

THE MICHIGAN BANNER

Celebrating 17 years of Positive News

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



Three Rivers Corporation Receives ABC Greater Michigan Awards

Business, Page 21

Michigan author wins SVSU literature award for book about Flint's Water Crisis

Education, Page 28

Dan Kildee Announces Nearly \$350,000 Federal Grants to Saginaw and Flushing Fire Departments

Politics, Page 45

Leading in Diversity, Empowering Communities and Changing Lives

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The History of National Hispanic Heritage Month



LB Banner, Cover Story

Michigan receives \$500,000 to expand integrated care for Medicaid beneficiaries through Behavioral Health Home initiative



Health, pg 16

Jessica Reedy opens The Industry Development Center in SVRC Marketplace



courtesy photo

Have you been imagining what life would be like if you thought differently, if you weren't afraid, if you knew the right people, if you took the next steps, if you left that relationship, if you cared about yourself more, if you ran your own business?

Jessica Reedy, national gospel singer and native of Saginaw, created the Industry Development Center to help you discover how you can use your talents to help you be successful in life.

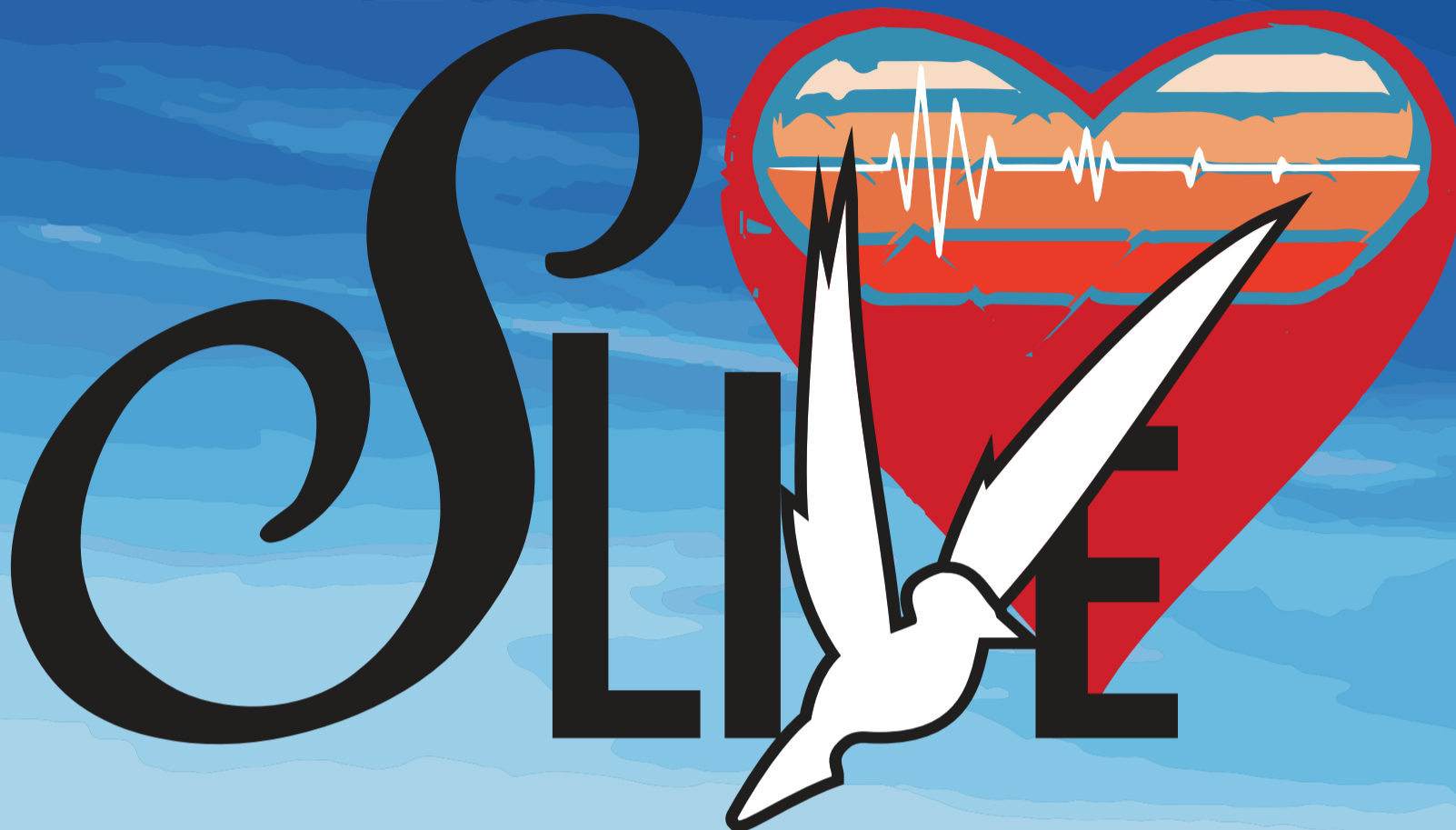
The school is accredited by Life Academy,

which is an affiliate school of Arkansas Baptist College and is located inside the SVRC Marketplace.

The Industry Development Center offers the following 8 week courses: Human Growth and Development, Intro to Business and Business Communication Entrepreneurship. The courses are \$1,500 and will transfer to any accredited college or university.

Classes begin on October 7th. To register or to learn more call 844-207-7088 or email enroll@industrydevelopmentcenter.com.





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301 E Genesee Ave, Suite 201B
Saginaw, MI 48607
989.992.2600
publisherthemichiganbanner@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS

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PUBLISHER AND SENIOR EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Jerome Buckley
publisher022@gmail.com

EDITOR EMERITUS

Rae Lynn Buckley

THE LATINO BANNER

PUBLISHER
Jerome Buckley
thelatinobanner@gmail.com

OMBUDSMAN

Elaine Gregory McKenzie

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

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Mailed or e-mailed
Preferred format: Jpeg or PDF

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THE MICHIGAN BANNER

17th year ANNIVERSARY

3rd Annual

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Historically, for over 17 years the Michigan Banner has been at the forefront of keeping communities informed about up-to-date topics that matter to readers locally and around the world.

Women of Colors (WOC) wishes the Michigan Banner continued success. Thank you for supporting WOC's community endeavors!

Evelyn McGovern
WOC President/Cofounder



Jerome Buckley and the Michigan Banner

Thank you for the many timely and relevant communications you and your staff have made in our community. Your consistency in keeping Saginaw and the state of Michigan informed and moving forward is truly appreciated. I extend my congratulations and best wishes as you celebrate another spectacular year and with the past 17 years of sharing news and information.

Glendorah Lawrence
Office Manager
Houghton-Jones Neighborhood Association

MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 1 • NUMBER 4



Meet the
Publisher



My name is Andre Buckley Jr. and I look forward to being your Youth publisher for the Michigan Banner.

I am a graduate of Dow high school in Midland Michigan. I served as a news columnist in our journalism class there. I have always been a go getter. I love serving others and making them happy. Youth can oftentimes be overlooked so I'm going to work to promote the youth in the Great Lakes Bay Area and beyond.



Navigating the Narrative, w/ Mr. Clark - Pt 2

Corey Pritchett MA, CPS (c) AKA Mr. Clark

Welcome to "Navigating the Narrative" w/Mr. Clark! Where we will examine variations of life and it's "Story" of our "Journey" as it pertains to youth development and the many factors thereof.

During part one of this article, we laid the foundation of the important goal of prevention and the need to change the balance between "risk" and "protective" factors so that protective factors outweigh risk factors. Protective Factors are factors that contribute to resiliency and reduce the "risks" of substance abuse. Risk factors can increase a person's chances for mental health challenges and/or substance use/abuse.

BEFORE... I lead you into a brief review of some of the statistics from part one of this article, I want you to imagine a picture of a young person whom you have an intimate relationship with (child, nephew/niece, sibling, cousin, etc) and as you read the following statistics, think about that young person and their possible connection to the statistics.

Let's review some statistics from our last discussion.

According to results from the 2005 Youth Risk Behavior Survey:

- 35.9% of students had been in a physical fight one or more times during the 12 months preceding the survey and 6.5% of students had carried a weapon (e.g., a gun, knife, or club) on school property one or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.
- 74.3% of students had consumed at least one drink of alcohol in their lifetime.
- 43.3% of students had at least one drink of alcohol on the 30 days preceding the survey.

Efforts to improve child and adolescent health have typically addressed specific health risk behaviors, such as early initiation of sexual intercourse, tobacco use or violence. However, results from a growing number of studies suggest that greater health impact might be achieved by also enhancing protective factors that help children and adolescents avoid multiple behaviors that place them at risk for adverse health and educational outcomes (cdc.gov/healthyyouth/protective).

Continues on pg. 6, Navigating the Narrative

MYB Cover Story, Navigating the Narrative

Among those of us who are parents as well as provide youth & family services we can probably agree that there is a need for an increase of "Protective Factors" from obvious issues plaguing youth such as substance abuse. However, gone are the days where substance abuse prevention has this traditional outlook and approach to serving youth & families. Based upon my personal experience in the community with Human Service entities in Saginaw, MI. I'd say there has been much more intentionality (if you will) that has produced an increase of "protective factors" being implemented in the lives of youth & families.

Instead of "only" having group sessions on defining & identifying narcotics, alcohol, etc (not that we don't need it), agencies, organizations and entities have been increasing programs and approaches which produce "protective factors" such as what First Ward Community Center is in the process of implementing with a new community/family development "wrap-around" approach to those whom they serve; OR such as what Kevin Gregory does with H.I.R.E. Youth as they pursue career development, relationship building and various aspects of factors which produce resilience and productive citizenship. Another example would be how the Women of Colors, Inc. are developing a Youth Consortium to provide the youth with a "voice" and they are also currently in the community providing an evidence-based model named "Prime for Life" which is designed to positively impact drinking and drug use behaviors by changing beliefs, attitudes, risk perceptions, motivations, and the knowledge of how to reduce risk of alcohol- and drug-related problems throughout the lives of youth/families. These are a few different approaches yet once implemented and applied, they indeed serve as "protective factors" in the lives of youth & families who engage them.

Following are a few things to consider when identifying "risk factors," which increase the risk of substance use/abuse among youth:

- Lack of close, confiding relationship with someone
- Learning and other school difficulties (social/environmental stress)
- Social disadvantage
- Low self-esteem
- Perfectionism
- Not feeling connected to family, school, or community (relationship building)
- Critical comments from others about eating, weight, or body shape

Yet and still, the question remains, how do we gain and maintain a healthy "unbalance" between the protective factors and risk factors whereas the protective factors are heavier (outweighs) than the risk factors?... In other words, how do we "Navigate the Narrative" of the painful reality of our youth suffering from substance use/abuse issues, mental health issues, as well as issues with violence & suicide?

Mr. Clark's Counsel

We need to create awareness of the impact that risk and protective factors have on the healthy development of children and adolescents. Throughout the process, communities must begin to target their prevention efforts to reduce risk factors and strengthen protective factors in the four domains of community, family, school and peer/individual.

Individuals must, on a consistent basis, become engulfed in an array of behaviors, habits and even external factors (work, positive outings of personal desire, etc) which produce "protective factors" and decrease "high risk" decision making that results in substance use/abuse

or other unhealthy experiences/developments i.e. suicide, homicide, mental health issues, etc. The objective is to produce:

- Good self-esteem
- Good problem-solving skills/ Conflict resolution
- Having a good social support system
- Having a strong bond between children and parents;
- Parental involvement in the child's life; and
- Developing clear limits and consistent enforcement of discipline

For more information on Protective Factors, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/healthyouth/protective/index.htm>.

Grace and peace be multiplied to the Community of Saginaw and its surrounding areas...



MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

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THE LATINO BANNER



LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

Vamos Adelante



Celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month at SVSU and Delta College

LB Pg. 3

Submit your news at
themichiganbanner.com

The History of National Hispanic Heritage Month

National Hispanic Heritage Month is the period from September 15 to October 15 in the United States, when people recognize the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans to the group's heritage and culture.

Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the long and important presence of Hispanic and Latino Americans in North America. A map of late 18th-century North America shows this presence, from the small outpost of San Francisco founded in Alta California in 1776, through the Spanish province of Texas with its gauchos (cowboys), to the fortress of St. Augustine, Florida — the first permanent colonial settlement in North America, founded in 1565, ninety-four years before English colonists first landed in Jamestown, Virginia.

The large Latino presence in America today can be explained by the results of the Mexican–American War. After conflict erupted in Texas between American and Mexican troops, war was declared and fought between 1846 and 1848. American troops eventually stormed into the capital Mexico City forcing Mexico to sign the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ending the war. The treaty's terms were "Mexico ceded to the United States an immense territory of nearly one million square miles, including land in what is now California, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Wyoming, Oklahoma, and Kansas. The United States, in turn, agreed to pay Mexico \$15 million and assume \$3.25 million in debt claims against Mexico." Americans also promised Mexicans remaining in that land would be granted American citizenship and allowed to keep their property. However, through the change in American property law, many Mexicans



courtesy photo

lost their land to Americans with greater familiarity with the law. Today a large amount of the American population is Latino with a majority of that being Mexican. In 1904 President Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed The Roosevelt Corollary which gave The U.S. the right to intervene in "Americas Backyard", which is the Caribbean and South America, regardless of conflicts between Europe and Americas. With this Corollary, The U.S. has stepped into many Latin American Countries "the US intervened in the Dominican Republic (1905, 1907, 1916-1924), in Nicaragua (1907, 1909, 1912-1925), in Honduras (1909, 1911-1925), in Mexico (1914, 1915, 1916, 1917) and in Cuba (1906-1909, 1912, 1917-1919)." America's rise as an imperial nation can also be the cause of many Latin Americans from the Caribbean and South America migrating to the U.S.

Continues on LB pg. 4, Hispanic Heritage Month



Happy 17th Anniversary to the Michigan/Latino Banner and to Jerome Buckley!

The community is better because of the service you provide! You have reached a wonderful milestone and during those seventeen years, you have contributed a great deal to our community by keeping us informed regarding critical issues the community faces and still highlighting the positive in our community. Your dedication to diversity and inclusion is demonstrated by your commitment to providing information from and to all walks of life.

The Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute is very fortunate to have such a dedicated supporter of this community Leadership Training program. Congratulations on your long positive record of keeping the region informed and we wish you continued success!

Monica B. Reyes
Executive Director, Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute
Vice-Chair, Hispanic Latino Commission of Michigan



OurStory has to be not only SPOKEN, but printed. OurStory has to not only be READ, but READ out loud to our youth. OurStory has to be on DISPLAY, not only when in public, but also at HOME - Thanks Michigan Banner for letting us tell OURSTORY.

Karen L. Lawrence-Webster, CPA
Delta College Board - Trustee

Celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month at SVSU and Delta College



Committed to honoring Hispanic heritage, Saginaw Valley State University will host an event Sunday, Sept. 15, celebrating lowrider vehicles and the culture surrounding them.

SVSU's kickoff to Hispanic Heritage Month — which spans Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 — will involve an outdoor event featuring lowrider vehicles on display, guest speakers including a state representative and a lowriding icon, as well as

food and music. The event is free and open to the public.

Lowrider vehicles will be on display in the G3 parking lot at SVSU, outside of Gilbertson Hall in the northwest corner of campus, from noon to 3 p.m. Sunday.

A 1 p.m. public presentation will kick off near the outdoor display with remarks from

Vanessa Guerra, the 95th District state House representative. Then both Roberto Garcia, SVSU's director of Multicultural Student Affairs, and Debbie Sanchez, who appears as the subject of the documentary "Queen of the Lowriders," will talk about lowrider vehicles and their significance historically.

"Unfortunately, the lowriding community is plagued with negative stereotypes," Garcia said. "The general population is not aware of the history of lowriding and how it developed during the Chicano Civil Rights movement."

The goal of the Hispanic Heritage Month kickoff is to honor the contributions Hispanic-Americans have made to society while celebrating it through food, music, dance and education, he said.

The event will include singing and a DJ. A food truck will be parked on site, selling tacos, elephant ears and other goods.

In the event of poor weather, the presentation instead will be indoors in the Thompson Student Activities Room, located in SVSU's Student Center.



Several events are planned at both main campus and the Delta College Downtown Saginaw Center to recognize the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans during National Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 – October 15).

Among the events scheduled to celebrate Hispanic heritage and culture are:

Spoken Word Event – Monday, September 16, 11am – 12pm, Lower Commons, Main Campus: Poetic performance that expresses and captures the various emotions of the Hispanic community. All are welcome to share original pieces or works of published artists.

HHM Game Show – Thursday, September 19,

11:30am – 12:30pm, Upper East Commons, Main Campus: Explore Hispanic and Latino culture through an educational game show hosted by Dean of Students Jonathon Miller that is fun and insightful.

Motivational Mondays – Monday, September 23, 1pm, Multipurpose Room, Downtown Saginaw Center: Rachel Aviles, a financial advisor for Merrill Lynch, will present "Financial Fluency Fosters Flourishing Futures" to motivate the community about the importance of financial empowerment and strategizing for the future.

Meta Majors – Thursday, October 17, 6-7:30pm, Multipurpose Room, Downtown Saginaw Center: Delta alumni will speak about their

careers and college experience, while sharing stories about selecting a major and profession.

All events are free. For more information about these events or other diversity and inclusion activities at Delta, contact Carlos McMath at 989-686-9117 or carlosmcmath@delta.edu.





To be eligible for the Future Leaders Scholarship, the following criteria must be met:

1. The applicant must be a current higher-education student of Hispanic/Latino descent pursuing a degree.
2. Must be enrolled as a part-time student (6 credits per semester) or higher in an accredited Michigan-based college or university during Fall 2019. Graduate, Law, and Medical school students are welcome to apply.
3. Must be in good academic standing with a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.00 on a 4.00 scale.
4. A copy of the applicant's unofficial college transcripts and one (1) letter of recommendation from a counselor, teacher, community leader, or employer. These requirements must be emailed to lopezsustaitaf@michigan.gov.
5. Must complete and submit this application and all required materials by Friday, September 20, 2019 at 5pm. Incomplete applications will not be considered for review.

For those also interested in Herman Miller's continuous \$2,500 scholarships, please review the following details:

1. Two \$2,500 scholarships, repeating for three years (total of \$7,500 over three years per student), will be awarded.
2. Ideal applicants will be freshmen going into their sophomore year, and in a design major.
3. Funds will be disbursed directly to the schools.

Applications received by the deadline will be reviewed for completeness and then evaluated for eligibility. Selection is based on the applicant's academic performance, community service, and demonstrated financial need. The award winner will be notified by Monday, September 30, 2019.

If you have questions regarding this application, please contact Felipe Lopez Sustaita at lopezsustaitaf@michigan.gov.

LB Cover Story, Hispanic Heritage Month

It began as Hispanic Heritage Week, established by legislation sponsored by Rep. Edward R. Roybal (D-Los Angeles) and signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson in 1968. The commemorative week was expanded by legislation sponsored by Rep. Esteban Edward Torres (D-Pico Rivera) and implemented by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period (September 15 – October 15). The bill died in committee, but in 1988 Senator Paul Simon of Illinois re-submitted an amended version of the bill, S. 2200. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402. September 15 of every year was chosen as the starting point for the celebration because it is the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, who all declared independence in 1821. In addition, Mexico, Chile and Belize celebrate their independence days on September 16, September 18, and September 21, respectively.

Since the first National Heritage Week, many presidents have given a Presidential proclamation (United States) to begin the celebration of Hispanic Heritage every year. Presidential proclamation 3869, given by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1968, was the first to recognize the start of Hispanic Heritage Week. After him, Presidents Nixon, Ford, Carter and Reagan did the same between 1969 and 1988. It wasn't until Presidential Proclamation 6021, Given by President George H. W. Bush on September 14th, 1989, that Hispanic Heritage would be celebrated for a month. Now a Month instead of a week the annual National Hispanic celebration captures Mexico's, Chile's, and Belize's independence days and now ends October 15th. Since 1989 Presidents Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Barack Obama, and Donald J. Trump have given Presidential Proclamations to mark the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Community Board

Submit your announcements and events at themichiganbanner.com/submit

La Unión Cívica Mexicana

is currently accepting nominations for

THE SAGINAW HISPANIC HALL OF FAME

To request an application and information on eligibility criteria please email

unioncivicamexicana@gmail.com

or call 989-274-5074. Deadline for applications is September 30, 2019

MICHIGAN LATINO
LEGISLATIVE DAY



SAVE THE DATE



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Vanessa Guerra
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State Representative
Darrin Camilleri
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State Senator
Erika Geiss
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We encourage readers to send letters, story ideas, comments and questions.

DEADLINES

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



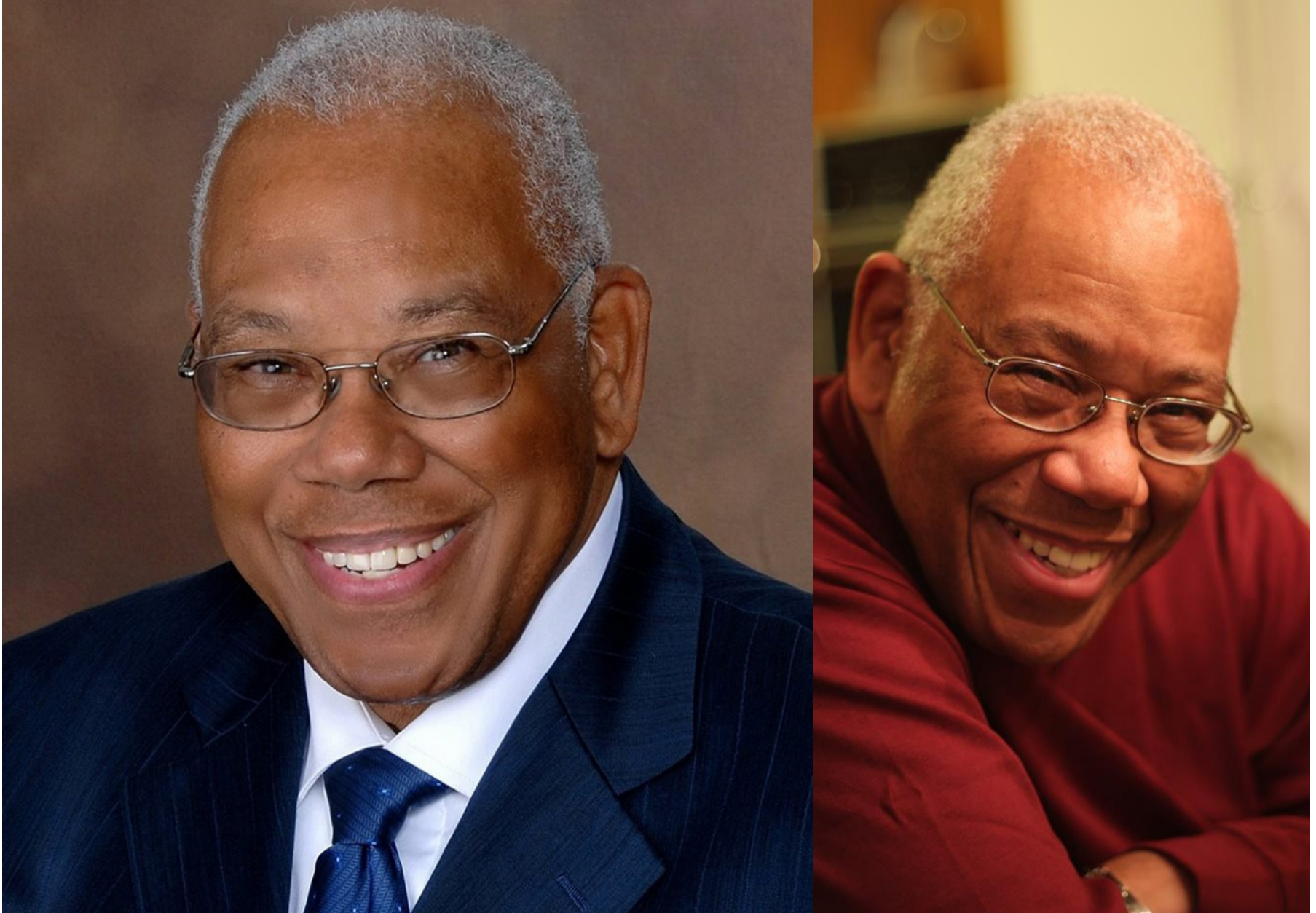
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Great Lakes Bay
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celebrating **50**
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www.GreatLakesBayHealth.org



My sincere congratulations to Jerome Buckley and the Michigan Banner as you celebrate 17 years of continuous service!

To many, that might not seem like much of an achievement, but when one becomes cognizant that it represents over 6,200 days of pain, heartache, and difficulty (along with the joys) to bring the banner to what it is today, it's quite an accomplishment. I know it's not been easy, but your daily push through the years has kept the Banner alive and fresh with joy, enthusiasm and excitement. I'm sure some of the words of John Newton's great hymns of the church (Amazing Grace), "Through Many dangers, toils and snares, I've already come, . ." is certainly applicable to you and the Banner. Persistence, commitment and dedication to a dream realized has brought the Michigan Banner into fruition as a staple of our community. Congratulations again, and may the journey continue to an even more promising future.

Pastor P. David Saunders, Sr.
Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

FUNDRAISING GOOD TIMES

Who calls the shots at your nonprofit?

Sometimes the multitude of decisions that need to be made can be overwhelming. If you are a nonprofit leader you know that the need to make decisions is never ending. But how do you make decisions? Better yet, how does the organization make decisions?

Some organizations find they aren't able to advance as they desire. If you are in this position, consider looking at how decisions are made, and who manages the decision making process. Things may not be as clear as they seem. Sometimes the executive is not really making the decisions, even though she is technically empowered to do so. Consider these examples.

1. By committee. A number of options and opinions are put on the table by various individuals within and outside the organization. These are collectively discussed. Often, whoever talks the loudest, is the most aggressive, or stays at the table the longest has the most influence on the final decision.
2. By the CEO only. The CEO makes decisions without consultation and guidance from internal and external sources. The extreme version of this is "my way or the highway."
3. Outside influencers and stakeholders. These individuals and organizations can apply what feels like constant pressure regarding what they think is best for your organization. Depending on the weight of their influence, they may expect the leadership to "bow down" to pressure.
4. Donors and grant makers. This is where major donors feel that because of the investment they make in your organization they should dictate the organization's direction.
5. Powerful board members. Because the board's role is to provide oversight – and in many cases financial resources – members have the power to influence the organization's direction. They have the power to hire and fire, and to block initiatives. This power can be exerted in negative ways.
6. Volunteers. Those with a long history of involvement and a passion for an organization's mission can have a unique influence. They may have strong community ties, or high corporate or social profile. They may try to "extort" the organization because their resources or connections within the community can make or break your nonprofit.
7. Alumni or clients. College alumni and nonprofit clients can offer important guidance. They can also create havoc. Each of these groups can mobilize their constituency, use social media, and or the press to exert pressure when tough decisions need to be made.
8. A combination of all of the above. Sometimes a decision maker tries to satisfy everyone. This is different from seeking diverse inputs. It can be very difficult to satisfy everyone; sometimes it turns into a nightmare.

There are many constituents to consider when making decisions. You need input. The question is: who is making the decisions? Sometimes you think you are calling the shots, but maybe you're not. That's not necessarily a bad thing, it's just important to be aware. You may want to bring in an outside consultant to assess your organization's processes and culture, and to make recommendations that can help you move forward.



Mel and Pearl Shaw | Courtesy Photo

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

HEALTH

Michigan receives \$500,000 to expand integrated care for Medicaid beneficiaries through Behavioral Health Home initiative



courtesy photo

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recently received \$500,000 from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund to expand a program that integrates physical and behavioral health care services for Medicaid beneficiaries with serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbance.

Currently, Behavioral Health Home (BHH) is offered in Grand Traverse and Manistee counties. The additional funds will be used to modernize and expand BHH operations into several more counties to provide access to integrated services for an estimated 3,000 - 4,000 more Michiganders.

“Integrated and coordinated care is essential to improving outcomes for the most severely ill living in our state,” said Dr. George Mellos, senior deputy director of the MDHHS Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration.

“This funding will increase capacity for essential services, which will help mitigate the growing number of Michiganders with mental illness and the alarming trend in deaths by suicide.”

Reports about Michigan’s current program show that the BHH increases patient engagement of care, follow-up visits after hospitalization, preventative screenings and reduces inpatient hospital length of stay. Additionally, an independent evaluation demonstrated significant cost-efficiencies through reductions in avoidable costs. Specific benefits of the BHH include the following:

- A single point of contact for navigating a patient’s health and social needs.
- Access to an interdisciplinary team of physical and behavioral health providers.
- Engagement in a person-centered health

action plan.

- Social and emotional support from peer support specialists/community health workers.
- Personalized care and support to positively affect a patient’s life.

Providers of the BHH receive enhanced reimbursement and outcome-based performance incentives for delivering Health Home services. This program is one of many strategic initiatives focused on improving the continuum of public behavioral health services in Michigan.

MDHHS has three overarching goals for the BHH:

- Improve care management of beneficiaries with serious mental illness or serious emotional disturbance.
- Improve care coordination between physical and behavioral health care services.
- Improve care transitions between primary, specialty and inpatient settings of care.

Expanded services are slated to begin in FY2021. More information will soon be available on the MDHHS website.

The Michigan Health Endowment Fund was created through Public Act 4 of 2013, which requires Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan to contribute up to \$1.56 billion over 18 years to a health endowment fund that benefits Michigan residents. The fund focuses on children and seniors with funding in the following areas: behavioral health, healthy aging, access to healthy food, wellness and fitness, infant mortality, technology enhancements, health-related transportation and foodborne illness prevention.

Covenant hosting free Medicare 101 Seminars

Want to learn more about your Medicare options? Attend an upcoming educational seminar sponsored by Covenant HealthCare.

At these FREE seminars, you'll learn:

- Why it's important to evaluate your current Medicare coverage each year
- The pros and cons of each of your Medicare coverage options
- What to consider when deciding which

Medicare coverage option is right for you

- Ways to save money and get better Medicare coverage in 2020

Each seminar lasts approximately one hour, and complimentary lunch or dinner will be served.

Space is limited, so reserve your seat at one of the seminars today by calling 1.866.COVENANT (1.866.268.3626). The dates

and times are listed below.

Wednesday, September 18
12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Horizon Conference Center
6200 State Street, Saginaw

Wednesday, September 18
4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Horizon Conference Center
6200 State Street, Saginaw

Michigan wins \$4 million CDC grant to improve monitoring of residents' toxic chemical exposure

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is among six state health departments nationwide awarded a grant from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) supporting the expansion of statewide toxic chemical biomonitoring.

Biomonitoring is the measurement of environmental chemicals in body tissues or fluids, such as blood or urine, to determine the amount of chemical that actually enters the body. Data collected from biomonitoring helps identify at-risk population groups and assess the effectiveness of interventions to prevent harm.

“This is a great win for all of Michigan and will allow our department to even better assess and address exposure to environmental chemicals in our communities,” said Robert Gordon, MDHHS director. “This knowledge will help us to develop and evaluate ways to both prevent and reduce chemical exposures.”

MDHHS will use the CDC grant funding – about \$4 million over five years – to support two new programs. The first, the Michigan Chemical Exposure Monitoring program (MiChEM), will test for chemicals in a group of adults selected to represent Michigan adults statewide. These chemicals include per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances

(PFAS), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), certain pesticides and heavy metals such as arsenic, mercury and lead.

“Because Michigan has a legacy of industrial activity and a high number of hunters, anglers and private well users, Michigan adults may be exposed to environmental chemicals in different ways than the rest of the U.S. population,” said Matt Geiger, chemistry and toxicology division director at the MDHHS State Public Health Lab and one of the principal investigators on the grant. “MiChEM will help MDHHS establish levels of these chemicals in Michigan adults and help evaluate changes in these levels over time.”

The second program funded by CDC’s grant will measure PFAS among Michigan firefighters to improve understanding of the ways they may be exposed to PFAS on the job. Data from recent scientific studies show that firefighters have levels of certain types of PFAS in their blood that are higher than the national average.

Information gathered from these newly funded efforts will complement other current activities throughout the state to identify groups exposed to environmental chemicals. Such activities include the recent statewide testing of PFAS in Michigan community water supplies, measuring PFAS exposure among people with PFAS in their private

wells in northern Kent County and expanded testing for lead and copper in public water supplies under Michigan’s revised Lead and Copper Rule.

Biomonitoring is an increasingly important tool in public health. Past biomonitoring efforts in Michigan conducted by the MDHHS State Public Health Lab include a 2003 investigation into dioxin exposure in the Tittabawassee River flood plain; several projects since the 1970s monitoring chemicals in consumers of Great Lakes fish; and long-term monitoring that took place between 1975 and 2001 to track Michiganders’ exposure to polybrominated biphenyl (PBB) flame retardants that had been accidentally mixed with cattle feed.





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E-cigarette, vaping users urged to seek medical attention if they feel ill



courtesy photo

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is currently investigating reports of e-cigarette/vaping-associated respiratory

illnesses. As of Aug. 27, MDHHS is reviewing six cases; all diagnosed in the last 60 days.

E-cigarette and/or vaping users should immediately seek medical attention if they develop symptoms such as shortness of breath, chest pain, cough, fever and/or nausea and vomiting. Symptoms may occur long after use of a device.

“The severity of illness people are experiencing is alarming and we want Michiganders to be aware using e-cigarettes and vaping can be dangerous,” said Sarah Lyon-Callo, MDHHS state epidemiologist. “E-cigarettes/vaping products can contain harmful chemicals that can result in damage to a user’s lungs, heart or other body systems.”

All cases have been reported in Michigan’s

Lower Peninsula and most of the individuals have been hospitalized for severe respiratory illness. The age range of the cases is 19-39. As of Aug. 23, 203 possible cases of severe respiratory disease associated with e-cigarette use have been reported in 23 states.

So far, the Michigan investigation has not identified a specific brand of device or e-liquid that is causing these illnesses. Similar to reports across the nation, there does not appear to be an infectious cause of the illnesses.

MDHHS is working closely with state and federal partners during this national outbreak investigation. Physicians caring for patients with pulmonary illnesses that have a history of e-cigarette and/or vaping use should immediately report these cases to their local health department.



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The Rewards of Choosing a PACE Doctor



courtesy photo

Great Lakes PACE opened May 1, 2015; it is a Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly. Many agree that PACE has great services, yet some are unsure about them because once enrolled you are switched to a PACE doctor. This is great for those searching for a new doctor; but for others this is a big decision. We understand this and would like to highlight some benefits of having a PACE doctor.

Full Assessments: The PACE doctor joins with a group of professionals and they assess each person. They share information to develop an effective course of treatment.

Close Medical Monitoring: Each morning the PACE doctor meets with the team to resolve any issues of concerns on a day-to-day basis.

Urgent Medical Care: When someone calls with a medical need, they may be seen the same day or the next depending on the severity of their symptoms. Transportation is provided if needed. Those at the PACE center for activities are seen by the doctor the same day if a medical need arise.

On Call Services: Those calling after hours, weekends or holidays will speak to a PACE medical provider who knows them and can refer to their medical record. This sometimes prevents emergency room visits and hospital admissions. A next day appointment is given if needed.

New Prescriptions: Our pharmacy delivers meds to the home. PACE doctor can request afterhours or weekend delivery for new meds.

Hospital-Nursing Home: The PACE doctor and team manage our participant's care even during hospital or nursing home stays.

Timely Services: No prior approvals or forms required to order medical equipment, medications or other medical services. This prevents delays in receiving needed services.

Great Lakes PACE enrolls those 55 or older and who live in our service area. Our counties include Saginaw, Midland and Bay City and parts of Gratiot, Tuscola, Shiawassee and Arenac (see zip codes below). You must be able to live safe in the community with PACE services and meet the medical guidelines.

Our intake staff will meet with you to assess eligibility. PACE is covered by Medicaid and/or Medicare for many, if not eligible for Medicaid, there is a private pay option. Those enrolled in PACE are responsible for cost of medical services received from out-of-network providers without prior approval-except for emergencies.

Would you like to learn more about Great Lakes PACE? Call today! Our number is 989 272-7610. We are open Monday-Friday 8AM-5PM. Walk-in tours are welcome or plan a group tour of any size for you, your family, church or organization.

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

Three Rivers Corporation Receives ABC Greater Michigan Awards



courtesy photo

Three Rivers Corporation received three awards at the Greatness & Gratitude Awards Celebration on Thursday, September 12th held at Apple Mountain in Freeland. They received awards in the Excellence in Construction category, as well as a Diamond award in the Safety Training & Evaluation Process (STEP) from Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) Greater Michigan Chapter.

Paul Crivac, Safety Director, was recognized for his hard work and dedication in safety. He was awarded the Pete Crawford Safety Professional of the Year. Paul is the first to receive it twice for his contribution to not just Associated Builders & Contractors, Greater Michigan Chapter, but also for his contributions to Associated Builders & Contractors National. Paul is one of the founding safety professionals of ABC National Safety Professional Council.

“Three Rivers earned this Excellence in Construction award and Diamond award in the Safety Training & Evaluation Process for their outstanding craftsmanship, teamwork, quality,

and safety processes. The Greater Michigan Associated Builders and Contractors is pleased to honor them with these awards and proud to have them lead the industry in the merit shop way,” said Jimmy Greene, CEO/ President of the ABC The Greater Michigan Chapter.

Each year, the ABC Greater Michigan Chapter provides an opportunity for members to compete for honors in the construction industry’s premier annual awards program: the Excellence in Construction (EIC) Awards. The EIC Awards recognize the outstanding Merit Shop construction projects completed during the previous year by member companies. The winners were judged on complexity, attractiveness, unique challenges, completion time, workmanship, innovation, safety, and cost.

ABC of Greater Michigan honored Three Rivers Corporation for their construction of Whiting Forest in the category 2019 Excellence in Construction GC/CM: New Construction - Over \$10 Million.

The Safety Training and Evaluation Process (STEP) Award recognizes efforts of ABC members who strive to achieve effective safety practices within their companies; it is an organized approach for analyzing and developing safety and loss prevention programs. ABC provides contractors with tools to objectively evaluate their safety programs, policies, procedures and training.

“We are honored to again receive this recognition from the Associated Builders and Contractors Greater Michigan Chapter. Cultivating an environment that promotes and maintains safe and productive results for our employees, craft workers, customers, subcontractors, and the communities we work in has been a core value for Three Rivers,” says Jon Lynch, President at Three Rivers Corporation. "By applying best practices of effective training and employee engagement, we strive to ensure that every one of our men and women that work on our projects returns home safely each day.



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New United Financial Credit Union Location Coming to Bay County



courtesy photo

United Financial Credit Union will be adding a new location in Bay County in the fall of 2020.

Their Bay City location will be located at 6354 Westside Saginaw Road {M-84} at the corner of 3 Mile Road and Westside Saginaw Road in Bay City. The Credit Union expects to break ground in early 2020, with a completion date in the fall of 2020. United Financial is currently working with TSSF Architects, Inc. for the design of this new location.

This location will feature some of the newest technology in member service delivery. The one story full service branch will be able to process new accounts, mortgages, consumer loans, insurance products and wealth management services for personal or business members.

The lobby will feature teller pods for one-on-one personal attention, along with three private member offices. The nontraditional standalone drive thru will feature our Live Personal Tellers that are open expanded hours; Monday – Friday 7:00am – 7:00pm and Saturday 9:00am – 2:00pm for member transactions and they can also be used as a 24 Hour ATM.

Visit their website at www.unitedfinancialcu.org to learn more about the Credit Union.

Al Serra Auto Plaza No. 1 in Michigan; No. 4 nationally, according to WardsAuto



courtesy photo

Al Serra Auto Plaza is once again number one in new and used vehicle sales in Michigan, according to WardsAuto Dealer Business. The industry magazine also ranks Al Serra as fourth in the nation out of nearly 18,000 dealerships in the U.S. in its 33rd Annual List of the Top 500 Automotive Dealerships.

“I know I’ve said this countless times before, but all the credit for this achievement belongs to the team we have here,” said Matt Serra, Al Serra Auto Plaza’s executive manager. “Day in and day out, their dedication to serving our customers to the best of their ability is nothing short of amazing!”

Last year was another strong year for the automotive industry and that momentum has carried over through the first half of 2019, he added. Serra and his father, Joe Serra, president of Serra Automotive, are featured on the cover of the current issue of WardsAuto Dealer Business.

The magazine reported that Al Serra Auto Plaza had total unit sales of 13,358 and \$433,385,024 in total revenue. Meanwhile, Serra Automotive had unit sales of 23,566 and revenue of \$761

million. Total employment for Serra Automotive stands at 1,970 up from 1,861, according to WardsAuto.

“In addition to our total commitment to our customers, we have the advantage of 12 franchises, offering car buyers the opportunity to shop a wide range of exciting new vehicles with just one stop,” said Matt Serra. “But we know we can’t take anything for granted. We need to continue to work hard, continue to grow and improve in every department. As the saying goes, it’s difficult to get to the top, but it’s harder to stay there.”

Matt Serra told the magazine that the dealership has worked with Cleveland-based The DiJulius Group to enhance its customer service training. The company’s clients include Starbucks, Chick-fil-A, Nordstrom and The Ritz-Carlton, among others.

“They showed us how to get all 450 people at the Auto Plaza rowing in the same direction to deliver the best customer experience,” he told WardsAuto. Their message: “Create big impacts through small acts.”

Peckham hosts community open house for new manufacturing facility in Flint Township



courtesy photos

On September 5, Peckham, Inc. hosted a community open house to celebrate the opening of its manufacturing facility on Linden Road near the Genesee Valley Center.

Peckham's Flint Township location provides apparel manufacturing jobs and vocational services for people with disabilities. The renovated facility, formerly a furniture retail space at 3080 S. Linden Rd., has more than 33,000 square feet of manufacturing space, with more than 8,000 square feet of flexible office and classroom space, including an internet café, training rooms and more.

The facility is the organization's newest expansion and opportunity to serve more individuals with disabilities in the greater Flint region.

"As a community organization with a mission to help those with barriers reach their full potential, it made sense for us to grow our services in Flint, our neighboring community," said Peckham President and CEO Mitchell Tomlinson. "Peckham believes in the strong spirit of this community, and we want to collaborate with others who believe in the city's potential to create more pathways to meaningful employment for this talented workforce."

Peckham anticipates providing up to 200 sewing machine operator job opportunities over the next 12 to 18 months for people with a wide range of disabilities. Jobs are full-time with health benefits and start at \$10/hour with upward mobility opportunities for increased skill.

"We are pleased that Peckham chose to invest in this community," said Tim Herman, CEO of the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce. "The investment not only helps to facilitate Peckham's goals, it brings great opportunity

for our residents and aligns with our economic development goals.

"Choosing Flint Township for its expansion – and the 200 jobs it brings – also sends a positive message that the spirit of our community, our business climate and local workforce has what it takes for a business to be successful."

To learn more about Peckham, visit www.peckham.org.





The Class was developed by Terry Duperon; an entrepreneur, inventor, author and speaker who has taught over 1000 students through Duperon Education.

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The Class, as it exists today, takes us through the skills and practices to bring something into the future that hasn't been done before. As Terry says, "never be the one who limits you".

The Class is for anyone looking for the next step. People walk out with more of themselves than when they entered and leave with the tools to create, lead and fulfill their dreams.

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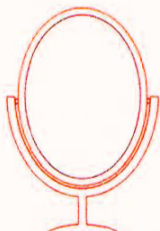
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EDUCATION

Michigan author wins SVSU literature award for book about Flint's Water Crisis



courtesy photo

Saginaw Valley State University has awarded the 2019-20 Stuart D. and Vernice M. Gross Award for Literature to author Anna Clark for her book, "The Poisoned City: Flint's Water Crisis and the American Urban Tragedy." The award is part of SVSU's community-minded commitment to recognize exceptional writing within Michigan.

Clark will visit SVSU in the early months of 2020, when she will accept the award as well as visit classes on campus. She will also receive a \$1,000 prize.

Clark graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in art history and creative writing and literature. She also graduated from Warren Wilson College's MFA Program for Writers and has published

articles in The New York Times, Elle, and the Columbia Journalism Review.

Her book on the Flint water crisis has been described as "an exceptional work of journalism" by The San Francisco Chronicle and "a thorough, nuanced account . . . [that] weaves together history, science and rigorous reporting to tell Flint's story" by Science News magazine.

A website for "The Poisoned City" — including links for purchasing the book — is available at <http://annaclark.net/the-poisoned-city>.

Established by the late Stuart D. Gross and his wife, Vernice, the Gross Award for Literature is administered by SVSU. It is granted to published works in regional history or historical fiction/drama. Preference is given to Michigan subject matter or strong Michigan connections on the part of the author.

Winners are selected by a panel of judges from SVSU's faculty and staff. Judges this year were Matthew Buckley, research and collection development librarian; M. Patricia Cavanaugh, professor of English; Jules Gehrke, associate professor of history; Carlos Ramet, associate dean of the College of Arts & Behavioral Sciences; and Michelle Strasz, research & online course support librarian.

Employed for many years as a journalist with The Saginaw News, Gross joined the SVSU staff in the school's early years and served in a variety of public affairs roles. He was recognized as a regional historian and published several books. Among his writings are, "Saginaw: A History of the Land and City," "When Timber was King," and "Where There is a Will." Following his retirement from SVSU, Gross wrote and produced a play, "Let's Have Lunch Sometime." He died in 1996; Mrs. Gross, in 2001.

Delta College Earns Federal Designation for Cyber Defense Education



Delta College has been designated as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education (CAE-CDE), jointly sponsored by the U.S. National Security Agency (NSA) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

Delta is one of only 11 colleges in Michigan, and the only one in the Great Lakes Bay Region, to have earned the CAE-CDE designation. In its endorsement letter, the NSA said Delta's program aligns with a national cyber strategy designed to address the critical shortage of professionals with cybersecurity skills and to highlight the importance of higher education as a solution to defending America's cyberspace.

"We are extremely pleased that Delta's Cybersecurity program has received this prestigious recognition," said Dr. Jean Goodnow, President of Delta College. "In addition to recognizing the quality of our cybersecurity program and faculty, this designation will provide excellent employment and transfer

opportunities for our graduates and position Delta to meet the growing demand for cybersecurity specialists in Michigan and the United States."

In addition to the respect of attending a CAE-CDE institution, students attending designated schools are eligible to apply for scholarships and grants through the Department of Defense Information Assurance Scholarship Program and the Federal Cyber Service Scholarship for Service Program.

Delta's Cybersecurity Associate in Applied Science degree is offered in person and online. If students wish to earn a bachelor's degree in this field, Delta College has seamless transfer agreements in place with Capitol College, Colorado State University Global Campus, Davenport University, Eastern Michigan University and Northwood University.

Classes begin January 8. For more information about Cybersecurity studies at Delta College, visit delta.edu/cybersecurity.

STUDY ABROAD AT DELTA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS OPEN

Study abroad scholarships are available to help provide Delta College students with rewarding, life-changing educational experiences in other countries. Thanks to generous donors, the scholarships can make learning about people, their countries and their cultures around the world more affordable.

Two scholarships are available for enrolled students, the Lola Bishop Whitney Scholarship and the Preston and Dr. Betty B. Jones International Scholarship.

The application deadline for both is October 25 at midnight.

LOLA BISHOP WHITNEY SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Have a 2.5 grade point average or higher
- Have successfully completed at least four credit hours of a foreign language at Delta (exceptions may be considered)
- Have two references – one from a Delta foreign language instructor and one from another Delta instructor or staff member

Preference will be given to students participating in applications where academic credit is granted. The dollar amount of each award will be based on available funds. Awards will be given on a one-time only basis per student.

PRESTON AND DR. BETTY B. JONES INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Have a 2.8 grade point average or higher
- Have completed at least one year at Delta College
- Maintain full-time enrollment during the year the scholarship is awarded
- Have two references

Preference will be given to students traveling and studying in developing countries. The scholarship will be awarded to students who may or may not have financial need.

ADDITIONAL AWARD CRITERIA

Both scholarships also require applicants to:

- Write a short 250-750 word essay
- Complete a cost estimate form
- Complete an on-campus interview
- Write a thank you letter and follow-up summary

MORE INFORMATION

There is an extensive amount of time and research that students must invest in order to ensure that they will have a good plan in place to travel abroad. We encourage you to begin early and ask for help if you find that you have questions. For more help or information, call Michelle White at 989-686-9382 or visit www.delta.edu/scholarships to apply.

Nominations Now Open for the Next Michigan Teacher of the Year



LANSING – Do you know an outstanding teacher who goes above and beyond for their students and is active in promoting the teaching profession?

Nominate them for the 2020-2021 Michigan Teacher of the Year (MTOY) program!

The Michigan Teacher of the Year program recognizes outstanding educational leaders across the state for their work to elevate the teaching profession. The Michigan Teacher of the Year program is an opportunity for communities around the state to nominate outstanding educators so they can share their knowledge and expertise with policymakers and other educators.

“Michigan is fortunate to have teachers who dedicate themselves each day to raising up their students and elevating the educator profession,” said State Superintendent Dr. Michael F. Rice. “We want nominations that reflect racial and cultural diversity, and a wide range of classroom experiences, from which to select the next Michigan Teacher of the Year.”

Nominations can be made using the online recommendation form between now and Sunday, October 6, 2019, at 11:59 p.m. Anyone can nominate a teacher, provided the nominee meets the following requirements:

Holds a current Michigan teaching certificate
Has at least five years of successful teaching experience in Michigan
Works directly with students in their current role
Teachers from all Michigan schools who meet these requirements are eligible to apply. Every teacher eligible to apply will receive an email inviting them to complete Part A of the MTOY application process. Part A of the application process will be due by November 17, 2019.

Each completed Part A application will be reviewed by a group of educational stakeholders from among each of 10 regions across Michigan and select regional semifinalists. Those semifinalists then will complete Part B of the MTOY application. The scores assigned to applicants’ respective Part B submissions will determine the Regional Teachers of the Year (RTOYs).

Each RTOY will then be interviewed by a panel of state-wide educational leaders to determine the Michigan Teacher of the Year.

Each teacher named as an RTOY will become a member of the Michigan Teacher Leadership Advisory Council (MTLAC). The MTLAC meets four times during their appointed year and provides RTOYs with an opportunity to learn more about statewide educational initiatives and provide feedback on those initiatives.

Each month, the MTOY and a RTOY attend and present at the State Board of Education meetings and, through the partnership with the Meemic Education Foundation, receive funding to support travel around the state. The MTOY is also able to attend events involving other state’s Teachers of the Year.

For more information about the MTOY program, please contact program coordinator Josh Roesner at either roesnerj1@michigan.gov or (517) 335-5236.



About Saginaw ISD HE/EHS

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

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

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

women and their families.

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

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

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

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

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

Source: www.saginawheadstart.org



Sabrina Beeman-Jackson

Saginaw ISD Head Start/Early Head Start Program Director

“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

A new home for talking things out at CMU

Navigating social differences can be emotional and challenging. At Central Michigan University, a new center for talking across differences will help students become more effective and understanding communicators.

CMU's Institute for Transformative Dialogue is designed to support and expand intergroup dialogue experiences across the university.

Intergroup dialogue sessions are facilitated, in-person conversations between members of two or more different social groups. These discussions provide participants a safe way to explore new perspectives, increase understanding of others, build respect and empathy, and develop skills to live in an increasingly multicultural society.

Among other things, the institute will expand opportunities to learn through intergroup dialogues by building relationships across

departments and divisions.

The institute is a partnership between the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences and Enrollment and Student Services, co-directed by Andrew Blom, philosophy and religion department chair, and Shannon Jolliff-Dettore, director of LGBTQ Services. The two have worked together for more than a decade to train student facilitators and help offer intergroup dialogue courses for CMU students.

"Many students who participate in intergroup dialogue for one semester are left wanting more," said Jolliff-Dettore. "The institute provides the chance to learn and grow, so dialogue doesn't have to be a one-time experience."

The institute's new space in the Center for Inclusion and Diversity, located on the first floor of the Bovee University Center, will serve

as meeting space for past, present and future student facilitators to continue to connect outside of the classroom.

"The establishment of the institute is a commitment to a more inclusive CMU," said Blom. "Its mission is to deepen our capacity as a community to engage authentically across difference — listening generously, sharing our own stories and thinking critically about our roles in creating a more justice in our world."

Blom said the institute will help create opportunities for intergroup dialogue both inside and outside the classroom, build relationships, and provide a hub for those seeking to add intergroup dialogue to their programs.

"It's about creating an environment at CMU where students of all identities feel like they are welcome, seen, heard and belong," said Blom.

Big donation from "Big John's" to benefit MCC Culinary Arts Scholarships & Study Abroad

Joseph Klobucher, brother of John "Big John" Klobucar, the founder of Big John Steak & Onion restaurants, has donated \$100,000 to Mott Community College's Culinary Arts Program. Klobucher made the donation after touring the College's new state-of-the-art Culinary Arts Institute in downtown Flint.

It is the third gift to the College made by Joseph Klobucher and the Big John family. Previous gifts include \$100,000 in 2012 to the College's culinary arts program in memory of his brother, and a second \$100,000 gift in 2014.

Klobucher's newest \$100,000 gift will provide students with scholarships, and opportunities for study abroad experiences to study diverse styles of cooking and food preparation.

"MCC is deeply honored to receive yet another tremendous gift from Joseph Klobucher who is known for his passion in community education," said Lennetta Coney, President of the Foundation for Mott Community College (FMCC). "The college offers an excellent program that prepares students for exciting career opportunities in the food service industry. We're training future bakers, chefs, food

service managers, restaurant owners, hospitality professionals, and more. With Mr. Klobucher's help, our deserving students have a chance to make their mark in the world."

Klobucher, who has been involved with his brother's restaurants for years, as well as operating his own franchise, Big John Chicken & Sandwich Factory in Caro, has a long history of creating educational programs and services in the Caro and Flint communities. As one of the early adapters of community education, he developed strong ties to the community while developing vocational education programs, as well as adult continuing education programs.

He started the first off-campus college classes in Michigan with Delta Community College (DCC). Many classes, taught by DCC faculty, were hosted by Klobucher in Caro. This concept was ahead of its time -- faculty traveling to where the students are. It was copied nationwide. He also embraced the community by bringing national and international entertainment to local communities. He brought the Geoffrey Ballet, the Atlanta Ballet, Will Geer Americana, Up With People, Michigan Art Train and many other fine entertainers to his

community over the years.

Klobucher was the recipient of MCC's most prestigious honor, the Distinguished Alumni Award, in 2013. "We're so grateful for this gift and the constant generosity of Joe Klobucher and the Big John family," added Coney.



courtesy photo

COMMUNITY

Bollywood star Meera Chopra to return to alma mater SVSU as Dow Visiting Artist

Fresh from the debut of one of her most anticipated films, a leading Bollywood actor this month will return to the campus she considered transformative in her development: Saginaw Valley State University.

Meera Chopra, an SVSU alumna who went on to star in more than 20 films produced in her native India, will serve as a Dow Visiting Artist at her alma mater Thursday, Sept. 26, at 7 p.m. in SVSU's Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts. The event is free and open to the public.

"I'm coming to Saginaw to talk to you, share some stories, talk about life and just have lots of fun," Chopra said. "I'm really looking forward to it. Saginaw is something which made me what I am today."

Chopra received a master's degree in communication and multimedia from SVSU in 2003, just two years before she starred in the Tamil-language romantic drama, "Anbe Aaruyire." Her breakout hit found success with fans of the southern India film industry. She went by the stage name Nila at the time.

She followed "Anbe Aaruyire" with appearances in a number of Indian films in other languages — Telugu and Kannada — such as her critically-acclaimed performance in the 2008 romantic drama, "Vaana."

After moving to India's film capital, Mumbai, Chopra's rise as an artist continued with internationally-successful thrillers including "Gangs of Ghosts" and "1920: London," which is available to watch on stateside streaming services such as Netflix.

Chopra's acting career has included dramatic portrayals. In "Section 375" — a Hindi-language movie set to debut this Friday, Sept. 13 — Chopra plays a woman whose sexual assault becomes the focus of a court case that



courtesy photos

examines the misuse of the nation's anti-rape laws.

Chopra, a proponent of female empowerment and women's rights, said she accepted the challenge of portraying a sexual assault survivor to raise awareness of the number of unreported rape cases in India and to highlight victims' rights.

"Playing the character was very traumatic for me in the beginning, and once the filming was over, it took me some time to get out of it," Chopra told The Times of India in August. "Shooting for this role really broke my heart to even imagine what real rape victims go through. I hope this movie gives strength to women to fight for justice."

Chopra's appearance at SVSU is part of the university's fall 2019 Visiting Scholars and Artists speaker series.

For more information on Chopra's appearance and the speaker series, visit svsu.edu/publiclectures.



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Horizons Conference Center

6200 State St, Saginaw, MI 48603

4:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.

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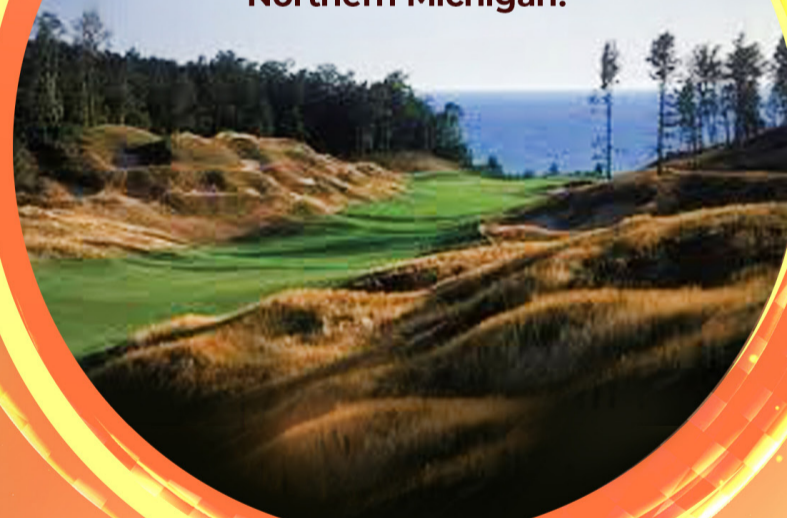
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www.womenofcolors.org

Inspirational stories shared by a panel of community members




Alan Crawford
Attorney



WOC
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Funding for this program was provided by
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For questions, telephone the Saginaw Promise at (989) 755-0545

Local Volunteers Recognized by CAN Council



courtesy photos

At its Volunteer Appreciation Celebration, the CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region honored Peter Rose-Barry (Saginaw), Dan Parker (Midland), and the employees of J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. (Birmingham) for their remarkable volunteer contributions.

Peter Rose-Barry (Saginaw) is honored as the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) of the Year because of the exceptional dedication he displays and his passion for being the voice for our region's most vulnerable children. For four years, Peter has advocated for children who are in our foster care system due to abuse and neglect. In 2015, Peter was assigned his first CASA case involving three young children. Peter advocated for this family for nearly one year until the children were reunified with their parents. In 2018, these same children entered foster care for a second time in their young lives. Without hesitation, Peter became their advocate yet again to provide consistency and a familiar face during a time of great uncertainty for these children.

Peter is currently advocating for a 14-year-

old boy who has suffered significant trauma and has struggled through a failed adoption and now resides in a residential facility 100 miles away. This child has no family that keep in touch with him. Peter truly is one of just a few people who remain in this child's life. As of today, Peter has been this child's CASA for 961 days. While the future is still uncertain for this child, because of Peter's dedication, he knows that his CASA volunteer is committed to advocating for him until permanence is achieved and his case is closed.

Dan Parker (Midland) became a volunteer at the CAN Council to make the jobs of those working in the non-profit world easier by developing databases through Microsoft Access. His databases are utilized across all CAN Council programs. Dan is a vital part of the CAN team. Without hesitation, he will make himself available to answer any questions, troubleshoot problems, and he's always willing to develop new additions to his original programs as needs change. Dan is honored as Volunteer of the Year for his continued dedication to the prosperity of the CAN Council and for his years of service to

our cause.

J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. (Birmingham) Gary Wilson from J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. approached the CAN Council in 2017 with the hopes of developing a partnership to provide volunteer opportunities for the organization's staff. The result has been a flourishing relationship for both organizations. J.P Morgan volunteers are positive, outgoing individuals with a stellar work ethic. Thanks to their volunteers, the CAN Council has had many successful fundraising efforts, whether it's selling 50/50 tickets at Spirit hockey games or facilitating fun activities for children at the CAN Council Ducky Derby. They've also been a huge asset with Child Abuse Prevention Month, as well as keeping the CAN Council grounds looking it's best. The company is honored as Group Volunteer of the Year for sharing so greatly the time and talents of its workforce.

For more information on how the CAN Council is impacting child abuse in our community and how residents can get involved, visit cancouncil.org.



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Saginaw Choral Society Announces Beer Choir



courtesy photos

Sing responsibly with Saginaw Beer Choir:
Talent not required

Saginaw Choral Society combines a love of suds and singing with a new community sing-along event.

The Saginaw Choral Society is excited to officially launch the Saginaw Chapter of the national singing sensation, Beer Choir! Mark your calendars and join in for the first-ever sing-along event at local watering hole, Oracle Brewing Company on September 27th from 6-8pm!

Grab your drinking buddies and get ready for a lively night out of brews and bar songs. Beer Choir is no stuffy concert, but rather a community sing-along event of pure fun. Open to the public and welcome to everyone "Participation is required, but talent is not". Not familiar with Beer Choir? Originally created in 2014 by choral composer and conductor, Michael Engelhardt. His vision was simply to create a social singing movement with vibrant chapters around the country, hosting regular events in support of the local craft beer

market.

After a few years and multiple chapters started, that vision has transformed into a national singing sensation.

With the choral society's new mission "Building and uniting our community through music" and after hearing about this innovative way to bring community members together, it seemed like a no brainer. With zero hesitation, SCS Music Director, Jeremiah Kraniak officially put in the request for a brand new Saginaw Chapter of Beer Choir!

So what exactly is Beer Choir?

Beer Choir is...

SOCIAL. - Events take place in public places such as bars & breweries.

SINGING. - Everyone sings from the official Beer Choir Hymnal, our official songbook.

BEER. - We are committed to supporting the local micro & craft beer community.

LEADERS. - Events are lead by chapter leaders who are local choir directors.

COMMUNITY. - Our mission is to make the world a little better by singing and drinking together.

Simply put, in the official words of the Beer Choir theme song "The Beer Choir is the choir that sings while drinking beer!" Sound like fun? Come on down to Oracle Brewing Company on September 27th from 6-8pm and join right in on the fun! No tickets or registration necessary!

To stay up to date with the Saginaw Choral Society and all things Saginaw Beer Choir follow us on our social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) and RVSP to the "Beer Choir - Saginaw Chapter" event on Facebook for more updates as the event gets closer!

For more information, visit the Saginaw Choral Society's website at www.saginawchoralsociety.com.

Team One's 5K Wine Run/Walk to benefit Bridge the Gap



Team One Credit Union and Tri To Finish are teaming up for the Team One 5K Wine Run/Walk on Friday, September 27 in Downtown Saginaw. Proceeds from the Wine Run will benefit Bridge the Gap, a wonderful organization that strives to build positive relationships between law enforcement and the community.

Wine Run Event Details:

Date: Friday, September 27, 2019

Start Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Huntington Event Park, 300 Johnson Street, Saginaw, MI 48607

Register at: www.TeamOneCU.org/WineRun

Whether you've never participated in a walk before or you are a serious runner, this fun filled event is for everyone. So, tell your friends and family and sign up today! The course runs along the scenic riverfront continues onto Ojibway Island before returning back to the finish line at Huntington Event Park. Participants will be treated with a t-shirt, finisher medal, 2 wine tastings (21 years old and older) and a wine glass. Appetizers and entertainment will also be provided.

LEGO Program looking for Mentors

THE EZEKIEL PROJECT

BECOME A MENTOR TODAY!




- Recruitment and training session for LEGO mentors.
- Working with Stone, Loomis, and Rouse
- Tutor 3rd graders

- **When:** September 23, 2019 3:30-5pm
- **Where:** 403 S Jefferson Saginaw, MI

The Ezekiel Project and The Saginaw Public School District are teaming up to improve student reading comprehension and development through an after-school reading program at Jessie Loomis, Jessie Rouse, and Stone Elementary Schools.

We are looking for individuals that are interested in becoming reading mentors to the children of our community. We are hosting a training on September 23. The training will take approximately an hour and then there will be time to complete cards and ask questions.

The district requires security cards be completed for interested mentors. Please bring your ID as well.



courtesy photos

The LEGO (Literacy Expands Greater Opportunities) Program is looking for dedicated mentors to help this year's 3 graders. The Ezekiel Project has partnered with the Saginaw Public School District to help students develop their reading comprehension and literacy skills and your help is needed! Training will be held on September 23rd, 2019 from 3:30 - 5 pm at the First Congregational Church in Suttner Hall. If interested you must bring a valid license or ID.

You can register at:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1Q_qjNPKaV-T2UHkFSSZXAKaBam8itbv0EQ4ojFwvNRY/prefill

You can also contact us at EzekielInformation@gmail.com or through social media at https://www.instagram.com/the_ezekiel_project/ or <https://www.facebook.com/TheEzekielProjectSaginaw> for more information.

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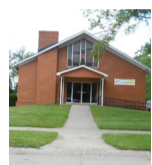
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POLITICS & PUBLIC POLICY

Dan Kildee Announces Nearly \$350,000 Federal Grants to Saginaw and Flushing Fire Departments



courtesy photo

Congressman Dan Kildee (MI-05), Chief Deputy Whip of the House Democratic Caucus, announced that two mid-Michigan fire departments will receive \$345,199 in federal grants to support local first responders and upgrade critical equipment to protect firefighters.

The Flushing Fire Department will receive \$274,472 and the Saginaw Fire Department will receive \$70,472. The federal grant, through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program, will help to replace old firefighting equipment and air tanks for firefighters.

“I am proud to announce these federal grants

for local fire departments to promote public safety. The men and women at the Flushing and Saginaw Fire Departments work every day to keep our communities safe, and it is important that they have the necessary protective equipment to keep them safe. These federal grants will help our local fire departments remain prepared to respond to emergencies. I look forward to continuing to work with our first responders to promote public safety,” said Congressman Kildee.

Since coming to Congress, Kildee has been a champion for mid-Michigan communities to receive federal grants to assist with public safety. In 2017, Congressman Kildee secured \$267,069 in federal funds to replace old

firefighting equipment and protective gear for firefighters in Flint. The year before, Congressman Kildee helped to secure a \$3.7 million Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant for Flint.

Eligible fire departments can apply for federal AFG and SAFER grants. These competitive grants provide money to guarantee departments are appropriately staffed with qualified professional and volunteer firefighters.

Governor Gretchen Whitmer on Flavored Vaping Products:



courtesy photo

"I'm glad this administration is doing the right thing and following Michigan's lead to ban flavored nicotine vaping products. This is great news for our kids, our families, and our overall public health. Right now, companies are getting our kids hooked on nicotine by marketing flavors like apple juice, bubble gum, and candy. Banning these flavors is a bold step that will keep our kids healthy and safe from the harmful effects of vaping. I'm proud that Michigan has been a leader on this issue, and I'm ready to continue working to protect our kids and our public health."



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SPORTS

Stephen Curry Partners With HBCU Howard University To Launch First Division I Golf Program

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19, 2019 /

PRNewswire/ -- In a historic stride forward to grow the game of golf, six-time NBA All-Star and Eat. Learn. Play. Foundation co-founder, Stephen Curry, announced his commitment to Howard University today, with a pledge to support the establishment of the university's first NCAA Division 1 golf program for the next six years.

Inspired by Howard senior and golfer, Otis Ferguson IV, whom Curry met during a campus visit earlier this year, Curry was compelled to act when Ferguson shared that his impassioned solo crusade to get a golf team at Howard proved unsuccessful. An avid golfer himself, Curry tapped into what is increasingly becoming his defining trait—the distinctive ability to connect and empathize with anyone, anywhere, and made the unprecedented decision to help bridge the gap between talent and opportunity. Utilizing his unique position, Curry will introduce and increase access to elite golf at a historically black college, furthermore calling on sport and community giants like Under Armour, Callaway, Eat. Learn. Play., among others, for help with equipment, uniforms, and more.

"Golf is a sport that has changed my life in ways that are less tangible, but just as impactful," said the NBA star. Adding, "It's a discipline that challenges your mental wherewithal from patience to focus, and is impossible to truly master, so when you hear about these passionate student athletes who have the talent but don't have a fair shot at the game, it's tough. I feel really honored to play a small role in the rich history of Howard University, and look forward to building their first men's and women's golf teams with them."

Howard University aims to debut the first men's and women's golf teams in the 2020/2021 academic year, with resources



courtesy photo

strategically allocated for talent scouting and training to have a competitive Division 1 team in place for its inaugural season, joining Howard's other 19 Division 1 teams. The university previously had a Division 2 golf team and various intercollegiate and intramural club teams.

"Howard University is honored to partner with NBA Champion Stephen Curry to launch what is sure to become one of the best golf programs in the country," said President Wayne A. I. Frederick, M.D., MBA. "This program will expose the campus to a game

with numerous benefits. Golf is unique because it can be played through various ages of life. Grandfathers can play with granddaughters. Expanding the competitive opportunities for student athletes, especially in arenas where they are underrepresented, is consistent with the university's strategic plan."

Curry will be joined by Howard University's President, Dr. Wayne A. I. Frederick, Athletic Director, Kery Davis, CEO of Callaway, Chip Brewer, and Howard student, Otis Ferguson IV, in a historic tee-off today in Washington, D.C.

Tickets available for SCSHOF Banquet



Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame

Class of 2019



Hogey Holtz



Charlie Markey



Ralph Munger



Brad Redford



Stacy (Delaney) Rohr



Jenny Ryan



Blair White



2006
Nouvel Catholic Central State Champion Football Teams



2007

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These seven individuals and two teams will be honored at the 18th annual Hall of Fame Induction Banquet Sunday, November 3rd at Horizons Conference Center. For ticket information, please contact Sharon Bade at (989) 239-9874, Jack Tany at (989) 737-4725, or any board member.

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Every year since 2002, a dedicated selection committee for the Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame has pored over nominations made by people from around the county on athletes, coaches, teams and contributors. A new batch of honorees were named during a news conference back in April.

Nominees vary in age range and accomplishment but all show a passion and dedication to their sport. Each nominee must have been retired from their sports career for a minimum of five years, though there's an exception for coaches, as many stay in their positions for years or even decades.

The 2019 inductees are as follows:

Stacy Delany – Freeland High School and University of Missouri softball

Hogey Holtz – football, basketball and softball athletic official

Charles Markey – Saginaw High and CMU football

Ralph Munger – Frankenmuth High athlete and football coach for Frankenmuth and Rockford high schools

Brad Redford – Frankenmuth High and Xavier University basketball

Jenny Ryan – Nouvel Catholic Central and U of M basketball

Blair White – Nouvel Catholic Central, MSU and Indianapolis Colts football

The back to back 2006-2007 Nouvel Catholic Central State Champion football teams

The inductees will be honored at a banquet on Sunday November 3, 2019 at Horizons Conference Center in Saginaw Township.

Doors open at 3:00 pm for social hour followed by the ceremony beginning at 4:00 pm.

For additional information and to purchase tickets, visit www.saginawcountysports.org.

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PICS OF THE WEEK

Pastor David Saunders and Ricardo Verdoni were honored as the newest Emeritus members of the Board of Fellows (SVSU's community advisory board). Though Gary Bosco and David Hall could not be in attendance, these four individuals served the Board of Fellows with distinction for decades. Thank you for your service to SVSU!



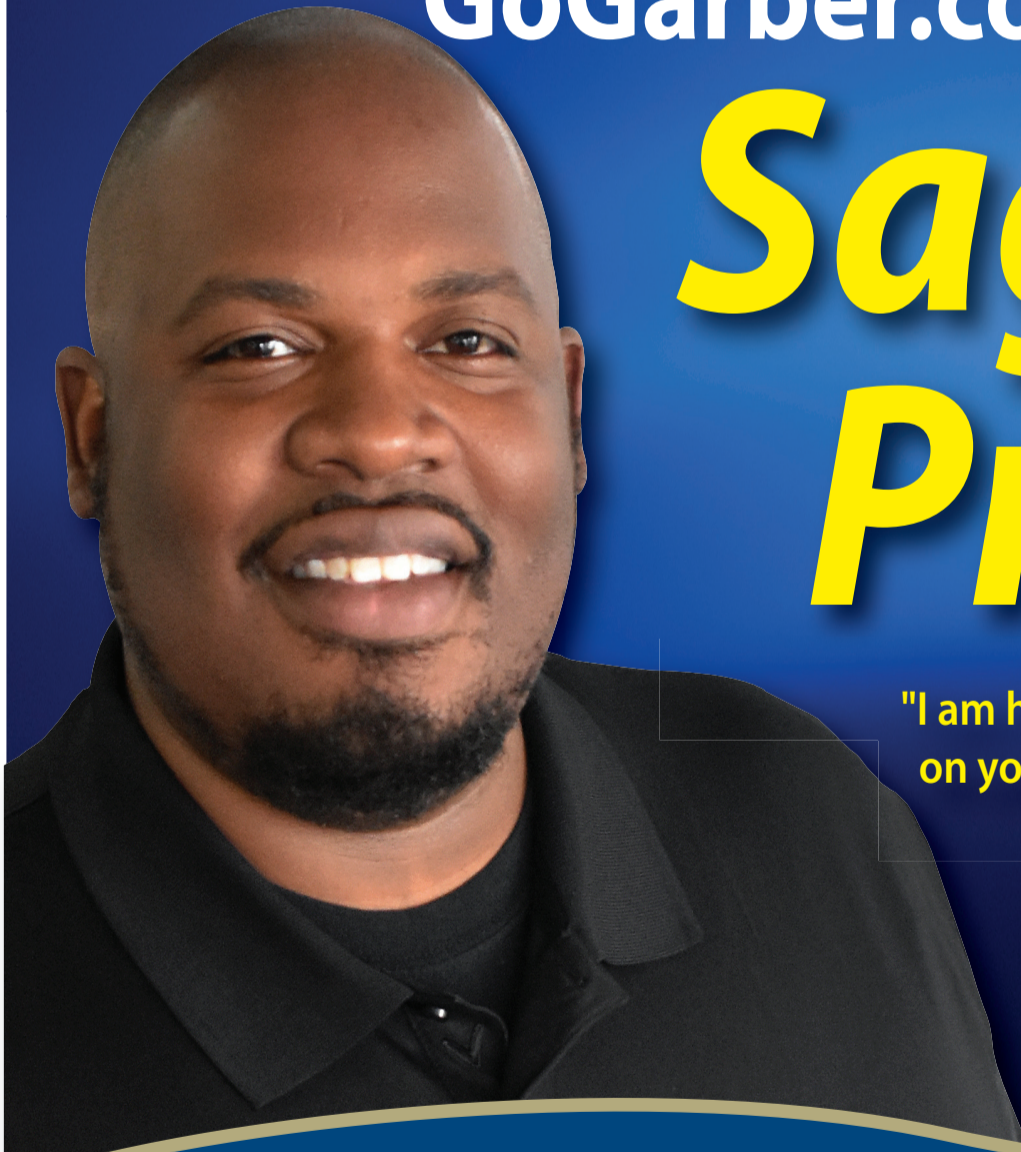
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Ty'Shawn Short
Sophomore majoring in
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