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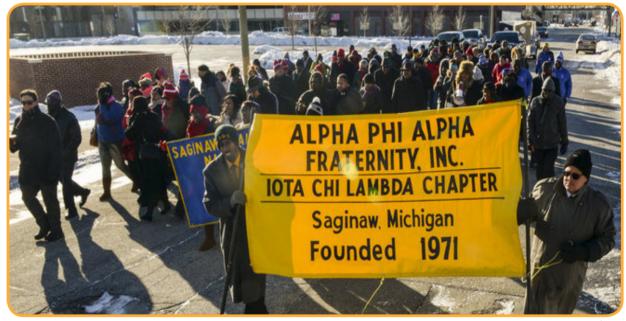


JOHN NEAL TO RECEIVE DELTA COLLEGE 2019 SPIRIT OF MLK AWARD

Community, pg 34



Groups hosting 23rd annual Martin Luther King Jr. Unity March and Luncheon



courtesy photo

Iota Chi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. in partnership with Delta College Black Faculty and Staff is hosting the 23rd Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Unity March and Luncheon on Monday, Jan. 21 at The Dow Event Center, 303 Johnson St., Saginaw.

The theme for this year's celebration is "Vision 2019: Keeping the Dream Alive."

The celebration will begin with a Unity March at 10 a.m. at Franklin Street and Hayden Street in Saginaw (there is a parking lot at this corner). Participants will march on Franklin Street to The Dow Event Center. it will conclude at The Dow Event Center

around 10:30 am. Attendees typically include local K-12 and college students, staff and administrators; local politicians; law enforcement; civic organizations; churches; and the general public.

The 23rd Annual "Unity Luncheon" will begin at 11 a.m. with the presentation of colors by the National Guard Armory 1st Battalion 125th Infantry Regiment – Saginaw, MI "Color Guards." The keynote speaker for the luncheon is the Brother Isaiah Oliver, president and CEO of the Community Foundation Greater Flint.

Continued on pg 41, MLK Unity March

Greetings Fellow Citizens,

I write this letter to the good people of Saginaw Michigan on the eve of the new year 2019, to congratulate you on a bright future. Hopefully you are planning first, to pay respect to how far you have come by commemorating the 400 years since the first enslaved Africans were brought to North America in 1619. Might I remind you that 182 years ago at the age of 18 on the eve of the year 1836, I found myself in bondage and facing the probability that I might be a slave for life. On that New Years Day, I penned these words as part of a note to myself.

"When the mind naturally occupies itself with the mysteries of life in all its phases—the ideal, the real, and the actual. Sober people look both ways at the beginning of a new year, surveying the errors of the past, and taking precaution against the possible errors of the future. Notwithstanding the many resolutions and prayers I have made in behalf of freedom, I am, this first day of the year 1836, still a slave, still wandering in the depths of a miserable bondage."

How then you ask, was I able in less than two years to find my way out of that bondage? Accordingly, at the beginning of that year 1836, I took upon me a solemn vow, that the year which had just now dawned should not close without witnessing an earnest attempt, on my part, to gain my liberty. My first attempt to escape was foiled by a fellow slave (accomplice turned traitor) more loyal to his master than to himself. On my next attempt, I trusted only myself, my future wife Anna Murry, and the Good Grace of divine intervention. On September 3rd 1838, my career as a slave

was over. I prayed for freedom for twenty years, but received no answer, until I prayed with my legs.

And so the lesson is to the good people of Saginaw; faith without works is dead." Whatever you put your minds and hearts to, likewise use every part of your anatomy. In your New Year's resolution to re-imagine a greater Saginaw, commit your whole being (mind, body and soul) to the cause of freedom, liberty and justice for all. Only then will you realize the great inheritance of this highly favored country. Have a happy and prosperous New Year!

Your Friend for Life and Liberty, Frederick Douglass - Abolitionist Nathan M. Richardson - Understudy



courtesy photo



THE MICHIGAN BANNER

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MISSION

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

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DEADLINES

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

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

Mailed or e-mailed Preferred format: Jpeg or PDF

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As we enter into the New Year, we find ourselves reflecting on the past year and those who have helped to shape our publication.

It's been quite a year for us and we are thankful for the continued support from our loyal readers, partners and sponsors! We hope that 2018 has been just as memorable for you, your colleagues and your loved ones.

In 2019, we look forward to continuing our mission of

providing the Great Lakes Bay Region with positive news outlet that reflects our diverse community.

Thank you again for a great year, and we wish you all the best as you embark on 2019.

Jerome Buckley, Publisher of The Michigan Banner

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HEART OF GOLD HONOREES

On Friday, March 8th at 5:30pm, The Michigan Banner will host the **Heart of Gold Publisher's Ball** & Fundraiser at Horizon's Conference Center in Saginaw. The black tie event will pay tribute to past Saginaw Mayors, Local Trailblazers and Businesses who have impacted the Great Lakes Bay Region. The following Individuals and Businesss will be recognized:

PAST MAYORS

Maurice E. Brown R. James Harvey R. Dewey Stearns Henry G. Marsh Warren C. Light Paul H. Wendler William F. Nelson, Jr. Raymond M. Tortora **Joe Stephens** Paul P. Prudhomme

April 11, 1955 - April 8, 1957 April 8, 1957 - April 13, 1959 April 13, 1959 - April 10, 1961 **G. Stewart Francke** April 10, 1961 - April 12, 1965 James W. Stenglein April 12, 1965 - April 10, 1967 April 10, 1967 - April 14, 1969 April 14, 1969 - April 12, 1971 April 12, 1971 - Nov 13, 1973 Nov 13, 1973 - Nov 10, 1975 Nov 10, 1975 - Nov 14, 1977 Nov 14, 1977 - Nov 12, 1979

Dec 10, 1979 - Nov 9, 1981

Ronald M. Bushey **Delbert J. Schrems** Henry H. Nickelberry Gary L. Loster Wilmer Jones Ham **Carol B. Cottrell** Joyce J. Seals **Greg Branch Dennis Browning** Floyd Kloc

Nov 9, 1981 - Nov 14, 1983 **Lawrence D. Crawford** Nov 14, 1983 - Nov 9, 1987 Nov 9, 1987 - Nov 13, 1989 Nov 13, 1989 - Nov 8, 1993 Nov 8, 1993 - Nov 12, 2001 Nov 12, 2001 - Nov 14, 2005 Nov 14, 2005 - Nov 12, 2007 Nov 12, 2007 - Nov 9, 2009 Nov 9, 2009 - Nov 11, 2013 Nov 11, 2013 - Nov 26, 2018 Nov 26, 2018 - Current

LOCAL TRAILBLAZERS

Richard "Dick" Garber David M. Hall **Teresa Stitt Dr. Eric Gilbertson Dr. Jean Goodnow Dr. Nurame Austin Thomas Trombley** Dr. Linda Holoman Mitchell & Dorothy Nickleberry Pastor Hurley Coleman Jr. Joyce Harvin

Terry Pruitt Rosa Morales Odail Thorns Jr. **Jack Tany** Veronica Horn Sharon Floyd **Christina Jones JoAnn Crary** Judge M.T. Thompson Ret **Judge Terry Clark Herb Spence III**

William Ketchum **Bobby Deleon Larry Rodarte Amos O'Neal Norman Braddock David Gamez Angelia Williams** Karen Lawrence Webster

Carl Williams (Former State Rep) Stacy Erwin Oakes, Esq. (Former State Rep)

LOCAL BUSINESSES

Dawn of a New Day

Rite Spot

Duperon Corporation

Hausbeck Pickle Co

Vargas & Sons Tortillas





DATE **EVENT** TIME 4:00 - 7:00 pm Saturday, January 19 Night Skate sponsored by Catholic Federal Credit Union & Kiss 107.1 Saturday, January 26 Skate with SVSU Hockey Team 12:00 - 4:00 pm sponsored by Catholic Federal Credit Union Saturday, February 2 **Skate with the Mascots** 12:00 - 4:00 pm sponsored by Dow, My 96.1 and WIOG Saturday, February 9 12:00 - 4:00 pm School Skate Wear your school colors Saturday, February 16 12:00 - 4:00 pm Skate & Sledding 6th Annual Outhouse Race -Start Time 1:00 pm sponsored by 97.3 JOE FM

Warming House Open! FREE Hot Chocolate & Cookies













For more information contact Positive Results Downtown at (989) 753-9168, Friends of Hoyt Park Facebook Page or Larry at (989) 284-0945

Find and like our Bringing Back the Ice Facebook Page



Posters courtesy of: Dornbos Printing Impressions (989) 755-2116





Lutheran Social Services of Michigan is now...



SAMARITAS IS HONORED TO BE PART OF THE SAGINAW & GREAT LAKES BAY REGION FOR MORE THAN 70 YEARS.

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Through our Foster Care programs, Samaritas helped **155** children find loving homes while their parents regained stability in their lives

52 families individuals and seniors found home sweet home through our Affordable Living and Persons with Disabilities services throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region

Together, let's continue to Lift up Saginaw – one child, one family, one neighborhood at a time!

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



ATINO BANNER

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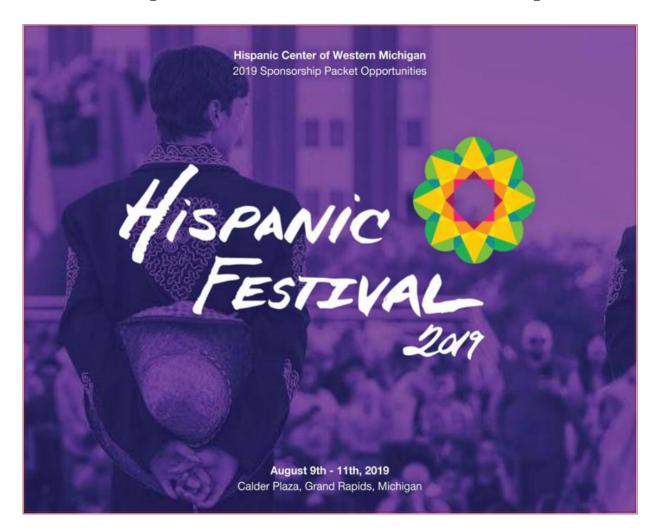


Latina legislators make history in Congress

LB Pg. 4



Sponsorship Opportunies available for 2019 Hispanic Festival in Grand Rapids



Sponsorship opportunities for the 2019 Hispanic Festival (August 9th-11th, 2019) are now available.

If you have an interest in participating, please contact Daniela Rojas-Cortes drojascortes@hsipanic-center.org (616) 246-0571

All music/band inquiries should be made to the Festival Chair, Cesar Gonzales cgonzalez@MercBank.com (616) 560-8293

For more information, please visit https://hispanic-center.org/festival/

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!



Tercer Jueves Business Networking Event



2019 marks MHCC's 30th year of success representing the economic interests of growing Hispanic Business Enterprises in Michigan

Please join us for our first TERCER JUEVES business networking of 2019 for an evening that offers valuable networking and a business development forum sponsored by Pure Michigan Business Connect (PMBC).

PMBC connects Michigan goods and service suppliers with all levels of corporate purchasers at no cost to them. PMBC also supports international companies looking for joint ventures or R&D partnerships with qualified Michigan partners.

PMBC will present an overview of their programs and resources available to small businesses and will give you the opportunity to engage with PMBC's subject matter experts to support the growth of your business.

As a resource to members, we invite you to create a company profile in the "PMBC Community" in order to register for this event. If you already have a PMBC account, you will need to sign in to complete your registration. If you are setting up an account for the first time, you will be prompted to submit basic company information to build your profile, allowing you to register to attend the

Tercer Jueves event on January 24th. By creating a company profile and joining the PMBC Community, you will be able to take advantage of a variety of opportunities communicated through this B2B platform! Some of these opportunities include matchmaking events, connecting with other businesses, learning about purchasing needs from buyers looking to support Michigan companies, and more! More information about the benefits of the PMBC Community will be discussed at the event.

If you have questions about registration or creating an account, please contact Katy Till at tillk1@michigan.org.

Te esperamos!

Latina legislators make history in Congress



twitter

The youngest woman ever elected to Congress, first South American and first two Latinas from Texas: With their inauguration on Thursday, a group of Hispanic women made history in the 116th Congress.

Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., enters the Congress as its youngest woman elected and its current youngest member. Ocasio-Corterz, 29, of Puerto Rican descent, beat a veteran Democratic incumbent in the primaries with a grassroots campaign focusing on progressive policies such as "Medicare for all" as well as free higher education or trade school for all. She has publicly said she will oppose her own party's rules against deficit spending if it takes money away from areas such as health care.

On Wednesday, Ocasio-Cortez tweeted out a picture of her and other incoming women legislators with the phrase "Si, se puede," (Yes, we can), the words that were coined by labor activist and United Farm Workers co-founder Dolores Huerta and then immortalized by President Barack Obama during his campaign.

Another women in the picture is Rep. Veronica Escobar, D-Texas, one of two Latinas who are the first to represent Texas in Congress.

Escobar takes the place of Beto O'Rourke, also a Democrat, in representing Texas' 16th Congressional District, which includes the heavily Latino border area of El Paso. She was previously a county commissioner and county judge.

On Twitter, Escobar took on Trump's insistence on \$5 billion for a border wall — which has led to the current government shutdown — by writing that "the border has never been more secure" and "immigration is lower today than it was a decade ago." Escobar instead argued for the need to work with Central American countries to address the root causes of migration.

Escobar has also pledged to expand access to health care — Texas blocked expanding Medicaid access and other mechanisms under Obama's Affordable Care Act — as well as improving veterans' services.

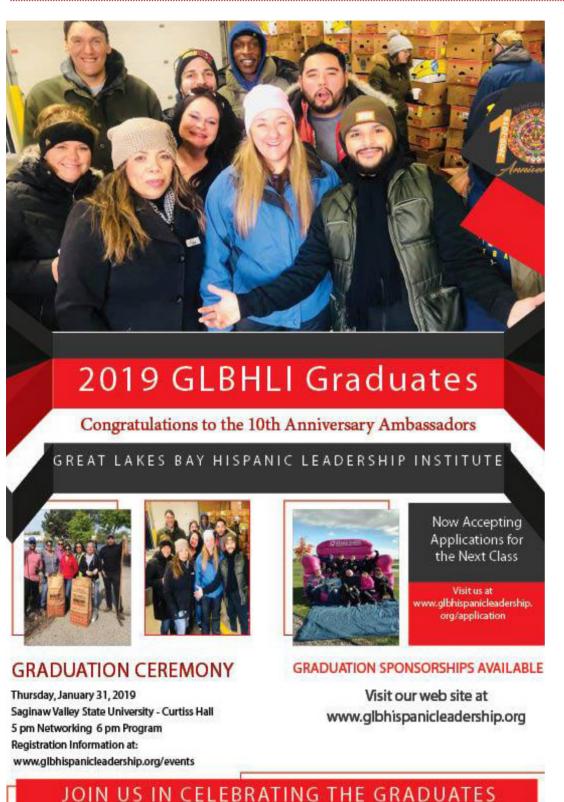
Rep. Sylvia Garcia, D-Texas, is the other Latina making history as a Texas congresswoman. A former state senator and city controller in Houston, she will be representing the areas of Houston and Pasadena.

Garcia reminded Twitter users of Thursday's significance and wrote as one of her hashtags, #LaCongresista. Under her signature issues, she lists advocating for women, touting her support for health and abortion access and her work to pass a state bill making revenge porn a crime.

Both Escobar and Garcia are Mexican-American.

Community Board

Submit your announcements and events at themichiganbanner.com/submit





JOHN OF IN CELEBRATING THE GRA

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

DEADLINES

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

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FUNDRAISING GOOD TIMES

Should you start a nonprofit? Close one?

The new year brings good intentions, some of which include starting a nonprofit organization. Another less talked about intention is closing an existing nonprofit. With this column we share thoughts on the large number of nonprofits. We provide a list of questions that individuals, board members, and community leaders can ask of themselves, their organizations, and philanthropists and funders.

If you want to start a new nonprofit. If you are considering starting a nonprofit you have good reasons and intentions. Unfortunately, these are not enough to launch and most importantly to sustain an organization. A few years ago we wrote a column called 12 things to consider before you start a nonprofit. These include researching the need for your nonprofit, identifying board members who will serve in more than "name only," creating a business plan to assess financial viability, and determining whether or not you need to create a new nonprofit, or can instead become a program of an existing nonprofit.

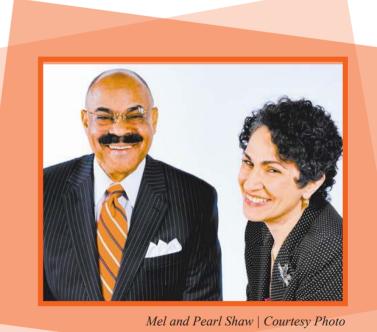
Of the 12 considerations, the last one is critical. Think of all the local, regional and national nonprofits. Each has their own infrastructure including administrative, legal and financial services, technology, and fundraising. And, each has their own board. Infrastructure is expensive, time consuming and requires constant

investments. You have to pay salaries or contract fees for most of these items, and you have to invest time in developing, managing and growing these. You have to be involved with all of these elements, and if you don't keep your eye on fundraising, there won't be anything to keep your eye on!

Importantly, you will have to develop and sustain a functioning and engaged board with the community relationships and technical and professional skills required to provide guidance, oversight, and ensure financial viability. In every community there are only so many "ideal board members." Who will your organization attract to serve? What will they be willing to provide and how are you prepared to work with them?

Consider the pool of existing resources and ask yourself: what is the best way to provide the services or advocacy our community – or nation - needs? Is establishing an independent nonprofit the best way to accomplish these goals? How will our entry into the marketplace affect other nonprofits? Is the "pie" really large enough to support another organization? Where will the money come from?

If you are engaged with an existing nonprofit. We believe you work for or volunteer with a nonprofit because you are committed to its mission. At the same time, we ask you to encourage conversation within your nonprofit if you believe it is facing challenges that are consistent over time and are not being addressed by management and the board. Ask the hard questions: Are we doing what we say we are doing? Are we making an impact? Are others offering similar services? Should we continue as a nonprofit? Should we consider merging? Should we radically downsize?



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

Flint families can get nutritious food at mobile food pantry in January



courtesy photo

LANSING, Mich. – Flint families may get nutritious food that can limit the effects of lead exposure during mobile food pantry hours set for January at locations throughout Flint.

The Food Bank of Eastern Michigan in Flint and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services are announcing the upcoming schedule for mobile food pantry stops to distribute foods rich in calcium, vitamin C and iron. Produce expected to be available to families in January includes apples and potatoes.

More than \$300 million has been provided to help the residents of Flint, including this initiative. Food distribution sites remain open while supplies last. January dates by location are:

Greater Holy Temple Church of God in

Christ, 6702 N. Dort Highway Thursday, Jan. 3, at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 17, at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 24, at 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 31, at 10 a.m.

Bethel United Methodist Church, 1309 Ballenger Highway Monday, Jan. 7, at 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 14, at 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 21, at 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 28, at 10 a.m.

Asbury United Methodist Church, 1653 Davidson Road. Wednesday, Jan. 2, 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8, 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 15, at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 22, at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 29, at 10 a.m.

Salem Lutheran Church, 2610 Martin

Luther King Ave. Wednesday, Jan. 9, at 10 a.m.

Flint Muslim Food Pantry, 4400 S. Saginaw St. Saturday, Jan. 12, at 9 a.m.

Flint First Wesleyan Church, 3825 Davison Road Saturday, Jan. 12, at 10 a.m.

Hispanic Tech Center, 2101 Lewis St. Wednesday, Jan. 16, at 10 a.m.

St. Luke NEW Life Center, 3115 Lawndale. Friday, Jan. 18, at 10 a.m.

Second Chance Church, 5306 North St. Saturday, Jan. 19, at noon.

Flint residents can also pick up free nutritional food at the three Flint Help Center locations. They are Bethel United Methodist Church, 1309 N. Ballenger Highway, open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays; Asbury United Methodist Church, 1653 Davison Road, open Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and Greater Holy Temple, 6702 N. Dort Highway, open Thursdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

This schedule is subject to change, and information about additional food distribution dates will be announced as they are scheduled. For more information or to find out about any changes in the schedule, visit the Food Bank website at www.FBEM.org and find the updated schedule on the Mobile Pantry Distribution page, or call 810-239-4441Call: 810-239-4441.



Healthy Eating classes to Improve Survivorship & Promote Prevention



Please join us...

to learn about nutritious foods and how healthy eating can help you:

- Enhance survivorship
- Aid in preventing cancer recurrence
- Gain strength and energy
- Lose, gain or maintain a healthy weight

In addition, learn about the newly updated American Institute for Cancer Research Diet, Nutrition, Physical Activity and Cancer Guidelines.

You are welcome to attend any or all classes.

2018 classes:

- Monday, November 5 at 5:30 pm
 Thursday, November 8 at 2:00 pm (class repeated)
- . Monday, December 3 at 5:30 pm

2019 classes:

Monday, January 7 at 5:30 pm
 Thursday, January 10 at 2:00 pm (class repeated)

All classes are held at Covenant Cancer Care Center 5400 Mackinaw (at Tittabawassee), Saginaw, MI 48604 Third Floor Conference Room A (just left of the elevators).

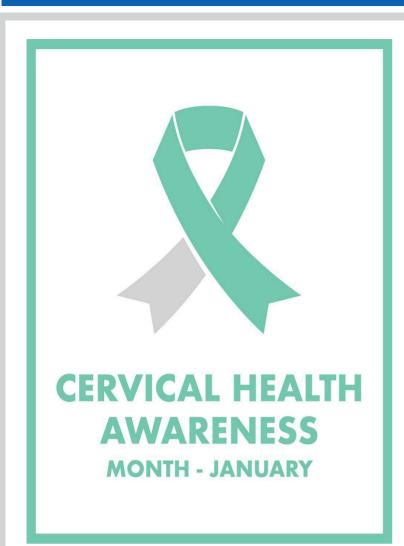
For more information, please contact: Ann Hoffman, RDN, CDE, CSO 989.583.5029 or ahoffman@chs-mi.com

All classes are free of charge and open to the public.



MDAnderson Cancer Network





January is Cervical Health Awareness Month, and [your organization] wants you to know that there's a lot you can do to prevent cervical cancer. Each year, more than 11,000 women in the United States get cervical cancer.

HPV (human papillomavirus) is a very common infection that spreads through sexual activity, and it causes almost all cases of cervical cancer. About 79 million Americans currently have HPV, but many people with HPV don't know they are infected.

The good news?

- The HPV vaccine (shot) can prevent HPV.
- Cervical cancer can often be prevented with regular screening tests and follow-up care.

In honor of National Cervical Health Awareness Month, [your organization] encourages:

- Women to start getting regular cervical cancer screenings at age 21
- Parents to make sure pre-teens get the HPV vaccine at age 11 or 12

Teens and young adults also need to get the HPV vaccine if they didn't get it as pre-teens. Women up to age 26 and men up to age 21 can still get the vaccine.

Thanks to the health care reform law, you and your family members may be able to get these services at no cost to you. Check with your insurance company to learn more.







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



courtesy photo

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

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

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

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

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

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

ages regardless of insurance status.

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

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



BUSINESS & WEALTH

Merrill Celebrates 50 years in Business with Brand Consolidation



courtesy photo

On December 31, 2018, manufacturing powerhouse – MERRILL Technologies Group (MERRILL), will conclude its 50th year in business by implementing the final phase of its goal to become fully integrated. The final phase is a corporate naming and brand unification program. MERRILL Technologies Group will consolidate its four wholly-owned subsidiaries (Merrill Tool & Machine, Merrill Fabricators, Merrill Aviation & Defense and Merrill Engineering & Integration) into a single operating company called MERRILL.

The goal to become vertically integrated is the result of a 5-year strategic plan the company started in 2015. Since then, MERRILL and its subsidiaries have undergone major changes by launching a corporate-wide advanced planning and execution center, investing in a new enterprise resource planning system and consolidating its

legal and financial reporting. A total re-branding of the subsidiaries under the MERRILL primary brand is the final phase in becoming fully integrated.

"This is one in a series of moves that will position our company for another 50 years of success," said MERRILL CEO, Robert Yackel. "We are committed to growth and the security that controlled growth brings to our customers and our team members. As we plan for our next half century in operation, it's critical that we make changes that support our vision of being a robust enterprise capable of sustaining growth."

"MERRILL customers will realize improved on time delivery, quality and pricing as a result of these changes," said MERRILL Executive Vice President and COO, Jeff Yackel. "This realignment allows us to better utilize our available resources, in turn enabling us to better support our customers' schedules, technical and cost objectives."

"We simply outgrew our previous business model, said MERRILL Director of Marketing & Communications, Andrea Fisher. "MERRILL developed organically over the last 50 years into a collection of interrelated organizations. Each organization was created to serve a specialized need for production or more effectively serve a specific industry. The result was four operational silos. What our customers want today is a vertically integrated, single supplier who can do it all – design, fab, machine and integrate. One MERRILL is that solution. As we work operationally to create a more integrated and collaborative experience for our customers, unifying the MERRILL brand will echo those benefits," said Fisher. "This is a far greater effort than simply putting up new signage on our buildings and ordering new business cards. The very nature of our growth caused separations within our employee culture. Team members identify with their facility name and logo. One MERRILL is the process of bringing the entire MERRILL family together, both operationally and spiritually.

That process began on December 15th, when MERRILL's workforce of some 350 individuals entered HORIZON's Conference Center to celebrate its 50th anniversary. They came as members of individual MERRILL subsidiaries (Merrill Tool & Machine, Merrill Fabricators, Merrill Aviation & Defense, Merrill Engineering & Integration). By the end of the evening, they had been exposed to their new brand identity and left as one team with one dream. One MERRILL.

MERRILL's external stakeholders will start seeing the company's new brand on Jan. 2, 2019 with the launch of a unified web site. "The program will run through March of 2019. At that time, it's our plan to have all marketing material converted to reflect the MERRILL logo and 'Anything is Possible' brand promise," said Fisher.





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Communities First co-founder receives industry recognition



courtesy photo

Essence Wilson, chief strategy officer and co-founder of Communities First, Inc., was selected as one of Real Estate Forum's Women to Watch in the organization's September issue. Wilson is recognized for her efforts raising more than \$37 million in capital for affordable housing and mixed-use projects. At Communities First, Wilson is instrumental in a broad range of areas, completing funding applications for development, working with municipalities to facilitate deals and reviewing construction documents, among other duties. She evaluates current strategies and operations to ensure they align with company objectives.

Regional Leaders Look Forward to Exciting, Busy 2019: A Message from the Saginaw Chamber of Commerce

A lot is happening around the Great Lakes Bay Region in 2019.

From June 21-26, the U.S. Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships will be held at the Saginaw Township Soccer Complex. Thousands of people are expected to travel to the Great Lakes Bay Region to watch or participate in the 14 state tournament, which includes Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio North, Ohio South, Kentucky, Kansas, Missouri, North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Minnesota and Iowa. The Great Lakes Bay Region Convention and Visitors Bureau has secured around 4,400 hotel and motel rooms in advance of the event. Saginaw Township hosted the tournament once before in 2012, generating about \$12 million in economic activity.

Bay City's River Roar is coming back in 2019, branded as Rockin' on the River. The popular Formula One power boat races have been a Bay City staple on the Saginaw River for decades, drawing thousands of people each summer. However, the racing event was placed on hiatus in 2018 as organizers attempted to find corporate sponsorship. Rockin' on the River will take place from July 12-14 with a new main corporate sponsor and new features, including a parade, a car cruise and show, three musical acts and the Formula One powerboat races throughout the weekend. The sponsor, Real Flavors, is a Bay City based business.

The Midland Country Club has been set as the site for the inaugural LPGA 2019 Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational. The LPGA has teamed with The Dow Chemical Company to bring the world's top female golf talent to the Great Lakes Bay Region through a four day, 144 player, 72 hole tournament. Players will be divided into 72 teams which will be revealed as early as March, and the top 70 players based on

the LPGA Priority list will get to pick their partners. The tournament, with \$2 million at stake, will take place July 17-20.

Finally, the Bay City Tall Ships Festival will be held July 18-21. The celebration takes place every three years as sailing ships from days of yore head up the Saginaw River and dock along Wenonah and Veterans Memorial parks. Bay City has been a host port to the Tall Ship Challenge since 2001, drawing tens of thousand of visitors each year. The city is considered one of the favorite ports to many of the ship's crews and was awarded "Port of the Year" four times by Tall Ships America, more than any other host port in all of North America.

Each of these activities on their own can generate millions of dollars of economic activity to the region as event goers spend their money on hotels, restaurants, shops and more. With all four events happening in such close proximity to one another, the Great Lakes Bay Region stands to gain not only a massive economic boost, but exposure to the world as a place where exciting things are happening.

Business leaders from each county take a pragmatic view of events like Tall Ships or the Youth Soccer Tournament. Simply put, when one area benefits, the entire region does. Tony Stamas of the Midland Business Alliance says partnering with surrounding counties like Saginaw, Bay and Isabella is a tremendous opportunity for the region.

"I think that that's really going to be an opportunity to highlight our community and our region to folks from all around the country and some parts of the world."



Gov. Whitmer Signs Executive Directive Expanding Opportunities for Small and Disadvantaged Businesses



courtesy photo

LANSING – On January 4, 2019, Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed Executive Directive 2019-8 to help expand opportunities for businesses in Michigan's opportunity zones, or communities that have been cut off from capital and have experienced a lack of business growth. Under the executive directive, the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget (DTMB) must work with other state departments, agencies, and organizations representing small businesses to identify and reduce barriers for geographically-disadvantaged businesses by increasing purchases from and contracts with them.

"Too many Michigan businesses are falling behind because they're not getting the support they need to thrive in their communities," said Whitmer. "If we want to call Michigan a successful state, we've got to expand opportunities for business owners in our opportunity zones. I'm confident that the cabinet I

put together will partner with Michigan business owners and ensure they have the resources they need to create more good-paying jobs. This executive directive will take a much-needed step toward building vibrant communities here in Michigan."

"Entrepreneurs in Michigan's opportunity zones deserve partners in state government who will work to expand opportunities for them," said Lieutenant Governor Gilchrist. "Whether they're in Detroit, Flint, or Houghton, Governor Whitmer, our cabinet leaders and I are ready to get to work to help disadvantaged businesses thrive. We're all better off when our local businesses have the tools they need to be successful."

Under the executive directive, DTMB must adopt policies to increase purchases from and contracts with geographically-disadvantaged businesses

for supplies, materials, services, insurance, utilities, third party financing, equipment, printing, and all other items needed by state departments or agencies, including contracts for the construction, alteration, repair, or demolition of a facility.

Geographically-disadvantaged business enterprises are defined in the executive directive as one or more of the following:

- Certified as a HUBZone Small Business Concern by the United States Small Business Administration.
- Located within a Qualified Opportunity Zone within Michigan.
- More than half of the employees have a principal residents within a Qualified Opportunity Zone.



100K Ventures, a newly formed Flint Michigan Accelerator Group, brings together Draymond Green and other leaders in business, sports and entertainment



courtesy photo

FLINT, Mich./PRNewswire/ -- A group consisting of top business leaders, world class professional athletes, well respected journalists and leading entrepreneurs have joined together to launch a newly formed accelerator group called 100K Ventures that will invest in early-stage companies in Flint, Michigan. The group was created by 32 Ventures founder Robert Wolf, who partnered with Phil Hagerman, the founder of Skypoint Ventures, a Flint based real estate investment and venture firm.

Earlier this year, a delegation led by Congressman Tim Ryan (D-Youngstown, OH) and Congressman Ro Khanna (D-Silicon Valley, CA) gathered a group of top venture capitalists on a bus tour through the Midwest aiming to bring venture funding and influencers to the Rustbelt. The delegation met with entrepreneurs in Akron and Youngstown, Ohio; Detroit and Flint, Michigan and South Bend, Indiana to hear and share ideas and experiences on best practices for startups and early stage investing.

While in Flint, the group toured an entrepreneurial hub named the Ferris Wheel a space owned and operated by Phil Hagerman. The building houses 100K Ideas a 501c3 non-profit dedicated to help entrepreneurs take their businesses to the next level. 100K Ideas provides a helping hand in business development to anyone regardless of their prior experience or background, while

ranking the business viability throughout the process.

100K Ventures, the newly formed for profit accelerator group will invest in early-stage companies who receive a high assessment from the 100K Ideas pipeline.

The Founding members of the group include current NBA star Draymond Green, former NFL star Victor Cruz, Minority Owner of the Philadelphia Eagles Christina Weiss Lurie, former Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, Girls Who Code Founder Reshma Saujani, NFL Hall of Famer Michael Strahan, MLB Hall of Famer Frank Thomas, founder of the Phenomenal Woman Action Campaign Meena Harris, journalist and executive producer Soledad O'Brien, Financial Advisor Jaime Taicher as well as 32 Ventures' Robert Wolf and Flint's Skypoint Ventures' Phil Hagerman.

"Robert's 32 Ventures has put together a winning team driving towards the same goal; providing entrepreneurs who would otherwise be ignored, a platform for success," said founding investor and 3-time NBA Champion Draymond Green. "As someone who was drafted in the second round, I know what it means to be given a chance and that being surrounded and encouraged by the right people, can lead to special results."

"It isn't common to join a group all driven with the same mission," said Girls Who Code Founder Reshma Saujani. "Each one of us has our own experience either being overlooked or having faced seemingly insurmountable roadblocks and we believe that with a little push, the next great American idea will grow in Flint, Michigan."

The founding members of the 100K Ventures Flint team has met with Congressman Dan Kildee, Mayor Karen Weaver and the Flint Chamber of Commerce and look forward to collaborating with both the private and public sector. Over time, 100K Ventures group will look to expand nation-wide and continue to grow our platform by advising and investing in early stage and startup companies in other underserved communities.

"You can't help but be inspired by the entrepreneurial spirit in Flint," said former NFL Pro Bowl Wide Receiver Victor Cruz. "I've been on some great teams, including the 2011 Super Bowl Champs, and the team that Robert and Phil put together is second to none."

"We've all seen and read the sad and tragic stories of what has happened in Flint," said award-wining journalist Soledad O'Brien. "The truth about Flint is that it's a city with a deep history of innovation, including the very beginnings of the auto boom in this country. My partners and I believe that with some time and effort that spark can be reignited."



DowDuPont Named to America's Most JUST Companies in 2018 by Forbes and JUST Capital



courtesy photo

MIDLAND, Mich. & WILMINGTON, Del. -December 10, 2018 - DowDuPontTM was named one of America's Most JUST Companies in 2018, and was the only company listed in the top 100 in the Chemicals Industry, according to Forbes and JUST Capital, a nonprofit that ranks the largest publicly-traded corporations in the United States on the issues Americans care about most. DowDuPont ranked 67 against all industries and was included on this year's list for outperforming its peers on issues like fair pay and good benefits, customer treatment and privacy, beneficial products, environmental impact, job creation, community support in the U.S. and abroad, as well as ethical leadership and long-term financial growth.

"It is an honor to be included in this year's list of America's Most JUST Companies, and recognized as the leader in the chemical industry," said Howard Ungerleider, chief financial officer, DowDuPont. "From creating high quality jobs and supporting the communities in which we operate to delivering long-term financial growth, we are grateful for this acknowledgement of our work to meet the needs of all of our stakeholders. As we

prepare for the intended separations of our three industry-leading companies – Dow, DuPont and Corteva – these core tenets will remain ingrained in the long-term strategies for each."

The JUST Capital Rankings, first published in 2016, encompass the 1,000 largest publicly-traded companies in the U.S., and are based on one of the most comprehensive surveys ever conducted on public attitudes toward corporate behavior, involving 9,000 American respondents in 2018 and more than 81,000 over the past four years. The JUST 100 and Industry Leader lists will be featured in the December issue of Forbes, with additional stories at www.forbes.com/just100 and a comprehensive interactive ranking and benchmarking platform at www.justcapital.com.

As one of America's Most JUST Companies, DowDuPont is also included in Goldman Sachs Asset Management's JUST U.S. Large Cap Equity ETF (Ticker: JUST) – the first ever exchangetraded fund based on just business behavior, constructed from JUST Capital's rankings.

"Trust in our institutions is more important

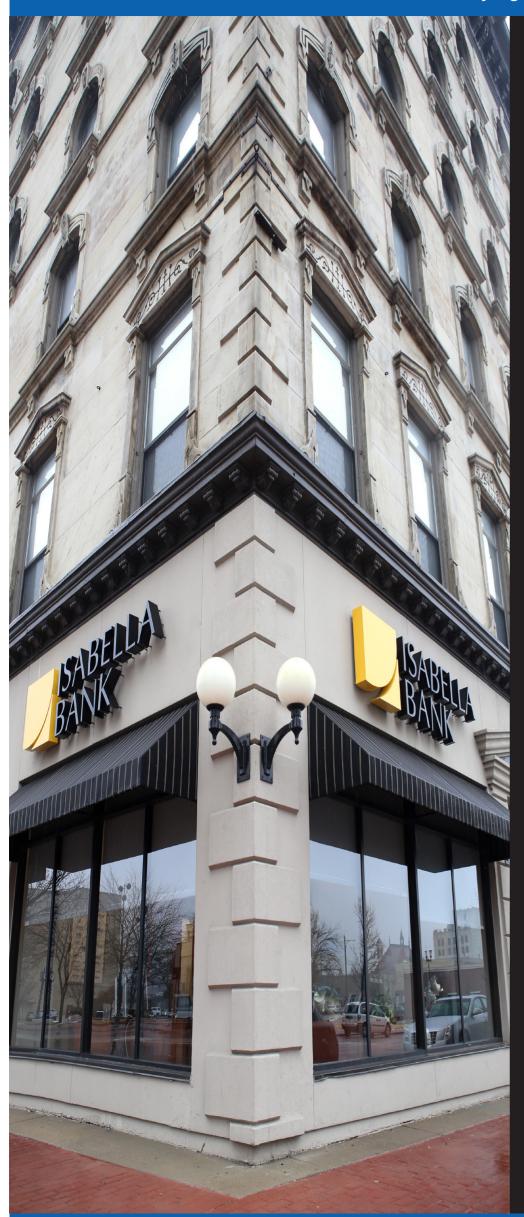
than ever right now. The JUST 100 recognizes companies that are doing right within society," said Forbes Chief Content Officer Randall Lane. "The Rankings help companies gauge their progress on benchmarks that go far beyond quarterly earnings towards long-term value-creation for all stakeholders."

Compared to their peers in the Russell 1000, companies in the JUST 100 on average:

- Pay their median workers 26% more;
- Emit 35% less greenhouse gas emissions per dollar of revenue;
- Give 6x more as much to charity; and
- Have a 5% higher Return-on-Equity.

"America's Most JUST Companies consistently outperform their peers in job creation, wages, work-life balance, environmental impact, and return on equity," said Martin Whittaker, CEO of JUST Capital. "Aligning corporate behavior with the priorities of the American people is good for communities and good for business."





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EDUCATION

New opportunities for SVSU students through partnership with Wayne State School of Medicine



courtesy photo

Saginaw Valley State University students inspired to pursue a career in medicine now have an additional pathway to continue their education.

The Wayne State University School of Medicine and SVSU have signed an Early Assurance Program agreement that will provide SVSU premedicine students enhanced opportunities for admission to the WSU School of Medicine.

The program will reserve up to two seats in WSU's medical school for qualified SVSU students who have a passion for practicing medicine in underserved areas or who are

dedicated to careers in medicine.

"Partnerships like this highlight our commitment to advancing the medical careers of our pre-med students, and this provides an additional pathway for them," said Heidi Lang, SVSU pre-health professions advisor. "Our professors really challenge our students — while supporting them at the same time — and that's a big reason our students consistently are accepted to medical schools at rates that far exceed the national average."

Through this latest partnership, SVSU students will apply in February 2019 for admission to WSU's school of medicine for acceptance into

the entering class for 2020.

"This partnership with Saginaw Valley State
University continues our efforts and commitment
to recruit the finest students whose health career
goals align with our mission as a nationally
recognized top tier medical school known for
urban clinical excellence," said WSU Vice
Dean for Medical Education and Professor of
Ophthalmology Richard Baker, M.D. "Students
who have the desire to serve others through
medicine deserve the chance to become the type of
physicians that we educate and train."



State invests \$3 million in robotics programs at public and non-public schools across Michigan



courtesy photo

LANSING – As the state positions itself to be the leader in solving the talent gap, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is coming up with innovative solutions to bridge that gap. Today, it trumpets a \$3 million investment in programs that better prepare Michiganders for the careers of today and the future.

MDE has awarded state-funded grants to 506 public and non-public schools to start and expand robotics programs across the state. Grants are going toward building up more than 2,300 robotics programs statewide.

The grants are part of the state's continued

investment in robotics programs, which have students learning about applications of science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) through building robots for competitions – with the FIRST Robotics World Championships returning to Detroit next April.

Local school districts also may use the grant funds to participate in the VEX Robotics program and its Robotics Education and Competition (REC). Non-public schools may use their funds to participate in the Science Olympiad, as well.

"To invest in a stronger talent pipeline, we must invest in Michigan's young people and the programs that prepare them for an evolving 21st Century global economy," State Interim Superintendent Sheila Alles said. "It's partnerships like these we see from these robotics programs – bringing business and education together – that help students understand the skills needed to be successful after high school, no matter their post-secondary career path. It also solidifies our footprint as a Top 10 education state in 10 years."

"Programs like FIRST Robotics, VEX Robotics and the many other leading, high-tech programs are a perfect blend of real-world experiences and hands-on education that will pay dividends in Michigan's bright and vibrant economic future," said Jeremy Hendges from the Talent and Economic Development Department of Michigan. "This investment shows a state ready and willing to tackle the challenges and changes that are presented by an ever-changing global economy."

State leaders say this is a smart investment that will keep Michigan moving forward.

This \$3 million in grants adds to the more than \$12 million Michigan has invested in FIRST teams since 2014.

Robotics programs empower students to demonstrate their competency in learning in a variety of ways. They have opportunities to solve problems that leverage the power of technology by developing and testing solutions in creative and imaginative ways. They are able to construct knowledge and make meaning of their learning experience for themselves. Students become global collaborators by utilizing technology to make connections with others to broaden perspective and learning through the creation of original products.

Research shows that students participating in FIRST programs across the state are twice as likely to major in science or engineering in college, and more than 75 percent of FIRST alumni are currently in a STEAM field as a student or professional.

The World Championships, planned for April 24-27, 2019, are expected to bring nearly 35,000 students and 700 teams to Ford Field and Cobo Center with four levels of competition. Last year, two Michigan teams were part of the winning alliance at the World Championships in Detroit, the second year in a row Michigan teams came out on top.



Train for an In-Demand Career at Mid Michigan College

Mid Michigan College has several Short-Term Training and Professional Development opportunities scheduled in 2019.

Short-Term Training provides participants with career-ready skills in the healthcare and skilled trade fields. In as little as three to nine weeks trainees are prepared for entry-level positions and state certification exams.

Training costs may be significantly reduced or completely offset through MiWorks! assistance programs. Potential trainees should contact their local MiWorks! to see if they qualify.

"Many of the careers connected to Mid's Short-Term Training are ranked among the fastest growing occupations by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, including certified nurse assistants (CNAs) and Phlebotomists," noted Kristine Stevens, Director of Business & Industry Training at Mid.
Mid's Professional Development offerings provide
an essential need in the surrounding area for
individuals to broaden their skills and increase
their appeal to local employers. Mid offers many
different sessions and topics throughout the
calendar year taught by qualified instructors who
have extensive career and training experience.

"With topics from project management to improving your communication skills, you can continue building relevant skills for your current career, or increase your employability. In the local area, employers are looking for individuals who take initiative and prepare themselves for the workplace—and Mid's Professional Development opportunities allow you to do just that," shared Stevens.

Upcoming Short-Term Training and Professional

Development opportunities are scheduled through 2019, and can be registered for on Mid's website. Topics include those listed below and many more.

Short-Term Training

CNA | Phlebotomy | Community Health Worker | CDL | Drone | Welding

Professional Development

Project Management Training | Developing Excellent Leaders | Project Management Certification Exam Prep | Manufacturing Skills for the Shop Floor

For more information about upcoming trainings or to register, visit midmich.edu/short-term-training, midmich.edu/professional-development, or contact the Technical Education Center at training@ midmich.edu or (989) 386-6614.

SVSU forensics students impress judges; 9 have qualified for national tournament

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

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

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

Aubree Harrell of Essexville and Josh Lloyd of Bay City, both communication and theatre majors, earned top novice as well as second place for their duo interpretation performance.

Tiler Jewell, a communication and creative writing major from Midland, earned third place in persuasion.

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

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

Jewell said her involvement has helped her academically and socially.

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

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

- Kennedy Bachman, a communication major from Grand Blanc
- Monae Hawthorne, a criminal justice major from Detroit
- Darious Henry, a communication major from Chesterfield Township
- Gina Kearly, a communication major from Midland
- Ashley Murdock, a communication major from Oxford
- Courtney Perrou, a communication major from Pinconning

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

Samantha White, a communication major from North Branch, who earned second place in rhetorical criticism, along with earning top novice award in that event.

Henry, who earned third place in dramatic

interpretation and fourth place in persuasion. He also earned top novice awards in both events. Kearly, who earned third place in the POI event. Hawthorne, who earned fourth place in poetry and top novice award in that category. Perrou, who earned fourth place in prose as well

as top novice award in that category.

SVSU finished third overall among the seven

Michigan colleges and universities who competed
at the event.

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

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

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



Team One Credit Union Provides Scholarship Opportunities to Area Students

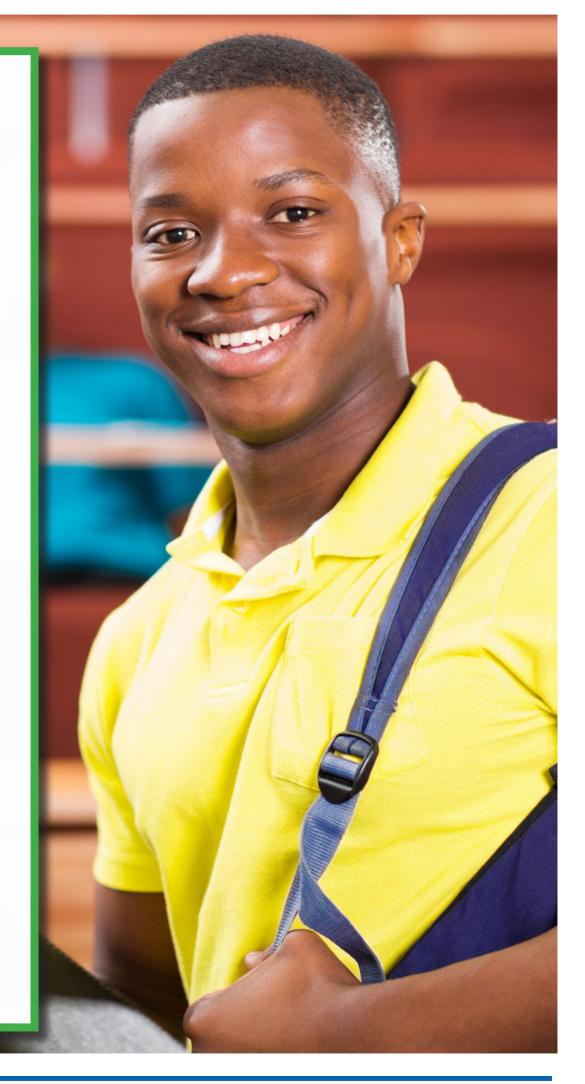
As part of our ongoing commitment to education, Team One is proud to award scholarships to 18 high school seniors annually. If you are a High School Senior, we encourage you to apply for the Team One Scholarships available to area students.

In addition to scholarships for students attending colleges and universities, Team One has committed three of its scholarships to students who are interested in pursuing a career in the high demand field of skilled trades by attending the Greater Michigan Construction Academy.

To be eligible to apply for a Team One Credit Union scholarship, applicants must be or become a member of the credit union. Visit teamonecu.org, stop in or call Team One at 989.754.6575 for more information.

Interested High School senior applicants can complete a Team One scholarship application online through the Saginaw Community Foundation at saginawfoundation.org. The deadline to return completed scholarship applications to the Saginaw Community Foundation is February 15, 2019.









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

Source: www.saginawheadstart.org



Sabrina Beeman-Jackson

Saginaw ISD Head Start/Early Head Start Program Director

"Head Start
graduates are more
likely to graduate
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need special
education, repeat a
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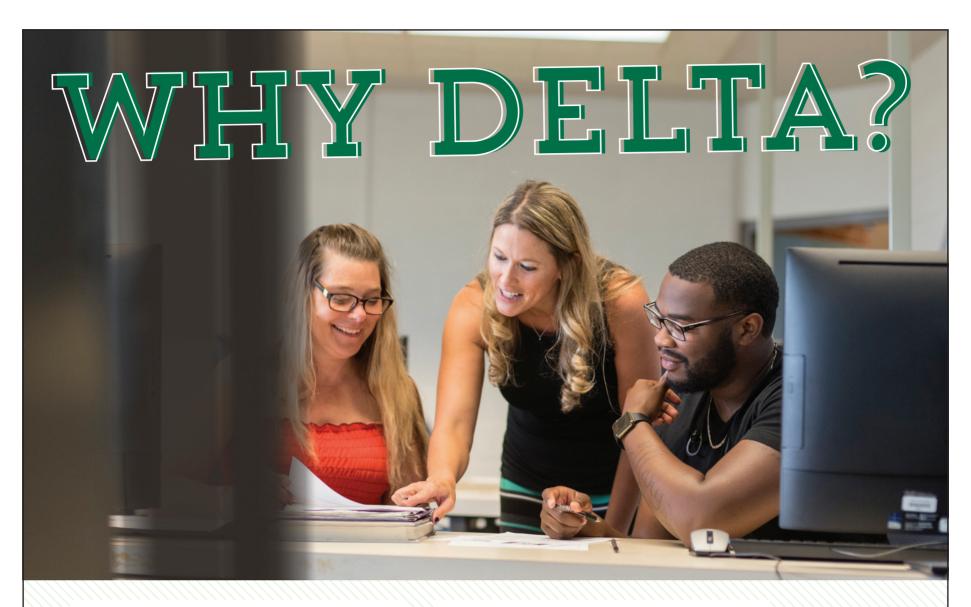
Joe Baca, former Dem. Calif. Congrmn., Dist. 43.

"Our mission is to provide high quality services, developing school readiness and family empowerment for prenatal to age five children and families by working in partnership with parents and the community."

-Saginaw ISD HE/EHS







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COMMUNITY

John Neal to Receive Delta College 2019 Spirit of MLK Award



courtesy photo

Delta College Admissions Advisor, John Neal, is the 2019 recipient of the College's Spirit of Martin Luther King, Jr. Award.

The annual award is given to a Delta College employee, whose service to the institution and community exemplifies the spirit of Dr. King's work and values. Recipients of the award are chosen by the Delta College Black Faculty and Staff Association (BFSA).

Neal will receive the prestigious award at the 23rd Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Unity March and Luncheon on Monday, January 21 at The Dow Event Center, 303 Johnson Street in Saginaw. The Saginaw Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity in partnership with Delta's BFSA annually hosts the event.

Neal began working at Delta College in 2006

as a part-time health and wellness instructor, and since then has held several positions at the College, including multicultural advisor. Additionally, he has been a key member of several special projects undertaken by Delta such as, the Men of Delta Mentoring program and the Second Chance Prison Pell program.

"At Delta, we all have the capacity to do great things because we all can serve," said Neal. "I get to assist in the professional, financial and personal development of students who look to Delta for a quality education. At the end of the day, it's all about the students."

Originally from Louisiana, Neal earned his bachelor's degree in Rehabilitation Psychology from Southern University and his master's in Kinesiology from Louisiana State University. He is a doctoral candidate, having recently completed the Community College Leadership program at Ferris State University. He is also a member of the Ezekiel Project's Criminal Justice & Reform Taskforce.

"To receive an award named after a man who personifies peace, strength, determination and humility is a great honor. I am humbled to have my name mentioned in the same sentence as Dr. King," said Neal. "Dr. King has encouraged millions to stand for justice and equality, brought hope to men and women of all backgrounds and sacrificed his very life for the wellbeing of others."

Neal is married to Tangie Neal and they have three children, Angel, John III and James.

"John Neal is a beacon of light for all who come into contact with him," said Carlos McMath, President of the BFSA. "Like Dr. King, Mr. Neal is a man of faith, built on grace and servitude. Mr. Neal's passion for life and his ability to collaborate with everyone by focusing on their character and ambitions, no matter their background or life choices, is why he is the 2019 recipient of the College's Spirit of Martin Luther King Jr. Award."

The events on January 21 will begin with a Unity March at 10am at the intersection of Franklin Street and Hayden Street in Saginaw. Participants will then march on Franklin Street to The Dow Event Center, concluding at around 10:30am.

The Unity Luncheon will begin at 11am. The keynote speaker for the luncheon is the Brother Isaiah Oliver, president and CEO of the Community Foundation Greater Flint. The theme for this year's celebration is "Vision 2019: Keeping the Dream Alive."



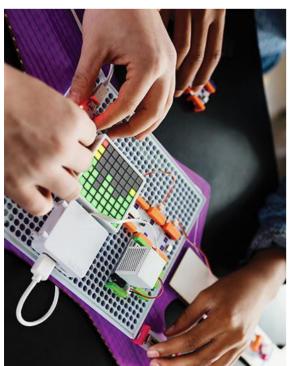
Local Program Highlight:

Women of Colors SaFT (Students and Future Technology)

Students and Future Technology (SaFT), is a Women of Colors science education program taught in collaboration with First Ward Community Services.

The primary goal of the SaFT program is to bring advanced STEM training to disadvantaged 2nd – 12th grade students in the Saginaw area. Another goal is that students will learn to take charge of their own education. We are creating a science library and center staffed with volunteer science mentors who use personalized project based learning (PBL) tools to teach social skills, science and engineering practices as real-world models to students. The PBL training allows students to advance at their own pace. PBL tools include a variety of STEM training tools such as zSpace 3D virtual reality, conventional and logic based breadboards, Raspberry Pi and Arduino computer hardware, Lego Robotics, FL Studio and numerous online educational software programs. Advanced and general classes are conducted afterschool and during the summer months.

The Michigan Department of Education has adopted the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) because there is no doubt that science, and therefore science education, is central to the lives of Americans. Never before has our world been so complex and science knowledge so critical to making sense of it all. All students – whether they become technicians in a hospital, workers in a high-tech manufacturing facility or Ph.D. researchers – must have a solid K-12 science education.



courtesy photo



courtesy photo

NGSS introduces Science and Engineering Practices (SEP) as required learning into the school curriculum. SEP requires that students learn to translate ideas, concepts and facts into real world models. We have brought together eight retired professionals and most are from various sciences and engineering fields who were previously employed at Dow Corning, Nexteer Automotive, Dow Chemical, AT&T and Consumers Energy in various science and engineering fields. These experienced professionals will work in the SaFT after school program and teach science and engineering practices to the students. The education paradigm is to prepare students to solve problems we have not yet imagined, which will use technology that has not yet been invented, in jobs that do not yet exist.

We have also created a network of subject matter experts (SME) utilizing young professionals

selected from various science disciplines that will connect in the classroom using SKYPE, FaceTime or other communications media. These SME's never have to visit the classroom and we are finding that a large number of SME volunteers are interested in this approach since it does not take much time from their daily routine and employers support this type of community outreach. SME's can be recruited from anywhere in the world using this approach.

In the 2016 -2017 school year, we upgraded or revised our science content and modules. Current project based learning modules available include zSpace, PhET, Lego EV3 Mindstorms robotics, We Do 2.0 for elementary students, circuit bread boards, littleBits electronic blocks, educational software and various worksheets that strengthens math and spelling skills. Students are not required to work on any module. Participation is based on their personal interest level and availability of the module or equipment.



John F. Kennedy's Life and Times comes to the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum



history.com

A new exhibition commemorating President John F. Kennedy's private life and public trajectory will be on view at the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum, Saginaw Valley State University from March 15 – June 29, 2019. The exhibition, one of the most exhaustively researched collections of Kennedy photos ever assembled, brings together images from the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library, the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, Getty Images, private collections, and the Kennedy family archives that capture public and private moments from Kennedy's life. Some of the photographs on display are iconic; others have never been seen publicly.

The exhibition is presented with the cooperation of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library Foundation as part of their nationwide celebration that commemorates Kennedy's centennial year. The exhibition has traveled extensively around the United States including to the Smithsonian American Art Museum, The New York Historical Society and Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Based on the book JFK: A Vision for America by Stephen Kennedy Smith and Douglas Brinkley, the exhibition is organized and curated by Lawrence Schiller of Wiener Schiller Production.

"We are honored to commemorate the centennial of John F. Kennedy's birth with this powerful and important exhibition," said Museum Director Marilyn Wheaton.

Louise Mirrer, president and CEO of the New-

York Historical Society, wrote, "A visionary leader on the international stage as well as an American icon, President Kennedy, as these photographs make clear, left an indelible imprint on our sense of what and how an American president should be. The very timely chance this exhibition gives to understand President Kennedy's private life as well as political career makes it unique and uniquely-suited for contemporary debate and discussion of American leadership."

Kennedy's administration coincided with a golden age of photojournalism in America. No single politician was photographed more than Kennedy—from his first congressional bid as a decorated war hero in 1946 and his fairy-tale wedding to Jacqueline Bouvier in 1953 to his run for the White House in 1960 and the tragedy of his death in Dallas in 1963. Documentary photographers such as Ed Clark, Lisl Steiner, Ralph Crane, Philippe Halsman, Ted Spiegel Jacques Lowe, Lawrence Schiller, Steve Schapiro, and Sam Vestal captured the optimism and challenges of the early 1960s in some of the finest and most vivid images of the period.

Highlights of American Visionary include images from Kennedy's private life—such as a 1953 photo booth snapshot of the Kennedy newlyweds, possibly taken on their honeymoon, and a candid 1958 photograph by Ed Clark of Kennedy playing with his baby daughter Caroline in her bassinet. Images of Kennedy the politician includes a 1957 portrait when he served as a Massachusetts senator by Philippe Halsman; a 1960 photograph of Kennedy drawing an unintended audience of

young people peering through the window as he prepares for a presidential campaign speech in Baltimore; and a 1961 photograph of the First Couple and others heading to Kennedy's inauguration ceremony, with the White House blanketed in snow. Also featured are unforgettable images such as Jacques Lowe's 1961 photograph of Kennedy standing hunched over his desk in the Oval Office, in an effort to alleviate the pain from his problem back, and a haunting photograph of the shattered First Lady departing the White House on the day of Kennedy's state funeral in 1963, captured by I.C. Rapoport as a brief glimpse through the crowd.

"John F. Kennedy is still seen as a symbol around the world, representing and espousing the best and most universal elements of the American character," said Stephen Kennedy Smith, Kennedy's nephew and co-editor of JFK: A Vision for America. "It is our hope that the compelling images of President Kennedy's life and work on view in this exhibition will remind visitors not only of the values that defined his presidency, but also will introduce him to new audiences and future leaders."

Director Wheaton added, "The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum is the only Michigan venue where this historically important exhibition will be shown. The Museum Board joins me in expressing gratitude to the collaborators who assembled this significant body of work that is being made available to museums around the country."

Exhibition Credits

American Visionary: John F. Kennedy's Life and Times is presented by the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum and Wiener Schiller Productions in cooperation with the John F. Kennedy Library and Foundation. Additional support is provided by Stephen Kennedy Smith and Getty Images.

The exhibition is made possible at the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum with grant support from the Michigan Humanities Council and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.

The Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum is located on the campus of Saginaw Valley State University, 7400 Bay Road, University Center, MI. Museum hours are Monday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m. and Saturday 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call (989) 964-7125 or visit the Museum's website at www.marshallfredericks.org.



Incoming! opens January 12 at the Delta College Planetarium

On Saturday, January 12 at 3:30pm the Delta College Planetarium will premiere the award-winning production "Incoming!", a new feature show about asteroids, comets and the hard-hitting stories of our cosmic origins.

Narrated by George Takei, the program explores the past, present, and future of our Solar System and the landmark discoveries scientists have made by sending spacecraft to visit tiny worlds.

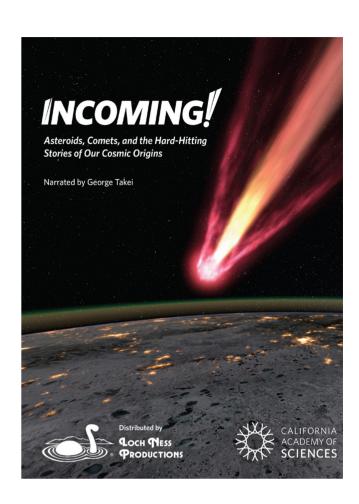
Throughout the show, cutting-edge visualizations allow viewers to tag along with robot explorers, zooming by rocky asteroids and icy comets – and even the dwarf planet Pluto. While astronauts have only traveled as far as our nearest neighbor in space, the Moon, unmanned spacecrafts continue to venture to mysterious worlds beyond to make landmark observations and make valuable discoveries about this final frontier.

"Incoming!" also gives audiences a closer look at the scientific advances that may allow us to find and track cosmic threats before they reach Earth. The show concludes with glowing nighttime views of Chile's Large Synoptic Survey Telescope, which, once completed, will survey the entire sky every few days, observing and detecting asteroids and Near-Earth Objects with incredible sensitivity.

During every show at the Delta College Planetarium, a presenter will deliver a live update, featuring the latest images and discoveries from current NASA missions, including New Horizons and OSIRIS-Rex.

"Incoming!" plays at 3:30pm on Saturdays from January 12 through April 27 in the Planetarium's Dome360 Theatre. Tickets are \$7 for adults, and \$5 for seniors, students, military and children 3-18. Tickets go on sale at the planetarium one hour before show time. For more information go to the planetarium's website at www.delta.edu/planet or call 989-667-2260.

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









Saginaw Police Reserves Donate New Vehicle to Fleet



The Saginaw Police Reserves unit have provided a donation of \$30,633.00 to the Saginaw Police Department to be used to purchase a 2019 Ford Explorer to be used by Police Officers as well as members of the **Reserve Unit. The funds are a culmination** of donations sought by the Reserve Unit, and made by: The Frankenmuth Credit Union, **Nexteer Corporation, Garber Management** Group, Wildfire Credit Union, Glasstender **Incorporated, Spicer Group Incorporated,** Fordney Club, Family First Credit Union, Team One Credit Union, Catholic Federal Credit Union, Saginaw Bay Underwriters, COPOCO Credit Union, and the Rifkin Scrap Metal and Iron Company.

The Saginaw Police Department wishes to thank all of the Reserves especially Harry Davis who worked diligently seeking the donations graciously provided by the mentioned entities. We also thank all of the Donors for their contributions toward making Saginaw a safe place to Live, Work, Worship and Play!

Nature Preschool 2019-20 Registration Now Open



courtesy photo

Nature Preschool at Chippewa Nature Center (CNC), located at 400 S Badour Rd in Midland, is now accepting registrations for the 2019-20 school year, its 13th year of operation. Nature Preschool is open to children who will be 3- or 4-years old by September 1 for two, three or four half-day sessions.

Nature Preschool offers students a high quality learning environment that meets their developmental needs while initiating them into a life-long, meaningful relationship with the natural world through experiences such as discovery-based learning through play, sensory exploration, large and fine motor activities, creative expression, making friends and developing social skills. Nature Preschool is unique in that it uses the natural world as a catalyst for children's growth and development. Children have daily experiences outdoors in the play areas and on CNC property. The children regularly hike to wooded areas, ponds, fields and the Homestead Farm. Classes are held in two locations – the Gold LEED certified Margaret Ann (Ranny) Riecker Nature Preschool Center and the Alden B. Dow-designed Nature Study Building.

Based upon seasonal changes, the curriculum includes art, music, social and cognitive skill development, gross and fine motor skill development and natural science exploration. Children will build their knowledge through first-hand experiences with nature, classroom materials and their relationships with peers and adults.

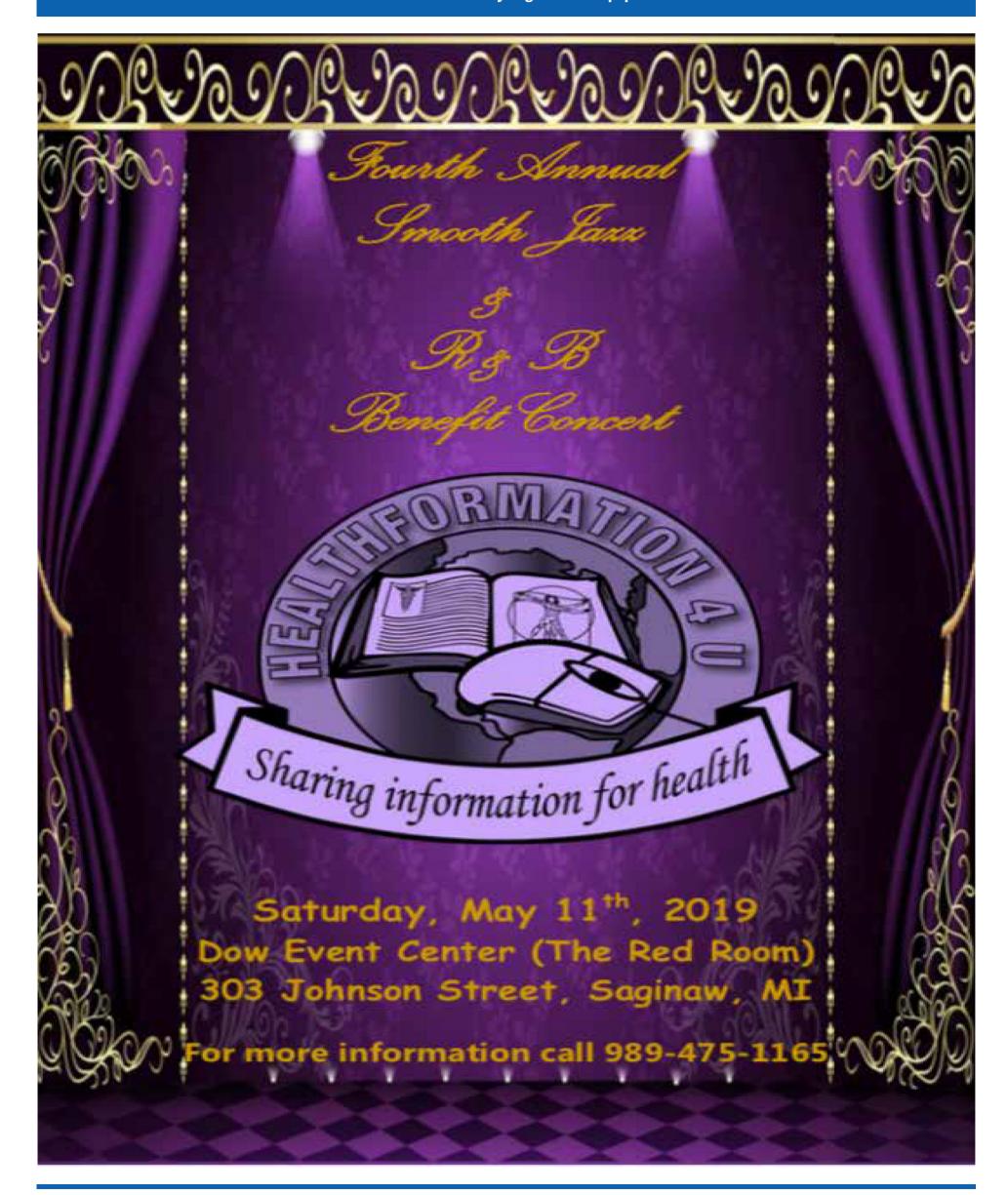
Registration information packets are available at www.chippewanaturecenter.org/nature-preschool, by calling 989-631-0830 or at CNC, and applications are being accepted now. Interested families should submit their class preferences online through the 2019-20 Nature Preschool Placement Request Form.

Placements for current and alumni families will begin January 7. Placements for new families will begin February 1, then on an ongoing basis until all slots are filled. Registrations received prior to the placement date will be pooled, and children will be placed in sessions by lottery. Registrations received after the placement date will be placed in the order they are received based on availability of sessions.

There will be an open house on Thursday, January 10 from 5:30 to 7 pm. The whole family is invited to see the indoor and outdoor classrooms and play areas and meet the teachers!

Questions regarding Nature Preschool should be directed to Madison Powell, Nature Preschool Director, at 989-631-0830 or mpowell@chippewanaturecenter. org.







Saginaw Medical Federal Credit Participates in Underground Railroad's Adopt a Family



Saginaw Medical Federal Credit Union participated in Underground Railroad's Adopt a Family program this holiday season. Together, employees donated household items, winter gear, clothing, and toys for a local family.

"We were extremely proud to have "adopted" a family through the Underground Railroad this year," said Laura Crase, President/CEO of SMFCU. "We were honored to help make a local family's holiday a little brighter"

The Underground Railroad provides essential services for survivors of domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, and human slavery. Their annual Adopt a Family program matches donors with local families to provide seasonal support, in the form of household linens, hygiene items, cleaning supplies, toys, and other gifts. The Underground Railroad can be reached at undergroundrailroadinc.org or 888.399.8385.



Faith Temple Ministries seeking vendors for Bazaar in January



courtesy photo

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Cover Story, MLK Jr. Unity Walk



courtesy photo

Several community and service awards will be presented to individuals and organizations for their efforts in the community. The chapter's community awards will recognize two outstanding community partners. First, the "Dr. MLK Jr Unity Award" will be presented to the Saginaw Transit Authority Regional Services (STARS); and Reverend Roosevelt Austin Sr., pastor emeritus, Zion Missionary Baptist Church will receive the "Dr. MLK Jr Service Award." These are the Fraternity's highest community honors for service to Saginaw and the Great Lakes Bay Region. The fraternity chapter award will be presented to an Alpha Phi

Alpha member for their meritorious service. Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity members Christopher Pierre Gad-dis will receive the "Service Award" for his service to the Fraternity and Iota Chi Lambda chapter. Delta College Black Faculty and Staff Association President Carlos McMath and Delta College President Jean Good-now will present the "Spirit of Dr. King Award" on behalf of the college.

Funds generated from this luncheon and other fundraising events support the Iota Chi Lambda Educational Foundation and our Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. scholarship. Kevin Hayes, a 2018 graduate of Saginaw Arts and Science Academy and a student at Michigan State University, is the recipient of the 2018 scholarship.

Jamie Sherrod and James Felton, news anchor and reporter, respectively, from WNEM-TV5, are the mistress and master of ceremony for the uncheon. Tickets are still available and can be obtained by calling Smallwood Holoman at 989-631-7679 or George Adams at 989-797-4096. The cost is \$40 per person.

"We are excited about this 23rd commemorative event to recognize and celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.!" said Julius Boarden Sr., president of the local chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. "Our Unity March which Dr. King and others civic leaders used to call attention to social injustices, will kick off the day of celebration. We expect about 100 students and staff representing middle school through college, local politicians, clergy and civic leaders to take the nearly one mile march from center Saginaw to The Dow Event Center. And our Unity Luncheon will showcase the local heroes that make our communities, state and our nation great!"





NON-PROFIT DIRECTORY

CAN Council Saginaw County

1311 N. Michigan Avenue Saginaw, MI 48602 989-752-7226 Fax: 989-752-2777 www.cancouncil.org

The New Ezekiel Project

P.O. Box 3470 Saginaw, MI 48605-3470 989-755-1620 Fax: 989-755-4038 www.theezekielproject.com jamie@theezekielproject.com

Great Lakes PACE

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

Great Lakes Bay Health Centers

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

Houghton-Jones Task Force

1708 Johnson Street Saginaw, MI 989-752-1660

Samaritas Community Center

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

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

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

Restoration Community Outreach

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

Saginaw County Business & Education Partnership

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

Saginaw County Community Action Agency, Inc. (CAC)

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

The Michigan Banner Outreach Ministries

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

The Saginaw Community Foundation

1 Tuscola, Suite 100 Saginaw, MI 48607 989-755-0545

Youth M.O.V.E. Saginaw

989-798-5679 www.youthmovesaginaw.org movesaginaw@gmail.com

Saginaw-Shiawassee Habitat for Humanity Welcomes All!







FAITH-BASED DIRECTORY

Annointed Temple Ministries

Pastor Timothy D. Holden, Sr. 3160 Christy Way, Ste 6 Saginaw, MI 48603 989-341-4286

Bethel AME Church

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Bread of Life Harvest Center

Senior Pastor Rodney J. McTaggart 3726 Fortune Blvd. Saginaw, MI 48603 989-790-7933

Christ Disciples Baptist Church

Founder Pastor Eddie Benson Pastor Genevieve Benson 3317 Lapeer Street Saginaw, MI 48601 989-754-2444

Christ Fellowship Baptist Church

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

Corinthian Baptist Church

Pastor Roy L. Manning 104 S. 10th St. Saginaw, MI 48601 989-754-1820

Faith Harvest Church

Bishop Ronald E. Chipp 1734 N. Mason Saginaw, MI 48602 989-799-4200 www.faithharvestministry.org office@faithharvestministry.org

Grace Chapel Church

Pastor James Nelson 2202 Janes Ave. Saginaw, MI 48601 989-755-3212

Greater Renaissance

Pastor Cedric R. Cheatham 1535 S. Warren Ave. Saginaw, MI 48601 989-752-1455 260-515-6456

Greater Williams Temple

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



Jacob's Ladder

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

Life in Christ Ministries

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

Messiah Missionary Baptist Church

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



Ninth Street Community Church

Pastor William L. Scott Jr. Assistant Pastor Rex Jones

1118 N. 9th Street Saginaw, MI 48601 989-752-7366

Prince of Peace Baptist Church

825 North 24th Street Saginaw, MI 48601 989-754-2841 Pastor Robert C. Corley Jr.

St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Pastor Carl Ballard 915 Federal Avenue Saginaw, MI 48607 Phone: 989-754-0489 Worship: 9:30 AM

stjohnlutheranelcasaginaw.weebly.com



Saginaw Valley Community

Pastor Richard Sayad 3660 Hermansau Saginaw, MI 48603 989-752-4769



Transforming Life Ministries

Pastor William Brown 523 Hayden Saginaw, MI 48601-4353 989-754-9573



True Vine Baptist Church

Pastor Paul E. Broaddus 2930 Janes Street Saginaw, MI 48601 989-752-0751

Victorious Belivers Ministries Church

Rev. Christopher V. Pryor 624 S. Outer Dr. Saginaw, MI 989-755-7692

Wolverine State Baptist Church

615 S. Jefferson Ave. Saginaw, MI 48607

World Outreach Campus of Greater Coleman Temple Ministries

Supt. H.J. Coleman Jr. 2405 Bay Rd. Saginaw, MI 48602 989-752-7957



Zion Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor Rodrick Smith 721 Johnson Saginaw, MI 48607 989-754-9621

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POLITICS & PUBLIC POLICY

Whitmer Signs First Executive Directive to Protect Public Health, Safety and Welfare



courtesy photo

LANSING -- Today Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed the first Executive Directive of her administration, Executive Directive 2019-1, to ensure any imminent threat to public health, safety or welfare is immediately reported, assessed, and investigated by department employees, department directors, and agency heads.

"As governor, one of my principal duties is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all Michigan residents," said Whitmer. "I am confident that the cabinet I have assembled will put Michiganders first, encourage and empower state employees to speak up if they believe there is a threat to public health and safety, and act promptly on any concerns with my chief compliance officer. This executive directive will ensure that our government works for the people of our state."

"The people of Michigan deserve peace of mind that their government is working to protect them," said Liesl Clark, director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. "I am committed to having an open-door policy, listening actively, empowering employees to speak up, and reassuring them that they have protections under the law if they believe there are threats to public health and safety. I look forward to working with Governor Whitmer as we build a state government that puts Michiganders first."

Under the directive, department employees who become aware of an imminent threat to the public health, safety, or welfare must immediately report it to their department director or agency head. If department directors/agency heads determine there is an imminent threat, they must eliminate or mitigate it if they have the resources to do so, and if they don't, they must notify the governor's

chief compliance officer and request assistance. If a department director/agency head determines that there is no threat to public health, safety or welfare, they must report the reasons for that determination to the governor's chief compliance officer.

Information related to any threat to Michiganders health, safety, or welfare must be reported objectively and promptly to eliminate any attempt to thwart discovery or obscure or discolor facts. If a department director/agency head believes that a threat is not being addressed adequately, they must share their concerns directly with the Governor. Department directors/agency heads must also remind their employees of applicable protections under The Whistleblowers' Protection Act and the Whistleblower provisions of the Michigan Civil Service Commission Rules.



Congressman Dan Kildee sworn in to the 116th Congress



courtesy photo

Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05) was sworn in to the 116th Congress today, starting his fourth term in Congress. Recently appointed by the House Democratic leadership as Chief Deputy Whip, Kildee will help to lead the Democratic Caucus as it prioritizes action on lowering health care costs, growing our economy and cleaning up government.

"It is an honor and a privilege to continue representing Michigan in Congress for another two years. I will go to work each day as an advocate for Michigan's working families.

Democrats are committed to focusing on issues that working families are concerned about around the kitchen table, including lowering the costs

of health care premiums and prescription drugs, improving our crumbling infrastructure, protecting Social Security and Medicare, and cleaning up government. I am glad that in the new Congress Michigan families and the Midwest will get a seat at the leadership table," said Congressman Kildee.

Since being elected to Congress in 2012, Congressman Kildee has served in multiple leadership roles, including as the Vice Ranking Member of the Financial Services Committee in the 115th Congress, where he fought to protect consumers, ensured affordable housing, and kept money out of the hands of terrorists and bad actors. Despite Democrats being in the minority, in the last Congress Congressman Kildee brought Republicans and Democrats together to pass a \$170 million Flint aid package to help the city replace lead pipes and expand health care for families and children. Congressman Kildee has also successfully led the fight to reject cuts, under both Presidents Trump and Obama, to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which helps to protect the Great Lakes from invasive species like Asian carp.

In the 116th Congress, Kildee will serve as the Dean of the Michigan House Democratic delegation, as the most senior Democrat in the delegation.



SPORTS

How to Protect your Young Athlete from Concussion



courtesy photo

About 300,000 high school athletes suffer from concussions every year, and experts suspect many more go unreported. Younger athletes in middle and elementary schools are at risk as well. Repeated concussions can lead to brain damage, so it's no wonder health professionals and parents are increasingly concerned about concussion prevention.

While football presents the highest risk of concussion, players in other sports aren't immune. Soccer players who repeatedly "head" the ball, baseball players who dive headfirst for the base or collide with other players, basketball players who fall and hit their heads on the court, gymnasts who take a fall from the balance beam—all can suffer concussions. What can a parent do to protect their child?

While it's impossible to head off every injury in

sports, parents can take these precautions to help keep their athletic kids safe on the field or court.

Use recommended head gear, and make sure it fits. Even the best safety gear won't protect your child if it doesn't fit properly. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers these tips to make sure your child's helmet is safe. Even the best helmet won't completely prevent concussion, however; helmets are designed to prevent serious injury like skull fracture and internal head bleeding.

Speak to the coach. Find out their protocol for protecting kids from concussion. (If they don't have one, find a different league or coach). And make sure the coach's top priority is the safety of the kids, not winning at all costs. If your kid's coach has a "gut it out and keep playing" philosophy, find a different team.

Know the symptoms of concussion. If your child suffers a blow to the head, watch for these symptoms:

- Sleepiness
- Dizziness
- Blurred vision
- Nausea
- Slurred speech
- Confusion
- Loss of memory surrounding the event
- Delayed response to questions
- Ringing in the ears

If your child exhibits any of these symptoms, or loses consciousness at any point, take them to an emergency center for evaluation.

Even if your child shows no symptoms, if the blow to the head was significant, see a doctor anyway. Sometimes symptoms won't occur until days later, when damage has already occurred. This is one time when you can't be too cautious.

Talk to your child. Make sure they know the symptoms listed above, and make sure they are aware how serious a concussion can be (without frightening them). Without realizing the risk, kids will sometimes downplay their injuries so they can keep playing.

If your child suffers a concussion, allow recovery time. The greatest risk for long-term brain damage comes from "second impact syndrome"—a second concussion that occurs before the brain is fully healed. Most doctors recommend strict physical and mental rest for 24 to 48 hours, and a return to light exercise and mental activity after this.

Participating in sports offers kids a wide range of physical, social and psychological benefits. With careful precautions, they can reap these benefits and stay safe, too.

For more resources on concussion and sports safety, visit https://www.covenanthealthcare.com/cmg/sportsmedicineresources.



2019 Great Lakes Loons Schedule Announced



courtesy photo

MIDLAND, Mich. - The Great Lakes Loons are pleased to announce their 2019 schedule that features 70 games at Dow Diamond. The Loons will open the season on the road against the Lake County Captains on April 4-5 before a six-game homestand from April 6-11 kicks off the home schedule.

Opening Day at Dow Diamond will be Saturday, April 6, with a special game time of 4:05 p.m. April will see the Loons play 13 home games, with weekend dates having a 2:05 p.m. first pitch. The remaining games are slated for 6:05 p.m. starts.

The Loons will play home games on both Memorial Day Weekend (May 24-27) and Father's Day Weekend (June 14-16) next season, both of which will include a Fireworks Loontacular. However, they will close out the season with a road series in Lake County on Labor Day

Weekend.

The ever-popular \$1 Family Feast Night, presented by Chemical Bank, will once again take over the ballpark every Thursday home game. On those 10 dates, fans can enjoy \$1 hot dogs, 16 oz. Pepsi products, Better Made chips and ice cream sandwiches throughout the game.

Kids Eat Free Sundays, presented by Soaring Eagle Waterpark & Hotel, will return for another season. There will be 10 afternoon matinees offering kids 12 and under the opportunity to receive a free hot dog, chips and 16 oz. drink. Kids can also run the bases following the game on Sundays, courtesy of Farm Bureau Insurance.

Fireworks Loontaculars are some of the biggest highlights on the schedule. Fans have the chance to enjoy a free fireworks show after the game. Some unique twists are an early fireworks date in May, back-to-back dates in late July, and two Friday night shows in August. There are 13 firework displays in all scheduled for next season:

May (1): May 25 June (3): June 8, June 15, June 22 July (4): July 3, July 6, July 19, July 20 August (5): August 2, August 10, August 17, August 21, August 30

There are five dates currently on the 2019 schedule that have first pitch times yet to be determined: May 14, June 5, June 10, July 22, August 22. More information will follow throughout the offseason on what time those games will take place.

A full promotional schedule will follow in early 2019 as Opening Day approaches.



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PICS OF THE WEEK

On December 24, 2018 (Christmas Eve), the Saginaw Police Reserves, Saginaw Police Department Officer Moore and Michelle McCoy of KMS delivered teddy bears to patients at the Covenant Pediatric Unit.







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