her caramel and pound cakes. She participates in the Annual Breast Cancer Walk and Fund Raiser, and other community projects. She is currently building "A Blessing Box" for non-perishable items which will be located in Buena Vista.

Ms. Dale was employed for Dr. Harpal Singh M.D. She left the medical field to assist her mother and step-father, Mrs. Annie and George Evans to study and gain knowledge in operating the family owned business, Evans Memorial Chapel. She and her sister Carla, continued the tradition of running the business, which later became Evans-Smith Funeral Home.

Lois is devoted and dedicated to the art of cosmetology. She enjoys helping families through their most difficult times and is a stickler for details. She's studied with the best and has achieved the gift of creating a comforting and memorable look for the families. Because of the loss of her son to violence, Lois has a special drive to show compassion and a unique concern for each family. She is presently Assistant Manager at Evans & Browne's Funeral Home.

Congratulations
Alonzo L. Betts & Lois A Dale
Outstanding Business Award
Heart Of The City Community Award



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

THE LATINO BANNER

LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

Vamos Adelante



Check out pictures from the 7th Annual Premios K? Onda! Awards Ceremony

LB Pg. 3

Submit your news at

themichiganbanner.com

2019 ANNUAL AWARDS Gala

MARCH 26 JW MARRIOTT

WEST MICHIGAN HISPANIC CHAMBER of COMMERCE

The West Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is proud to present our 2019 Annual Awards Gala. For over ten years, the WMHCC has recognized the hard work and accomplishments of its members and the Hispanic community by offering six separate achievement awards, including:

- Building Bridges Award
- Hispanic Business of the Year
- Hispanic Businessperson of the Year
- Most Promising Hispanic Business
- Non-Profit Champion Award
- Young Professional of the Year Award

On this dazzling night, we celebrate the award recipients, all those nominated, and the wonderful success the WMHCC and its many members found in 2018.

Program Timeline:

6:00 p.m. to 6:50 p.m. - Registration and Networking
6:50 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. - Dinner and Annual Award Ceremony

Parking:

Parking is available at the JW Marriott Ramp or by using the valet service provided by the hotel at either entrances. Special rates for the event are \$8 for the ramp and \$15 for valet parking. Please make sure to bring your ticket with you so it can be validated for the event rates.

Attire:

Business professional with black tie optional.

Registration:

Upon arrival to the venue, please visit the registration table to retrieve your name tag with table number listed.



Believe. Do.

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

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



Seen on the Scene: 7th Annual Premios K? Onda! Awards Ceremony at Horizons Conference Center in Saginaw MI



KZCF Vice President Joins Election Modernization Advisory Committee



courtesy photo

Martha Gonzalez-Cortes, vice president for Community Investment at the Kalamazoo Community Foundation (KZCF) is among those recently appointed by Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson to the newly-created Election Modernization Advisory Committee.

Gonzalez-Cortes joins other committee members from across the state who are Michigan-based voting rights advocates; county, city and township clerks; and local and national election experts.

The advisory committee will advise Michigan's Secretary of State and the Department of State's Bureau of Elections on the implementation of Proposal 3 and further election reforms. Approved by voters last November, Proposal 3 requires changes to state election laws, including the option of absentee voting for any reason, automatic voter registration, and the ability to register up to and on Election Day.

The committee will also provide consultation on the launch of online voter registration passed by the state Legislature last year,

along with poll worker recruitment training and other challenges involving elections.


Gonzalez-Cortes, one of 25 committee members, has been with KZCF since 2017, and previously served as community relations director at the Michigan Department of Civil Rights and prior to that as CEO of the Hispanic Center of Western Michigan and as state director for the Office of Migrant Affairs.

"I'm honored to serve on this innovative committee," says Gonzalez-Cortes. "Providing increased equity to our democratic process will make a significant difference in engaging people throughout our state. The goals of this committee also align perfectly with our work at the Kalamazoo Community Foundation."

Kalamazoo Community Foundation, established in 1925, has the mission to make life better for all through leadership and stewardship of resources that last forever, and the vision of a community where every person can reach full potential.

16th Annual
CESAR CHAVEZ LUNCHEON



Sponsored by:


Thursday, March 28, 2019 • 11:30am-1:30pm
Horizon's Conference Center (6200 State Street, Saginaw)
Tickets \$30.00 Donation

For Reservations/Information Contact:
Lupe Guevara (989) 755-2459 or Adam B. Gonzalez (989) 980-7886

Proceeds will go to the American GI Forum Scholarship

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HISPANIC/LATINO COMMISSION OF MICHIGAN



HISPANIC/LATINO COMMISSION OF MICHIGAN

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2019

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Community Board

Submit your announcements and events at themichiganbanner.com/submit



HISPANIC/LATINO COMMISSION OF MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMISSION MEETING

MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN

Friday, March 22, 2019
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Sturris Technology Center, Muskegon Community College
388 W. Clay Ave., Muskegon, MI 49440

People with disabilities requiring additional services (such as materials in alternative format) to participate in the meeting should call the Hispanic/Latino Commission at (517)373-8339 at least two business days prior to the meeting.

SAVE THE DATE

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

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FUNDRAISING GOOD TIMES

Black philanthropy spotlight

Jazz with a higher purpose

We share the story of the award winning Ocean City Jazz Festival to inspire readers who harbor a dream and haven't yet realized it. We also share it as part of Black History Month to highlight Black philanthropy and the strength and assets of Black communities across the country.

This fourth of July weekend will be the 10th anniversary of the Ocean City Jazz Festival and it promises to be the best yet. The concert has grown from the porch of the Ocean City Community Center on the North Carolina shore to a four-day festival on the beach with nationally recognized performers, wine tastings, yoga, church services, and a gospel brunch.

Over the past three years the festival has grown from a one day event with 2 performing artists and 150 people attending to four days with 10 artists attracting over 600 per day. The number of sponsors has increased 20% and revenues from sponsors have increased by 50%.

Carla and Craig Torrey are the driving force behind this event. This husband and wife team – with a band of volunteers – have steadily grown the festival with consistency, partnerships, and a willingness to invest time in changing how they position the event before sponsors, how they communicate their value, and who they approach.

Bottom line, the festival recruits sponsors with a business case. They document their economic impact; provide attendance numbers

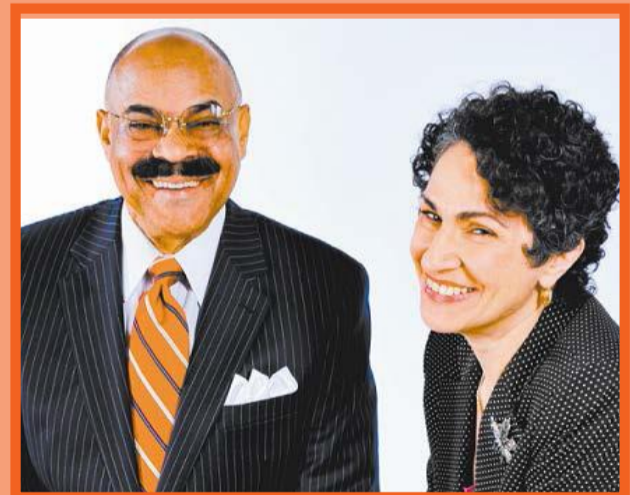
and demographics including breakouts by gender, ethnicity, income, past festival attendance, educational attainment, age, household ownership and household structure. They have developed and nurtured extensive media partnerships that allow them to offer event sponsors comprehensive exposure via print, radio, television, digital, outdoors, and social media. They communicate the business value of festival sponsorship so well that they were selected as the winner of “Best Sponsorship Packet” at the Showfest Excellence Awards beating out 169 other North Carolina festivals.

This year is the festival's 10th anniversary and the 70th anniversary of this historic African American community: Ocean City is the first place on the North Carolina shore where Blacks could purchase beachfront property.

This history was made 15 years before the federal Civil Rights Act mandated change, and Carla's father was part of it. He was a contractor who built his home and went on to build many of the homes within the community. Her experience spending summers in Ocean City and her love for her father drew Carla and Craig to invest their time, talent, treasures, and resources into the Jazz Festival.

“My dad would tell the story of how he paid \$500 for the lot and how it took him ten years to pay it off. We often sit on the porch and think about how that \$500 investment came a long way,” Carla tells.

Today the Torrey's and the Ocean City Beach Citizen's Council are making another investment: they are ensuring that history is told and that resources will be available to help Black families retain their community despite the pressures of developers, an aging homeowner population, and the struggle to pay taxes.



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 or call (901) 522-8727.

HEALTH

Great Lakes Pace: Conquering Transportation Issues



courtesy photo



Did you know that there are people in nursing homes because they cannot get a ride for medical care? Great Lakes PACE has answers. Great Lakes PACE is a Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly. Our mission is to support those who desire to avoid living in a nursing home.

PACE’s transportation goes beyond “curbside” service. Our staff helps with getting on and off accessible vans and buses and in and out of buildings. Certified Nursing Aides ride along when added care needed. Medical transportation is a lifeline for those with physical problems. In-home help is included and provide transport for shopping and other errands when needed.

PACE is All-Inclusive care! Every person has a medical team reached at one phone number. This team has Doctors, Nurses, Certified Nursing Aides, a Dietitian, Activity Director, Social Workers, a Center Manager, Occupational and Physical Therapist. The Transportation Coordinator is also part of the team. Our drivers are the first and last to see our participants. They are trained to report changes that impact safety in the

home or during travel. Transport times are individualized.

Great Lakes PACE serves those who are 55 or older and live in our service area. (See zip codes below). You must be able to live safe in the community with PACE services and meet the medical guidelines. A few questions by our PACE staff can assess medical eligibility. For most people PACE services are covered by Medicaid and/or Medicare. If not qualified for Medicaid, PACE offers a private pay option. Those enrolled in PACE will be responsible for cost of medical services received from out-of-network providers without prior approval-except for emergencies.

Call 989 272-7610 to learn more about Great Lakes PACE services. We are open M-F from 8AM-5PM. Walk-in tours welcomed! Or schedule a group tour of any size for your family, church or organization. Info sessions provided for anyone wanting to learn more about the Great Lakes PACE program.

Great Lakes PACE services available in

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Saginaw County

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Overlap with Saginaw and Another County

48457, 48460, 48747, 48757, 48768, 48807, 48831, 48841

Bay County

48604, 48611, 48623, 48631, 48634, 48642, 48650, 48706, 48708, 48732, 48747, 48757

Shiawassee

48449, 48460, 48616, 48649, 48817, 48831, 48841, 48867

Gratiot

48615, 48637, 48662, 48807, 48831

Tuscola

48415, 48435, 48701, 48723, 48733 48734, 48744, 48746, 48757, 48767, 48768
Midland County Arenac
48640, 48642, 48620 48650

Saginaw Health Department Rebrands and Retools for the Future



(SAGINAW) -- With the constantly changing health care landscape, Saginaw County Department of Public Health (SCDPH) is rebranding and retooling to better meet the needs of the community.

“First, the name of our organization is changing to the ‘Saginaw County Health Department’ to help partners, patients and the public better understand our purpose and passion to protect and promote the health and well-being of all people who live, work, and play in Saginaw County,” explains Christina Harrington, director and health officer.

Harrington says a new logo better reflects the department’s diverse services – all vital health-related programs that her team delivers either directly or through referrals and partnerships.

“Many people don’t realize the impact and value of public health,” she says. Since 1900, the average American lifespan has lengthened by 30 years – 25 of which are attributed to advancements in public health such as vaccinations, improved sanitation, clean drinking water, and health screening, she explains.

In addition to the rebrand, the health department has formed a unique partnership with Central Michigan University (CMU) Health to share medical director Najibah K. Rehman, M.D., M.P.H.

“We are so very fortunate to have Dr. Rehman as our medical director,” Harrington adds. “Her leadership will help us execute public health in the best way possible for better health for everyone in Saginaw County.”

The partnership will also give CMU medical students and residents valuable experience in public health. “It is a win-win for this community,” Harrington says, “because it will shine a much-needed light on the value of public health and link it more effectively with hospitals, providers and medical educators. We can accomplish so much more to protect our community by working together.”

Dr. Rehman earned her medical degree from Wayne State University School of Medicine. She also holds a master’s of public health from Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health and a bachelor’s in human

biology from Michigan State University. She completed a residency in preventative medicine at the University of Michigan and did a research fellowship at the Karmanos Cancer Institute Division of Hematology/Oncology.

As medical director of the new Saginaw County Health Department, she will develop and evaluate standards of medical care throughout the department, provide medical direction to clinical staff, and advise the department on matters of medical policy.

She will also see patients at CMU Health while working on quality improvement initiatives with health care providers to improve patient care and screening for preventable diseases.

“My dual role at CMU Health and the Saginaw County Health Department is the best-case scenario for Saginaw County,” says Dr. Rehman. “I am seeing the needs of patients firsthand, which can then be applied to the unique needs of the county as a whole.”

The Saginaw County Health Department works to reduce infant mortality by educating, empowering and providing care for new moms and families. The county’s health team vaccinates against diseases and continuously monitors contagious illnesses that can impact the health and well-being of communities.

Protecting clean water, air and soil fall under its umbrella, and the department tests water quality for several surrounding counties as well as Saginaw County, while also issuing permits for wells and septic fields.

Among a large list of services, the department also ensures everyone eats safe food in restaurants and gets safe body art in tattoo parlors. The county’s health team also screens school-age children for hearing and vision to make sure they can develop normally.

Children with Special Needs Fund receives \$50,000 grant; families can apply

LANSING, Mich. – Children with special needs will have better access to their homes and communities through the purchase of ceiling and stair lifts thanks to a Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation grant.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Children with Special Needs Fund is receiving the \$50,000 grant and will be awarding funds twice this year. Applications received by May 23, 2019, will be reviewed in June, and applications received by Aug. 22, 2019, will be reviewed in September.

Besides ceiling and stair lifts, the Children with Special Needs Fund also assists with partial or full payment for items such as wheelchair ramps, vehicle accessibility devices, transit options, therapeutic tricycles, air conditioners for certain

medical conditions, weighted blankets or vests, and adaptive recreational equipment. Applications for these items are reviewed year-round.

“For nearly 75 years, the Children with Special Needs Fund has been a resource for Michigan families of children with special health care needs, and it plays an important role in the lives of these children and their families,” said MDHHS Director Robert Gordon. “Many families may not be aware of the fund, and we want them to know this is a resource they can turn to when no other resources are available.”

Thousands of children with disabilities and serious illnesses have benefited from the fund with awards of more than \$8 million. The fund operates from private funds through gifts, bequests and donations made by individuals, organizations and

businesses.

Based in Midland, the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation was established by Eda U. Gerstacker in 1957 in memory of her husband. Eda Gerstacker died in 1975 and family members continue to serve as officers and trustees of the foundation. The Children with Special Needs Fund was created in 1944 when Dr. James Pardee, co-founder of Dow Chemical Company, made a generous bequest of Dow stock.

Anyone who wants to find out if a child is eligible for assistance or donate to the fund can visit www.michigan.gov/csnfund or contact their local health department’s Children’s Special Health Care Services worker. Apply for funds by clicking the “Application” button on the left side of the website homepage.



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Michigan receives approval for final year of State Innovation Model; continues effort to improve well-being of residents

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is beginning its fourth and final year of Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services' (CMS) funding for its State Innovation Model (SIM) initiative. During this final year of the project, MDHHS will refine and optimize the state's vision for a person-centered health system that coordinates care across medical settings and with community organizations to address social determinants of health, improve health outcomes and pursue community-centered solutions to factors related to poor health outcomes.

In 2015, CMS awarded MDHHS nearly \$70 million over four years to test and implement a model for delivering and paying for health care in the state. CMS recently approved MDHHS's Operational Plan for year four, which began Feb. 1.

The state organized its SIM initiative into three categories: population health, care delivery and technology. Each category focuses on improving outcomes for three priority populations: individuals at risk of high emergency department use, pregnant women and babies, and individuals with multiple chronic conditions. MDHHS has built on the state's existing infrastructure to develop and implement models for delivering and financing services that can be sustained after federal SIM funding expires.

"Up to 90 percent of the factors that influence a person's health are due to circumstances that occur outside the four walls of a medical setting," said MDHHS Director Robert Gordon. "Michigan's SIM initiative takes a systematic approach to addressing the factors that can result in improved health outcomes and cost savings."

A key innovation under SIM, Community Health Innovation Regions (CHIRs), are an innovative approach regarding the role local organizations can play in improving the well-being of a region and changing the trajectory of medical costs. These broad partnerships work together to identify and implement strategies that address social determinants of health. CHIRs are being piloted in five areas of the state: Jackson, Genesee and Muskegon counties, the Northern Region (a 10-county area occupying the northwest portion of the lower peninsula) and the Livingston-Washtenaw county areas.

For more information, visit Michigan.gov/SIM.

Delta Dental Foundation investment in state sealant program, fluoridation totals more than \$1.5 million

OKEMOS, Mich. — To help improve oral health across the state, the Delta Dental Foundation has partnered with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) for nearly a decade and invested more than \$1.5 million in dental sealant and fluoridation programs.

This year, the Foundation is providing \$200,000 for sealants through MDHHS' SEAL! Michigan program and \$7,200 for the Village of Sheridan to upgrade its fluoridation equipment and install a new pump for an additional well.

"We are very pleased to support the SEAL! Michigan program once again this year," said Teri Battaglieri, Executive Director of the Delta Dental Foundation. "Our goal is to reduce tooth decay in children, and dental sealants are a great way to protect teeth from cavities. In addition to dental screenings and sealants, this program provides children and their parents with information about how to

take care of their teeth and how to access dental care."

Dental sealants help prevent tooth decay. The plastic coating seals off the dips and grooves on the top of teeth, preventing bacteria and food from getting caught and causing cavities. Sealants and dental screenings are provided to elementary and middle school students through the MDHHS Oral Health Program's SEAL! Michigan program. Screenings, sealants and oral health education are all provided during the school day.

Last year, the program served nearly 6,700 children, with approximately 40,000 children served by the program since it began. With this year's grant, the Foundation has provided more than \$1 million to support the SEAL! Michigan program.

Fluoridation is the adjustment of fluoride in the water to a level that is optimal for preventing tooth decay. According to the

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), drinking fluoridated water keeps teeth strong and reduces cavities by about 25 percent in children and adults.

"Delta Dental's continued support for the SEAL! Michigan program and community fluoridation is greatly appreciated and vitally important to our youth," said MDHHS Director Robert Gordon. "These investments prevent tooth decay and help improve oral health, particularly among our youngest residents. Numerous studies have found that improved oral health leads to improved overall health."

The SEAL! Michigan program is recognized as a best practice program by the Association of the State and Territorial Dental Directors, the CDC and other national organizations.

For more information about the program, visit Michigan.gov/oralhealth.

Covenant HealthCare and Mary Free Bed Will Build Leading-Edge Rehabilitation Hospital in Saginaw



courtesy photo

Leaders from Covenant HealthCare and Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation are drawing plans for a \$40.7 million rehabilitation hospital. Located in Saginaw on the Covenant HealthCare main campus, the new building will include 48 inpatient beds (with shelled space for 12 beds for future use) and a state-of-the-art outpatient therapy facility.

By investing in this expansion, Covenant HealthCare and Mary Free Bed are developing a Rehabilitation Center of Excellence that will serve patients and families from a broad region of eastern Michigan. In addition to the new services and technology that will be housed in the building, Mary Free Bed at Covenant HealthCare patients will also have the opportunity to participate in national stroke rehabilitation research.

In November 2017, the two organizations signed a partnership agreement creating a 50-50 joint venture that brought advanced rehabilitation care to Saginaw and the Great Lakes Bay Region.

“One of our goals when we began the partnership was to study the need for a separate rehabilitation hospital,” said Mary Free Bed CEO Kent Riddle. “Our analysis shows it’s time to move ahead with

construction of a new building that will be designed specifically for rehabilitation services.”

“The building will provide more private space for patients and enable our teams to be more efficient as they care for patients,” says Ed Bruff, Covenant HealthCare President and CEO. “In partnership with Mary Free Bed, we believe our Rehabilitation Center of Excellence will better serve Great Lakes Bay Region residents and be a world-class destination for patients from across the east side of the state.”

The joint venture for inpatient rehabilitation became operational in March of 2018. Since then, patient rehabilitation results have consistently exceeded national benchmarks.

Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation at Covenant HealthCare

New Building

We’re in the early stages of development, but initial plans call for the building to:

- Have 48 private inpatient rehabilitation rooms (with space for 12 beds for future use)
- Accommodate leading-edge technology

such as ceiling mounted ambulation systems

- Be located on the main campus of Covenant HealthCare in Saginaw
- When fully operational, the new rehabilitation hospital is also estimated to bring 25-30 additional jobs to Saginaw.
- Video concept, campus flyover, and patient care montage available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eXBpwvDBQ3w>

Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation at Covenant HealthCare

Since March of 2018, the partnership has helped inpatients achieve excellent outcomes:

- Based on a national rehabilitation measure that tracks the amount of improvement in physical and cognitive function, inpatients significantly exceeded national benchmarks.
- Patient safety and quality metrics including infection rates, falls with injury, and pressure ulcers consistently outperformed the national averages.
- Most patients say their number one goal is to return home. Mary Free Bed at Covenant discharges patients home at a higher rate than national benchmarks.

BUSINESS & WEALTH

Cobo Center Awards Naming Rights to Chemical Bank



courtesy photo

DETROIT (February 20, 2019) — Today marks the announcement of an unprecedented partnership in Detroit. The Detroit Regional Convention Facility Authority has awarded the naming rights of Cobo Center to Chemical Bank, the largest bank headquartered in Michigan. Chemical Bank and the DRCFA will announce the new name of the world-class Convention Center by the end of 2019, and it will remain as Cobo Center until that time.

“Our announcement today gives us all an important message: that public-private partnerships work, and that we continue to dedicate ourselves to serving the customers of this great Center and to the rebuilding of a truly great American city,” said Larry Alexander, Chairman of the DRCFA and President and CEO of the Detroit Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau. “There could not be a better partner than Chemical Bank.”

“Today’s announcement continues to build on our bank’s investment in the city, its neighborhoods, the region and our state,” said Gary Torgow, Chairman of the Board for Chemical Financial Corporation. “Along with our recently announced merger with TCF Financial Corporation that will bring the headquarters of the combined company and the TCF brand to downtown Detroit, we look forward to contributing to make this Center a vibrant destination for our city and our region for many years to come.”

The largest bank headquartered in the state of Michigan, Chemical Bank is a wholly owned

subsidiary of Chemical Financial Corporation (NASDAQ: CFHC). It was selected to receive naming rights after an extensive competitive process.

Against the backdrop of 10 million visitors who come to greater downtown Detroit and the 1.5 million visitors to the Convention Center annually, Cobo Center will continue to grow its book of meetings, conventions and event business as it has continued to set record-breaking numbers since its \$279 million renovation.

“This is the kind of unique collaboration and long-term commitment to the city of Detroit and greater region that can make a real, meaningful difference for Michiganders. I’m eager to partner with the business community to make sure we bring more investment to our state, boost local economies in cities like Detroit, and connect more Michiganders to good-paying jobs,” said Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

“Our world-class convention center now has a world-class corporate partner in Chemical Bank,” said Mayor Mike Duggan. “We couldn’t be more proud of the investments Chemical Bank is making in our city, from its new headquarters to its support for our Strategic Neighborhood Fund. Today’s announcement will help ensure our convention center remains a facility Detroiters will be proud of for years to come.”

Since its creation in 2009, the DRCFA has worked diligently to meet its obligation to the legislative act and fulfill its responsibility to the taxpayers

of the State of Michigan in making the current Convention Center a financially self-sustaining facility by 2024. Through the DRCFA’s effective management of financial resources, the DRCFA is ahead of schedule and has saved the state’s taxpayers an estimated \$74.7 million since its inception in 2009. The City of Detroit and individual municipalities across the state are also benefitting from this financial structure, saving them millions of dollars. The naming rights initiative for the Convention Center has been a longtime goal of the DRCFA. Michigan taxpayers will receive significant benefit in sponsorship revenue to offset the cost of operating the Convention Center.

Opened in 1960, the iconic Convention Center is the 17th largest convention center in the United States. Cobo Center is the home of the North American International Auto Show among many other notable national and international conventions and events.

Chemical Bank has a rich 101-year history and serves customers in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. The merger of Chemical and TCF will create the largest midcap bank in the Midwest, allowing the combined company to offer enhanced products and services to its customers, and continue to support and give back to the communities it serves. The combined company will have approximately \$45 billion in assets, \$34 billion in total deposits and more than 500 branches across nine states, including four of the top 10 Midwest markets. It will leverage the strengths of Chemical’s community banking and wealth management capabilities with TCF’s large deposit franchise and expertise in wholesale lending on a national basis. The merger is expected to close in the late third or early fourth quarter of 2019, subject to satisfaction of customary closing conditions, including receipt of customary regulatory approvals and approval by the shareholders of each company.

Chemical Bank was awarded naming rights by the DRCFA. The DRCFA is comprised of five board members appointed to represent the respective interests of the state of Michigan, the City of Detroit, and Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. The DRCFA has been widely recognized as southeastern Michigan’s first major step towards true regional cooperation.



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Delta College to host Great Lakes Bay Job Fair

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Thursday, March 21, 2019
Setup & Lunch: 10am – 12pm
Job Fair: 12 – 3pm

Fees

Registration includes: 6' covered table, two chairs, internet access and two lunch tickets.
\$95 Registration Fee – Non-refundable
\$105 after March 16 – Non-refundable
\$10 for each addition lunch ticket

Middle Michigan MiCareer Quest

Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works! is partnering with Michigan Works! Region 7B on presenting a career exploration fair for 8-12 graders from 11 counties, called MI Career Quest Middle Michigan, on Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at SVSU. This initiative is part of a long-term strategy aimed to build a talent pipeline in our region. This is NOT your typical career fair but a hands-on experience for students to learn about high-demand careers in the following industries:

- Healthcare
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Construction
- Information Technology
- Agri-Business

Over 10,000 students will come through the Ryder Center to touch, feel and work with actual tools, equipment and technology! Please consider attending one of our information sessions on the attached flyer to learn more details about this one of a kind event!

Feel free to contact Kristen Wenzel at kristenw@michiganworks.com for more information or by cell at (989)280-8031.

Garber Chevrolet of Midland Receives Honors



courtesy photo

Garber Chevrolet Midland has received the Large Business of the Year Award from the Midland Business Alliance. The award was announced at a meeting earlier this month, in recognition of "exceptional business growth, community involvement, and workplace quality; delivering a positive impact to the Midland community."

"It is really a great honor and very exciting to receive this award from the Midland Business Alliance," said Craig Lang, General Manager of Garber Chevrolet Midland. "We have a wonderful, dedicated staff that is very honored to have won this award among such a great group of Midland businesses. We work very hard to be sure that we are consistently involved in all aspects of our community."

Garber Chevrolet Midland also received a Certificate of Congressional Recognition from U.S. Representative John Moolenaar, as well as a Special Tribute from the State of Michigan in honor of being named Business of the Year, signed by State Representatives Annette Glenn, Roger Hauck and Jim Stamas.

"I am very grateful to the Midland community for all their support over the years and could not be more proud of Craig Lang and his staff for their commitment to the community," stated Richard J. Garber, President of Garber Management Group. "Our desire is to be a great corporate citizen and this award recognition is appreciated."

MIOSHA and MTMIC Sign Alliance to Promote Workplace Safety and Health



The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) and the Manufacturing Technology Mutual Insurance Company (MTMIC) signed an alliance agreement formalizing a mutual commitment to workplace safety and health.

"We're pleased to sign this alliance that brings together our organizations to expand education, outreach and information sharing throughout the state," said MIOSHA Director Bart Pickelman. "MTMIC is a longstanding MIOSHA partner and we look forward to continuing our relationship with them and their constituents to develop appropriate safety and health programs to keep workers safe."

This marks the fourth time that MTMIC has renewed this alliance with MIOSHA. Previous alliance signings occurred in 2009, 2012 and 2015. Through the alliance, MTMIC members will gain a greater understanding of the rights of workers and the responsibilities of employers under the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act (MIOSH Act). The team will meet at least three times per year to track and share information on activities and results in achieving the goals of the alliance. The alliance will remain in effect for three years from its date of signing.

"Since the inception of our alliance, 150 of

our policyholders have used MIOSHA's services with great success and deemed it an invaluable training tool," said Chris Demeter, senior loss control consultant at MTMIC. "The alliance affords employers and selected employees the opportunity to learn how to identify unsafe or unhealthy acts or conditions and MIOSHA enforcement violations."

MIOSHA alliances enable organizations committed to workplace safety and health to collaborate with MIOSHA to prevent workplace injuries and illnesses. Alliances are open to all groups, including trade or professional associations, businesses, labor

organizations, educational institutions, and government agencies.

There are many benefits to participating in an alliance with MIOSHA, including:

- Building trusting, cooperative relationships.
- Networking with others committed to workplace safety and health.
- Exchanging information about best practices.
- Leveraging resources to maximize worker safety and health protection.



MTMIC and MIOSHA staff pose for a picture after signing the alliance agreement.



MIOSHA's Consultation Education and Training Division Director Nella Davis-Ray and MTMIC President John Karlen sign the alliance agreement.

Great Lakes Bay Health Centers appoints Dwayne Parker to Board of Directors



courtesy photo

Great Lakes Bay Health Centers, a one Community Health Center Umbrella made up of 28 locations in 16 different counties throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region and beyond, appoints a few new Board members including Dwayne Parker.

Parker is a retired Health Care Administrator from Hurley Medical Center and former Supervisor of Buena Vista Charter Township. The combination of his health care acumen and demonstrated commitment to community building will bring a wealth of expertise to the board.

“I have been a long-time proponent of Federally Qualified Health Center’s (FQHC), and Great Lakes Bay Health Centers,” said Parker. “Great Lakes Bay Health Centers is committed to the communities it serves, its mission and guiding principles provides quality health care for everyone.

“I am honored to be able to serve on Great Lakes Bay Health Centers board.”

Parker also volunteers his time with Saginaw READ Association, as a READ Mentor, Blue Cross Blue Shield Community Advisory Council and Life Member of Saginaw Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.

Dr. Brenda Coughlin, President and CEO says. “We are very excited that Mr. Parker is joining our Board. He is an avid supporter of GLBHC and quality healthcare for everyone. He will bring community expertise and passion for changing lives to our team.”

“Great Lakes Bay Health Centers offers many services including medical care, dental care, eye care, behavioral health care and so much more.” For more information about GLBHC go to www.GreatLakesBayHealth.org

United Financial C.U. Offers Seminar-Financial Wholeness



United Financial Credit Union invites the community to attend their Financial Wholeness Course. During the course you will learn time-tested strategies that help you to make informed financial decisions. Whether your objective is to build a nest egg, protect your assets or preserve your lifestyle throughout retirement, this course helps you plan your future with confidence.

Attendees will learn how to:

- Determine the amount of money you need to retire
- Create and set Manageable Goals for Retirement
- Eliminate Debt and Improve Cash Flow
- Properly convert IRA's to a Roth IRA
- Safeguard your assets

- Select Retirement plan info that is right for your situation
- Reduce or eliminate taxes, expenses, delays and legal challenges with estate planning

The course is two - 3 hour sessions. March 14 and 21 from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm at United Financial CU: 4685 State St. Saginaw, MI 48603

Registration Fee:

Members – \$25
Non-Members – \$50
*You can bring a spouse or guest at no additional charge. Registration fee includes one workbook.

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EDUCATION

SVSU hires Chubb as dean of College of Science, Engineering & Technology



courtesy photo

Saginaw Valley State University has hired Andrew Chubb to serve as dean of the College of Science, Engineering & Technology.

Chubb, who joined SVSU's faculty in 2002 and twice served as interim dean of the academic college, will help lead the university's efforts to advance STEM studies on campus as well as in the Great Lakes Bay Region.

"I am honored to serve the College of Science, Engineering & Technology as its dean," he said. "We have top-notch faculty and staff, outstanding programs, and excellent students who are the STEM workforce of the future. I look forward to building upon this foundation as the College of Science, Engineering & Technology continues to establish its role as a leader for STEM education in the Great Lakes Bay Region and beyond."

Chubb served as a faculty member with SVSU's Department of Chemistry from 2002-12.

Along with his classroom duties, he designed and implemented a new organic chemistry lab curriculum, managed an undergraduate research laboratory, and served as the university's Pre-Health Professions adviser. He was the 2011 recipient of the Franc A. Landee Award for Teaching Excellence, the most prestigious honor given to members of SVSU's faculty.

He first served as interim dean in the College of Science, Engineering and Technology from 2014-15 and then again beginning in 2018 until the interim status was removed with his current hiring. He fills the role occupied by Frank Hall before his retirement last year. Chubb served as associate dean during Hall's time with the university.

While serving in the dean's office since 2012, Chubb's responsibilities have included managing expanding resources dedicated to STEM education. With a growing market for STEM industry jobs in the region, SVSU in recent years has received major gifts from

the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation, The Dow Chemical Company Foundation, and the Dow Corning Foundation — among other organizations — to improve students' performance in STEM disciplines at the middle school, high school and university levels.

Deborah Huntley, SVSU's provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said Chubb's success in his many roles at the institution demonstrated his "outstanding commitment to the mission and vision of our university."

"His focus on students and their success has been apparent from the start, as evidenced in his outstanding teaching, advising and administrative work," Huntley said. "He is actively engaged with external constituencies including our industry partners, community organizations and STEM educators. I believe that, under his leadership, our STEM programs will flourish and expand their impact on the Great Lakes Bay Region and the state of Michigan."

In addition to his work at SVSU, Chubb is an active member of the Great Lakes Bay Region community. He was selected as a member of the 2011 class of RUBY Award recipients, an honor given annually to top professionals in the Great Lakes Bay Region under the age of 40. That same year, Chubb became a graduate of Leadership Midland, a community leadership development initiative. He remains active with the program today.

Chubb was born in Great Falls, Montana. He received a Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Iowa State University in 2003 after earning a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Washington University in 1995. Before joining SVSU, he served as a chemistry instructor at Iowa State University beginning in 1998.

He is married to Jennifer Chubb, a math lecturer at SVSU. They live in Midland with their children, Ajay, 7; and Alison, 3.

MSU St. Andrews Announces Winter Workshops for Teachers



courtesy photo

MSU St. Andrews is adding new teacher workshops to support STEM classroom education. Both new and old workshops are free for area teachers and offer hands-on activities that can be incorporated into their curriculum. Visit standrews.msu.edu to learn more and register for the following workshops.

The Forensic DNA Fingerprinting workshop simulates human forensic testing by taking DNA from a hypothetical crime scene and matching it with the DNA of five “suspects”. Participants will learn how to use restriction enzymes to cut DNA, and gel electrophoresis to separate the resulting

DNA fragments by size, thereby generating a DNA fingerprint. This workshop is available on February 26 and March 6 from 12 to 4:30 p.m. This workshop supports school delivery of Project Lead the Way content.

The Plant DNA Fingerprinting workshop will explore genetic diversity in plants by comparing the DNA fingerprints of a variety of common herbs and vegetables. In this workshop, teachers will learn several basic molecular biology techniques, including isolating DNA from plant tissue, amplifying DNA using polymerase chain reaction (PCR), setting up DNA restriction

digestions, and separating DNA fragments based on their size using gel electrophoresis. This full-day workshop is available on April 10 and April 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This workshop augments Project Lead the Way content with advanced topics of DNA isolation and PCR.

The new Photosynthesis workshop provides a laboratory-based overview of photosynthesis, the process by which plants transform light energy into chemical energy. Participants will study the effect of light on photosynthesis and compare the rates of photosynthesis for plants in different light conditions. This workshop is offered on March 21 and March 27 from 12 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. This workshop supports school delivery of Project Lead the Way content.


The 3D printing workshops offer experience working with computer-aided design (CAD) and 3D printing to provide the advantages of visual aids in STEM classrooms. MSU St. Andrews currently offers three options for 3D printing: basic, advanced, and open labs. The basic workshops are for novice users and will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on February 13 and March 14. The advanced workshops are for those with previous experience and will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on February 21 and March 20. Additionally, the open lab drop-in hours are available from 1 to 4:30 p.m. on February 15 and March 15.

The equipment needed to perform these activities will be available for teachers to either “checkout” or use with their classes at the MSU St. Andrews facility. Instructors are also available to consult with teachers on how to modify experiments to fit within facility constraints in their classrooms.

For more details or to register, please visit <https://standrews.msu.edu/>.

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Statewide Graduation Rate Continues to Climb



courtesy photo

care, military connected, and Early Middle College students were added this year. Other user-selected settings permit exploring 4-year, 5-year, and 6-year graduation rates by gender, race or ethnicity, or by demographic categories such as economically disadvantaged, English language learners, homeless, migrant, and students with disabilities.

“Adding these new demographic subgroups provides the ability to review and better understand how all Michigan students are progressing through their education” said CEPI Executive Director Tom Howell. “Having this additional context to our graduation and dropout rates will help us evaluate and better work toward equity for our children.”

CEPI calculates graduation rates by tracking enrollment records of individual students from the time they first enroll as ninth-graders. This method, along with concerted efforts by CEPI, school administrators and intermediate school district auditors, accounts for every student.

Four-year “on-time” graduation rates are a school accountability measure adopted by the state, and the methodology for calculating rates is aligned with the National Governors Association Graduation Counts Compact.

CEPI also reports graduation rates for students who remain in high school five and six years. Both the 5-year and 6-year graduation rates are relatively unchanged at 83.22 percent and 83.45 percent respectively.

“Greater learning and higher achievement by Michigan students will help us become a Top 10 education state in 10 years,” said Interim State Superintendent Sheila Alles. “Getting more students through high school and on to a postsecondary program will help us reach Governor Whitmer’s goal of 60 percent of Michigan residents with a postsecondary credential by the year 2030. We are heading in a positive direction.”

More Michigan students graduated from high school last year, according to data released today by the Michigan Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI).

The 2017-18 school year graduation rate increased slightly to 80.64 percent, up 0.46 percent from 80.18 percent in 2016-17. The dropout rate increased slightly to 8.73 percent for the 2017-18 school year, up 0.08 percent from the 2016-17 rate of 8.65 percent.

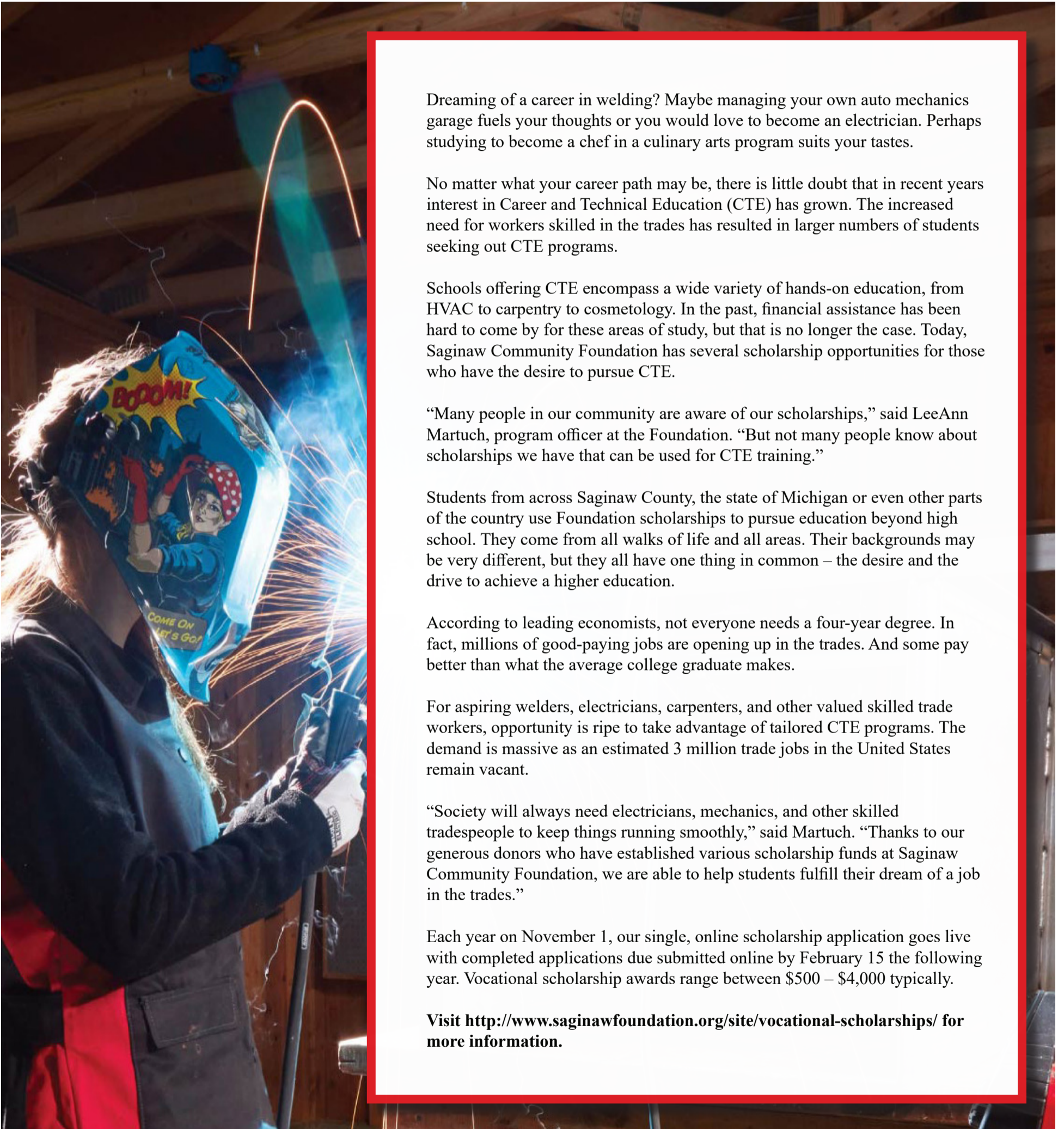
Four of the 10 school districts with the most high school students in the cohort class of 2018 (1,162 to 3,828 students) improved their graduation rates. In order of class size, their rates are:

- District: 77.27 percent;
- Utica Community Schools: 92.92 percent;
- Plymouth-Canton Community Schools: 90.37 percent;
- Dearborn City School District: 94.70 percent;
- Chippewa Valley Schools: 91.91 percent;
- Ann Arbor Public Schools: 89.48 percent;
- Rochester Community School District: 96.81 percent;
- Warren Consolidated Schools: 81.83 percent;
- Walled Lake Consolidated Schools: 92.17 percent; and
- Livonia Public School District: 92.60 percent.

- Detroit Public Schools Community

New demographic subgroups for foster

Scholarships available for Career and Technical Education



Dreaming of a career in welding? Maybe managing your own auto mechanics garage fuels your thoughts or you would love to become an electrician. Perhaps studying to become a chef in a culinary arts program suits your tastes.

No matter what your career path may be, there is little doubt that in recent years interest in Career and Technical Education (CTE) has grown. The increased need for workers skilled in the trades has resulted in larger numbers of students seeking out CTE programs.

Schools offering CTE encompass a wide variety of hands-on education, from HVAC to carpentry to cosmetology. In the past, financial assistance has been hard to come by for these areas of study, but that is no longer the case. Today, Saginaw Community Foundation has several scholarship opportunities for those who have the desire to pursue CTE.

“Many people in our community are aware of our scholarships,” said LeeAnn Martuch, program officer at the Foundation. “But not many people know about scholarships we have that can be used for CTE training.”

Students from across Saginaw County, the state of Michigan or even other parts of the country use Foundation scholarships to pursue education beyond high school. They come from all walks of life and all areas. Their backgrounds may be very different, but they all have one thing in common – the desire and the drive to achieve a higher education.

According to leading economists, not everyone needs a four-year degree. In fact, millions of good-paying jobs are opening up in the trades. And some pay better than what the average college graduate makes.

For aspiring welders, electricians, carpenters, and other valued skilled trade workers, opportunity is ripe to take advantage of tailored CTE programs. The demand is massive as an estimated 3 million trade jobs in the United States remain vacant.

“Society will always need electricians, mechanics, and other skilled tradespeople to keep things running smoothly,” said Martuch. “Thanks to our generous donors who have established various scholarship funds at Saginaw Community Foundation, we are able to help students fulfill their dream of a job in the trades.”

Each year on November 1, our single, online scholarship application goes live with completed applications due submitted online by February 15 the following year. Vocational scholarship awards range between \$500 – \$4,000 typically.

Visit <http://www.saginawfoundation.org/site/vocational-scholarships/> for more information.



Sabrina Beeman-Jackson

Saginaw ISD Head Start/Early Head Start
Program Director

About Saginaw ISD HE/EHS

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

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

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

women and their families.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Source: www.saginawheadstart.org

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

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

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

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Delta Professors Recognized with Excellence Award



courtesy photo

Two Delta College professors have been named recipients of a 2018 John & Suanne Roueche Excellence Award, which celebrates outstanding contributions and leadership by community college faculty and staff nationwide. Kevin Dehne, Associate Professor in Physics, and Bruce Kemmer, Associate Professor in Management, will be recognized at the League for Innovation in the Community College's Innovations Conference on February 25 in New York City.

The pair were nominated by Delta College President Dr. Jean Goodnow, with the final selection made by the League for Innovation in the Community College. The awards are named for John E. and Suanne D. Roueche, leaders in the community college field and early proponents of the idea that teachers have major responsibility for students' performance in the classroom.

Dehne is being honored for his work at expanding teaching beyond the classroom. Dehne, who teaches primarily astronomy and geology, is known for hosting night-

time sky observations on campus known as "Star Parties" and for taking students on stargazing trips to Lapeer and on rock hounding trips to the Upper Peninsula.

"The best part about this job is working with students, and anytime I can get them out of the classroom where they can learn hands-on, I am going to do it," said Dehne. "It provides a great opportunity to get to know them better, they get to know me better, and it creates a great learning environment."

Dehne has been a full-time professor at Delta for 19 years, and was an adjunct for four years before that. He is pleased to be named a recipient of the award and is excited for his first trip to New York.

"I'm humbled by this award, and I was surprised," he said. "But it's always nice to know someone appreciates what you're doing. Coming to Delta was one of the best decisions I ever made."

Kemmer, a 30-year Delta employee, is being recognized primarily for his

contributions to a program offering classes in the Michigan Department of Corrections with funding from a Pell grant. He teaches management and accounting classes to three cohorts of qualifying prisoners at the Saginaw Correctional Facility. Delta is one of three colleges in Michigan to have earned a grant to conduct such a program. The others are Mott Community College (Thumb Correctional Facility in Lapeer) and Jackson College (Jackson Correctional Institution). Kemmer said Delta may expand its program to the Alma Correctional Facility and possibly even to locations in the Upper Peninsula.

"I'm very proud of the program we've started," he said, noting that teaching on-site at a prison means going "old school" with no internet access or other conveniences found on campus. "The students are very motivated, and this is another way Delta can fulfill its mission and contribute to society. We've laid a good foundation, and I'm optimistic it will continue as long as there is funding."

Kemmer credits Goodnow, Dean of Career Education/Learning Partnership Ginny Przygocki, Vice President of Instruction/Learning Services Reva Curry and John Neal in the Admissions Department, as well as the staff at Saginaw Correctional Facility for the program's success.

Teaching at Delta has provided many memorable moments for Kemmer, and he is proud to be named a recipient of the Roueche Award.

"Delta has been a great place to teach," he said. "I'm at the point of my career it's nice to get an award like this. It's not something I ever set out to do or thought about, but when you work hard, it feels good to be recognized for that."

The League for Innovation in the Community College is an international nonprofit organization with a mission to cultivate innovation in the community college environment. The League serves as a catalyst for introducing and sustaining deep, transformational innovation within and across colleges and international borders to increase student success and institutional excellence.

COMMUNITY

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month



courtesy photo

LANSING, Mich.— During February’s Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is urging Michiganders to learn and recognize the signs of dating violence.

MDHHS also wants residents to understand the impact teen dating violence perpetrators have on their current or former intimate partners and recognize the importance of empowering everyone to learn about and seek support for victims and interventions for perpetrators. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has proclaimed February as Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month in Michigan.

Nearly 1.5 million high school students in the United States are physically abused by dating partners every year, yet only 33 percent

of teenage dating abuse victims disclose the abuse. Forty three percent of college women and 28 percent of college men report experiencing either abuse or controlling behaviors in a dating relationship.

“As a state, we must do more to reduce the prevalence of teen dating violence. The earlier we intervene with young perpetrators, the more likely we are to prevent future victimization,” said MDHHS Director Robert Gordon. “The State of Michigan is dedicated to holding perpetrators accountable and employing all necessary measures to reduce their risk and harm to victims.”

Dating violence perpetrators cause significant and long-lasting trauma to countless victims by intentionally using a pattern of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic coercion and abuse to control their

intimate partners.

“All Michiganders can play a part in ending teen dating violence,” said Debi Cain, executive director of the MDHHS Division of Victim Services. “As caring parents, family, friends, classmates, educators, coaches and co-workers, we can educate ourselves about this critical issue and direct youth to supportive services.”

Anyone in an abusive relationship who needs support can call the Teen Dating Abuse Helpline at 1-866-331-9474. Call: 1-866-331-9474 or text "loveis" to 22522. To find a local domestic violence or sexual assault program provider, visit the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual Violence website. Sexual assault survivors can call 855-VOICES4 for support and referrals.

Home: Living in the Great Lakes Bay Region

Hurley J. Coleman III. M.S.A., *Guest Contributor*



courtesy photo

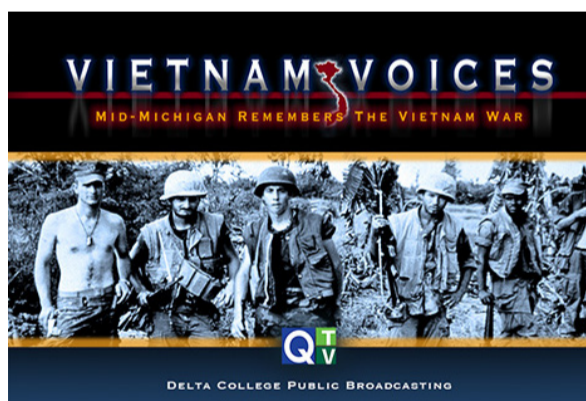
Living in Cincinnati, OH was an amazing experience. We were propelled in the mix of a vibrant metropolis filled with a wide array of cultural experiences. Living among working professionals who loved to spend time with their families; young millennials who enjoyed the night

life, and urban enthusiasts who found pleasure in the splendor of the sights and sounds of the city. For us, it was a time to get away and grow our family; mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. It was a break from our normal routine of serving in our ministries as well as building our community. Our careers were taking off, but there was one thing missing that our family was desperately lacking: A sense of community. We missed the random trips to Frankenmuth, or the ballgames in Midland to watch the Loons play baseball. We missed the weekend excursions to Bay City, or the fun days at Saginaw Children's Museum. We enjoyed our favorite family-owned restaurants, our community events we'd support, and church-related events. After being gone for nearly two years, we realized that Saginaw is a jewel. There is something special about this place that was worth coming back for. There was so much spirit and passion in what Saginaw represents that we didn't feel from the big city of Cincinnati.

Now that we're settled back in Saginaw, MI we are ready to do our part in making this region powerful, exciting, and vibrant. We're back to assist in the rebuilding of our youth, our young adults, and our communities by giving

back to the community that we love. My wife, Tanyika Coleman, will be working within the Covenant Healthcare system and also building her organization, Caterpillar2Butterfly (a young girls group) to help impact teens 13-19. I will be building my clientele and serving Mid-Michigan as a sales consultant at Garber Buick Saginaw. I'll return to my board activities with Rock the Island Festival and Rock the Schools. I am also hosting one of the largest conferences for musicians, singers, and pastors called The Levite Conference in June 2019 which will be held at my home church The World Outreach Campus. So yes, we are back! We are home! We're definitely ready to impart what we have learned into those in our community. This is a wonderful place to live if we all do our part to make it better. My father, Dr. Hurley J Coleman Jr., (World Outreach Campus) says this often, "We have the power to change the world – one life at a time." If we adapt this saying and hold ourselves accountable for making our city better, there is nothing that can be withheld from us making a true impact on the lives that dwell within this city. Let's be part of the change because this is our home. Let's build!

Q-TV Documentary Wins Broadcast Excellence Award



courtesy photo

"VIETNAM VOICES: Mid-Michigan Remembers the Vietnam War," a Q-TV production, has been awarded a 2018 Broadcast Excellence Award for Best in Category – Documentary by the Michigan Association of Broadcasters.

Bob Przybylski produced the documentary and will attend the awards ceremony at the MAB conference in Lansing on March 6.

"VIETNAM VOICES: Mid-Michigan Remembers the Vietnam War" features 31 local individuals who reflect back on their personal experiences during the volatile Vietnam War era. To explore topics such as the anti-war movement, the impact of television news coverage of the war, Agent Orange, PTSD, the Vietnam War Memorial and more, the documentary included 21 Vietnam War veterans, as well as anti-war protesters, family members, high school and college students who were eligible for the military draft and two Vietnamese immigrants who came to the United States after the war.

"The award is very meaningful to me as it is voted on by peers and it is nice to know your work is appreciated by others in the industry," said Przybylski, who has been in broadcasting for 28 years, including 15 at Q-TV, and has produced and directed nine feature documentaries on a variety of historical topics. "It is also gratifying that the participants were happy with the final program. This was a very emotional thing for them, and

for us, as some of them told us some things they haven't told anyone else. We wanted to do a good job so they would not regret that."

WDCQ – Delta College Public Broadcasting has been producing local documentaries since 2005 that have included such veteran orientated programs as World War II and the Korean War, along with many historical programs that focused on the regions lumbering history, railroads and early immigrants. This is the fifth documentary produced by Przybylski that has won a MAB Excellence Award.

For more information on "VIETNAM VOICES: Mid-Michigan Remembers the Vietnam War" contact Przybylski at WDCQ - Delta College Public Broadcasting at 989-686-9569 or email robertprzybylski@delta.edu.

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Sixth Annual Faster Pastor Race Set, Seeking Pastors

AUBURN, MICHIGAN - Tri-City Motor Speedway released the date for the six annual Faster Pastor race on August, 9 2019. The Faster Pastor Race is an annual fundraiser for area churches. Pastors affirm this is a unique team building opportunity that allows them to connect with people in their congregation in ways they have not been able to in the past.

Pastors may self-nominate to participate through March 31, 2019. Eleven Pastors will be selected to race for a charity of their choice. All charities will receive the amount of money each Pastor raises and the winner of the race will receive bragging rights and a six-foot trophy for the year. Since the inaugural race in 2014, over \$100,000 has been raised and donated from this event.

Erika Puvalowski, Tri-City Motor Speedway Marketing & Business Development Director, said "The Faster Pastor race is one of our favorite events to host. You can smell the adrenaline in the air between all of the excited fans and church members cheering on their Pastor. It's great to see all the screaming fans as the Pastors get out of the race cars with a huge smile on their face. It's one of those scenes you don't get to experience very often."

There is a \$50 entrance fee for each Pastor to participate which covers all expenses associated with the race including: race car rental, driving suit, helmet, fuel, practice passes and safety equipment.

Those interested in learning more can do so by visiting www.tricityracetrack.com/community-outreach.

Contact:
Steve Puvalowski, CEO/Promoter
(989) 316-6804

2019 These Men Can Cook



wildfire 
credit union

Get ready!! It is time to mark your calendar for the premier cooking event of the year.....These Men Can Cook! Due to some scheduling issues, we have had to change the date for this fun-filled event. Be sure to mark your calendar now and plan to participate. If you have participated in the past you already know what a great time everyone has. If you haven't, get prepared for fun in the kitchen and fun during the event. Now is the time to start planning your recipe, saving the date and telling your family and friends.

EVENT DETAILS

Date: Thursday, April 11, 2019
Place: Apple Mountain Conference Center
Time: 5:30 p.m. Cocktails and Conversation
6:00 p.m. Parade of Chefs
6:15 p.m. Food Tasting and Festivities
7:45 p.m. Announcement of 2019 Winners

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

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

If you are interested in being involved, simply fill out the form to register as a chef. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to:

Michelle LeBlanc, Chairperson at mleblanc@wildfirecu.org or call 989-249-8288 or Kayla Eisenlord, Co-Chair at marketing@saginawbayorchestra.com or call 989-755-6471

Empowered to take the lead: Annual Multicultural Student Leadership Conference provides tools, resources for leaders



Students from many campus organizations collaborate and share ideas at the conference

Great leaders know there's always something new to learn about leadership.

Lexi Del Toro, a therapeutic recreation major at Central Michigan University, always felt like a leader, but often felt she was missing out on tools and resources that could make her more effective. That's why she joined dozens of other students at this year's Multicultural Student Leadership Conference.

Raising a hand to help

Del Toro came to CMU from a small, tight-knit Puerto Rican community in urban Chicago, where she attended a small, newly opened school for the arts. Opportunities for extracurricular activities were limited, so her only chance to explore leadership came during summer at a Boy's and Girl's Club camp.

"Most of my experience came from realizing that something needed to be done, and someone needed to do it. Taking charge seemed to come naturally to me," Del Toro said.

She helped plan activities for younger participants, including the annual awards ceremony, and eventually became a counselor-in-training and the director of waterfront activities. She felt called to help others and to serve as a role model for younger campers. To pursue that calling, she applied to CMU.

A cultural community at CMU

Del Toro is a first-generation college student and the first in her family to attend school out of state. She worried she'd never find a community on campus.

"I was very shy, and I didn't know how to get involved," she said. It wasn't until a pair of

older students invited her to attend a meeting of the Empowered Latino Union that she began to feel at home on campus. Soon, she found herself plugging in with other registered student organizations and campus activities, such as the Women's Initiative for Strength and Hope, and attending a conference hosted by the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities.

The experiences inspired her to seek out opportunities for leadership within her cultural heritage community.

"Innovate, Integrate, Motivate"

CMU's 2019 Multicultural Student Leadership Conference was Del Toro's first opportunity to sit down with and learn from other student leaders at CMU.

"I'd never had a formal, structured conversation about leadership and what it takes to be a leader, and this conference was very helpful. There was this incredible energy — a willingness of students to improve themselves as leaders and a willingness of everyone in the room to support each other," she said.

Sydney Reed, a senior integrative public relations major, and Cyrus Stewart, a graduate student in

the educational leadership program, served on the conference planning committee. Their goal was to give students more than advice on how to lead — they wanted to provide actionable steps.

"The theme — 'innovate, integrate, motivate — challenge accepted' — is all about sparking new ideas, finding ways to use those ideas effectively on campus, making a plan and taking action, and influencing others to do the same," Reed said.

Since everyone comes to CMU with different levels of leadership exposure, Stewart said the planning committee developed several pathways within the conference to ensure everyone walked away with something.

"Everyone has the ability to grow as a leader, whether they've been leaders on campus for several years or they're having their first conversation about leadership," he said.

A purpose-driven path

Del Toro said she left the conference with several tools, such as goal worksheets and charts, and also a sense of purpose.

"The first workshop I attended sparked the question: Why should I lead? For me, the answer is to pave the way for the students who will come after us. I want to bring people together and show them they belong at CMU," she said.

She plans to use what she has learned in her new roles as an IMPACT mentor and an ambassador for the College of Education and Human Services. She's also working with CMU's TRIO Upward Bound LatinX Conexión project to do outreach in Detroit-area high schools.

"When this new generation of students sees me — someone who looks like them and who has the same kind of story — I hope they'll know it's feasible for them to be in college, succeed and make a difference," she said.



During a reflection period, Lexi Del Toro, center, shares her goals for the upcoming year

Volunteer judges needed for student 'Shark Tank' competition



courtesy photo

Starting in mid-March, YouthQuest students participating in YQ Biz will begin sharing their business plans in hopes of being one of 32 teams selected for the business expo in May.

Over the last few months, these “youthpreneurs” have been learning about creating business plans, developing prototypes and practicing their pitches, which they will deliver before a “Shark Tank”-style judging panel next month.

Each panel will consist of three local professionals who will be given grade-specific rubrics to evaluate each business. After these evaluations are tallied, the two top-scoring businesses from each site will be awarded funding to move forward with their business plans and sell their products during the 2nd Annual YQ Biz Expo, to be held May 4 at the Flint Farmers' Market.

Interested in showing your support? You can sign up to be a volunteer judge by sending your availability to Amy Watts (awatts@flintandgenesees.org) for the following dates:

- **Monday, March 11**
- **Tuesday, March 12**
- **Wednesday, March 13**
- **Thursday, March 14**
- **Monday, March 18**
- **Tuesday, March 19**
- **Wednesday, March 20**
- **Monday, April 1**

Volunteer judges should plan to set aside about two hours for the experience, which will likely begin sometime between 4 to 6:30 p.m.

Explore Goodridge brothers' photographs of Saginaw in Castle Museum exhibition



courtesy photo



excellent school system, first-class water and sewer system and exceptional public service department.”

While formal portraits were the mainstay of this pioneering African American photography studio, Trombley said the Goodridge brothers' found innovative ways to document the vivacity of Saginaw's community and its rise as a lumber region and industrial center.

The Goodridges' Art Souvenir of Saginaw, Michigan U.S.A. 1902: A Portrait of the City will be open Feb. 19 through May 19.

The Castle Museum will host a special preview opening Monday, Feb. 18 from 5 – 7 p.m. for members of the Historical Society of Saginaw County. Media members are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information about this exhibit, please call 989-752-2861 or visit www.castlemuseum.org.

SAGINAW, Mich. –Ever wondered what Saginaw was like in the early 1900s? Visitors at the Castle Museum will have the opportunity to explore the city through photographs in a new exhibit titled The Goodridges' Art Souvenir of Saginaw, Michigan U.S.A. 1902: A Portrait of the City.

Opening Tuesday, Feb. 19, this exhibit focuses on Saginaw's Goodridge brothers' 27-page book that features over 100 photographs of public buildings, businesses and homes.

“Although the book was small in format, its images uniquely transport viewers back in time,” said Vice President and Chief Historian Tom Trombley. “It described the city's

Collaborative Planning Effort, ‘Forward Together’, Launches in Flint and Genesee County



courtesy photo

Process seeks to establish a shared vision of economic prosperity for Flint and Genesee County

Forward Together – an ambitious process to establish a shared vision for Flint and Genesee County’s future – kicked-off on Tuesday, Feb. 19, with the first convening of the 24-member Steering Committee. The process is backed through a unique partnership between the City of Flint, Genesee County, and the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce.

The Steering Committee will guide the process and is made up of individuals representing a diverse set of professions, businesses and organizations from across the County. This group is expected to meet several times throughout the eight-month planning process and will work closely with the planning team to share insights and perspective that will contribute to the final plan.

“Several challenges have hindered the County’s positive momentum, but a lot can be accomplished when we work together

to move the community forward; and the Chamber is excited to be a part of this ambitious process.”

- Tim Herman, Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce CEO

The collaborating entities (including the City of Flint, Genesee County, and the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce) initiated the process to create a county-wide vision for economic vitality. The process will be facilitated with the support of a consulting team including Planning NEXT of Columbus, Ohio and Ninigret Partners of Providence, Rhode Island. This effort is intended to establish a common vision for guiding the County forward and will focus on promoting systematic and long-term change in such a way that existing institutions (government, civic groups, non-profits, etc.) can be more responsive to the community’s needs and aspirations.

“With our challenges and potential in mind, now is an important time for county-wide collaboration to address economic concerns and build upon our assets.”

- Mayor Karen Weaver, City of Flint

“The most important element of the Economic Vitality Plan is the development of a community-owned vision that will begin to guide our economic development efforts ensuring that our future is not left to chance.”

- Ted Henry, Chair, Genesee County Board of Commissioners

During its first session, the Steering Committee committed to an open process and will invite the public to contribute their ideas and feedback. The Committee emphasized the need for the county-wide vision to represent the voice of the full community. To ensure these voices are heard, two public engagement sessions will be facilitated during the process. The first of these workshops will focus on defining the community’s vision for economic prosperity. The planning team will use this valuable feedback to craft a draft plan that will then be tested through additional engagement activities. The input will serve as the foundation for the community’s vision statement, contribute to the plan’s goals, inspire actions, and set the course for implementation. The plan is set to be completed in the third quarter of 2019.

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989-752-1660

Samaritas Community Center

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www.saginawlibrary.org

Restoration Community Outreach

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989-753-1886 / fax 989-753-2880
rcosag@yahoo.com

Saginaw County Business & Education Partnership

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Saginaw, MI 48601
989-399-0016

Saginaw County Community Action Agency, Inc. (CAC)

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

The Michigan Banner Outreach Ministries

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Saginaw, MI 48607
989-992-2600

The Saginaw Community Foundation

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989-755-0545

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



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989-755-7011

Bread of Life Harvest Center
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Pastor Genevieve Benson
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Saginaw, MI 48601
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989-754-4435
PastorD818@gmail.com

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Saginaw, MI 48602
989-799-4200
www.faithharvestministry.org
office@faithharvestministry.org

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Saginaw, MI 48601
989-755-3212

Greater Renaissance
Pastor Cedric R. Cheatham
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Saginaw, MI 48601
989-752-1455
260-515-6456

Greater Williams Temple
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Saginaw, MI 48601
989-755-5291



Jacob's Ladder
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Saginaw, MI 48602
989-799-6601

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

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



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



New Beginnings Life Changing Ministries
Pastor Otis Dickens
2312 S. Washington Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-755-3650



New Birth Missionary Baptist
Pastor Larry D. Camel
3121 Sheridan
Saginaw, Michigan
989-327-1755



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

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church
Rev. Dr. Willie F. Casey
1721 Tuscola Street
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-753-7600



New Life Baptist Church
Pastor Rufus Bradley
1401 Janes St.
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-753-1151

New Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
Pastor Alfred "AJ" Harris Jr.
3610 Russel St.
Saginaw, MI 48601
989-754-0801

New Way Ministries
Pastor Dwight & Princess Dobbins
29200 Shiawassee St.
Farmington Hills, MI 48336
(248) 987-2434
www.thenewwayministry.org



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Assistant Pastor Rex Jones
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Saginaw, MI 48601
989-752-7366

Prince of Peace Baptist Church
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Saginaw, MI 48601
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Pastor Robert C. Corley Jr.

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Pastor Carl Ballard
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Saginaw, MI 48607
Phone: 989-754-0489
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989-752-0751

Victorious Belivers Ministries Church
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Saginaw, MI
989-755-7692

Wolverine State Baptist Church
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Saginaw, MI 48607

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POLITICS & PUBLIC POLICY

Gov. Whitmer's "Home for Opportunity" tour swings through Flint & Genesee



courtesy photo

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer stopped by the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce to learn more about what's happening in our region, as part of her "Home for Opportunity" tour across east Michigan.

Whitmer, who spent much of the meeting talking about the importance of higher education and its relationship to the continued economic growth of Michigan, discussed her aggressive goal for boosting post-secondary education attainment in the state. As of 2016, only 44 percent of residents had a higher-education credential. She wants 60 percent of Michiganders to have a post-secondary degree or skills certification by 2030.

To achieve this goal, Whitmer announced three pathways for residents.

Michigan Reconnect: For Michiganders 25 and older looking to take the next step in their careers and displaced workers trying to re-enter the workforce. The tuition-free program will train adults seeking an in-demand industry certificate or associate's degree. Modeled after a similar program in Tennessee launched last year, Michigan Reconnect will also connect businesses to qualified candidates for the growing numbers of jobs that are unfilled.

MI Opportunity Scholarship (Pathway I): For graduating high school students looking to continue education but not at a four-year institution. The program will offer two years of debt-free community college for all high school students who qualify. This scholarship will launch this spring and be available for students in fall 2020.

MI Opportunity Scholarship (Pathway II): For graduating high school seniors who are continuing post-secondary education at four-year college or university. The average cost of tuition is \$22,000 a year in Michigan – the 10th highest in the nation. The MI Opportunity Scholarship will provide two years of tuition assistance at a four-year, not-for-profit institution for seniors who graduate from a Michigan high school with at least a cumulative GPA 3.0.

Representing the Chamber were: CEO Tim Herman; COO Kristina Johnston; Group Vice President DeAndra McCain; Tyler Rossmassler, director of Economic Development; and Adrian Walker, director of Government Affairs and Community Relations. Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich, D-Flint, was also present.

The Michigan Banner salutes Saginaw's mayors

By Mike Thompson

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

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

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

But first, some history:

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

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

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

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

Therefore, most of the earlier mayors were basically ceremonial figures, businessmen who

would cut ribbons at community events and give annual New Year's toasts at the Saginaw Club.

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

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

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

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

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

them arrived the second black mayor, Joe Stephens (1977-79), a retired city police officer who was among the first advocates to racially integrate the department more fully.

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

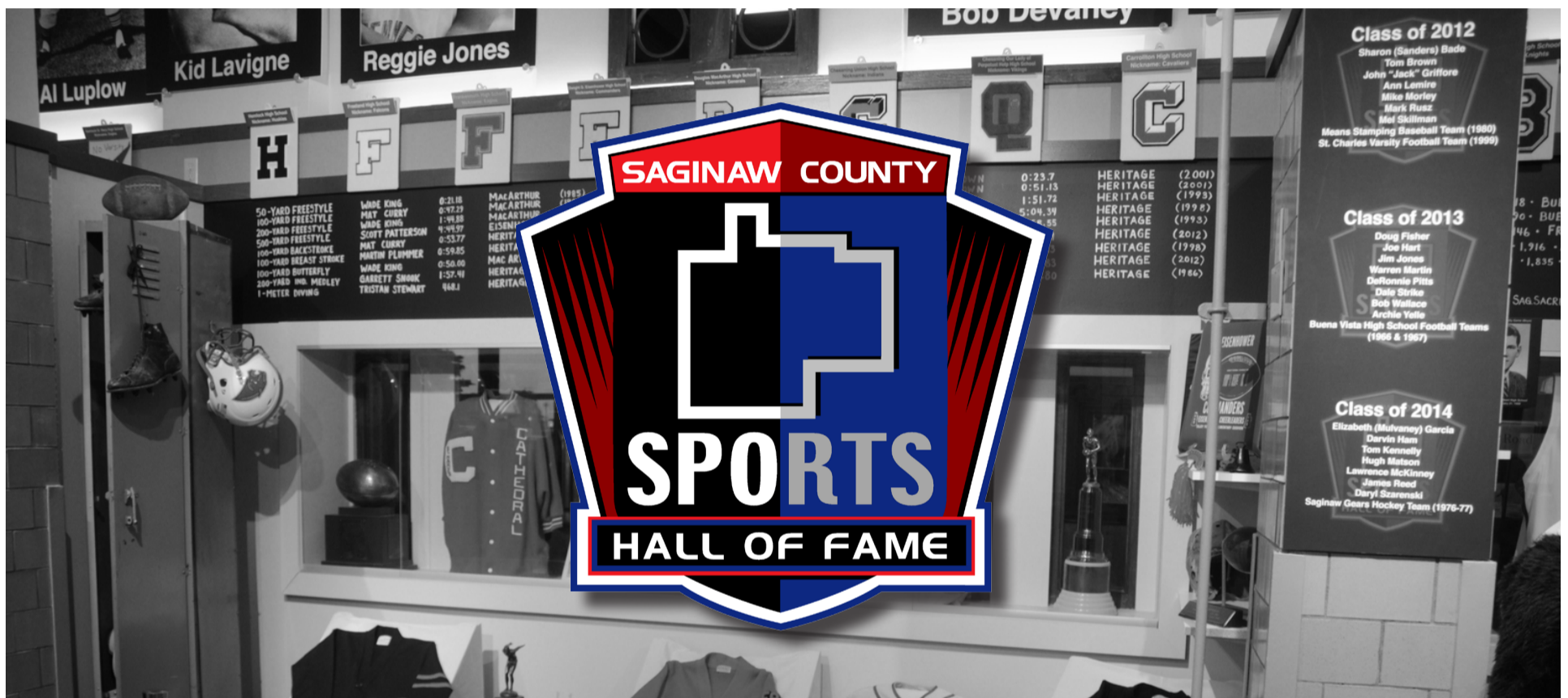
Lawrence D. Crawford (1983-87) was the mayor during the first years of the transition. He tried to orchestrate racial outreach to fearful whites, such as establishing Andersen Enrichment Center at the swimming pool's old bathhouse, and adding West Side federal block grant zones. Still, there was backlash.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

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

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

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

SPORTS

Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame Mails
2019 Hall of Fame Ballot

courtesy photo

Ballots for the Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame's Class of 2019 have been mailed to the 1,200-plus lifetime voting membership.

Voters will cast ballots in five separate categories – Interscholastic Athletes, Coaches, Contributors, Teams, and new this year – Veterans.

“Our selection committee wanted to make sure that athletes from 50 years ago and beyond will be represented and not forgotten,” said Jack Tany, Hall of Fame president. “They’ve played an important part in Saginaw County sports history.”

Voters will select one person in the Veterans category. Larry Day (swimming), Bob Kolbe (multi-sports), Charlie Markey (football),

Bob Sanders (bowling) and Thelvius “Bope” Winieckie (football) make up the Veterans Category.

In the Interscholastic/Professional Athletes category, voters will choose four athletes from the likes of Stacy Delaney (softball), Matt Hoffman (hockey), Greg Housner (baseball), George Kubiak (basketball), Jenni Rasmussen (softball), Brad Redford (basketball), Jenny Ryan (basketball) and Blair White (football).

One coach will be selected from Claudette Charney (basketball), Jack Guttowsky (baseball), Steve Jakska (baseball), Ralph Munger (football) and Bob Quinn (tennis). Making up the Contributors category is Helen Fry (gymnastics), Hogey Holtz (athletic official), Stanley Krajkowski (booster), John

Pozenel (sports writer) and Ron Schauman (benefactor).

Teams on the ballot include the Douglas MacArthur state champion softball team (1981), Frankenmuth girls state champion basketball teams (1992 & 1996), Freeland state champion gymnastic teams (1983 & 1985), Nouvel Catholic Central state champion football teams (2006 & 2007) and St. Stephen's state champion golf teams (1982 & 1983).

Ballots must be postmarked by March 20, 2019. The results will be announced at a press conference at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, April 17, 2019, at the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History, 500 Federal Avenue in Saginaw.

2019 Loons Promotions Schedule is Here!

All the fun things we have planned for the 13th season of Loons baseball

MIDLAND, Mich. - While there's still over a month to go before teams across Minor League Baseball return to the field on April 4th, 2019, preparations for a jam-packed promotional schedule for the upcoming Great Lakes Loons season are complete!

The team starts their quest for a second Midwest League Championship on the road against the Lake County Captains on Thursday, April 4th. The fun in Midland begins two days later!

We kick off things off with our Opening Day Celebration against the Captains on Saturday, April 6th at 4:05 p.m. The first 1,000 fans will receive a Magnet Schedule, presented by Farm Bureau Insurance. But, that's just the tip of the iceberg.

We've outlined all of our plans for what we think is going to be the best season of fun, family-friendly entertainment and giveaways we've ever put together. We're taking things to the next level this year!

You've already heard about our Celebrity Series presented by MidMichigan Health with five actors and entertainers visiting Midland this summer. The ticket package that offers you a commemorative series card and guarantees autographs during all five games is on sale now. You've also seen news about some of our specialty jerseys we'll be wearing in 2019 and the new weekly specials we have planned for every day of the week.

Everyone loves the Fireworks Loontaculars following some of our biggest nights of the season. This year, 13 shows in all will light up the skies above the outfield grass including three in June, four in July and five in August.

With all that fun in the pipeline, there's still so much more we want to share with you! Below, you'll find the nine live music acts we have planned for Feel Good Fridays presented by Midland Center for the Arts, the 12 days of giveaways we're offering throughout the season, the 12 different themes we have slotted for 14 days beginning in June, four different national entertainment acts, and over 20 other dates you should look at to see if you should make a note on your personal calendar!

Celebrity Series presented by MidMichigan Health

June 7: Parks & Recreation Night, appearance by Jim O'Heir (Jerry Gergich)
June 15: Home Improvement Night pres. the Maytag Store, app. Richard Karn (Al Borland)
July 6: Field of Dreams Night, appearance by Dwier Brown (John Kinsella)
August 8: Performances by world-renowned pop violinist Daniel Davis
August 23: The Office Night, appearance by Brian Baumgartner (Kevin Malone)

Specialty Jerseys (6)

May 27: Military Appreciation on Memorial Day
June 16: Prostate Cancer Awareness Day presented by

the P.C.U.P.S. Foundation
July 3: Independence Day Celebration
July 6: Dodgers-inspired Field of Dreams
August 10: Star Wars Night
August 29: Hockey Night with the Saginaw Spirit

Weekly Promotions

Mondays: Military Mondays where all current & former military members eat for free
Tuesdays: Two-fer Tuesdays with "buy two, get one" options each night
Wednesdays: Hump Day Happy Hour with \$3 select domestic drafts & Great Lakes Camels
Thursdays: \$1 Family Feast Night presented by Chemical Bank
Fridays: Feel Good Fridays presented by Midland Center for the Arts
Saturdays: Celebration Saturdays is all the greatness of a Loons game rolled into one
Sundays: Kids Eat Free presented by Soaring Eagle Waterpark & Hotel
Sundays: Kids Run the Bases presented by Farm Bureau Insurance

Feel Good Fridays presented by Midland Center for the Arts (9)

May 24: Jack Droppers and The Best Intentions
June 7: Steppes
June 14: Valentiger
June 21: The Steve Drzewicki Band
July 19: Live DJ with a postgame salsa dance party
August 2: The Leaky Tikis Jimmy Buffet Tribute Band
August 9: The 25 Cent Beer Band
August 23: Jedi Mind Trip
August 30: The Gasoline Gypsies

Giveaways (12)

April 6: Magnet Schedule
May 4: Rall E. Camel Poster
May 24: Postgame Koozie for Feel Good Friday Kickoff
May 25: 3 Millionth Fan \$5,000 Grand Prize
June 4: Doggie Bandana (dogs only)
June 23: Team Photo
July 18: Winter Beanie
July 30: Doggie Bandana (dogs only)
August 1: Team Magnet Frame
August 18: Lunch Box presented by SVSU
August 21: Camels Bottle Opener Coaster
August 30: Loons Hat

Theme Nights (12)

June 4 & July 30: Bark in the Park pres. the Humane Society of Midland County feat. Tito's Handmade Vodka
June 20 & August 22: Lucky Hot Dog Night
June 21: Polish Heritage Night
July 7: Feats of Awesomeness Day
July 8: Outdoors Night with Mike Avery
July 18: Christmas in July
July 19: Latino Night presented by Coco Loco Mexican Grill & Bar
August 1: House Divided Night
August 2: Margaritaville Night

August 9: Country Western Night
August 10: Star Wars Night featuring Star Wars Characters
August 17: Fairy Tale Kingdom Night featuring princesses

Entertainment (4)

June 20: X-Pogo Stunt Team
June 22: BirdZerk
July 7: Tyler's Amazing Balancing Act
July 20: ZOOperstars!

Important Dates (23)

April 11: Lou E's Birthday Bash
April 20: Easter Egg Drop
May 3: Summer Camps presented by Greater Midland & Adults Run the Bases
May 4: Mother's Day Gift Workshop presented by Kristin and Company
May 5 & June 9: Pregame Youth Clinics presented by Farm Bureau Insurance
May 5: Cinco de Mayo Fiesta
May 26: Kids Club Takeover: Inflatables Day presented by MidMichigan Health
June 8: Breast Cancer Awareness Pink out the Park
June 9: Kids Club Takeover: Mascot Madness presented by MidMichigan Health
June 14: Pride Night presented by GLAD
June 16: Blue out the Park & Father's Day Catch on the Field
June 21: Teacher Appreciation
June 22: Soccer Night
July 7: Derby of Dreams presented by Miller Lite
July 17: Grand Slam Game presented by Feeny Chrysler Dodge Jeep RAM of Midland
July 21: Inclusion Day pres. Corteva Agriscience™ Michigan & its LGBT Resource Group
July 22: Skip Work Day
July 31 & August 28: Loons Bingo Night
August 11: Kids Club Takeover: Sundaes on Sunday presented by MidMichigan Health
August 19: Postgame Vets Run the Bases
August 22: Michigander Night & Youth Athletics Night presented by Greater Midland
August 23: Loons Pennant Race presented by Greater Midland

But that's not all! Fellowship Nights return for this year and are presented by Thrivent Financial. Those will be held on June 15, July 18, August 17 and August 29.

The ballpark will also open up to the next generation of baseball fans for School Kids Days on May 2, May 15 and June 5. Games will start at 10:35 a.m. on those days.

Single game tickets for the 2019 season go on sale March 4th. Season ticket packages and mini-plans are on sale now!

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BLACK HISTORY PICS OF THE WEEK

Louise McKinnie, Owner of Reflections-Of-U Hair Salon is pictured below. McKinnie, a 1967 graduate of Saginaw High School, is a licensed cosmetologist instructor and has owned her salon for 31 years.





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- Cameron Brady, HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, Executive Director



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