

# THE MICHIGAN BANNER

Celebrating 16 years of Positive News



**Dow moves up to #37 on 2019 Top 50 Companies for Diversity list**

**Business, Page 18**



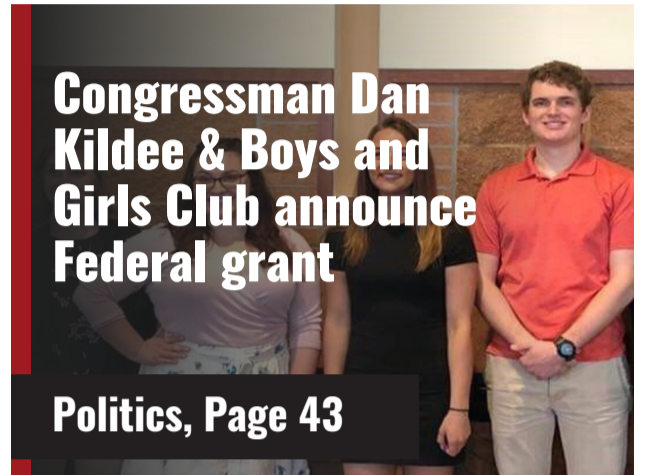
**SVSU students selected for leadership development program**

**Education, Page 24**



**Congressman Dan Kildee & Boys and Girls Club announce Federal grant**

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Leading in Diversity, Empowering Communities and Changing Lives

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

## Celebrating Memorial Day



pg 4

## Free Hernia Screening and Robotic Surgery Demo Event in Midland



Health, pg 13



## Program Highlight: Boys and Girls Club's SMART Girls



*courtesy photo*

### What advice would you give your younger self?

Would it be to acquire more knowledge? To stay humble? To be kind to others? To give back to your community? To make better choices? Or maybe to remind those around you that you appreciate them?

If you said yes to any of these; consider the Boys and Girls Clubs SMART Girls program. It is a small-group prevention, education and self-esteem enhancement program to meet the developmental needs of girls spanning ages 8 to 18.

Continues on pg 2, SMART Girls

## Cover Story, SMART Girls



*courtesy photos*

SMART Girls is a small-group health, fitness, prevention/education and self-esteem enhancement program designed to meet the developmental needs of girls. Through dynamic sessions, highly participatory activities, field trips and mentoring opportunities with adult women, Club girls explore their own and societal attitudes and values as they build skills for eating right, staying physically fit, getting good health care and developing positive relationships with peers and adults.

Helping girls become more inclusive, raise their self-esteem, teaching them to manage stress, and find balance. Girls develop problem solving skills and learn to become leaders. Some of the sessions these young ladies attend focus on enhancing communication skills, social media and the jarring affect it can have on girls, etiquette and manners as well as many other social and emotional topics. By using crafts, games, cooking, and other unique discussion starters, we can very confidently talk about the difficult topics and actually help these young ladies develop their own strategies for success. The true strength of this program is declared right in the title. (Skills Mastery And Resilience Training)

Join us in helping girls become strong, confident, and compassionate young women. Enhancing girls' physical and emotional health to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to practice healthy lifestyle choices.

In real life, you CAN do big things & you CAN be of powerful, lasting service to others!

**For more information about the SMART Girls program visit [greatlakesclubs.org](http://greatlakesclubs.org).**

## The 4-1-1



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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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## 2019 Calendar

- Community Kick-off and Celebration events hosted from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Ojibway Island
- Hospitality provided before each walk at the designated meeting location from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- Each walk will be held on Wednesday nights from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Follow us on Facebook  
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#LUTCS2019

Date	Event	Location	Sponsors
June 12	Kick-off	Ojibway Island	
June 19	Walk - Q1	Houghton Elementary 1905 Houghton Ave, Saginaw, MI 48602	
June 26	Walk - Q2	Michigan Lutheran Seminary 2777 Hardin St, Saginaw, MI 48602	
July 10	Walk - Q3	Jessie Loomis Elementary 2001 Limerick St, Saginaw, MI 48601	
July 17	Walk - Q4	Covenant HealthCare Hospital 1447 N Harrison St, Saginaw, MI 48602	
July 24	Walk - Q1	Saginaw County Community Action 2824 Perkins St, Saginaw, MI 48601	
July 31	Walk - Q2	Jerome Elementary 1515 Sweet St, Saginaw, MI 48602	
Aug. 7	Walk - Q3	Francis Reh Academy 2201 Owen St, Saginaw, MI 48601	
Aug. 14	Walk - Q4	Herig Elementary 1905 Houghton Ave, Saginaw, MI 48602	
Aug. 21	Community Celebration	Ojibway Island	

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#LUTC2019

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**Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2019 occurs on Monday, May 27. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many**

**Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.**

### **Early Observances of Memorial Day**

The Civil War, which ended in the spring of 1865, claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history and required the establishment

of the country's first national cemeteries.

By the late 1860s, Americans in various towns and cities had begun holding springtime tributes to these countless fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and reciting prayers.

*Did you know? Each year on Memorial Day a national moment of remembrance takes place at 3:00 p.m. local time.*

It is unclear where exactly this tradition originated; numerous different communities may have independently initiated the memorial gatherings. Nevertheless,

in 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day.

Waterloo—which first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—was chosen because it hosted an annual, community-wide event, during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

## Decoration Day

On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan, leader of an organization for Northern Civil War veterans, called for a nationwide day of remembrance later that month. “The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land,” he proclaimed.

The date of Decoration Day, as he called it, was chosen because it wasn’t the anniversary of any particular battle.

On the first Decoration Day, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery, and 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there.

Many Northern states held similar commemorative events and

repeated the tradition in subsequent years; by 1890 each one had made Decoration Day an official state holiday. Southern states, on the other hand, continued to honor their dead on separate days until after World War I.

## History of Memorial Day

Memorial Day, as Decoration Day gradually came to be known, originally honored only those lost while fighting in the Civil War. But during World War I the United States found itself embroiled in another major conflict, and the holiday evolved to commemorate American military personnel who died in all wars.

For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30, the date Logan had selected for the first Decoration Day. But in 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act,

which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees; the change went into effect in 1971. The same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday.

## Memorial Day Traditions

Cities and towns across the United States host Memorial Day parades each year, often incorporating military personnel and members of veterans’ organizations. Some of the largest parades take place in Chicago, New York and Washington, D.C.

Americans also observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries and memorials. On a less somber note, many people take weekend trips or throw parties and barbecues on the holiday, perhaps because it unofficially marks the beginning of summer.



source: [history.com](http://history.com)

# THE LATINO BANNER

LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

Vamos Adelante



## Hispanic Center of Western Michigan to host Hispanic Festival



**Seen on the Scene:  
Saginaw's Cinco de Mayo  
Parade & Celebration!**

LB Pg. 3

**Submit your  
news at**

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



The Hispanic Center of Western Michigan is excited to welcome you back to our historic Hispanic Festival scheduled for the second weekend of August! This 3 day long event is FREE, family friendly, and open to the public. Please join us in celebrating & supporting the various rich Hispanic cultures that are present in West Michigan.

There will be live entertainment, kid activities, dancing, food, beverages, our famous Mercadito, and lots lots more!

**Date & Time**

Aug 9<sup>th</sup> - Aug 11<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 PM

**Location**

Calder Plaza  
(La Grand Vitesse)  
250 Monroe Ave NW  
Ste 50, Grand Rapids,  
Michigan 49503



# From dream to reality

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

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

We're pleased to support the Michigan Banner.



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# COMMUNITY LEADER HIGHLIGHT:

## Jose Adrian Viera

**Through hard work and dedication, anything is possible.** Jose Adrian Viera is our latest example of how these words resonate ever true with the Hispanic/Latino community.

Growing up as a migrant worker, Jose tackled higher education at Lansing Community College and Ferris State University to join the 103rd Mid-Michigan Police Academy.

Through 17 intense weeks of challenges, Jose persevered and pushed through. Not only was Jose able to graduate, but he was awarded the Coordinator and Emergency Vehicle Operator awards.

Now on-duty in the Lansing area, we would like to congratulate Officer Viera for his unrelenting dedication to serve his community. We look forward to seeing the positive influence of his work in our community, and hope he will inspire our community to achieve more.





# Seen on the Scene:

## Saginaw's Cinco de Mayo Parade & Celebration!



# Community Board

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

Midwest Tejano Radio.com TEAM ONE CREDIT UNION MIDWEST Tejano CULTURAL

Tejano Sound Band Les Carnales Los Hermanos Villegas

**MIGUEL Hernandez**

6th Annual MIDWEST TEJANO Musicfest FRIDAY June 14TH

FOOD & BEVERAGES WILL BE SOLD LAWN CHAIRS ARE ALLOWED

**\$8** IN ADVANCE **\$10 @ THE GATE** 5PM TILL 9:45PM GATES OPEN @ 4:30PM  
**HUNTINGTON EVENT PARK**  
 300 JOHNSON ST. SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48607

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Blue Cross Blue Shield Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan RALF MORGUEIRA, DCS & ASSOCIATES, INC PHOTO PRO'S PHOTO BOOTHS Duperon Vargas & Sons Tri City KUSTOMZ T.C.T. Shields Wireless

Tanya C. Medina  
Memorial Golf Outing  
**9th Annual**  
At Sawmill Golf Club  
**9AM SHOTGUN**

**JUNE 1st, 2019**  
LUNCH AT THE TURN,  
DINNER AND PRIZES

**\$70 PER PERSON**  
Sponsor a Hole for \$100  
Registration And Payment  
Deadline Is May 22,

MAKE PAYABLE	TEAM INFO
Manuel Garcia	1. _____
1116 RIVER FOREST DR	2. _____
SAGINAW MI 48638	3. _____
989-529-1349	4. _____
garciaman3@aol.com	

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

### DEADLINES

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



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[www.GreatLakesBayHealth.org](http://www.GreatLakesBayHealth.org)

# FUNDRAISING GOOD TIMES

## RFP exposure: good or bad? Part one of a two part series

When it's time to contract for services, design a new building, or make technology upgrades it's time to issue an RFP – short for “Request for Proposal.” You might want to go with someone you know, but that may not be in your best interest. In fact, you might be locking out the best qualified. And, as too many of us know, failing to issue an RFP means small, local and minority businesses lose a chance to compete.

But, issuing an RFP is work. It takes time and knowledge to craft an RFP that is concise and clearly communicates the goods or services you are seeking to purchase. When you don't know or aren't clear you create more work for your organization (staff and leadership) and for vendors who evaluate your request. You can also create a negative experience within your organization and/or within the community you serve.

Here are three management/leadership level discussions to consider before issuing an RFP.

**1. Do you have complete buy-in** amongst staff, management, board members, and the people you serve or advocate for? Talk to people about your plans and ask for their input. Be open to news you might not want to hear. You may think you need to issue an RFP now, but doing so could cause more harm than good. Is there an external force driving your schedule such as a board mandate, funder's requirement, or market needs? What are the objections or proposed modifications? Have these

been given an open and honest hearing and assessment?

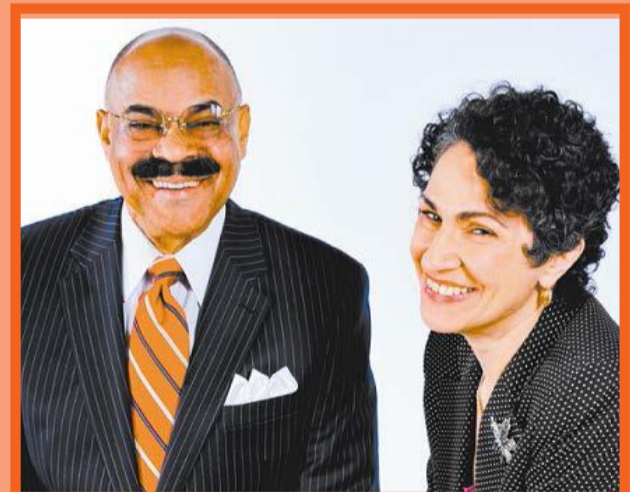
**2. Will you have the time to manage the requested project?** Selecting a vendor will take more time than you can imagine. You need to define the scope of work and the criteria used to evaluate proposals. You need a committee to review and rate proposals, conduct interviews, deliberate, and make a decision. It will take even more time to negotiate a contract with timelines and deliverables that both your organization and the vendor will adhere to.

That's just to get a vendor under contract. Then you need to work with your contractor providing information and guidance along the way. You need check-in meetings; working sessions, review sessions, and more. Map out the time you believe a project will entail and test your estimates with board members and those within organization's who have already gone down the road that lies before you.

**3. Do you have the money to pay for the goods or services?** This is critical.

Do not go out to bid if you don't have the money lined up. If you want to know a range for specific services, ask your peer organizations, and ask vendors for estimates. Don't use an RFP as a way to test market prices: issue an RFP when you are prepared to purchase goods or services.

Finally, be honest – don't issue an RFP if you are already committed to contracting with a specific firm. That wastes your time and that of vendors who can support you.



Mel and Pearl Shaw | Courtesy Photo

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

# HEALTH

## Free Hernia Screening and Robotic Surgery Demo Event in Midland



*courtesy photo*

MidMichigan Medical Center – Midland will be holding free hernia screenings and a public open house to test drive the robotic surgery system on Monday, June 17. This event will be held in Conference Room H1221 and H1224, located within the Hospital Entrance of MidMichigan Medical Center – Midland. The open house and robot demonstrations will take place from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. and the free hernia screenings will take place by appointment from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Hernia's occurs when muscle tissue become weak or is damaged. Common symptoms of a hernia are weakness, pressure, burning the abdomen; a bulge or lump in the abdomen,

pelvis, or groin; pain or discomfort when bending over, coughing, or doing heavy lifting; or an enlarged belly button.

Patients requiring hernia surgery may have the option for their hernia procedure to be performed robotically at MidMichigan Medical Center – Midland with the da Vinci® Xi™ Surgical System.

The extreme precision possible with robotic surgery means smaller incisions, less pain, less blood loss, lower risk of infection or complications, a shorter hospital stay, faster recovery and less scarring. Currently, MidMichigan is using robotic surgery technology for general surgery, bariatric

surgery, gynecologic surgery and urological procedures.

The public will be able to see a demonstration of how this state-of-the-art surgical system works, test drive the robot, learn about robotic surgery options and the benefits, as well as meet members of the Medical Center's surgeons, clinicians and staff teams.

Those who would like to schedule an appointment for a free hernia screening, may register at [www.midmichigan.org/herniascreening](http://www.midmichigan.org/herniascreening) or call MidMichigan Health Line at (800) 999-3199. Registration is required and space is limited.

Great Lakes Bay  
Health Centers  
Quality Healthcare for Everyone

*You're Invited...*



## *Janes Street Optical Department Open House*

*Date: May 17th, 2019*

*Time: 11:30am—1:30pm (ribbon cutting at 12:15)*

*Place: 1522 Janes St. Saginaw, MI 48601*

*We would like to invite you to join us in celebrating our newly remodeled optical department located at Great Lakes Bay Health Centers - Janes Street. We are excited to provide more optical care services to everyone throughout our Great Lakes Bay region! Stop by, say hello, and help us celebrate! Light refreshments will be provided.*





June 6-7, 2019

4th Annual

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# Immunizations at the Saginaw County Health Department



*courtesy photo*

While several vaccine-preventable diseases are at or near record lows, we must continue to vaccinate ourselves and our children for protection against the many harmful health effects these diseases present. Research continues daily to ensure vaccine safety.

The SCHD offers immunization clinics daily for your convenience at its MAIN location. Registered nurses provide TB testing and immunization services required for childcare, school, and college entry, as well as adult needs. Protection is provided against the diseases listed below.

## Immunizations Provided:

- Diphtheria
- Haemophilus Influenza Type b (Hib)
- Hepatitis A & B
- Human Papillomavirus
- Measles
- Meningitis
- Mumps
- Pertussis
- Pneumococcal Disease
- Polio
- Rotavirus
- Rubella
- Seasonal Influenza
- Tetanus
- Varicella (chicken pox)
- Zoster (shingles)

## Immunization Payment & Insurance:

Currently, we are able to bill Medicaid, Blue Care Network, Priority Health, ASR, McLaren Health Plans, Tri-Care Standard, Medicare (Flu and Pneumonia only), and some Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and some HAP insurance plans for the cost of covered vaccines. You must present a picture ID and your insurance card at the time of service. Clients are advised to contact their insurance company to determine which Immunizations are covered at the Saginaw County Health Department.

- Children younger than 19 years of age who have no insurance coverage or limited insurance coverage (that which does not cover shots) may qualify to receive vaccines for \$20.00 per injection. Inability to pay will not defer services.
- Adults 19 years and older who have no insurance coverage or limited insurance coverage (that which does not cover shots) may qualify to receive limited vaccines for \$20.00 per injection.

All others need to pay for the service based on the current SCHD immunization fee schedule or return to their primary care physician. Payment can be made by cash, check, or credit/debit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover).

For more information, call 989-758-3840.

## Michigan families urged to learn about resources during Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders Awareness Month

LANSING, Mich. – May is Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders Awareness (PMAD) Month and Michigan women and families are being urged to learn more about PMAD and available resources by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Division of Maternal and Infant Health.

PMAD, historically known as postpartum depression, affect many Michigan families each year. PMAD is different and more intense than the “baby blues” that many women experience in the weeks after birth of a baby.

Symptoms can feel overwhelming and include depression, anxiety, guilt, irritability, anger, difficulty sleeping and eating, feeling disconnected from one’s baby and experiencing frightening and intrusive thoughts. These symptoms can appear during pregnancy and up to two years after a baby is born. PMAD can affect birth mothers, fathers and adoptive mothers.

“PMAD affects the physical health and emotional well-being of pregnant and postpartum women,” said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, MDHHS chief medical executive and chief deputy director for health. “We must join together to increase awareness, reduce stigma and assist women with getting the support and treatment they need.”

To help increase understanding of the disorders, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has proclaimed May as PMAD Awareness Month and the Michigan Statewide Perinatal Mood Disorder Coalition is hosting its annual Walk on the Capitol Wednesday, May 8, noon – 2 p.m., at the state Capitol.

For more information about PMAD and available resources, visit the Maternal Infant Health Program website.



# Great Lakes PACE: Conquering Transportation Issues



*courtesy photo*

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

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

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

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

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

## Great Lakes PACE services available in these Zip Codes:

### Saginaw County

48415, 48417, 48601, 48602, 48603, 48604, 48605, 48606, 48607, 48608, 48609, 48614, 48616, 48623, 48626, 48637, 48638, 48649, 48655, 48663, 48722, 48724, 48734, 48787

### Overlap with Saginaw and Another County

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

### Bay County

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

### Shiawassee

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

### Gratiot

48615, 48637, 48662, 48807, 48831

### Tuscola

48415, 48435, 48701, 48723, 48733, 48734, 48744, 48746, 48757, 48767, 48768

### Midland County

48640, 48642, 48620

### Arenac

48650

# BUSINESS & WEALTH

## Dow moves up to #37 on 2019 Top 50 Companies for Diversity list

MIDLAND, Mich. - May 08, 2019 - Dow earned the 37th place on the 2019 Top 50 Companies for Diversity list from DiversityInc, which was announced yesterday at DiversityInc's annual celebratory event in New York City. Dow's presence on the list for the second consecutive year showcases its commitment to workplace diversity and reflects the Company's understanding of how a diverse workplace improves both recruitment efforts and profits.

"We are proud to be recognized again as a leader in inclusion and diversity, and it's gratifying to see Dow move up 13 places on this year's list," said Jim Fitterling, chief executive officer of Dow. "Dow's ambition is to become the most innovative, customer-centric, inclusive and sustainable materials science company in the world. Success will be predicated on building an inclusive culture that values and embraces differences, and taps into the diverse ideas, cultural perspectives, and education, work and life experiences of our people. Inclusion and diversity is a business imperative."

Dow's move up the list, from 50th place to the 37th spot in 2019, reflects the Company's accelerated efforts in recent years to raise the bar for making inclusion a catalyst for positive change.

"We are honored to receive this recognition for our progress and results and committed to continuing to cultivate an inclusive workplace for a globally diverse workforce," said Karen S. Carter, chief human resources officer and chief inclusion officer of Dow. "DiversityInc sets the bar high and the top companies continue to raise the bar higher. So, we are particularly pleased to be cited among companies doing such outstanding and important work. This achievement is a testimony to the efforts of thousands of Dow people around the world who are bringing inclusion and diversity to life every day and institutionalizing it in the way we work."

For the first time Dow was also included on three of DiversityInc's Specialty Lists: 15th on Top Companies for People with Disabilities, 21st on



*courtesy photo*

Top Companies for Diversity Councils, and one of 34 companies on Top Companies for LGBT Employees.

To celebrate this notable milestone, Fitterling and Carter participated in the 2019 DiversityInc event. Carter served as a panelist in a session focusing on moving women of color into senior leadership role, while Fitterling engaged in a fireside chat withCarolynn Johnson, COO of DiversityInc.

Issued annually since 2001, the DiversityInc Top 50 list honors top companies across the nation for their management of diversity and inclusion. The list is based on data from a survey of more

than 200 questions, which tracks and connects human capital outcomes with best practices used to promote the advancement of underrepresented workplace groups such as women, minorities, people with disabilities, LGBTQ+ and veterans. The rankings factor in a number of elements, including but not limited to talent development, recruitment, supplier diversity and senior leadership commitment to inclusion and diversity.

Visit DiversityInc's website to view the entire Top 50 list and follow the conversation at #DITop50.



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# Michigan's largest local business organizations rally together around Statewide policy agenda



*courtesy photo*

(LANSING, Mich.) – On Tuesday, May 7, Michigan's largest business organizations representing thousands of employers across the state, released a joint 2019 Legislative Agenda on behalf of their collective members, which provide jobs to the vast majority of Michigan's legislative districts, from small business to Fortune 500.

Employers' indicate that their number one issue is the need for a high-quality, high skilled workforce. With Michigan's infrastructure in its poorest condition in decades, the coalition of regional chambers set this agenda to create change in 2019.

The coalition of chambers of commerce include: Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Regional Chamber; Bay Area Chamber; Detroit Regional Chamber; Flint & Genesee Chamber; Grand Rapids Chamber; Lansing Regional Chamber; Saginaw County Chamber; and Southwest Michigan First.

"Businesses across Michigan are struggling with the same challenge of getting customers and employees to their door and goods to market. We need a long term and sustainable solution to fix our roads that delivers the needed dedicated funds," said Tim Daman, president and CEO of the Lansing Chamber.

The organizations support the below priorities that are vital to Michigan's progress:

1. Increased and dedicated revenue stream for state and local roads and infrastructure. Funding for a comprehensive, statewide infrastructure fix is nearly impossible unless a needed dedicated revenue stream is identified and enacted.
2. Increased funding for "Going Pro"-formerly Skilled Trades Training Fund. This employer-driven, upskilling program has been widely successful with significant potential for growth.
3. Expansion of the Elliot Larson Civil Rights act to include gender identity and sexual orientation. Michigan must have a welcoming and competitive climate to attract and retain top talent from around the state, nation and globe.
4. Maintaining a fair, broad-based and competitive tax structure for Michigan businesses. Our competitive and simple corporate income tax is working for business, and it is working for Michigan.
5. Supporting the Governor Whitmer's Pathways Education Attainment Strategy, modeled after Tennessee's successful Promise and Reconnect programs. In order to move Michigan forward, we must unite around a shared vision for upskilling our workforce and increasing degree attainment.

"We are in a global war for talent and need the best and brightest workforce to compete in the 21st century economy, regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity," said Rick Baker, president and CEO of the Grand Rapids Chamber.

"A shortage of talent is a top priority across the state and for all of our members. MI Reconnect, MI opportunity, and the Going Pro fund are large scale solutions we all support, that will begin to set the expectation that education does not end in high school for Michiganders," said Veronica Horn, president and CEO of the Saginaw County Chamber.



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# EDUCATION

## SVSU students selected for leadership development program



*courtesy photo*

Organizers of a Saginaw Valley State University program aimed at inspiring the next generation of leaders recently selected 10 students eager to develop their leadership skills.

The Roberts Fellowship Program, established in 1999, inducted its 21st class of participants during a May 5 ceremony at SVSU. The ceremony marked the beginning of a year-long journey for the newest members that will involve learning from leaders of communities and industries from across the world while also engaging in service projects regionally. The program culminates in an overseas trip to Asia in May 2020.

A new group of students is selected each spring for the program. The latest members hail from communities across the state and

study in a variety of academic programs offered at the university.

Members of the 21<sup>st</sup> class of Roberts Fellows include Mia Berlanga, a biology major from Midland; Tyler Boylen, a supply chain management major from Gladwin; Joshua Cianek, a political science major from Auburn; Imani Clark, a communication major from Saginaw; and Alina DeVoogd, a Spanish major from Algonac.

Other members are Vincent Frank, a music major from Greenville; Joseph Harvey, an accounting major from Sault Ste. Marie; Arianna Jones, a professional technical writing major from Kentwood; Tyler Sadilek, a biology major from Chesaning; and Justin Weller, a political science major from Bay City.

The program's advisers are Julie Foss, SVSU associate professor of modern foreign languages, and Brian Thomas, SVSU director of global engagement and presidential liaison to Ming Chuan University.

The Roberts Fellowship Program is named in honor of Donna Roberts, a Midland resident who has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to SVSU through her personal generosity and prior service on the Board of Control and the Board of Fellows. A respected attorney, business leader and philanthropist, Roberts retired from The Dow Chemical Company, where she was secretary and assistant general counsel. She is an honorary director of the SVSU Foundation Board.

For more information about the Roberts Fellowship Program, please visit [www.svsu.edu/robertsfellowshipprogram](http://www.svsu.edu/robertsfellowshipprogram).



# Flint Promise Scholarship Program expands to local colleges

FLINT, Mich - Flint Promise students can now attend Kettering University and the University of Michigan-Flint immediately following high school, provided they meet the schools' admission requirements.

The added pathways will be available starting with the fall 2019 semester and build upon the scholarship program's established partnerships with Mott Community College and the University of Michigan-Flint.

"It's exciting to see Flint Promise grow with these new and expanded partnerships," said Tim Herman, CEO of the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce. "The more options we can give our young people, the better we can prepare them for vocational and academic success, and help to grow the talent pipeline."

Flint Promise first launched in 2018 through \$2 million in combined gifts from the Consumers Energy Foundation and Tom Gores, founder of Flint NOW and chairman and CEO of Platinum Equity. Grants from the Flint Promise Fund of the Community Foundation of Greater Flint (CFGF) are awarded to the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce, which manages the Promise program.

The program offers scholarships and support services to students who reside in the city of Flint and either graduate from a high school or complete a GED program located in the city of Flint, in 2018 or later. As a last-dollar scholarship, Flint Promise goes into effect after grants and other scholarships have been applied and covers up to 100 percent of a student's college tuition, books and fees.

"As Kettering University celebrates its centennial anniversary in Flint, we're proud to partner with Flint Promise," said Kettering University President Dr. Robert McMahan. "We often say that our success is linked to the success of this city. By making Kettering's world-class education more accessible to Flint students, we can invest in the future of both."

Also new this fall semester is the option for Flint Promise students to enroll directly at the University of Michigan-Flint. Previously, students had to earn an associate degree or transfer certificate from Mott Community

College before transferring to UM-Flint in pursuit of a bachelor's degree.

"The Promise partnership is a tremendous example of how collaboration can make a significant positive impact community wide," said Kristi Hottenstein, UM-Flint vice chancellor for enrollment management. "We are proud to now become a full partner with the Promise Scholarship as part of our long-standing commitment to promoting a college-going culture and to make a University of Michigan education more accessible to Flint students."

Flint Promise recipients may also use the scholarship at Mott Community College as they pursue a certificate or associate degree.

"Mott Community College is honored to continue its support of Flint Promise and its scholarship recipients," said MCC President Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffea. "This is an outstanding way to reach Flint students, including those who may not have previously considered college to be an option."

The numbers reinforce that sentiment. In fact, of the 74 students supported by Flint Promise in the program's first year, 34 percent are first-generation in their families to attend college. By increasing access to college, programs

like Flint Promise have the potential to significantly impact the community. According to research from the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, Promise programs can help increase college enrollment, strengthen local school districts and foster local economic development.

"Flint Promise ensures that all Flint students can graduate from high school knowing that a college education is accessible to them," said Flint Mayor Karen Weaver. "That kind of assurance inspires hope and creates opportunity for the future. I look forward to seeing how our community grows from this long-term investment in our youth."

Enrollment for the scholarship is now open, with a deadline of July 15 for first-year students enrolling in the fall semester.

"Flint Promise now provides increased access to three outstanding local colleges and universities," said Isaiah Oliver, president and CEO of CFGF. "Thanks to the generous support of Tom Gores and Consumers Energy, an entire generation of Flint students has a clear pathway to higher education."

For more information about Flint Promise, visit [theflintpromise.org](http://theflintpromise.org).



# State Board appoints Michael Rice as next State Superintendent

LANSING – The State Board of Education today selected Dr. Michael Rice to be Michigan’s next State Superintendent.

Following a full day interviewing three finalists, the State Board voted 5-3 to appoint the 56-year-old Rice, over the other candidates: Wayne RESA Superintendent Randy Liepa, and Ann Arbor Public Schools Superintendent Jeanice Swift.

Rice currently is Superintendent of Kalamazoo Public Schools. Swift is the Superintendent of Ann Arbor Public Schools, and Liepa is the Superintendent of Wayne RESA.

State Board President Casandra Ulbrich will begin finalizing the employment agreement with Rice, who is expected to start as State Superintendent this summer. The annual salary is set at \$216,000.

“Dr. Rice has a stellar reputation in the state of Michigan; he’s been in Kalamazoo for 12 years and has out-of-state experience, as well,” Ulbrich said. “I think the combination of his experience and how well he did in the interviews really put him a step above.

“I don’t think there’s any surprise for him as to what we’re facing here in Michigan, and how far we have to go to get back up to the position we want to be in. He is bringing a strong foundation of education knowledge and leadership at the local school district level, where so much of this work is done. It was a difficult decision for the State Board, yet, we feel he is the best fit to work with the State Board and run the Michigan Department of Education.”

Rice has been the superintendent of the Kalamazoo Public Schools (KPS) since 2007. Prior to serving as KPS superintendent, Dr. Rice served for five years as superintendent of the Clifton Public Schools in Clifton, New Jersey. Among his honors are the presidency of Michigan’s urban schools association, the Middle Cities Education Association, in 2013-14; and the Michigan Superintendent of the Year Award from the Michigan Association of Superintendents and Administrators (MASA) in 2016.

Rice began his career as a high school French teacher and award-winning speech and debate program founder and coach in the Washington,



*courtesy photo*

D.C. Public Schools (DCPS). He earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology with honors from Yale University and a master’s degree and doctorate in public administration with honors from New York University.

He serves on a number of boards, commissions, and committees including the Middle Cities Executive Committee; the MASA State School Reform Commission (SSRC); the Steering and Technical Committee of the state School Finance Research Collaborative; the AASA Social and Emotional Learning Cohort, which he co-chairs; and the board and executive committee of Communities in Schools—Kalamazoo. His most rewarding work, however, comes in the mentoring and teaching of, and informal discussions with, KPS children.

The State Board of Education is granted the responsibility to appoint a State Superintendent by the Michigan Constitution. The State Superintendent is the principal executive officer

of the Michigan Department of Education and is chairperson of the State Board without the right to vote and shall be responsible for implementing its policies, and has all the powers and duties provided by law.

The State Superintendent is responsible for the day-to-day management, supervision, and leadership of the Michigan Department of Education. The Superintendent is responsible for developing cooperative working relationships with other government departments; the Governor’s office; the state legislature; and constituent groups, in service of SBE policy and the Michigan’s Top 10 in 10 strategic plan for improving education.

This top education position became open last spring upon the death of State Superintendent Brian Whiston. Chief Deputy Superintendent Sheila Alles was appointed Interim State Superintendent by the State Board at that time.



Sabrina Beeman-Jackson

Saginaw ISD Head Start/Early Head Start  
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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.

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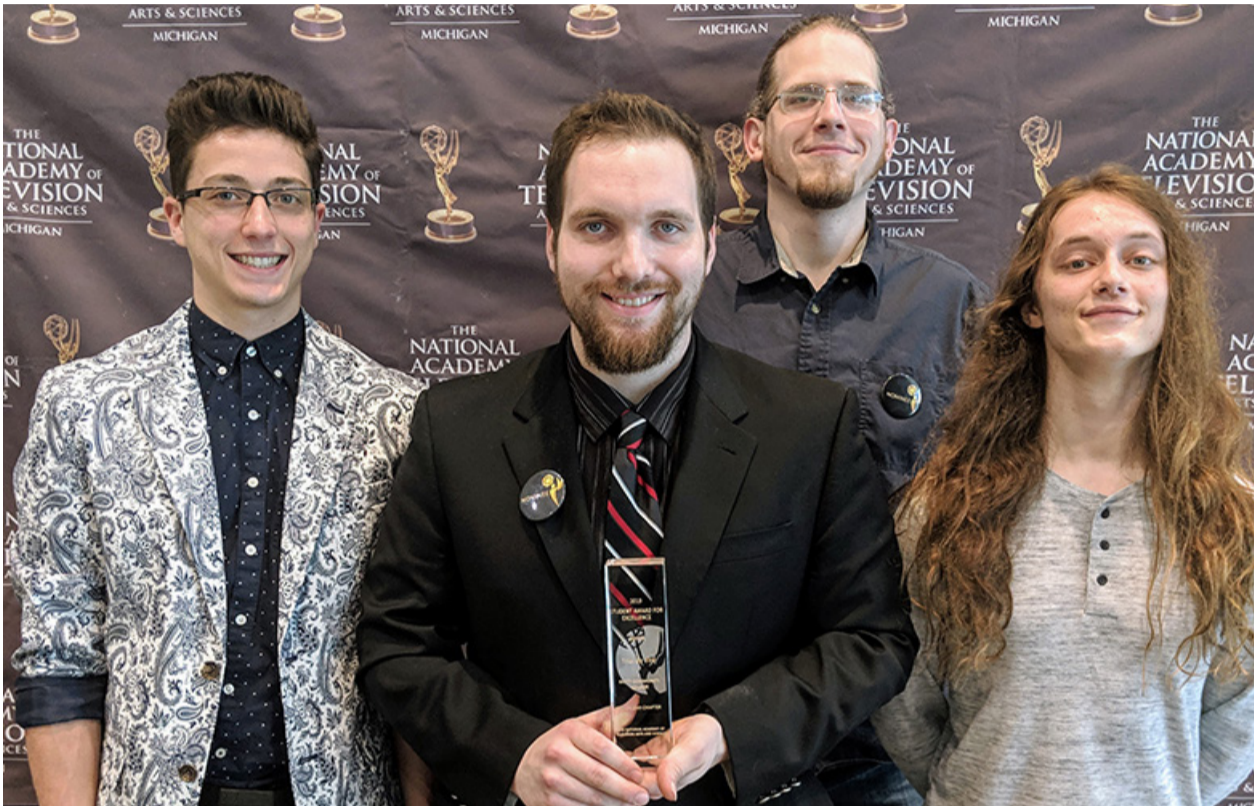
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**“Head Start graduates are more likely to graduate from high school and less likely to need special education, repeat a grade, or commit crimes in adolescence.”**

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

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

# Mott Community College Media Arts Students Win top NATAS Awards



*courtesy photo*

Four Mott Community College students took first place awards for excellence from the National Academy Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS) Michigan Chapter. Julian York, of Flushing, Jovan Brown, of Mt. Morris, and Elexis Burton, of Davison, won Best Long Form, Non-Fiction for their video titled "The Sybil Atwood Award," and Cliff Groat, of Waterford, won Best Editing for the MCC student-made short film "Trial By Fire."

NATAS honors the best television and video high school and college students in the state annually. The first place trophies represents a first-place win for the program for the third year in a row.

"The caliber of work our students create is very high. I'm very proud of all of our students and how hard they work," said David Rembiesa, Coordinator of the Media Arts and Entertainment (MAET) Program for MCC. "Since all entries are judged by working industry professionals, the awards are a true industry litmus test as our students pursue careers working in television, radio, film and multimedia production."

"For community college students to be nominated, and win, alongside well-

established baccalaureate programs at schools such as Michigan State, The University of Michigan, Central Michigan, Madonna and Ferris State University and the Center for Creative Studies speaks volumes, not only about our Media Arts program at MCC, but about what our students can achieve," Rembiesa added.

The winning students were enrolled in MCC's advanced courses in Television & Commercial Production and Cinema Production. In these courses, students gain valuable experience creating films, television shows, and commercials developing skills they can use for careers working in the media industry.

The student films can be found on the MCC Media Arts program YouTube channel titled "MAET Studios."

The National Academy Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS) is a professional service organization dedicated to the advancement of the arts and sciences of television and related media and the promotion of creative leadership for artistic, educational and technical achievements within the television industry, best known for the coveted Emmy® Award.

The Michigan Regional Student Production Awards for excellence, which promotes best practices to university/college and high school students, is intended to be an incentive for the pursuit of excellence in television journalism and focus public attention on outstanding achievements in television produced by university/college and high school students. All entries are judged by the Michigan Chapter's broadcast professionals.



*courtesy photo*

## SVSU to host summer literacy camp



*courtesy photo*

Saginaw Valley State University will continue its commitment to community-minded educational opportunities by hosting a literacy clinic to improve students' reading skills for three weeks this summer.

The clinics will be held Monday through Friday, June 24-28; Monday through Wednesday, July 1-3; and Monday through Thursday, July 8-11, with sessions occurring each of those days at 9 a.m., 10 a.m. and 11 a.m.

These lessons will be held in The Literacy Center in SVSU's Gilbertson Hall, Room GN 117.

The entire tuition for the program is \$300, including a \$50 non-refundable deposit. Participants must complete a reading assessment before the clinic begins; sessions are available Monday, June 17 and Tuesday, June 18 at 3 p.m., 4 p.m., 5 p.m. or 6 p.m.

To track their progress, all participants will also have a final observation provided by a tutor to measure progress.

Every tutor is a certified teacher with extensive classroom experience. They will be utilizing a research-based tutoring system to design individualized lessons for each student.

To enroll in the clinic, contact Laurie Ann Haney, assistant director of SVSU's Literacy Center, at 989-964-4982 or [lahaney@svsu.edu](mailto:lahaney@svsu.edu). For more information, visit [www.svsu.edu/literacycenter/](http://www.svsu.edu/literacycenter/).

## Delta College's Green Fridays Initiative



*courtesy photo*

Green Fridays is an annual Delta College summer initiative to reduce our campus carbon footprint by keeping energy and the emission of pollutants to their lowest possible levels, without decreasing the level of education and services provided.

Delta College will be closed on Fridays from May 13 through July 26 and will have extended hours Monday through Thursday to continue the same level of service to students.

Delta piloted Green Fridays in 2008 as a green campus initiative to save electricity, water consumption and other resources after conducting an extensive inventory to determine our carbon footprint – a measure of the amount of greenhouse gases produced by burning fossil fuels for electricity, heating and transportation. In addition to utilities consumption, a major

factor for this initiative is the emissions resulting from regular commutes to and from the institution by students and employees.

There will be some areas that will remain open for business on Fridays. Those include the Fitness and Recreation Center and the Delta College Planetarium in Bay City.

If you'd like to learn more about Delta's Sustainability program and how you can help make a difference, visit [www.delta.edu/sustainability](http://www.delta.edu/sustainability). If you have questions, please contact [sustainability@delta.edu](mailto:sustainability@delta.edu) or 989-686-9209.



# COMMUNITY

## Calendar established for SVSU's 'Battle' fundraiser; nonprofits encouraged to apply now



*courtesy photo*

Saginaw Valley State University students are determined to continue to support charitable causes in Michigan's Great Lakes Bay Region. They invite nonprofit leaders in the community to submit applications by May 24 to become the beneficiary of SVSU's new-look Battle of the Valley campaign, which has raised more than a half-million dollars for organizations since 2003.

The deadline was established by SVSU's student government - known as Student Association - along with other important dates for the week-long fundraiser now scheduled to take place this fall from Oct. 6-11.

The calendar was established in the wake of a

makeover for the yearly tradition that previously involved a fundraising competition between the students of SVSU and Grand Valley State University. GVSU students withdrew from their role in March.

SVSU students' passion for philanthropy inspired Student Association leaders to quickly move to continue the fundraiser, now organized exclusively by SVSU and re-branded as Battle of the Valley. Student Association recently appointed Madeline Lowry, a rehabilitation medicine major pursuing studies in occupational therapy at SVSU, to serve as the chairperson for Battle of the Valley.

The Lake Orion native said she treasures the

annual fundraiser for the way in which it unifies students, faculty, staff and friends of SVSU who enthusiastically support local causes.

"This year, we have the potential to reinvent 'The Battle' and make it whatever we want it to be," Lowry said. "My vision for 2019 is to not only continue to fundraise money like we have in the past, but to also help our community understand why we 'battle' and learn about the benefactor that is chosen."

Student Association will reveal this year's charity partner in early June.

SVSU students raised \$36,210 for the Barb Smith Suicide Resource and Response Network during the Battle of the Valleys fundraising competition in October 2018. Between SVSU and GVSU, the universities raised a combined total of \$652,385 since Battle of the Valleys started in 16 years ago. SVSU contributed \$425,657 - or 65 percent - of that total.

SVSU Student Association student leaders anticipate the efficient reorganization of the annual tradition means the fundraising will not skip a beat in terms of amount collected this year. In fact, the 2019 fundraiser will take place during its traditional timeframe: the week leading up to the football game between SVSU and GVSU.

Without GVSU's participation, though, SVSU will change one element of the fundraiser's traditional calendar of events. Rather than revealing the total funds collected during halftime of the GVSU game played in Allendale this year, SVSU students instead will shift that ceremony to halftime of the first home football contest after the fundraising week. The ceremonial check will be presented during halftime of the SVSU game vs. Ashland University Saturday, Nov. 2 at Wickes Memorial Stadium.

Nonprofits interested in submitting applications to become the 2019 charity partner should go online to [svsu.edu/battleofthevalleys](http://svsu.edu/battleofthevalleys). A link to the online application is available near the bottom of the webpage.



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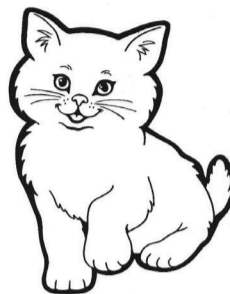
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# It's not too late to visit the Home Builders Association Spring Parade of Homes



*courtesy photo*

Your dream home is waiting! Get inspired for your next home project – whether you are building new, remodeling, or looking for a new home – at the 61<sup>st</sup> annual Home Builders Association of Saginaw Spring Parade of Homes. There are two dates left to experience this event, May 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 pm-5:00 pm.

Sponsored by Carter Lumber, these 20 gorgeous homes are located throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region. You'll see the builders' passion in the craft, and pride in their community. Having the opportunity to meet each builder, you can see first-hand the craftsmanship, talent and pride they have. The Parade of Homes is the best way to view the latest home trends and the newest communities.

Close to 2000 people, on average, visit our builders during the showcase days. The tour is free, self-guided and open to the public. For more information, or to get a copy of the Parade of Homes magazine with

complete route and builder information, please visit [www.hbas.org](http://www.hbas.org). You may also download the Parade of Homes App, Parade Craze, on your smartphone for a digital version of the magazine and a GPS and route mapping system.

“Building a new home or making major renovations to your existing one can be a huge investment. We want to be sure you are using licensed and insured builders, who keep up to date with everything new in the industry to help protect you,” says Michelle Revette, Executive Officer of the Home Builders Association. “The best way to meet builders of the HBA, and see their work first hand, is to attend important community events such as this.”

The HBA of Saginaw is proud to showcase our talented association members. Professional, licensed, insured and local, we are the trusted resource of building industry professionals, dedicated to supporting the dream of homeownership, and taking pride

in the development of our community. We offer support and guidance by connecting you with our members who keep up to date on all things housing. We look forward to showing you what an HBA member can do for you, during the 61<sup>st</sup> annual Spring Parade of Homes.

The Home Builders Association of Saginaw is affiliated with the Home Builders Association of Michigan (HBAM), and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). These Associations encompass builders, remodelers, subcontractors, and other associates support the housing and building industry. We are here to help you make an informed decision with your home needs. If you would like to know more, or, if you have any questions, please contact us at 989-793-1120.



# Weekly Cathedral Mass Now Broadcasting to Patients at Ascension St. Mary's Hospital in Saginaw



*courtesy photo*

SAGINAW- Patients at Ascension St. Mary's Hospital in Saginaw can now access weekly Sunday Mass at the Cathedral of Mary of the Assumption from their rooms. A collaboration between the Diocese of Saginaw and Ascension St. Mary's has provided for this live broadcast to be available throughout the hospital.

"Hospitals are important places to reach out to those in great need," said the Most Rev. Walter A. Hurley, Apostolic Administrator for the Diocese of Saginaw. "Our clergy, religious sisters and lay faithful minister to our hospitalized brothers and sisters by visiting them and bringing them the Eucharist. In a similar way, we want to share the consoling words of the Gospel, the inspiring faith of believers and the beauty of the Mass with those who are unable to

attend in person."

According to Dr. Stephanie Duggan, Regional President of Ascension St. Mary's, Ascension Standish Hospital and Ascension St. Joseph in Tawas City, providing this experience to "participate in Sunday Mass is a gift to patients of all faiths. We care not only for the physical and mental health of our patients, but their spiritual needs as well."

Mass at the Cathedral of Mary of the Assumption streams live each Sunday at 10 a.m. and is viewable online through the Diocesan website [saginaw.org](http://saginaw.org) and on the Diocese of Saginaw's Facebook and YouTube pages. The weekly live stream from the Cathedral is made possible through the generosity of thousands of local faithful

who contribute to the annual Catholic Services Appeal.

The historic Cathedral of Mary of the Assumption underwent an extensive renovation and restoration in 2016-17. Video capabilities were included as part of the revitalization in order to share Mass and other events with the broader community.

The Catholic Diocese of Saginaw was established by Pope Pius XI on Feb. 26, 1938. Today, it includes 6,955 square miles across Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Midland, Sanilac, Saginaw and Tuscola counties. In 1938, The Most Rev. William Murphy, the first Bishop of Saginaw, dedicated the entire diocese under the patroness of Mary of the Assumption.

# “Lock It or Lose It” Takes on New Meaning After Koenig Shooting



*courtesy photo*

The January shooting of Saginaw Township Police Department Officer Jeff Koenig has given new meaning to this year’s “Lock It or Lose It” campaign, which kicks off later this month.

“What happened with Officer Koenig unfortunately involved two vehicles that had been left unlocked and with keys inside, which were then stolen,” explained STPD Crime Prevention Officer and “Lock It or Lose It” Coordinator Chris Fredenburg.

“Everyone here at the department is so thankful to see Jeff these days as he continues to recover, but the event is a reminder of just how important the ‘Lock It or Lose It’ campaign is in our communities. This is a crime of opportunity and many times can be prevented by simply locking your vehicles,” explained Fredenburg.

Started in 2011, “Lock It or Lose It” is the township’s annual awareness campaign designed to reduce thefts from parked vehicles. It runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day, which is the period when these incidents are most common.

The program’s three tips are simple:

- Remove valuables from vehicles
- Make sure vehicles are locked
- Report any suspicious activity

Residents and local media are invited to attend this year’s official “Lock It or Lose It” launch event, taking place on Wednesday, May 22, at 2 p.m., at Saginaw Bay Underwriters, 1258 S. Washington Ave.

“‘Lock It or Lose It’ has been enormously successful over the years,” said STPD Chief Donald Pussehl.

“Before this program, there were about 220 larcenies from vehicles per year in Saginaw Township. Now that average is only about 130 per year.”

However, STPD Crime Prevention Officers Randy Schroeder and Adam Nothelfer explained that in the past year, the department has apprehended “groups” that focus on this type of crime.

“Thefts from autos are still very much an issue, so make sure you remove valuables and lock your doors, and if you see

something, say something,” said Nothelfer.

“Lock It or Lose It” is a collaboration between the STPD and two local sponsors: insurance agency Saginaw Bay Underwriters and Frankenmuth Insurance, companies that have served the area for more than 150 years each.

“This program helps keep people and their property safer, and helps reduce insurance rates,” said Saginaw Bay Underwriters President/CEO Peter N. Ewend.

“We’re excited for ‘Lock It or Lose It’ each year, because we know it benefits the communities in which we all live and work.”

“This program reinforces that we all need to do our part to keep our communities safe, neighbor helping neighbor,” said Frankenmuth Insurance Marketing Director Marcia Merando.

“It really is the partnership between the department, our sponsors and especially our citizens that makes ‘Lock It or Lose It’ work,” said Fredenburg.

### Primrose Employees participates in Women Build Week



*facebook.com/midlandcountyhabitatforhumanity*

Employees of Primrose, a new retirement community opening soon in Midland, took part in Midland County Habitat for Humanity's Women Build Week on Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.

“Primrose is so excited to be opening this community in Midland and giving back to this community is something we plan to do for many years to come. We are building this giving culture with our employees and Habitat for Humanity is such an important organization. The Womens build is the perfect event to kick off our team building. We look forward to participating for many years.” says Crystalee Cook, Executive Director of Primrose.

### Kayla Nicole Young

# CLASS OF 2019



PORTRAITS BY GREGG

Kayla Nicole Young is a 2019 graduate from Heritage High School. She is the daughter of proud parents Frederick and Yolanda Irvin. She has been an Administrative Assistant Manger at the family owned business Building Blocks Childcare & Preschool Center since 2005 and is a Xino.

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# READ Association elects Derrick Harge as Board of Directors Chairman



*courtesy photo*

Derrick Harge, of Saginaw, was recently elected Chairman of the Board for the READ Association of Saginaw County. The READ Association is a literacy organization dedicated

to helping students improve their reading skills and discover the joys of reading.

Harge, a native of Highland Park, Michigan, is a retired City of Saginaw firefighter and has been involved as a READ mentor since 2009, joining the Board of Directors in 2012.

Harge states, "READ would not be in existence without our dedicated volunteers and donors who give their time and money to ensure that READ reaches as many children as possible. With the new READ by Grade Three law taking full effect next school year, literacy organizations such as the READ Association of Saginaw County are even more important, working as a valuable tool to assist the schools with childhood literacy. My goals for READ are to continue the strong tradition of our organization by recruiting new volunteers and increasing our donor base."

"Derrick's commitment and enthusiasm for the READ Association will serve as a benefit

to our organization and those who participate and volunteer. As a mentor with the Men's Lunch Program at Arthur Eddy and volunteer at Mission: READ Camp as well as other events, Derrick has been hands-on in his approach to make a difference with students in promoting literacy. He will certainly be a strong leader of our Board of Directors," adds Cynthia Pape, READ Association of Saginaw County President/Director.





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## Carla Gentle Joins Associated Builders and Contractors



*courtesy photo*

Associated Builders and Contractors – Greater Michigan Chapter is pleased to announce the addition of Carla Gentle as the new Director of Membership & Business Development. Carla will be advocating the Free Enterprise message across the Bay City, Lansing, Midland, Mt. Pleasant and Saginaw markets. Along with monitoring and overseeing the growth and development within those the listed markets.

“Carla will be adding value to our Members, developing important collaborations with business partners, while growing and building the ABC membership in the Lansing, Great Lakes Bay, and extended regions” says Jimmy Greene, President/CEO ABC/GMC. Carla, from Chicago, Illinois, joins us after a successful career as the Marketing Consultant and Event Manager for Crucial Creative Marketing. She has her Masters Degree in Management & Organizational Development from Benedictine University and her Bachelors Degree in Business Administration from Governors State University.

ABC, Greater Michigan Chapter is lucky to be able to add Carla to the team.

## Michelle Shook has been named General Manager at Birch Run Premium Outlets



*courtesy photo*

Michelle Shook has been named General Manager at Birch Run Premium Outlets, the over 100-store shopping center, home to designer and brand-name retailers. Christopher Specca, regional vice president of Simon Premium Outlets, Central region, made the announcement.

“We are thrilled to welcome Michelle to our dynamic team at Birch Run Premium Outlets,” said Specca. “She hails from an impressive marketing and sales background. Her previous experience in the Birch Run market, and greater Flint and Saginaw market, will be a tremendous asset

as we continue to broaden Birch Run Premium Outlets’ presence within the community.”

In her new capacity as General Manager, Shook will oversee the financial, marketing, leasing, community relations and operational performance of the center.

Shook comes from a background consisting of extensive sales, marketing and retail experience. Most recently Shook served as the Marketing & Sales Development Manager at Lowry Solutions. Prior to her role at Lowry Solutions, she held lead marketing and sales development roles at C&L Ward Bros, Inc. and The Flint Journal.

The move to Birch Run Premium Outlets marks a homecoming for Shook, who from 2001 until 2008 worked with Birch Run Premium Outlets in a variety of roles including Marketing Manager, Interim General Manager and Regional Vice President.

“I am excited to be back as General Manager at Birch Run Premium Outlets,” said Shook. “Coming full circle has been incredible, and I’m committed to making sure the center keeps its positive presence in the Birch Run community and provides shoppers the wonderful outlet shopping experience that they have come to expect.”

Shook holds a Bachelor of Science in Fashion Merchandising and Marketing from Western Michigan University. She is a board member and past president of the Flint Women’s Forum and partakes in philanthropic work, having supported Catholic Charities, Pink Night and Teddy Bear Patrol.

**17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**

**Saginaw Riverfront  
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# Beautification Days

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**- OR -**

**Nathan Collison**

**[njcollis@live.com](mailto:njcollis@live.com)**

**You may also sign up by visiting: [www.saginaw-mi.com](http://www.saginaw-mi.com)**

# Chippewa Nature Center's Victoria Zablocki Named Outstanding New Interpreter



*courtesy photo*

Victoria Zablocki, school program coordinator at Chippewa Nature Center (CNC), was recently recognized by the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) Great Lakes Region 4 as Outstanding New Interpreter for her contributions to advance the profession of interpretation.

Zablocki started her career at CNC as a Nature Day Camp Counselor in 2012 as a college student. After earning a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and serving as a part-time school program educator, she became a full-time educator in the fall of 2014. This January, she was promoted to school program coordinator. In just four

years, her contributions to CNC and the larger community have been significant. From professional self-guided exhibits, to writing nature curriculum for local schools, leading Spring Break Mini Day Camp programs, developing Story Hour programs, planning major events and leading kayak, snowshoe and geocaching programs, she has had an impact on numerous programs at CNC.

Zablocki works behind the scenes and on the front line to ensure CNC visitors develop meaningful connections with the natural world. She installs hands-on, self-guided activities for Exploration Days, a program

offered throughout the year during school breaks. Activities such as crafts, board games, obstacle courses and building help visitors learn about topics such as how animals are adapted to deal with Michigan winters.

As a full-time educator, Zablocki's primary responsibility was to work closely with the teachers of Bullock Creek Schools to develop and implement a nature curriculum. She regularly met with kindergarten and first grade teachers to help them identify a scope and sequence of lessons which would align

**Continues on pg 40, Zablocki**

## Continued from pg 39, Zablocki

their science curriculum with the natural seasonal occurrences. She also demonstrated how to integrate other subjects (math, language arts, literacy and social studies) into the nature experiences the children were having. In addition to supporting the teachers, Zablocki provided 30-45 minute weekly programs for kindergarten and first grade classes and monthly visits to second through fifth grade classes, totaling 27 classroom visits per month. Each program was custom designed specifically for that grade level, associating nature with the subject matter the class was studying. She did this to ensure the nature lessons had context within the students' greater educational experience, and to provide dynamic experiences that would help them retain their traditional lessons. Thanks to her hard work, dedication and partnership with the teachers, the Nature Kindergarten program won the Outstanding Interpretive Program award from NAI Region 4 in 2017. Additionally, the school district was awarded a \$490,000 grant from the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation to expand the program to all of its elementary schools for the next three years. Zablocki now makes weekly visits to second grade classes to develop that curriculum while supporting five part-time educators who visit the other grade levels.

Zablocki has been heavily involved with two programs that have won the Outstanding Interpretive Program award in Region 4 – Exploring Nature Together (a camp for children on the autism spectrum and their typical peers) which was awarded in 2014 and Nature Kindergarten (described above) which was awarded in 2017. At this year's RIW, she presented a session entitled Engaging Self-guided Exhibits for Children where she highlighted the eight activity types she uses to create self-guided exhibits and how to use them as guides for implementing these exhibits.

Zablocki also makes significant contributions to many CNC festivals, programs and self-guided exhibits. She either designs or supports an intern who designs each of nine Exploration Days exhibits during Thanksgiving weekend, winter break, spring break and six unique

exhibits throughout the summer. She ensures that each exhibit engages children of all ages and abilities and works to include large motor activities, fine motor skills, organized games, free/creative play, sensory experiences, quiet space and an invitation to explore outdoors. Each exhibit has a theme that ties all of the activities together and helps the visitor have a cohesive experience. Her commitment to a positive visitor experience is evident as families spend quality time together learning about the natural world.

In addition to self-guided exhibits, Zablocki plans several annual events including Nature at Night (1,400 visitors over 2 nights), Winter Solstice Celebration (150 visitors), Groundhog's Day Party (170 visitors) and Nature's Eggs Extravaganza (300 visitors), coordinating the staff, volunteers, food and activities. She has added activities, developed themes and made them engaging experiences for visitors. Last year's Winter Solstice Celebration included a candle-lit trail, inviting visitors to explore the trails at night, a time when most people do not visit the woods. She also leads kayak trips, snowshoe hikes, Families in Nature programs, Story Hours, camp special events, geocaching programs and more, and develops new school field trips that align with Next Generation Science Standards, writes new Birthday Party themes and trains staff on program content and delivery.

Zablocki is committed to her own professional growth, and has attended Regional Interpretive Workshops at every opportunity. With a desire to support the field, she joined the Membership Committee of the Great Lakes Region 4 of NAI in 2016. In 2017, she co-chaired the 2018 Regional Interpretive Workshop in Traverse City. She utilized her background in the hospitality industry (having previously worked at a convention center) as she negotiated with the hotel, asked critical questions of vendors and organized the logistics of the workshop.

Always willing to share her expertise, Zablocki presented Next Generation Science Standards in Your School Yard (2018) at a local teacher professional development day and Next Generation Science Standards in Your School Program (2019), Interpreting the Fur Trade (2017) and Exploring Winter Adaptations (2017) at a Michigan interpreters' workshop. She regularly participates in teacher development training with Bullock Creek and Coleman Schools, and plans and executes CNC's internal educator training in September and March.

Zablocki's recognition as Outstanding New Interpreter acknowledges her commitment to environmental education excellence in the region, and speaks to years of hard work, dedication and passion for the field.



*courtesy photo*



# NON-PROFIT DIRECTORY

## CAN Council Saginaw County

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www.cancouncil.org

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jdarby@greatlakespace.org

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## Restoration Community Outreach

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rcosag@yahoo.com

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## Saginaw County Community Action Agency, Inc. (CAC)

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## The Michigan Banner Outreach Ministries

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989-754-4435  
PastorD818@gmail.com

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LifeInChristMinistries07@gmail.com

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



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## New Life Baptist Church

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## New Mt. Calvary Baptist Church

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## New Way Ministries

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(248) 987-2434  
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Pastor Robert C. Corley Jr.

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# POLITICS & PUBLIC POLICY

## Congressman Dan Kildee and Boys and Girls Club announce Federal grant for mentorship program in Mid-Michigan



*courtesy photo*

Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05), Chief Deputy Whip of the House Democratic Caucus, joined the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Flint on May 10 to announce that the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has awarded \$7,700 to the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Flint to support their work expanding opportunity for Flint and Genesee County children. This grant is part of a larger nationwide investment of \$24.5 million to mentorship programs across the country.

The funding allows for mentorship programs to expand opportunities for at-risk and high-risk youth in diverse communities. The Boys and Girls Club will match kids and young adults with caring mentors, improve skill-building prevention programs, and foster positive youth development opportunities.

“One of my first jobs was working as a

social worker and I know that mentorship makes a real difference in the lives of young people,” Congressman Kildee said. “Positive role models can help teens and young adults stay out of trouble and put them on the path towards healthy, fulfilling lives. Organizations like the Boys and Girls Club are important to providing kids a safe and enjoyable place to go. Throughout my time in Congress, many of my efforts to strengthen and improve our community have complimented the efforts of the Boys and Girls Club. I am pleased to see the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Flint receive this grant to further their mission,” said Congressman Kildee.

“We are very excited to be the recipient of this grant! I can personally look back on my life and see the impact that mentors at my Boys & Girls Club had on making me the person that I am today,” said Tauzzari Robinson, Chief

Executive Officer. “We know that we are able to have a significant impact in our community because our staff and volunteers are able to form meaningful relationships with the young people that walk through our doors every day. This funding will allow us to do that on a deeper level. We are grateful to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and government officials like Congressman Kildee for advocating for young people everywhere.”

The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Flint provides mentoring and a safe haven for Genesee County youth outside of school, so they can develop and make a positive impact in the community. The mentoring program helps serve their mission, “To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.”

# Governor Whitmer Celebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage Day at State Capitol



*courtesy photos*

On May 9, 2019, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer celebrated Asian Americans' and Pacific Islanders' contributions to Michigan's economy and culture at the Asian Pacific American (APA) Heritage Day held at the State Capitol in Lansing. Legislators, state officials and Michigan residents attended the annual event hosted by the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission (MAPAAC), Michigan Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) where MAPAAC is housed, and Asian & Pacific Islander American Vote (APIAVote) - Michigan.

"Michiganders of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage have made countless contributions to our economy and our state," said Gov. Whitmer. "They've helped strengthen our economy, build our workforce, create jobs, and increase our global competitiveness. This event is a great example of how Michigan's strength comes from our great diversity. If we're going to solve problems for everyone here in Michigan, we need a diverse set of voices at the table."

APA Heritage Day showcases the

accomplishments and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Michigan and the U.S. during national Asian Pacific American Month which is commemorated every May.

"This year's theme - Together We Rise - is especially fitting," said LARA Director Orlene Hawks. "Michigan has always been strengthened by its diversity, and today is a shining example of a vibrant and growing Asian Pacific American community in Michigan."

Remarks were also given by:

- Kaushik Nag, vice-chair of MAPAAC
- Yasir Muhammad, chair of APIA Vote-Michigan

The event featured an introduction of the APA Legislative Caucus that presented a resolution honoring Michigan's Asian American and Pacific Islanders.

"The APA community and MAPAAC is pleased to showcase our heritage and

culture," said MAPAAC Chair Jamie Hsu Ph.D. "Today's event provides yet another great opportunity to build relationships and celebrate our diversity as a state."

Lora Painter, News anchor at WWMT Channel 3 was the master of ceremonies for the event, which included APA community stories, and a cultural performance.

For more information, please contact Denise Yee Grim at [mapaac@michigan.gov](mailto:mapaac@michigan.gov) or Rebeka Islam at [Rebekaislam@apiavotemi.org](mailto:Rebekaislam@apiavotemi.org).

MAPAAC was established to advance the full and equal participation of APAs in the building of a greater Michigan. The Commission, made up of 21 individuals appointed by the governor, advises the governor and state legislature on policy matters and serves Michigan's APA population by promoting their development and welfare, and recognizing their achievements. Each member of the Commission has a specific interest or expertise in APA concerns.

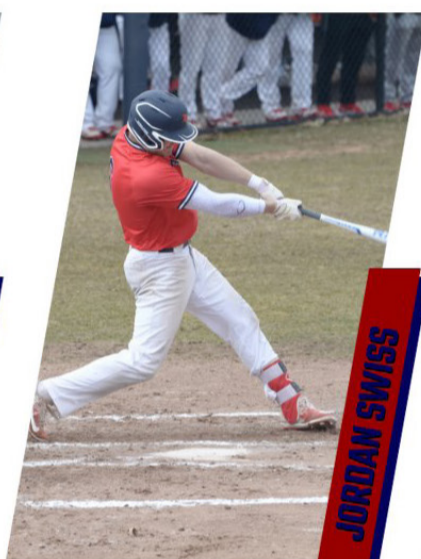
## SPORTS

## Four Cardinals earn All-GLIAC honors for SVSU Baseball

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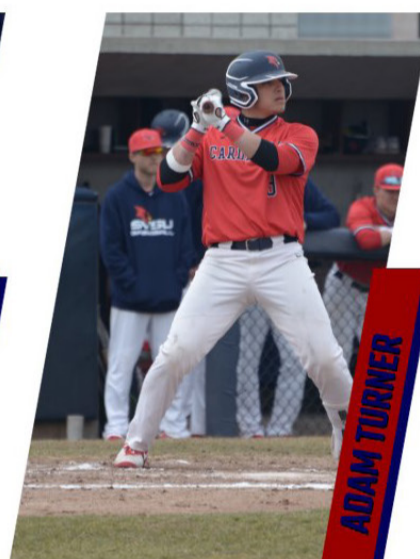
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All-GLIAC Honorable Mention



## ALL-GLIAC AWARDS

Four Cardinals earn All-GLIAC honors



TRAVERSE CITY -- There were four Saginaw Valley State University Baseball student-athletes who earned All-GLIAC honors for the 2019 season, as the league announced the honors in conjunction with the annual awards banquet on Wednesday night.

Senior outfielder Craig Wilson and senior third baseman / right handed pitcher Jordan Swiss were both named to the All-GLIAC Second Team. Senior second baseman Derrek Clyde and senior designated hitter Adam Turner earned All-GLIAC Honorable Mention plaudits as well.

Wilson hit .287 on the season and knocked five doubles, a triple and 27 RBI for the

Cardinals. He had an on-base percentage of .388, scoring 33 runs, walking 13 times and stealing nine bases on the season.

Swiss, who became the program's all-time hits leader this past weekend at Wayne State, was second on the team with a .320 batting average. He led the team and was 6th in the GLIAC in doubles, adding four triples, 40 runs scored, a home run and 34 RBI. Swiss had 21 stolen bases, which led the GLIAC.

Clyde had an on-base percentage of .472 to lead the squad and had a team-best .321 batting average. He had 52 hits, five doubles, three triples and 29 RBI. His 44 walks led the team and the GLIAC as well. He stole 12

bases for the Cards in his 46 games played.

Turner hit a career-high .294 this season, belting five home runs with six doubles and 33 RBI. He walked 18 times and had an on-base percentage of .427 and slugging mark of .471. He scored 26 runs in his 41 games played.

The Cardinals will participate in their first GLIAC Tournament since the 2014 season, facing #1 Ashland University as the #6 seed on Thursday at 2:30 p.m. You can follow the action live at [svsucardinals.com](http://svsucardinals.com) on the baseball schedule page.

# Spirit release roster, details surrounding 2019 Development Camp

SAGINAW, Mich. – The Saginaw Spirit, members of the Ontario Hockey League, are pleased to announce the schedule for their 2019 Development Camp to be held at The Dow Event Center in Saginaw, Michigan from Saturday, May 11 through Sunday, May 12.

The Spirit will welcome 24 prospects to the Great Lakes Bay Region for the first time for two days of on ice workouts and practices, as well as a tour of the city of Saginaw for players and parents provided by Blue Lakes Charters & Tours, official traveling partner of the Saginaw Spirit.

The two teams (Blue & White) will be made up of 12 forwards, 8 defenseman, and 4 goaltenders. The rosters will feature draft picks from the 2019 OHL Priority Selection, the 2019 OHL U-18 Priority Selection, and previous draft picks, as well as free agent invitees. Saturday will feature two different

on ice skills sessions, while Sunday will feature small-area games and a 3-on-3 tournament.

All on-ice sessions are FREE and open to the public. The Dow Event Center will have non-alcoholic concessions open for both days of the camp.

Saturday, May 11, 2019:

Goalies on ice with Goaltending coach A.J. Walczak (Blade Jenkins & D.J. Busdeker shooting) 9:00am-10:00am

Defenseman on ice skills with coaching staff 10:00am-11:00am

Forwards on ice skills with coaching staff 11:00am-12:00pm

Team practice 3:00pm-4:00pm

Team White Power Edge Pro (PEP) session 4:00-5:00pm

Team Blue Power Edge Pro (PEP) session 5:00-6:00pm

Sunday, May 12, 2019:

Small Area Games 9:00am-10:00am

Goalie session 10:00am-11:00am

3 vs. 3 tournament 11:00am-12:00pm

Also slated to take part in the 2019 Development Camp are returning players Cole Perfetti, Tristan Lennox, Ethan Cardwell, and Ian Lemieux.

For more information visit:  
<http://saginawspirit.com>



## FEMALE ATHLETE CAMP SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

**Who is eligible?** Must be a female Saginaw County high school freshman, sophomore, or junior playing a freshman, junior varsity or varsity sport. The applicant's parent, grandparent, guardian, Coach or Athletic Director must be a Lifetime Voting Member of the Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame.

**Instructions:** Applicant must fill out the Female Athlete Camp Scholarship Application and include a thorough essay response along with a one-page letter of recommendation from their coach or athletic director.

**Guidelines:** Must be a female Saginaw County High School freshman, sophomore or junior playing a freshman, junior varsity or varsity sport. The applicant's parent, grandparent, guardian, Coach or Athletic Director must be a Lifetime Voting Member of the Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame. Past recipients of the camp scholarship are not eligible to win again. Each committee member will read each application and accompanying letter of recommendation. Applicants will be rated on a scale of 1 to 10 in four areas: participation, leadership, performance and community. Each area will be weighted equally and added together for a total score. A score of 40 is the highest possible score. Forms must be completed and postmarked by May 24, 2019. Complete forms using ink, typewriter or computer printout.

**Submitting your application:**

Please submit your application and letter of recommendation by May 24, 2019 to:

Female Camp Scholarship, SCSHOF  
500 Federal Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48607

**For more information visit:** [www.saginawcountysports.org](http://www.saginawcountysports.org)





## REGISTRATION:

Opens February 4, 2019

[www.hoytparkyouthbaseball.com](http://www.hoytparkyouthbaseball.com)

Register and pay online

OR

Visit the Saginaw County Parks office  
located in the courthouse at  
111 S. Michigan Ave. LL 012

**Registration Deadline June 14, 2019**

\*League registration reserves a free spot in the  
Sugar Beets Baseball/Softball Camp at Hoyt Park  
June 18-19th

### NEED A TEAM?

Please register and we will find a team for you!  
For more information, call SCPRC at  
989-790-5599



## Hey Batter Batter!

### WHO:

All Saginaw County  
**BOYS & GIRLS**

Age 5-6 (T-ball)

Age 7-8 (Coach Pitch)

Division Teams: 10U, 12U & 15U

### WHEN:

10 Game Season

**JULY 9 - AUG 8, 2019**

Tuesday & Thursday  
Evenings



### COST:

**Player Fee \$20 each**

\* Division Teams require a team sponsor  
to pay the \$200 sponsorship fee. Division  
players are still required to register

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## PICS OF THE WEEK

Larry Sims, Clint Bryant and Felicia Violet-Marie Rose-Barry are pictured at United Way of Saginaw County's Annual Meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The United Way of Saginaw County celebrated 100 years of service to our community.





# SPRING BREAK IS FREE NEXT YEAR!

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- ✔ City of Saginaw income tax savings  
Current rate is 1.5% = **\$3,000**
- ✔ Property tax savings at reduced rate  
From 46 mills to 13 mills = **\$3,250**
- ✔ **Estimated Annual Savings = \$14,750**



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STATE UNIVERSITY**

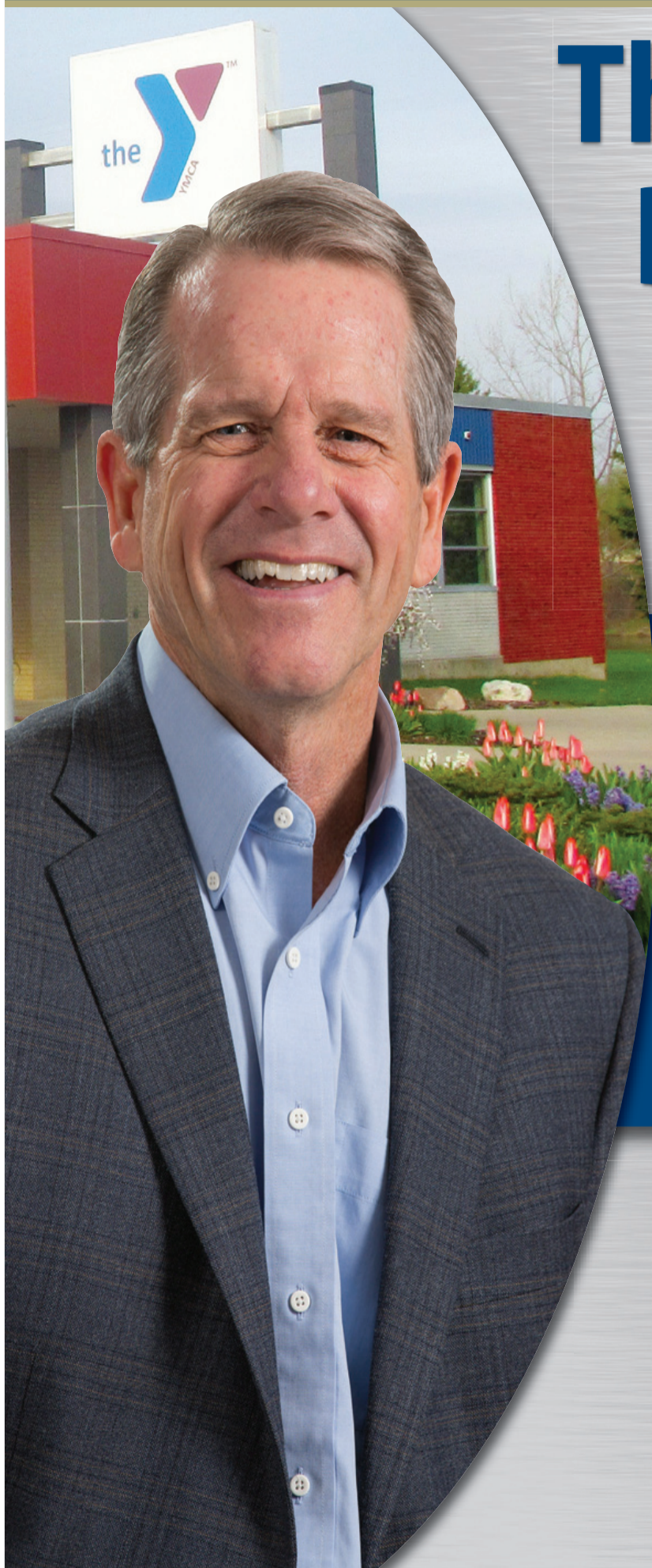
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–Steven D. Kelly, YMCA Board Member



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