

# THE MICHIGAN BANNER

Celebrating 18 years of Positive News



HAPPY 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY!

**ANNIVERSARY EDITION... CELEBRATING 18 YEARS!**

## Nation's Mayors Applaud Supreme Court Decision to Uphold DACA

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Leading in Diversity, Empowering Communities and Changing Lives

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## Rachel Robinson, Hank Aaron, and Presidents Obama, Bush, Clinton & Carter Honor the 100th Anniversary of Baseball's Negro Leagues



Courtesy Photo

KANSAS CITY, MO - Presidents Barack Obama, George W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter, in collaboration with civil rights hero Rachel Robinson and baseball legend Hank Aaron, are joined by scores of baseball players and other professional athletes, sports executives, entertainers, journalists and others for an unprecedented tribute to the 100-year anniversary of the founding of baseball's Negro Leagues.

The Tip Your Cap campaign, which is being directed by Negro Leagues Baseball Museum President Bob Kendrick, is intended to bring long overdue recognition and respect to the enormously talented and courageous men and women who played in the Negro Leagues from 1920 through 1960. The campaign was

conceived when long-planned centennial events in major league stadiums across the country were cancelled due to COVID-19, and the response has been extraordinary.

The campaign is making a simple request. The Negro Leagues Baseball Museum is asking Americans -- anytime between now and July 23rd -- to submit a brief video or photo of themselves tipping their caps in honor of these sports and civil rights heroes to [photos@tippingyourcap.com](mailto:photos@tippingyourcap.com) and to post them on their social platforms with the hashtag #tipyourcap2020.

"Today," President Obama said. "I'm tipping

Continues on pg 3, Tip your cap

# The Michigan Banner – Who We Are...

Elaine Gregory McKenzie, The Michigan Banner Ombudsman



*Courtesy Photo*

As I look back over time for the last 18, years, I must consider the growth and transformation of The Michigan Banner – what a journey it has been. As the Ombudsman, I am generally comfortable working and lending support behind the scenes. Like any good friend or family member, it is anticipated you will have a place at the dinner table to share in certain festivities, so I am honored to be a part of this Anniversary Edition and share my musings and thoughts on

how we became, and Who We Are as a publication.

May I begin by congratulating the staff of The Michigan Banner for publishing a first-class publication - meeting and excelling in its space, going beyond its comfort zone, doing Mid-Michigan proud, being a champion of the Great Lakes Bay Region. All the while living up to its mission of empowering communities. This publication has successfully built bridges, that took

a team effort and great leadership, leveraging skills and talents to right size conversations across Michigan over years and many long days with stakeholders in cities along the 1-75/I-69 corridors. Discovering institutions and great leadership in those cities where candid conversations sometimes questioned the business wisdom of focusing primarily on Good News in our collective communities. The unspoken question, of how would readers and advertisers realize value in reading news and stories about folks doing good in places/demographics not directly related (seemingly) to them, how would advertising in this publication increase exposure or impact their bottom lines... Out of those conversation(s), we recognized the many challenges in being a thought leader in places and spaces where the marginalization of certain people had unconsciously been accepted by many. But for God's divine intervention and lessons in patience, those open, but awkward on occasion conversations illuminated a critical path to growth and birthed organically the diversity of this publication. Leading in Diversity is now a core value of Who we Are – it has immeasurable value to and is the PLUG-IN for our readership and advertisers to reach broad audiences. As an African American woman, native of Saginaw, a real Michigander... I am extremely proud of our inclusive pedigree, of Who We Are as a publication and again congratulate Jerome Buckley and staff for building and continuing to look for ways to build a better slingshot to take good aim at slaying the giants of racism, classism and sexism and through our collective voices we will continue to tackle and find solutions for the gross disparities of health and wealth in the black and brown communities. And welcome with love and patience our brothers and sisters of other persuasions, in this time and season battling the pandemic of health and wealth. In the words of Dr, Cornell West, whom I consider a great philosopher in this time, *"You cannot lead the people if you do not love the people."* This publication leads and loves the people. Peace and Blessings...

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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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## Cover Story, Tip your cap



my hat to everybody in the Negro Leagues who left a century-long legacy of talent and spirit and dignity in our country. So, here's to Satchel Paige, Josh Gibson, Cool Papa Bell and everybody else, including three brave women who did us all proud."

"When I was a kid," President Bush said, "my favorite baseball player was Willie Mays. It turns out Willie Mays played in the Negro Leagues for a brief period of time. I can just imagine what baseball would have been like had the

predecessors to Willie Mays been able to play Major League Baseball."

"I love Satchel Paige, Byron Johnson, Jackie Robinson, Willie Mays, Hank Aaron, and Ernie Banks," said President Clinton, who tipped a Chicago Cubs cap in honor of baseball great Ernie Banks, who began his career in the Negro Leagues. "This cap is for Hillary, too, when finally, the Cubs won the championship. Long before that, the Negro Leagues made baseball better and America better."

"I've been a baseball fan all of my life," President Carter wrote, "and the Negro Leagues are an important part of the sport's history. I am thankful that the era of segregated leagues is long over, and I tip my cap to the pioneers who showed the world that black players belong in America's game."

Among the many others who have already tipped their caps are Derek Jeter, Reggie Jackson, Michael Jordan, Magic Johnson, Billie Jean King, Tony Bennett and Bob Costas. The videos and photos will be highlighted on Twitter and Instagram accounts @tipyourcap2020. They will also be celebrated on a tribute website (tippingyourcap.com), which will become part of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum's commitment to keeping the spirit and contribution of the Negro Leagues alive.

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# MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 12



## 'Industry Club' to offer immersive retail experience for Detroit youth, accelerator space for women and entrepreneurs of color

DETROIT, MI - This September, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan (BGCSM) will open its first Industry Club, offering an unparalleled immersive summer and after-school experience for young people interested in pursuing a career in retail or fashion merchandising. The Industry Club will be co-located with the Détroit is the New Black (DITNB) store at 1430 Woodward Ave, and employ up to 200 Detroit youth each year, ages 14 and up.

"True equality can only be achieved through economic and social mobility and the Industry Club is designed to do just that. Metro Detroit youth will gain the economic, cultural and social capital needed to become college, career and start up ready," said Shawn H. Wilson, President & CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan. "BGCSM is grateful that Bedrock, Ponyride and DITNB have committed to leveraging their resources to build a blueprint that can be replicated across any industry for our youth."

Since Détroit is the New Black opened its flagship store in 2016, the signature clothing brand has offered retail floor space to other Detroit-based

small businesses. That accelerator concept will continue through the Industry Club project, with Ponyride offering both brick-and-mortar, and e-commerce support to local women and entrepreneurs of color. Five rotating concepts will stock their goods alongside DITNB within the sales space in the heart of Detroit's historic Woodward Shopping District, and offer online sales through [detroitisthenewblack.com](http://detroitisthenewblack.com).

"The Industry Club is a dream manifested for Détroit is the New Black and such a perfect example of community partners coming together to support the future of the city," said Roslyn Karamoko, founder of Détroit is the New Black. "I'm so pleased to welcome these partners into the space, which will allow us to expand our programming and mission to uplift entrepreneurs and minorities in business."

### Bedrock's contribution

Bedrock, downtown Detroit's largest real estate company, will provide the 2,400 square-foot Industry Club retail space rent free, along with a \$25,000 pre-development grant. Bedrock will also work with the Industry Club partners to build a

long-term skilled volunteer support program for the small businesses participating in the Ponyride accelerator.

Since the onset of COVID-19, Bedrock has deployed millions in capital to small businesses downtown through three months of rent abatement and offering variable rent structure through the end of the year. As downtown businesses begin to reopen, Industry Club will be an important next step in Bedrock's small business support strategy, targeted toward women and entrepreneurs of color.

"It has always been our belief that a sustainable, vibrant retail district is a place where strong local brands thrive beside big national names. That strategy needs to expand to elevate minority-owned businesses and help strengthen pathways for their growth and contribution to Detroit's ongoing momentum. The Industry Club will be an important step in that direction," said Matt Cullen, Bedrock CEO. "We are excited to work with the Boys & Girls Club, Détroit is the New

**Continues on MYB pg 5, Industry Club**

## YB Cover Story, Industry Club



Courtesy Photo

Black and Ponyride to help create a pipeline for tomorrow's retail leaders at the Industry Club while empowering Bedrock's team members to become directly involved in building Detroit's start up community."

Industry Club members will gain experience in careers representing every aspect of the retail business development cycle, including stocking merchandise, ordering wholesale and fulfilling online orders, all while earning a wage. Outcomes include 21st Century skills, industry certifications, industry access/mentorship/network and paid job placement.

### Ponyride's fourth location

Ponyride, a Corktown-based maker space that recently announced a robust strategic partnership with BCGSM, will offer its alumni to also sell their goods on [detroitisthenewblack.com](http://detroitisthenewblack.com). The Industry Club will serve as Ponyride's fourth location. BCGSM is the first Boys & Girls Clubs location in the nation to provide co-working and makers spaces for entrepreneurs through this partnership.

"This partnership and overall collaboration provide Ponyride with a unique opportunity to not only incubate but expand small business growth in the city through access to resources, retail space and capital," said Phil Cooley, co-founder of Ponyride. "This is a powerful move to invest in the hard-working entrepreneurs of Detroit, and we're excited to be at the table help ensure these

opportunities are provided."

The Industry Club initiative aligns with BCGSM's efforts to address poverty through economic mobility and continue to have a positive community impact and advancement for youth and their families A second Industry Club is scheduled to be announced later this year.

BCGSM's Industry Club also launched its limited edition "Industry Club" t-shirts sold only through [detroitisthenewblack.com](http://detroitisthenewblack.com). Available while supplies last.

### About Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan

*Founded in 1926, Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan (BGCSM) has over 94 year of experience serving youth ages 6-18 by providing a safe, fun place that inspires, while offering high quality programs that provide real-world learning from caring adult mentors. SERVING NEARLY 15,000 YOUTH ANNUALLY WITHIN eight Clubs throughout southeastern Michigan, BGCSM works every day to provide a world-class experience, empowering youth to become change agents through economic mobility. To learn more about BGCSM visit [www.bgcsm.org](http://www.bgcsm.org) and follow us on social media on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter!*

### About Detroit Is The New Black

*Detroit Is The New Black is a brand at the*

*crossroads of culture, fashion & community that takes pride in the city of Detroit and the people who go out and make it their own every day. Inspired by the city, DITNB aims to give its customers an experience within its physical retail space. The store - and the brand - is more than just an apparel provider, despite the commercial retail district its located in.*

### About Ponyride

*Since 2011, Ponyride continues to cultivate a diverse community that fosters opportunities for socially conscious artists, entrepreneurs, innovators and light manufacturers, and is committed to creating supportive environments where businesses can experiment, develop, and mature—which in turn helps to make Detroit a unique place to live, work, and thrive.*

### About Bedrock

*Detroit-based Bedrock is a full-service real estate firm specializing in acquiring, developing, leasing, financing and managing commercial and residential buildings. Since its founding in 2011, Bedrock and its affiliates have invested and committed more than \$5.6 billion to acquiring and developing more than 100 properties, including new construction of ground up developments in downtown Detroit and Cleveland totaling more than 18 million square feet.*

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# THE LATINO BANNER

LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

Vamos Adelante



**Nation's Mayors  
Applaud Supreme  
Court Decision  
to Uphold DACA  
Program**

LB Pg. 4

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**Walk For Humanity**

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# Hip Hop Public Health Launches 20 Segundos o Más Music Video PSA And Education Initiative To Address The Growing Rise Of COVID-19 In Latino Communities Nationwide

NEW YORK, NY - Fresh from the breakthrough success of the 20 Seconds or More education and awareness campaign that reached over 100 million people when it launched in spring 2020, Hip Hop Public Health (HHPH) today announced 20 Segundos o Más, a new bi-lingual Spanish and English song and music video PSA featuring a fusion of Latin rhythms and Hip Hop beats delivering important safety information about COVID-19. As summer heats up along with the soaring number of COVID-19 cases within the Latino community, 20 Segundos o Más is designed to encourage and inspire Latinos nationwide to follow the handwashing and other protocols necessary to stop the spread of the deadly disease that disproportionately affects them and other communities of color. Dr. Olajide Williams, Chief of Staff, Department of Neurology, New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Irving Medical Center, and Doug E. Fresh are the Co-Founders of HHPH and are spearheading the initiative with HHPH Executive Director and CEO, Lori Rose Benson. Philanthropic support for the initiative has been provided by the Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation and the Organization for Latino Achievement (OLA), an employee resource group at Bristol Myers Squibb.

The focal point of 20 Segundos o Más is a lively, four-minute music video featuring pioneering rapper and community health advocate, Doug E. Fresh, with more than 30 community influencers and activists who are committed to making a difference through creative expression, civic duty and medicine. These include: Gloria Estefan, Emilio Estefan, Chris Tucker, "King of the Latin Beats" DJ TedSmooth, singers Lisa Lisa, George Lamond, Amara La Negra, MJ Songstress (Melissa Jimenez) of "The Voice," DJ Camilo and Tee, Freedom Williams, Universal Hip Hop Museum Executive Director Rocky Bucano, Bronx Borough President Rubén Díaz Jr., Angie Rose, Love and Hip Hop New York's Jonathan Fernandez, Amaya Murillo, Inspector Reymundo Mundo, Commanding Officer of the NYPD 34th Precinct, Liseth Perez, influencer Jennifer Mercedes, rapper N.O.R.E. (a.k.a. Victor Santiago) of Capone-N-Noreaga, 72 Miles to Go playwright Hilary Bettis and more. 20 Segundos o Más features verses written and performed by a new generation of Latin musical artists. Performing on the

track are Dose, Fabián, Leisley and Toby Love. Their spirited rapping flow blended with perfectly pitched harmonies create an uplifting experience throughout. The entire production features artists and influencers who represent the full depth, breadth and diversity of the Latino diaspora. For artist bios and full list of participants visit [www.hhph.org/20SegundosOMas](http://www.hhph.org/20SegundosOMas).

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics, the percentage of Latinos making up coronavirus cases is almost equal to whites, around 34%, despite Latinos being a significantly smaller portion of the population. In June alone, the cases have nearly tripled.

"While Hispanics represent 18% of the U.S. population, using weighted population distributions, approximately 27% of the deaths from COVID-19 have been Hispanic, and in many counties these disparities will continue to increase due to the explosion in infection rates among this group," says Dr. Olajide Williams. "Hispanic Americans are disproportionately contracting COVID-19, because of comorbid conditions including diabetes, dense multigenerational living conditions that prohibit effective social distancing and quarantine, and disproportionate representation among essential frontline workers such as the meat packing and poultry industries, delivery industry, warehouses, and grocery stores. Moreover, unlike other groups, the fear of getting tested or seeking medical attention due to immigration status is also a contributing factor to COVID-19 disparities afflicting the Hispanic community."

Says Doug E. Fresh, "What you get with 20 Segundos o Más is the ultimate expression of Latin rhythms and Hip-Hop message delivery. DJ TedSmooth and I purposely selected the song's universally loved Latin hook, the big horns backing the classic Willie Colón and Héctor Lavoe masterpiece, La Murga. This catchy hook combined with the information in the song will definitely get people to dance and hopefully adhere to our message of hope, vitality and taking care of themselves and each other. Once again, Hip Hop Public Health is bringing together art, science and social media innovation to help fight the COVID-19 health pandemic."

With roots in the Dominican Republic and a music career that spans decades, DJ TedSmooth (Teddy Rafael Mendez) adds, "It was an honor to collaborate with Hip Hop Public Health and my old friend Doug E. Fresh on this track for mi gente. Latino roots and culture run deep, and to have legends like Lisa Lisa, DJ Camilo and Greg Lamond with some of the new voices out here coming together to protect our people against the coronavirus is an incredibly meaningful experience. I know we can make a difference together."

In addition to the song and video, HHPH has created multiple opportunities for the public to get involved in the 20 Segundos o Más movement. Throughout the summer, HHPH will host a series of virtual viewing parties in key cities and communities affected most, including New York, Miami, Houston and Puerto Rico. These will be held in conjunction with a variety of cultural and professional organizations.

"Since our founding 16 years ago, Hip Hop Public Health has been committed to creating culturally responsive content backed by science and research to affect change and to engender positive health behaviors amongst communities that have long been overlooked or not adequately serviced," says Lori Rose Benson, Executive Director and CEO. "In the face of the coronavirus pandemic, we produced the song 20 Seconds or More in response to messaging failures governing this crisis. Now, with the Latino community so devastatingly affected, we are launching 20 Segundos o Más with the goal of inspiring many millions of Spanish-speaking and bilingual people to join this movement and help stop the spread."

While the campaign is focusing on communities in the U.S. most impacted by COVID-19, HHPH is also conducting outreach and sharing the 20 Segundos o Más video and education campaign components in communities across Latin America, including Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Colombia and Peru, among others.

The 20 Segundos o Más video was produced by IDEKO, a New York-based experiential production agency. To learn more, please visit [www.hhph.org](http://www.hhph.org) and follow HHPH on social at @hhphorg #20SegundosOMas.





# Heroes count in the 2020 Census



**Regardless of when you served, your secure and confidential responses to the 2020 Census can shape the future for you and your community**

- Education programs and grants
- Medicare & Medicaid
- Libraries
- School Meal Programs
- Public transportation
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs
- Community Centers
- Park, Playground, and Recreational Facilities
- Census results help determine how billions of dollars in federal funding flow into state and communities each year.
- The results determine how many seats in Congress each state gets.
- When you respond to the census, your answers are kept anonymous. They are used only to produce statistics.
- The U.S. Census Bureau is bound by law to protect your answers and keep them strictly confidential. The law ensures that your private information is never published and that your answers cannot be used against you by any government agency or court.



Census 2020 - Hispanic/Latino Count

# Nation's Mayors Applaud Supreme Court Decision to Uphold DACA Program

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Bipartisan mayors holding key leadership positions in the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) applauded the Supreme Court decision late last month to uphold the DACA program, ensuring that thousands of Dreamers can continue to live, work and study in the U.S. and contribute to the nation's economy.

"America's mayors applaud the Supreme Court's decision today to continue the DACA program. The U.S. Conference of Mayors has had strong policy supporting permanent legal status for Dreamers and extension of the DACA program for many years and has urged Congress to enact legislation to achieve this. Our bipartisan organization has adopted this policy because it is the right thing to do – for Dreamers, for our communities and for our country. Today the Supreme Court also did the right thing," said Bryan K. Barnett, Mayor of Rochester Hills (MI) and USCM President.

Los Angeles (CA) Mayor Eric Garcetti, Chair of USCM's Latino Alliance, said "Today's Supreme Court ruling on DACA delivers a powerful message to our Dreamers: this country and this city belong to you today, and will remain your home tomorrow. Dreamers are our neighbors, colleagues, essential workers, entrepreneurs, students, and soldiers. For tens of thousands of these Angelenos, like hundreds of thousands nationwide, this ruling is life-changing — a source of relief and a reason for celebration. But our work is not done. For these young people and every immigrant who strengthens America's economy, communities, and future, Congress must deliver on the promise of a long-term and humane legislative solution, so nobody's status hangs in the balance of uncertainty again."

Mesa (AZ) Mayor John Giles, Co-Chair of USCM's Immigration Reform Task Force, said "I'm thrilled that the US Supreme Court's decision today will bring some certainty and peace of mind to Arizona's 24,000 DACA recipients. Today's action does not bring an end to the effort though. We must continue to push Congress and



*Courtesy Photo*

the White House for a comprehensive immigration reform package. The future of our economy and the fate of so many families depend on it."

Providence (RI) Mayor Jorge Elorza, Co-Chair of USCM's Immigration Reform Task Force, said "The decision by the Supreme Court of the United States to uphold the DACA program affirms the belief that the American Dream can still be achieved by those who seek it with hard work and determination. The cultural, economic, and social contributions of the 800,000 DACA recipients and their families to their communities cannot be overstated; particularly during a global pandemic where over 200,000 DACA recipients are working in essential roles including 27,000 in health care positions. I commend the SCOTUS for rebuking the actions of this administration that seek to separate our country from the ideals upon which it was founded."

El Paso (TX) Mayor Dee Margo, Vice-Chair

for Border Security of USCM's Criminal and Social Justice Standing Committee, said "Immigrants have contributed heavily to the economy, history, and culture of our nation. It is not feasible nor appropriate to pursue policies attempting to deport Dreamers. It is time for Congress to put the American people before partisan politics and create a path to citizenship for DACA recipients."

"The U.S. Conference of Mayors stands with the nearly 800,000 undocumented young people who have benefited from DACA since it began in 2012," said Tom Cochran, USCM CEO and Executive Director. "With work authorization and without the fear of deportation, these young people, who have done nothing illegal, have been able to participate in and contribute to our country and our cities. Today more than 30,000 of them work in the health care industry, many on the frontlines fighting COVID-19. Today's important decision by the Supreme Court will enable them to continue to do so. It is a victory for all Americans."

# Community Board

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**Cual es tu actual  
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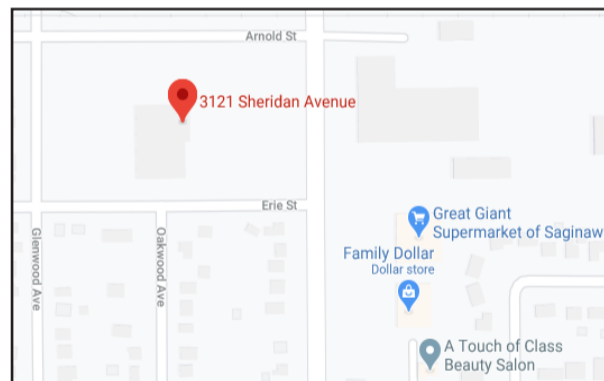
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We encourage readers to send letters, story ideas, comments and questions.



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# FUNDRAISING GOOD TIMES

## Nonprofits caught in the middle

Black Lives Matter. A simple, revolutionary, and necessary cry that requires an examination of systemic racism and actions that dismantle systems and invest in Black individuals, families, communities, and businesses.

So, what's a nonprofit leader to do? How do we respond to legitimate and long unheard cries of Black communities? Nonprofit leaders – Black and white – serve Black communities and stand in the gulf between who we as communities want to be and who we actually are. We make something out of nothing.

At the same time nonprofits depend on government grants; major funding from foundations and individual philanthropists; and board members drawn from the community, business sector, and established local, regional, and national leaders. How and when do nonprofit leaders take a stand when we know that those who they depend on may not – or do not – agree with their position and may withdraw funding and leadership – and encourage others to also disinvest?

As people take to the streets, nonprofit leaders are gathering to take a collective stand to amplify the demands of protestors. In Memphis Tennessee over 150 nonprofit leaders issued an open letter ([www.bit.ly/MemphisNDA](http://www.bit.ly/MemphisNDA)) demanding action. The central premise: “For far too long, nonprofits have been a stop gap solution to systemic issues... Relying on nonprofits to fill the gap and fix issues that are hundreds of years in the making is not enough. We believe we can have a city where everyone thrives, but it will take bold action to get there.”

We talked with one of the leaders who

helped craft the letter. He made it clear that while we were talking with him, a Black man, he wanted us to make sure we let it be known that the voices of Black women are leading the movement. The following are points arising from community discussion for nonprofit leaders to consider as they organize to support and advance the work of protestors.

Too often nonprofits deal with the results of the system's challenges, and not changing the system. If we are not dealing with systemic issues, structural racism, then we are not addressing the challenge. The limited government perspective says government will do x and then we will look to everyone else to fund what we don't want to fund. We need to change this.

As Black leaders, it's not enough to say we care, we must join with the cries and lift up the positions of racial justice. To be sensitive to the fact that we are joining protestors in the

streets, not trying to drown out their voices.

Most of us are filling the gap, but we also must take the time to imagine what true equity in our community would look like. “Stop gap” means that we as a community are not looking at the systemic issues that move Black people into secondary status. We must work with government to solve problems that are so old and engrained. Here's the question: What does government have to do to provide for a budget that actually makes investments in and reflects our true community values.

Nonprofit leaders face challenges in navigating the space between government, philanthropy and community. We can collectively raise our voices for systemic change.

For more information email [MemphisNonprofitsDemandMore@gmail.com](mailto:MemphisNonprofitsDemandMore@gmail.com).



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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

## Covenant HealthCare Updates Visitor Restrictions



*Courtesy Photo*

To protect our patients, staff, visitors and the community, Covenant HealthCare has the following visitor guidelines in place. Our patient care philosophy depends greatly on engaging families to be part of the healing process. We ask that you visit using guidelines from our infection control teams and national health experts.

### Visitor Expectations

- We welcome one healthy visitor per adult patient at a time as space allows. For pediatric patients, two healthy parents or guardians at a time as space allows. See details below.
- Visitors under the age of 16 are only allowed under extraordinary circumstances.
- Masks/face coverings are required in all Covenant locations for the safety of patients, visitors and staff.
- Sanitize your hands upon entering the facility and frequently throughout your visit.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, mouth and face.

- Please do your best to keep a 6-foot distance between you and others when possible. To support social distancing, visitors accompanying adult patients may be asked to wait in an alternate area during appointments or procedures.
- For those entering the hospital campus, please be aware a health screening will take place at the door. We do not allow visitors who have symptoms of illness to enter. Any visitor who has symptoms should save their visit for another time.
- Visiting hours within the hospital are 10:00 am to 8:00 pm.

### Additional Details/Exceptions:

- The pediatric surgical recovery area will be limited to one parent/guardian due to space restrictions.
- Two healthy parents or guardians may visit the Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (RNICU) one at a time to safely maintain social distance guidelines.
- Patients undergoing surgery or procedure may have one visitor. To support social distancing, once the procedure/surgery

begins we ask that visitors accompanying adult patients wait in the common areas, outdoors, or offsite during the procedure. Contact information will be obtained from the support person and that person will be contacted to return to their loved one as recovery begins.

- Additionally, to promote social distancing in our outpatient waiting rooms such as laboratory, radiology and cardiology, we ask that visitors accompanying adult patients wait in common areas as space allows or their vehicles during the appointment or visit.
- Due to current State requirements, no visitors are allowed in the Transitional Care Unit (TCU).
- No visitors will be allowed in rooms of patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.
- Clergy are welcomed for all non-COVID-19 patients and under extenuating circumstances COVID-19 patients (with appropriate hospital-issued personal protective equipment).
- Patients who are at the end-of-life may have a very limited number of visitors who must remain in the room during the visit.
- For more information by area, please visit [www.covenanthealthcare.com/safecare](http://www.covenanthealthcare.com/safecare)

We appreciate your understanding during these changing times. Our goal is to protect you, your loved ones and our staff. If you have any questions, please contact our patient advocate at (989) 583.4317.

While our in-person visitor restrictions are in place, we encourage you to visit with your loved one virtually. More information on virtual visits.

## MDHHS expansion of visitation at residential facilities provides compassionate care, protects vulnerable people



*Courtesy Photo*

LANSING, MI - Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Director Robert Gordon has signed two epidemic orders that provide for expanded visitations at group facilities while also requiring precautions that protect public health.

The orders allow expanded visitation in long-term care facilities including nursing homes, and in facilities for youth who are in child caring institutions or juvenile justice facilities.

Visitors to these types of facilities have been temporarily restricted to slow the spread of COVID-19. The new orders provide exceptions to those restrictions in limited circumstances as long as the facilities meet specific safety requirements -- such as requiring mask during visits.

“It’s been very difficult for residents of these facilities to be unable to see their loved ones during the pandemic,” Gordon said. “We are glad Michigan can now allow visits in some circumstances, but we continue to urge caution and require safety precautions like wearing masks during visits.”

The orders are effective immediately.

One order applies to residential long-term care facilities, which include nursing homes, homes for the aged, adult foster care facilities, hospice facilities, substance abuse disorder residential facilities, independent living facilities and assisted living facilities. The order applies in limited circumstances and takes into account the importance of compassionate care for Michiganders who have terminal illnesses. It allows visits only with residents who are in serious or critical condition or in hospice care, or visits from family members or friends who assist residents with activities of daily living – such as eating, bathing or dressing.

The other order affects youth in congregate care facilities – known as child caring institutions – and juvenile justice facilities – also known as juvenile detention facilities. Child caring institutions are defined as facilities receiving minor children for care, maintenance and supervision, usually on a 24-hour basis, in buildings maintained by the institution for that purpose and that operate throughout the year. They can include facilities for youth who are in foster care.

The youth congregate care order allows youth residents to have off-campus visits to a parent, foster parent or prospective adoptive parent if the person or persons being visited

agree in advance to abide by safety measures as recommended by the CDC to reduce exposure to COVID-19. These measures must have been in place for at least two weeks prior to the scheduled visit. Additionally, the parent, foster parent or prospective adoptive parent must not have a known exposure to COVID-19 or have symptoms, unless that person has had a negative test result since the last known exposure.

Safety requirements that facilities must follow to allow visitors can be found in the epidemic orders for residential long-term care facilities and for congregate care facilities. The requirements in each order are different based on the needs of each population and safety concerns. For example, in long-term care facilities visitors must schedule an appointment.

Both orders require visitors to be assessed for COVID-19 symptoms, to wear mask or face coverings and to maintain social distancing, among other precautions. MDHHS is encouraging outdoor visitation when possible.

Information around the COVID-19 outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at [Michigan.gov/Coronavirus](https://Michigan.gov/Coronavirus) and [CDC.gov/Coronavirus](https://CDC.gov/Coronavirus).

# 2020 CENSUS

## It's not too late to be counted in the 2020 census!

If you haven't filled out the census yet, please do so today! Your response matters. Census data determines federal funding that affects everyone in Michigan - from infants to college students to seniors. Every person counted on the census means more funding for things like free and reduced-price school lunches, Medicaid, food assistance, emergency services and more. Which essentially means just one thing: Everyone in Michigan benefits ... if everyone in Michigan is counted.

**So, don't wait any longer! Fill out the census today!**

 VISIT

[my2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov)

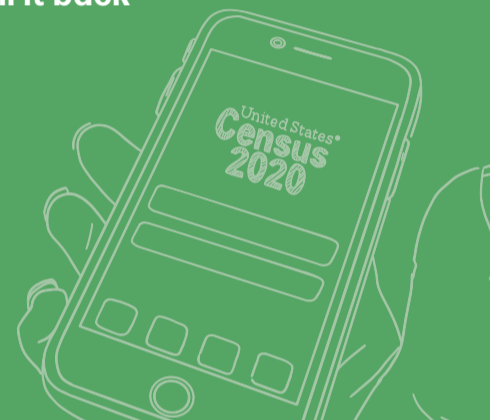
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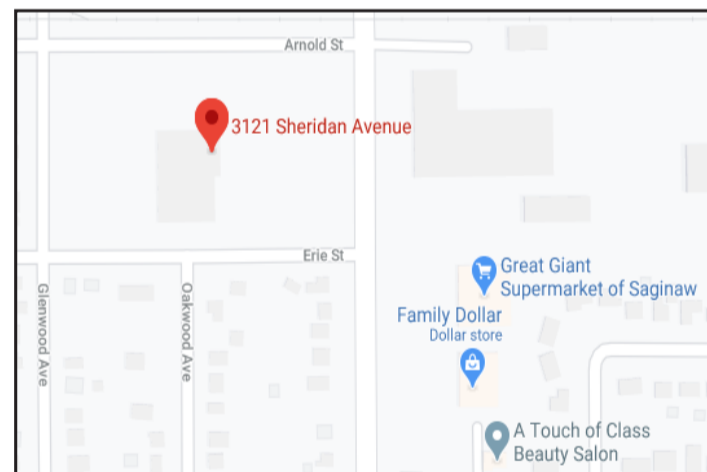
**ANYONE can get tested** and is welcome to our drive-thru for COVID-19 testing. There are no longer symptom requirements to be tested at our sites. You do not need a doctors order and costs you nothing out of pocket. Sample collection is free. To be tested you will need to **bring your ID and insurance card**. If you do not have insurance you can still be tested.

- Walk-up testing is available. Testing is done outside in a tent or in your vehicle.
- Even if you don't have symptoms, you could have the virus and be spreading it.
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**For help with health insurance enrollment please call (989) 921-5353 for assistance**

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**When: Tuesday, July 14  
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Tues. - 7:30 - 4:00

**Drive-thru Hotline (989) 293-3492**

# BUSINESS & WEALTH

## Flint & Genesee Chamber Rolls Out Professional Development Webinars for Summer



*Courtesy Photo*

(FLINT, Mich., June 22, 2020) – Summer is officially here, and with the season comes a new lineup of professional development opportunities from the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce.

Sessions in the summer catalog, available for download here, cover pertinent subjects in everything from leadership and human resources to social media marketing and sales.

These trainings will be held online and led by local experts from 3Sixty Interactive, Dale Carnegie Training, The Disability Network, The Leadership Group, Murdock Leadership Development, SCR Concepts and the Flint & Genesee Chamber. They include:

### **July 15: Transitioning from Peer to Supervisor**

Were you recently promoted? Join us to gain a better understanding of common challenges and changes that occur when you move from peer to supervisor, the key communication that need to occur during this transition and how to redefine your workplace relationships. 9-10 a.m.

### **July 16: Reasonable Accommodations for Employees**

Increase employee productivity and retention by promoting positive workplace culture and inclusion. This training will provide insight into reasonable accommodations, which remove workplace barriers for employees with disabilities. 9-11 a.m.

### **July 23: Motivating Your Employees**

Looking to increase engagement and promote a team atmosphere? Learn effective communication techniques that will get your employees off the fence and into action. 9-11 a.m.

### **July 29: You Can Get More Views for Your Posts**

Did you know that, on average, fewer than five percent of your Facebook followers will ever see your posts? Join us to learn why this is happening and what you can do to increase the reach of your messaging. 9-10 a.m.

### **Aug. 5: Networking Beyond the Business Card**

This session will provide you with insight and practical tips about what networking is and how to tap into the power of networking in a meaningful and genuine way. 9-10 a.m.

### **Aug. 11: Workplace Harassment**

Sexual harassment in the workplace has made big headlines in recent years. This course will discuss the types of harassment, provide additional insights from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and walk employers through the seven steps to prevent sexual harassment in the workplace. 9 a.m.-noon

### **Aug. 13: Leading in a Crisis – 4 Key Points of View**

Participants will review four key topics, including leadership in crisis, having character in crisis, battling distractions and how a crisis brings out a true leader from the inside. 9-10 a.m.

### **Aug. 19: DIY Trainers**

This program is intended for managers and leaders who would like to provide training to their employees but may not have a training department or budget for training. Participants will leave this session with the necessary skills and knowledge to deliver effective training in the workplace. 9-11 a.m.

### **Aug. 25: Present to Persuade**

From salespeople persuading customers to safety directors persuading workers, many professionals need to persuade their listeners to take action. During this training course, we will address the challenges with this type of presentation and use the process of putting ourselves in our listener's situation to see their point of view. 9-11 a.m.

These trainings are in addition to previously announced webinars, including Digital Marketing in Times of Change (June 23), Unconscious Bias (June 24), The 15 Invaluable Laws of Growth (June 25) and Selling Under Quarantine (June 25).

To register for an upcoming webinar or to learn more about the Chamber's professional development offering, visit [flintandgenesee.org/training](http://flintandgenesee.org/training).

# Five Dow leaders receive global recognition for helping minority employees break down barriers in the workplace



*courtesy photo*

MIDLAND, MI – Five Dow leaders earned recognition on three 2020 EMpower Ethnic Minority Role Model lists, including Top 20 Advocates, 100 Ethnic Minority Executives, and 100 Ethnic Minority Future Leaders.

The EMpower Ethnic Minority Role Model lists showcase business leaders who are breaking down barriers at work for ethnic minorities in the U.K., Ireland, Europe, and people of color in the United States and Canada. Honorees have achieved success in their own careers, and actively use their platform to advance inclusion in the workplace.

“Diversity in the workplace is a catalyst for business success,” said Karen S. Carter, chief human resources officer and chief inclusion officer. “And in order to attract and retain the best talent worldwide, compete globally and deliver the most value to our stakeholders, we are focused on creating an inclusive culture. This recognition reflects the progress we have made, and we are committed to striving for more.”

Dow leaders named to the 2020 EMpower Ethnic Minority Role Model lists include:

#### **Top 20 Advocates List, #4**

Jim Fitterling, chairman and chief executive officer

#### **100 Ethnic Minority Executives List, #1**

Mauro Gregorio, president, Dow Performance Materials & Coatings; Latin America oversight

#### **100 Ethnic Minority Executives List, #44**

Karen S. Carter, chief human resources officer and chief inclusion officer

#### **100 Ethnic Minority Future Leaders List, #8**

Rhonda Pelton, Operational Excellence Leader, TES Process Automation Leadership council member, Global African Affinity Network

#### **100 Ethnic Minority Future Leaders List, #32**

Kalyani Martinelango, business analytics leader, Dow Packaging & Specialty Plastics and Hydrocarbons Global chair, Asian Diversity Network

On being named the number one Ethnic Minority Executive, Gregorio said, “I am

humbled and honored to be recognized for the EMpower Ethnic Minority Role Model Lists alongside my colleagues. This award is not only for me, but for all Dow colleagues I work with. I am proud of working for Dow, a company which values Inclusion & Diversity and has it as part of its DNA. I am able to integrate inclusion in my daily work with my colleagues and my interactions with customers, suppliers and community stakeholders who share the same values.”

The actions and behaviors for which the five leaders earned recognition on the EMpower Ethnic Minority Role Model Lists are critical to addressing racism, inequality, and injustice in society. In a recent blog post, Fitterling wrote about the role of allies and advocacy in overcoming these issues. In the blog post, he also announced the implementation of Dow ACTs, a strategic framework and action plan to help address systemic racism in the U.S. focused on three areas: advocacy, community and talent. As part of this commitment, Dow has pledged \$5 million over the next five years to help advance social justice and racial equality.

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# EDUCATION

## Mid Michigan College Names New President



*Courtesy Photo*

After a National search and an intensive interview process, Mid Michigan College (Mid) enthusiastically welcomes Mr. Tim Hood as its seventh president. Tim will formally begin his career at Mid in July.

Tim is currently the President of Highland Community College in Freeport, Illinois. He came to Highland as Vice President of Academics and Chief Academic Officer (CAO) in 2011, and was promoted to Executive Vice President in 2014 before becoming president in 2015.

“We are excited to welcome Tim to our College community and feel confident in his ability to lead Mid, even during today’s challenging circumstances,” said Doug Jacobson, Mid Michigan College Board of Trustees Chair. “Tim’s breadth of experiences, his passion for skilled training and workforce development, and his love for rural areas and community colleges make him an exceptional

fit for Mid.”

Prior to serving at Highland, Tim was the Vice President of Instruction/CAO at Kaskaskia College in Centralia, Illinois after being promoted from Dean of Corporate Training and Community Education. As CAO, he was elected to serve as President of the Illinois Community College Chief Academic Officers organization, representing all 48 community colleges in the state.

Tim’s career in higher education began as a faculty member and workforce development trainer. In these capacities, he served for nine years at Madisonville Community College in Kentucky, before accepting a faculty position at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale (SIUC) for four years.

Tim holds a Bachelor of Science degree in communication with a public relations specialization from SIUC, and a Master of

Science in organizational communication, also from SIUC. He is now finishing his dissertation for a Ph.D. in organizational communication.

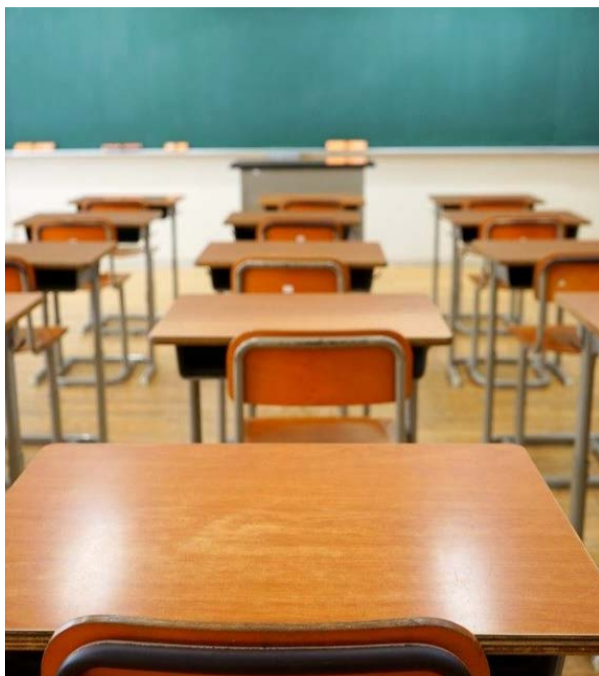
“I am so honored and excited regarding the opportunity to serve as the next president of Mid Michigan College,” said Hood. “Mid’s legacy as a premier college, the excellence of those who serve there, and the beauty of the region have collectively peaked my enthusiasm to live and work there.”

Having always been strongly connected with community partners, Tim serves on the Workforce Connection Board (WIOA), the Northwest Illinois Economic Development Board, the Greater Freeport Partnership Board, and the Region 1 Planning Council. He is also a member of the Executive Committee for the Illinois Council of Community College Presidents.

The parents of five daughters and grandparents of three children, Tim and Val are proud that each of their daughters have and will have successfully completed community college degrees before transferring to universities. All family and extended family members enjoy outdoor activities, and prefer to live in and contribute to the livelihood of rural communities.

Tim will begin his tenure at Mid Michigan College under extraordinary circumstances, as the College strengthens its safety and preparedness measures to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Still, Mid continues to define itself, not by the external challenges it faces, but by its responsiveness and resolve to offer extraordinary and affordable educational opportunities to students across the State. The good work of the College and the achievements of its students draw from its 55-year legacy as an essential community partner. As its next president, Tim will work to ensure that Mid advances into the future with the same commitment to excellence.

# Gov. Whitmer Releases MI Safe Schools Roadmap, Directs School Districts To Develop Return To School Plans



*Courtesy Photo*

LANSING, MI – On Tuesday, June 30, Governor Gretchen Whitmer released the MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap, a comprehensive document to help districts create local plans for in-person learning in the fall. The Roadmap outlines a number of safety protocols for schools to implement in each phase of the governor’s MI Safe Start Plan. The governor also signed Executive Order 2020-142, which provides a structure to support all schools in Michigan as they plan for a return of PreK-12 education in the fall.

“Our students, parents, and educators have made incredible sacrifices during our battle with COVID-19,” said Governor Whitmer. “Thanks to our aggressive action against this virus, the teachers who have found creative ways to reach their students, and the heroes on the front lines, I am optimistic that we will return to in-person learning in the fall. The MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap will help provide schools with the guidance they need as they enact strict safety measures to continue protecting educators, students, and their families. I will continue working closely with the Return to Learn Advisory Council and experts in epidemiology and public health to ensure we get this right, but we also need more flexibility and financial support from the federal government. This crisis has had serious implications on our budget, and we need federal support if we’re going to get this right for our kids.”

“The most important thing we can do as we prepare to reopen school buildings in the fall is closely examine the data and remain vigilant in our steps to fight this virus,” said MDHHS Chief Deputy for Health and Chief Medical Executive Dr. Joneigh Khaldun. “I will continue to work closely with Governor Whitmer and the Return to Learn Advisory Council to ensure we continue to put the health and safety of our students and educators first. We will remain nimble to protect students, educators, and their families.”

Executive Order 2020-142 requires school districts to adopt a COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan laying out how they will protect students and educators across the various phases of the Michigan Safe Start Plan. The MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap offers guidelines as to the types of safety protocols that will be required or recommended at each phase. In recognition that these protocols will cost money, the Governor also announced that she was allocating \$256 million to support the districts in implementing their local plans as part of the bipartisan budget agreement the Senate Majority Leader, the Speaker of the House, and the governor announced yesterday.

The safety protocols detailed in the MI Safe Schools Roadmap includes guidance on the use of PPE, good hygiene, cleaning/disinfecting, spacing in classrooms, screening for symptoms, athletics, and more. The Roadmap also recognizes the impact COVID-19 has had on students’ and educators’ mental health, and offers guidance on how schools can address this issue.

Governor Whitmer will continue to use the MI Safe Start Plan as the highest-level governing framework for determining if and when it is safe to resume in-person instruction.

“All of us on the Return to Learn Advisory Council share a commitment to marrying science and evidence, and practicality and local needs to ensure the health and safety of our students and educators,” said Tonya Allen, President and CEO of The Skillman Foundation and Chair of the Return to Learn

Advisory Council. “We are proud to have a leader in the governor’s office who is committed to working with parents, teachers, and students to make sure we get this right. We will remain vigilant and flexible, helping ensure safety protocols are in place in every Michigan school.”

“The governor’s MI Safe Schools Roadmap is a thoughtful, comprehensive plan that puts the health and safety of our students and educators first, balancing this priority with the importance of in-school education,” said David Hecker, President of AFT Michigan. “Our teachers and support staff are eager and ready to implement safety measures in our schools to ensure everyone who steps foot in them is protected from the spread of COVID-19. I applaud the governor’s leadership and unwavering commitment to our students during this time, and look forward to working closely with her as we continue to protect Michiganders from this virus.”

On June 3, the governor announced a group of 25 leaders in health care and education to serve on the COVID-19 Return to Learn Advisory Council. The council is chaired by Tonya Allen, and includes public health experts, a pediatrician, educators, school administrators, school board members, community leaders, parents, and students. The Council will continue to work closely with the governor as she continues to put the health and safety of our students and educators first. On June 17, 2020, Governor Whitmer announced that Michigan schools may resume in-person learning in phase 4 of the MI Safe Start plan, with strict safety measures in place.

The Advisory Council was created to identify the critical issues that must be addressed, provide valuable input to inform the process of returning to school, and ensure a smooth and safe transition back to school. The Council will act in an advisory capacity to the Governor and the COVID-19 Task Force on Education, and will continue to develop recommendations regarding the safe, equitable, and efficient K-12 return to school in the Fall.

## SVSU initiative for registered nurses ranked among state's elite academic programs



*Courtesy Photo*

A Saginaw Valley State University online academic program that empowers working nurses with a bachelor's degree education was recognized as one of the best of its kind in the state.

SVSU's RN to BSN (shorthand for "registered nurses" and "Bachelor of Science in Nursing," respectively) online program recently was ranked No. 2 in the state by RegisteredNursing.org in the category of Best Online RN to BSN Programs.

RegisteredNursing.org is a Carlsbad, California-based organization that provides resources for prospective nurses. To determine SVSU's ranking, RegisteredNursing.org used data from multiple sources – including the U.S. Department of Education and the National Center for Education Statistics – as part of its methodology.

Karen Brown-Fackler, the chair of SVSU's Department of Nursing and an associate

professor of nursing, said she was honored to learn about the distinction ... even though she did not entirely agree with the placement.

"We think we should be ranked No. 1," Brown-Fackler said. "We offer some great advantages. We have online classes but accessible faculty teaching the classes. Students can start the program whatever semester is best for them and take classes at their own pace."

She said other highlights of the online RN to BSN program include an adviser that helps students with admission, scheduling and academic progression.

Another element she said elevates the program: Its standout faculty. For instance, Sally Decker, a professor of nursing that helped design and establish the program, recently was honored with a lifetime achievement award from American Nurses Association-Michigan in part for her

contributions to helping registered nurses earn bachelor's degrees in their professional field.

Brown-Fackler said the RN to BSN program offers empowering coursework.

"There are only five core classes and the other courses are electives they choose from, which could be graduate courses toward future programs or interesting continuing education courses relevant to working nurses," she said.

SVSU President Donald Bachand said he was proud of the university's faculty and staff for building the program and developing some of the region's top health care professionals.

"Especially in times such as these, this program's excellence is critical to the public health of our region, state, nation and world," Bachand said.

For more information about SVSU's RN to BSN program, go to the following URL link: [www.svsu.edu/nursing/programs/rntobsn/](http://www.svsu.edu/nursing/programs/rntobsn/).

## SVSU fall semester to finish through online/remote instruction

The final two weeks of the fall semester at Saginaw Valley State University will be conducted through online and remote instruction, so that students do not need to return to campus after Thanksgiving break.

"We want our students, faculty and staff to be safe, and this is one prudent measure we can take to reduce potential transmission of COVID-19 in the event of a late fall resurgence," said Donald Bachand, SVSU

president.

"Most on-campus operations will continue, and we plan for academic and student support services, such as Zahnow Library, to be open after Thanksgiving, following appropriate health and safety protocols."

SVSU will begin its fall semester on Monday, Aug. 31. Students living on campus will move into their residence halls on a more staggered

schedule, in the interest of health and safety.

More information on move-in plans will be shared in early July.

For more information on plans for the upcoming year, including New Expectations for a Safer Tomorrow (NEST) at SVSU, visit <https://svsu.edu/nestplan/>.





**About Saginaw ISD HE/EHS**

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

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

women and their families.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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**

## New nursing transfer agreement allows graduates to complete bachelor's degree online

Delta College graduates who earned an associate's degree in nursing can continue their education entirely online thanks to a new partnership with Chamberlain University, known as the oldest nursing school in the U.S.

The agreement permits students to transfer associate's degree credits from Delta toward a bachelor's degree in nursing from Chamberlain. To be admitted to the program, students must have an associate's degree in nursing from Delta and be a current registered nurse.

"The option to complete a bachelor's degree program online is especially appealing because many of Delta's graduates are currently working in the field," said Daisy McQuiston, associate professor of nursing and interim nursing program coordinator for Delta. "This is a great option for graduates who want to pursue higher-level advancement in their nursing careers."

Up to 87 credits will transfer under the new agreement, which leaves students about three semesters to complete the bachelor's degree program.

Chamberlain University's history dates to 1889. It's considered the oldest nursing school in the U.S., with its main campus in Grove Park, Illinois.

Delta has nursing articulation agreements in place with seven additional colleges and universities: Central Michigan University, Davenport University, Ferris State University, Oakland University, University of Michigan – Flint, Saginaw Valley State University and University of Michigan.

## Delta College names new academic dean



*Courtesy Photo*

Delta College's leadership team has announced the appointment of Stephanie Harrison as academic dean of Career Education and Learning Partnerships. She began her role June 15.

Harrison has more than 15 years of higher education experience. Most recently, she served as dean for the Center of Health Sciences at the Community College of Denver. She also served as director and

program chair of the college's dental hygiene program for nine years.

Harrison replaces Virginia Przygocki, who has worked for Delta for more than 41 years and will retire on July 31.

"Stephanie impressed us with her leadership experience in the areas of program growth and management, as well as student success, which are vital as we look to the future at

Delta," said Dr. Reva Curry, vice president of Instruction and Learning Services. "She is a thoughtful and talented leader, and I'm pleased to extend a warm welcome as she joins the Delta community."

Harrison received a master's degree in health services management from Webster University and a bachelor's degree in dental hygiene from Old Dominion University. She also has a certificate in plant-based nutrition and completed the Master Nutrition Therapist program from the Nutrition Therapy Institute in Denver.

Harrison said she was drawn to Delta's remarkable reputation, impressive sustainability practices and dedication to student success.

"I'm thrilled to be offered this opportunity to join Delta, a college that is widely known for its innovation and leadership," said Harrison. "I recently spent some time on campus and was astonished by the atmosphere and facilities. The support for Delta as a whole is amazing and I look forward to continuing the important work with the community on behalf of our students."

As academic dean, Harrison will oversee the Health and Wellness and Business and Technology divisions. She will evaluate existing programs and develop new ones.

# COMMUNITY

## 25-Foot Tall Midwest Farmers Sculpture Arrive in Saginaw thanks to 'Art & About'



*facebook.com/artandaboutsaginaw*

Saginaw, Mich. – On Thursday, June 25, Saginaw woke to a dramatic site. A towering familiar farming couple and their pitchfork, in the form of the “God Bless America” sculpture by renowned American

artist Seward Johnson, was installed on the grounds of the Saginaw County Courthouse, 111 S. Michigan Ave.

In this piece, Seward Johnson brings to life

one of the most famous paintings in American history. Painted in 1930, American Gothic was Iowan artist Grant Woods’ celebration of the moral virtue of hard-working Americans, particularly the valiant farmers of the Midwest. The man and woman, in their solid and well-crafted world, with all their strengths and weaknesses, represent survivors. This image of the two farmers is intended to be a positive statement about rural American values, an image of reassurance at a time of great dislocation and disillusionment, and thus it became a part of Johnson’s series called “Icons Revisited.” In this series the artist reflects on many famous images such as the sailor and nurse kiss in Times Square which celebrates the end of World War II, and the well-known Marilyn Monroe photograph. This sculpture was created originally in life scale in 2005. All of the sculptures within this series ask visitors why have we been captivated by these faces for decades.

“We are very excited to be able to bring the “God Bless America” monumental sculpture along with ten additional life-sized sculptures to Riverfront Saginaw this summer,” said Carol Cottrell, chair, Art & About committee. “As a resilient midwestern community with a rich agricultural history, the Art & About committee believes “God Bless America” will resonate with the citizens of Saginaw as it speaks to the many of the same values we hold in high regard as a community.”

The Seward Johnson Atelier, which owns the sculpture and manages the collection of works by artist Seward Johnson notes: “This piece is artist Seward Johnson’s homage to Grant Wood and his enduring image of the farmers. The sculpture is 25-feet tall and made of aluminum, weighing in at 32,000 lbs.

**Continues on pg 28, Art & About**

## Continued from pg 27, Art & About

Seward Johnson Atelier is honored to have the sculptures on display in Saginaw, located in the heart of the Midwest, home of Grant Wood and the seat of agriculture for our country. And we have truly enjoyed sharing this image with communities far and wide from Iowa, to Illinois, Chicago to New York, where it has encouraged conversations about American art history and the specific sense of place made tangible by artists."

In addition to featuring the farmers of the famous painting, as a sculptor-artist, Johnson had to imagine the aspects and views of the figures that are not shown in the two-dimensional canvas. The backs of the duo, their profiles, and everything below their torsos. Johnson also added a giant suitcase to the composition showing ports of call all over the world.

"I want to invite us all to 'look back' at these images and discover what we've learned since they first became icons to us, and how our understanding or point of view may have shifted since then," said Johnson, the sculptor. "We accept them as icons, but as an artist I want to ask another question such as, would they be embraced the same way if they came to us today? Can we still ascribe the same work ethic, do we still have the same taciturn seriousness, or are we different at this stage of our social maturity?"

Not all of the pieces in the "Icons Revisited" series are this big – in fact most are life-sized. With this series Johnson is wanting to bring to our attention these familiar scenes that have stood the test of time. He asks the viewer why this image, above others, is still with us appearing in our popular culture in various forms. The sculpture, titled "God Bless America", has also been on view at, among other locations, the Dubuque Museum of Art; the Peoria Riverfront Museum; on Michigan Ave. in Chicago, Ill.; Mesa, Ariz.; Key West, Fla.; Elkhart, Ind.; and Grant Wood's hometown of Anamosa, Iowa.

"God Bless America," will be on exhibit through November. In addition, ten life-size sculptures by the artist from the "Celebrating the Familiar" series are also exhibited at a variety of locations throughout the Riverfront



[facebook.com/artandaboutsaginaw](https://facebook.com/artandaboutsaginaw)

Saginaw district and will be on display through October. An educational display illustrating the story of how a sculpture is available for viewing inside the lobby of SVRC Marketplace, 203 S. Washington Ave., during regular Marketplace business hours. Art & About has invited the temporary loan of 11 sculptures from The Seward Johnson Atelier, Inc., a not-for-profit entity that encourages the placement and sharing of public art. This summer's exhibit is made possible by generous donations from The Frank N. Andersen Foundation, Covenant

HealthCare, Isabella Bank, Jolt Credit Union, The Jury Foundation, The McNally Family Foundation, The Morley Foundation, the Maxwell K. Pribil Trust administered by Huntington Private Bank, the Saginaw Community Foundation, Saginaw Spirit, Spence Brothers, Robert E. Stark and Martin H. Stark Foundation Fund, Team One Credit Union, Alice E. Turner Memorial Trust, and the Harvey Randall Wickes Foundation. Bi-weekly cleaning of the sculptures will be provided by Romanow Building Services.

# Pulse3 Foundation Run For Your Heart race going virtual in 2020



runforyourheart.org

The race may look different but the goal remains the same!

## VIRTUAL 5K/10K

Funds raised support our mission to provide AED's and Hands Only CPR throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region!

**Walk or run at your own convenience**  
**September 1- 12, 2020!**  
**Register at [www.runforyourheart.org](http://www.runforyourheart.org)**

Pulse3 Foundation 1015 S. Washington Ave. Saginaw, MI 48601 989.907.7283

September, the Run for Your Heart community races is a 5k Run/Walk & 10k Run. With over 1,000 participants each year, and in light of the recent COVID-19 pandemic, race officials have decided to transition this event to a Virtual Race this year. This format will provide an opportunity for anyone to participate in a safe and socially distant manner anywhere and anytime between September 1-12, 2020.

Funds raised from this annual signature event hosted by the Pulse3 Foundation support their mission and efforts to fight heart disease by placement of Automated External Defibrillators, commonly known as AEDs and providing low or no cost Hands Only CPR & AED training throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region and Thumb in Mid-Michigan.

The decision to transition to a virtual event in lieu of cancellation was determined to be the most responsible way to continue this annual event. The intent of the Pulse3 Foundation is to return to an in-person event in the future when it is safer to do so.

“The safety of all participants, volunteers, sponsors, event partners & staff is our highest priority” said Mark Hitchcock, CEO of the Pulse3 Foundation. Hitchcock also stated “We considered all possible options and decided that a transition to a virtual event would be the most prudent way to continue our event while providing a safe and fun way for the community to stay involved and help us continue our mission.”

Online Registration for this year’s Virtual Run for Your Heart is open at runforyourheart.org. Cost is only \$30 per person and every registrant will receive a race shirt, medal, race bib and ability to print a finisher certificate once results are uploaded. All items will be mailed to the participant closer to the event, depending on when registered. Several great sponsorship & partnership opportunities are also available for local businesses and organizations to partner with and support this cause. Additional info is available at runforyourheart.org.

SAGINAW, MI – The Pulse3 Foundation recently announced changes to the format of their annual Run for Your Heart Community Races for 2020. Annually held in Saginaw on the first Saturday after Labor Day each

known as AEDs and providing low or no cost Hands Only CPR & AED training throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region and Thumb in Mid-Michigan.

# Open letter to the Great Lakes Bay Region on race and ethnicity



*Courtesy Photo*

In the 1960's, during a time of significant strife around civil rights, and while attempting to draw attention to the realities of racism, Dr. Martin Luther King said, "In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends." In the more than 50 years that have passed since that time - and despite the sincere and tireless efforts by the black community to educate all of us - America is still mired in structural racism. Equity for our black and brown brothers and sisters is missing in matters of housing, education, and economic opportunities. Difficult access to high quality medical care and social services plagues a disproportionate number of our black and brown citizens. And the appalling figures of death and injury due to socioeconomic plight and police racial injustice tilt unfavorably in their direction. MiHIA acknowledges these sad realities, we condemn them, and in attempting to live up to Dr. King's vision for his friends, we intend to never go silent again.

The death of George Floyd four weeks ago brought these realities of racism back not only into the forefront of the national conscience, but into the forefront of our own. With this sharper awareness, we wish to end silence and declare unequivocally that black and brown lives do matter. People of color deserve not only our acceptance, respect, and love, but more importantly today a fierce new insistence on what always should have

been: co-equality in society. We commit to use our collective resources to push for societal change and work with others so that structural racism is abolished. Our black and brown brothers and sisters have been graceful, humble, valiant, and far too alone in their war against racism, and they will now know that MiHIA will be joining at their side to usher in a new day.

To bring this about, we must focus on becoming educated to the trials, challenges, and harsh realities of living with colored skin in America. The most powerful and influential way that learning can come is through listening to people of color. We must create safe spaces for meaningful, longitudinal dialogue, with the goal of not only elevating black and brown voices, but turning their heartaches and hopes for a better tomorrow into new realities of safety, equity, and opportunity today. And we must build multi-sector coalitions that become expert in recognizing the varied faces of racism and, through deliberate activism, policy change, and legislation, rise together to eliminate them once and for all.

It is good that the world is waking to the reality of racism. It is good that most Americans do not harbor intentional racist beliefs in their hearts. And it is good to desire for racism to end. But none of that is enough. It is not enough to simply not be racist: we

must become anti-racist in all we think, in all we say, and in all we do. We must speak truth to power, and stand for our black and brown brothers and sisters in every facet of our daily lives where even the smallest elements of racism appear. MiHIA will partner with others engaged in anti-racist work, advocate for all people of color in our meetings and decision making, and work toward the equitable allocation of community resources, especially where black and brown people have previously experienced disadvantage. We will also dedicate ourselves to developing awareness of our racial blind spots, since those very blind spots will otherwise serve as insurmountable stumbling stones to racial harmony. We commit to do this, and to rise to the moment foreseen by President Abraham Lincoln when he spoke from Gettysburg: "It is for us the living...to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who have gone before us have thus far so nobly advanced. It is...for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us - that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion - that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain - that this nation shall have a new birth of freedom."

To the high and noble vision of "liberty and justice for all" we pledge our deepest and forward-moving commitment.

**Saginaw Promise**

**CONGRATULATES THE *Class of 2020* AND THE NINTH CLASS OF SAGINAW PROMISE SCHOLARS!**

**BEST WISHES AS YOU BEGIN THE NEXT CHAPTER OF YOUR LIFE.**

Saginaw Promise...Investing in the future of Saginaw and that of its students through postsecondary education.

*In 2020, the Saginaw Promise, with community support, will surpass \$1,000,000 in scholarships to Saginaw's students!!!*

For information about Saginaw Promise or its scholarship--visit its website at [saginawpromise.org](http://saginawpromise.org) or telephone (989) 755-0545 or email: [dsanchez@saginawpromise.org](mailto:dsanchez@saginawpromise.org)

Like Us on

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT SAGINAW PROMISE PROGRAMMING & SCHOLARSHIPS-SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

**Join us for a Great Day of Golf and Fun!**  
**Saginaw Promise Golf Outing (Fundraiser)**

**“Swinging for the Promise”**

**Thursday, August 27, 2020 | Saginaw Country Club**

**\*Shotgun Start 10:00 AM**

**Four person scramble-Includes 18 holes with Cart, Driving Range, Hot Dog & Chips at the turn, BBQ Chicken Dinner and Awards Presentation**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>EASY ONLINE REGISTRATION/PAYMENTS</b><br/>(credit Card Only)<br/><a href="https://SaginawFoundation.ThankYou4caring.org/promise_golf">https://SaginawFoundation.ThankYou4caring.org/promise_golf</a></p> | <p><b>DEADLINES:</b><br/><b>Sponsors:</b><br/>Respond by August 14, 2020<br/><b>Golfers:</b><br/>Sign up before August 21, 2020</p> |
|--|---|

**For Questions: Contact Deborah Sanchez by email [dsanchez@saginawpromise.org](mailto:dsanchez@saginawpromise.org) or by phone (989)755-0545**  
*\*If required by statewide Executive Orders--a backup date for this event has been reserved for Thursday, September 17, 2020 at the SCC.*

## DCECU commits \$100K to local flood relief efforts



*cityofmidlandmi.gov*

MIDLAND, MI – Following history-making catastrophic flooding that devastated portions of the region, Dow Chemical Employees' Credit Union ([dcecu.org](http://dcecu.org)) has committed a total of \$100,000 to assist with flood relief efforts.

The donation will be distributed among the American Red Cross of East Central Bay-Michigan, the Midland Area Community Foundation, the Midland County Emergency Food Pantry Network (EFPN), United Way of Clare and Gladwin Counties, and United Way of Midland County for use on a variety of flood relief initiatives at the discretion of each organization.

The American Red Cross of East Central Bay-Michigan will use the funds to help with local flood relief in several ways: assisting nonprofit and community partners; working as part of the emergency operation centers and long-term recovery groups; facilitating disaster assessment; sheltering and feeding individuals displaced by the flooding; and responding to needs ranging from cleanup kits, bug spray and sunscreen to medical equipment. Personal donations can be made and additional information about how the Red Cross is responding to the flood can be found by visiting [redcross.org/michigan](http://redcross.org/michigan) and clicking the "Red Cross Response" button in the red

drop-down "Midland Flooding" bar at the top of the page.

The Midland Area Community Foundation will apply the donation to its Flood Relief Project Fund to provide for disaster relief in Midland County, with use determined by the Midland County long-term recovery group in consultation with the Midland County emergency manager. Personal donations can be made by clicking the "Midland Area Community Foundation Response Fund" button at [reliefmidland.org](http://reliefmidland.org).

The Midland County Emergency Food Pantry Network will use the funds to support its vision of "Always food in every home" through its eight food pantries and special programs. EFPN provides coordination among pantries, supporting churches, groups and agencies in the distribution of food and supplies. Personal donations can be made by clicking the "How You Can Help" tab at the top of [midlandcountyeypn.org](http://midlandcountyeypn.org). United Way of Clare and Gladwin Counties will use the funds to assist Gladwin County partner agencies that are identifying and addressing community needs. Personal donations can be made at [unitedwaycgc.org](http://unitedwaycgc.org) or by mail and should include a notation that the contribution is intended for flood relief in Gladwin County.

United Way of Midland County will apply the donation to its Rise Together Fund, which was designed to help the area's asset-limited, income-constrained, employed (ALICE) population recover from the flood. Personal donations can be made by clicking the "United Way of Midland County Response Fund" button at [reliefmidland.org](http://reliefmidland.org); gifts will be matched by The Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation until \$500,000 in matched donations is reached. Donations of personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies, food, water, personal care items and household goods can be dropped off at a variety of locations listed on the Relief Midland website. Signup for United Way flood relief volunteer opportunity alerts can be done by clicking the "Volunteer Alerts" button on the website.

"At a time when so many people and businesses in our local communities are already struggling in various ways due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the added devastation of this flooding is almost incomprehensible," said DCECU Chief Executive Officer Michael Goad. "We hope that our contributions to these five organizations will provide a boost as our neighbors, members and employees work to rebuild their lives and their communities after the flood."



# Celebrating the life of George Gant, one of the first African American scientist to work at Dow in Midland



*Courtesy Photo*

George Arlington Lee Gant was born Dec. 5, 1941 in Wilson, N.C. to George William and Georgia Eugenia (Cooke) Gant and passed away June 17, 2020 at his home in Midland, surrounded in prayer by his family and friends. George lived a remarkable life with an abiding love to care for others, passion for science and discovery and a desire to open opportunities for everyone to fulfill their dreams regardless of any obstacle.

George grew up in Greensboro, N.C. where he attended Dudley High School, graduating after just turning 16. He attended North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, earning a bachelor and master's degree in chemistry. Like so many who journeyed from around the world and the U.S. to work in Midland, George moved from Greensboro in 1965 to join Dow Corning Corp as a chemist.

Midland opened her heart to George. He was among the first group of young African-

American scientist and their families who moved to Midland for pioneering careers in science at Dow Corning and The Dow Chemical Co.

Spanning a career of 35 years at Dow Corning, he advanced well as he lived with multiple sclerosis. He moved quickly into corporate executive management after completing advanced graduate education in management at Central Michigan University and Harvard Business School. His technical expertise earned significant patents in the United States, United Kingdom and Canada. These scientific discoveries transformed the strength and performance of silicone-based adhesives and sealants that enabled innovations in building and architectural design, road construction, and automotive applications.

George often said, "If you see me fighting the bear, help the bear." To him, MS and its challenges were the bear. He approached his fight with MS as a scientist; and shared everything he learned about MS generously. He served as chair of the Board of Directors for the MS Society where millions of dollars were raised for research and patient support.

Over the course of a life well lived, he was recognized for his many civic, professional and leadership roles; including chairman of the board of the Adhesive and Sealants Council. He also served in leadership roles in Kiwassee Kiwanis, American Chemical Society, American Management Association, Sigma Iota Epsilon, Sigma Xi honorary scientific society, International Mentoring Association, National Organization of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) and Midland Black Coalition. George was a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.

George cherished the welcoming fellowship of the friends he made, and became a mentor to many young people regardless of their station in life. Along with his wife Jackie, and children, Jon and Jeannine while starting his career in research and development at Dow Corning, they established new family roots in Midland which exists today.

George is survived by his many friends and

family. This includes George's care team, Jon Finney, Sarah Mitchell Harris, Kelly Lewis, Jolynn Sieggreen, Scott Gooch, Josh Arcuri, Erika Crampton, Renee Shocknesse, Rolando, George Lowry (deceased) and Phillip Martin (deceased); 50 Year Bridge Group, George Vogel, Gerry Cappo, Rudy Phillips, Tim Hueston, Bill Dennis, Carl Woods, Ted Skinner and Sandy Berger; family friends, Charles (Ted) and Sherry Skinner, Melvin and Octavia Cabey, Theresa and Murray Finney and many others; family, Gary (brother) and Glenda Gant, Gratia (sister) and Bobbe Wright, Sylvester and Claudette Thompson (cousin), Jackie Gant (former wife), Jeannine Gant (daughter), Jon (son) and Tracie Gant; grandchildren, Langston and Morgan Bowens, Zora Bowens, Symantha Gant, Aidan Gant, and Eleanor Bowens (great-granddaughter); nieces, Tulani Gant and Jenna and Molly Gant; many cousins, nieces and nephews.



*Courtesy Photo*

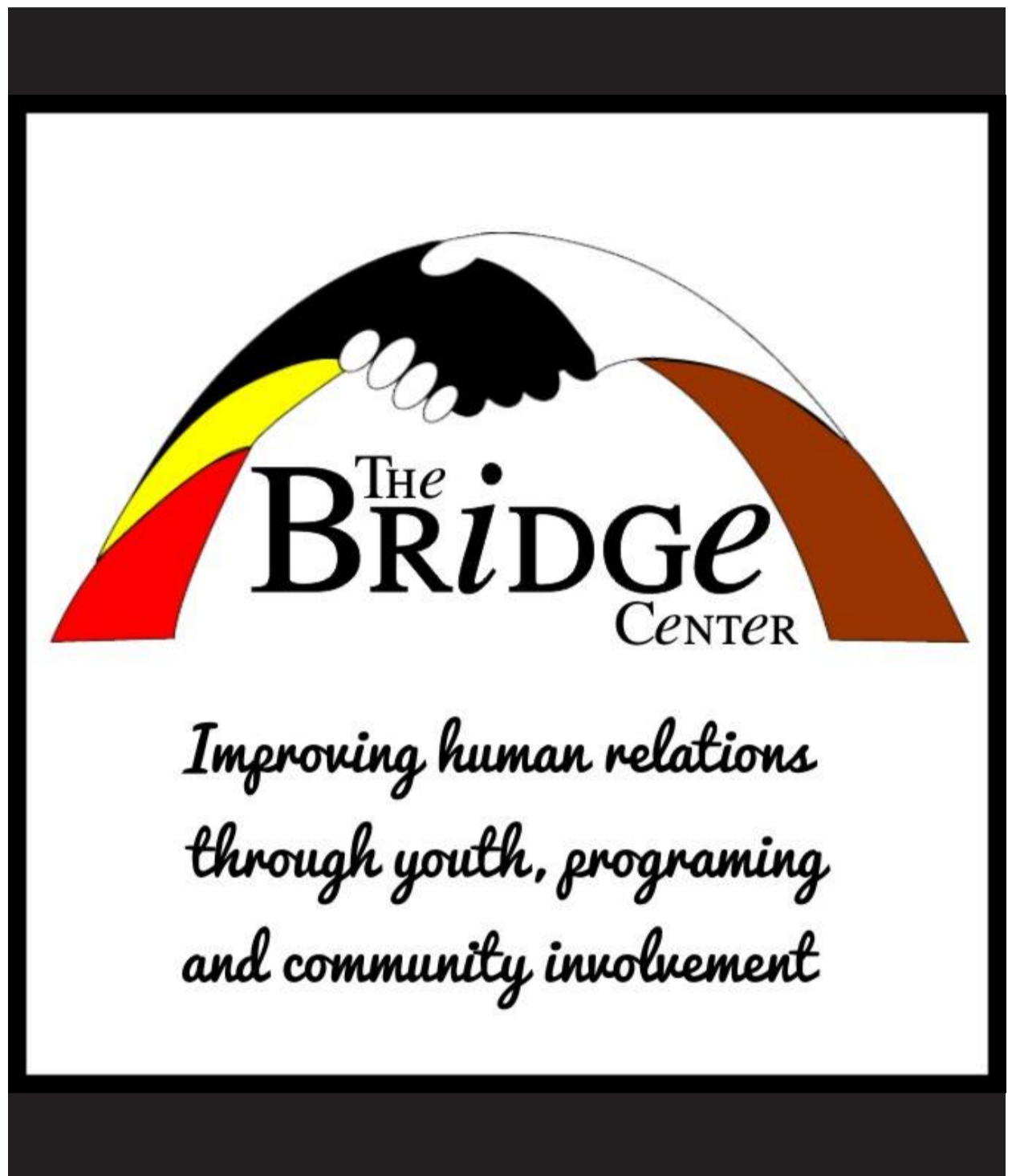
# Consumers Energy Foundation Provides \$100,000 to Support Social Justice and Racial Equality Efforts in Michigan

JACKSON, MI - The Consumers Energy Foundation announced \$100,000 in grants to support the Black Lives Matter movement, fight racism, shape systemic change and create opportunities in Michigan. The grants are part of the company's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, and are in response to the recent tragic events causing widespread protests across the country.

"We hope these grants will have a real impact and continue to advance this critical conversation in the communities we serve and care for deeply," said Rejji Hayes, Consumers Energy's executive vice president, chief financial officer and executive sponsor of the company's Minority Advisory Panel. "We want to do our part as Michiganders work together to confront these difficult questions, examine deeply rooted issues and create solutions that move us toward a brighter future."

The Consumers Energy Foundation donations will support a wide range of organizations dedicated to building more diverse communities, improving racial understanding and affecting social change. The donations include:

- **The Bridge Center in Saginaw** - \$10,000. Focused on the achievement of tolerance, understanding and acceptance of racial differences in the Great Lakes Bay area.
- **The Michigan Roundtable for Diversity & Inclusion** - \$35,000. Serves as a human relations organization whose purpose is to overcome discrimination and racism.
- **The Michigan Diversity Council** - \$15,000. Serves as a resource for diversity best practices and leadership development in Michigan.
- **The Turning Point of Lansing** - \$10,000. Focused on transforming boys to men by providing an Afrocentric group mentoring experience.
- **The Grand Rapids Urban League** - \$10,000. Focused on delivering services and creating systemic changes which eliminate racism.



facebook.com

- **The M.A.D.E. (Money, Attitude, Direction, Education) Institute in Flint** - \$10,000. Provides comprehensive violence prevention, solution-driven research and workforce development for at-risk youth and returning citizens.
- **ERACCE (Eliminating Racism & Creating/Celebrating Equality) in Kalamazoo** - \$10,000. Exists to eliminate structural racism and create a network of equitable anti-racist institutions and

communities.

The Consumers Energy Foundation is the charitable arm of Consumers Energy, Michigan's largest energy provider. The Foundation enables communities to thrive and grow by investing in what's most important to Michigan — its people, our planet and Michigan's prosperity. For more information about the Consumers Energy Foundation, visit [www.ConsumersEnergy.com/foundation](http://www.ConsumersEnergy.com/foundation).

# MDHHS continues Flint mobile food pantries during July Department and Food Bank to take extra precautions due to COVID-19



*Courtesy Photo*

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) will continue to provide nutritious food by the truckload to Flint residents throughout July.

MDHHS has provided the Flint mobile food pantries since February 2016 in partnership with the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan in Flint.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19 in Michigan, food pantry distributors are taking extra precautions to keep customers and volunteers protected. Each site is requiring volunteers to wear gloves and masks, clean their hands with hand sanitizer often, and take steps to sanitize distribution buildings throughout the day. Customers do not have to step out of their vehicle to receive food – volunteers are asking the customer to simply open their trunk and they will load up the vehicle with food to reduce contact.

This month's mobile food pantry distribution will have plenty of delicious, vitamin-rich produce and dairy that are boxed, including apples, onions, potatoes, cucumbers,

bell peppers, zucchini, tomatoes, lettuce, asparagus, cabbage or celery, sour cream, French onion dip, white milk, chocolate milks, strawberry milk, cottage cheese and cream cheese. Ground turkey also is available.

July dates for distributions are:

**Luke's NEW Life Center, 3115 Lawndale Ave.**

Wednesday, July 1, at 10 a.m.  
Friday, July 10, at 10 a.m.  
Friday, July 17, at 10 a.m.  
Friday, July 24, at 10 a.m.  
Friday, July 31, at 10 a.m.

**Greater Holy Temple, 6702 N. Dort Hwy.**

Thursday, July 2, at 10 a.m.  
Thursday, July 9, at 10 a.m.  
Thursday, July 16, at 10 a.m.  
Thursday, July 23, at 10 a.m.  
Thursday, July 30, at 10 a.m.

**Bethel United Methodist Church, 1309 Ballenger Hwy.**

Monday, July 6, at 10 a.m.  
Monday, July 13, at 10 a.m.  
Monday, July 20, at 10 a.m.

Monday, July 27, at 10 a.m.

**Asbury United Methodist Church, 1653 Davison Road.**

Tuesday, July 7, at 10 a.m.  
Tuesday, July 14, at 10 a.m.  
Tuesday, July 21, at 10 a.m.  
Tuesday, July 28, at 10 a.m.

Flint residents can also pick up free nutritional food at the three Flint Help Center locations:

**Bethel United Methodist Church, 1309 N. Ballenger Highway, open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mondays**

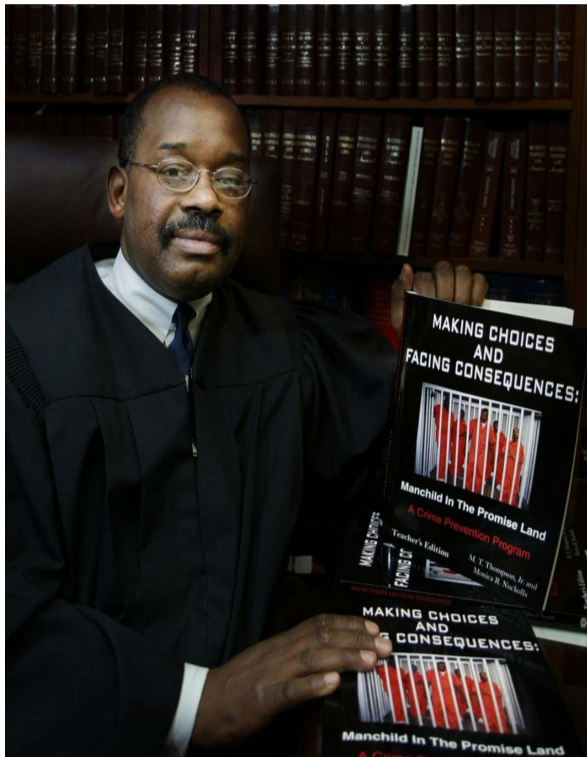
**Asbury United Methodist Church, 1653 Davison Road, open Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; and Greater Holy Temple, 6702 N. Dort Highway, open Thursdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Information about additional food distributions will be announced as they are scheduled. To check food distribution schedules, visit the Food Bank of Eastern Michigan website at [FBEM.org](http://FBEM.org) and find the updated schedule on the Mobile Pantry Distribution page, or call 810-239-4441.

## OPINION

# Racial justice in Saginaw

Hon. M.T. Thompson, Jr.

*courtesy photo*

The Black Lives Matter movement is a fight for the dignity of man and the destiny of democracy. It is a fight for the very soul of America. Every now and then, a people's fighting spirit, their hopes, their dreams and their quest for justice all meet and occupy the same space at the same moment in history. When that occurs, man's unending search for liberty and justice takes a giant step forward. So it was at Lexington and Concord. So it was at Montgomery and Selma. So it was at Johannesburg and so it was at Minneapolis.

The issue of the color-line continues to be one of the most serious, divisive, and persistent problems in the United States. Discriminatory habits, attitudes and practices are ingrained in the very fabric of America's social, economic, educational, and criminal justice systems. It's time to make a hard, critical and focused analysis of Saginaw's banks, hospitals, construction companies, automobile dealerships, hospitality and convention centers, colleges and universities, etc. and pull out racism by the roots. It's kind of like weeding a garden. This, along with a broader good faith discussion about diversity, will require the genuine commitment of our local captains of industry. They can play a critical role in making the structural changes needed to address systemic racism.

Unfortunately, the concept of institutional or

systemic racism has been so distorted, confused and lied-about that many well-intentioned people don't understand what it is or how it works. Nor do they understand how it affects the day-to-day life of every African American in this country.

The overriding need of the moment is the need for clarity. Overt discrimination or racism is a deliberate, conscious, and isolated decision which is made by the wrongdoer each time an act of discrimination takes place. Systemic or structural racism is built into the system's customs, habits, practices, rules and regulations. It is produced by the routine day-to-day operation of America's social, economic, educational, housing and criminal justice systems. These systems were originally created to support and perpetuate slavery and racial segregation. They were designed to work for the advantage of white folks and the disadvantage of black folks.

The specific mechanisms and levels of sophistication used to maintain and perpetuate this unfair competitive advantage have changed over the years. But, the accompanying discriminatory habits, attitudes and practices have been passed on from one generation to the next. The unearned benefits white folks receive from these discriminatory systems are sometimes called "White Privilege". White Privilege overtime can create a certain sense of entitlement and produce unconscious bias. The challenge is to purge our social, economic, educational and criminal justice systems from both overt and systemic racism.

Let's take a brief look at American history. Since its inception America has operated its own unique form of apartheid and institutionalized racial segregation. Each racial group was given a well defined set of rights, privileges and opportunities. Nothing emphasizes this better than the U.S. Supreme Court's 1856 decision in *Dred Scott v Sanford*. The Court ruled that African Americans were not citizens under the Constitution and had no rights which a white man was bound to respect. African Americans were considered little more than superior pets.

Nine years later, in 1865 the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment abolishing slavery was passed. In 1866 the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment was passed conferring citizenship on former slaves. In 1870 the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment was ratified giving African Americans the right to vote.

The 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Amendments had absolutely no impact on the organizational structure of America's social, economic, educational or criminal justice systems or their day-to-day operation. They continued to operate for the advantage of white folks and disadvantage of blacks. A racism set of customs, practices, rules, regulations and laws were either established or strengthened to perpetuate white supremacy. Many of the southern states had "Jim Crow" laws which made the separation of races legal.

In 1896 the U.S. Supreme Court in *Plessy v Ferguson* ruled that the separation of blacks and whites in public places was legal. This became known as the "separate but equal doctrine". The separate but equal doctrine stood for fifty years. It divided the United States into two classes of people, black and white. This was the era of white only and colored only bathrooms, water fountains, etc. Segregated neighborhoods and schools were the norm. The black community was treated like a third world country in the middle of the most affluent country in the world.

In 1951 the U.S. Supreme Court in *Brown v Board of Education* acknowledged the gross inequities under the separate but equal doctrine and held that the equal protection clause prohibits government from discriminating based on race.

Black folks jumped with joy. We thought that access to quality education was the secret to success under the American Dream. The American Dream was that if you got a good education and worked hard things would work out. A good education would lead to a good job. A good job would produce a good income. A good income would lead to good housing in a good neighborhood. A good neighborhood would have good schools and the cycle would continue. Unfortunately, the American Dream and this almost automatic progression from good education and hard work to success only works for white Americans. Black Americans face both overt and systemic racism in every aspect of their life, including education, employment, and housing.

Since *Brown v Board of Education* and the civil rights movement systemic racism has gotten more sophisticated. Various laws have been passed outlawing racial discrimination in

**Continues on pg 37, Racial Justice**

## Continued from pg 36, Racial Justice

employment, housing and education based on primary characteristics such as race, color and sex. In many cases racist have gotten around these prohibitions by focusing on secondary characteristics which are directly related, yet imperfectly linked to a primary characteristic.

For example, a much higher proportion of blacks than whites are arrested and convicted. Therefore a policy of automatically refusing consideration for employment to any individual ever arrested and/or convicted will exclude a higher proportion of blacks. Thus, the administration of the criminal justice system may restrict the employment opportunities of blacks. Similarly, if an employer requires a college degree or the completion of an apprenticeship program and blacks have a very limited access to these they spread the effects of discrimination in education into the employment field.

Word-of-mouth hiring practices which carry forward racial imbalances in the work force by favoring relatives and friends of current employees also have a discriminatory effect. If an employer locates in a white suburban area and selects its employees from residents' of the area, the pattern of housing opportunities will have a similar limiting effect on black employment opportunities. The common thread running through these examples is simply that the use of what appears to be facially neutral criterion can be used to discriminate. Similar barriers exist in voting, college admissions, housing, etc.

One way to determine whether or not there is discrimination is to look at the numbers. Over time and absent discrimination, the racial composition of an employer's work force, a college or universities student population, or a housing complex's residents will resemble the composition of the community they serve. The one inevitable and natural consequence of systemic racism is the consistent underrepresentation of blacks in those jobs, schools, etc. from which they have been excluded. The one necessary consequence of racial discrimination is racial imbalance. Regardless of how simpleminded or sophisticated the discriminatory mechanism might be the result is the same. You have few, if any, Blacks.

Finally, I turn to the criminal justice system. No one can dispute the fact that the criminal justice system has black blood on its hands. The black rage produced by the brutal and routine police killing of unarmed black folks is more than justified. The racist brutality and culture of some of our police departments may be beyond redemption. Reconstruction and moderate police reform may not be enough. We may have to defund, disband and rebuild some police

departments from the ground up.

The racial composition of the police department and the selection criteria used to hire police is the starting point. Black folks want police who understand and care about them. Police who have a reasonable amount of cultural competency. Police who understand what Saginaw looks like not just from the top down, but from the bottom up. We want police we can trust. If you want the Black Community to trust the Saginaw Police Department, then include black people in it. If Saginaw's population is 45% black, absent discrimination, its police department should be close to that percentage. For years Saginaw's leadership has asserted that certain selection criteria in the city charter and/or its union contracts prevent it from hiring more black officers. That's how systemic racism works. It is designed to carry racial imbalances forward. It's time for the black community to rise up and force the City Manager and Council to do the right thing. They cannot continue to argue that the city charter forces them to discriminate against black folks. This racist interpretation and/or application of the city charter is unacceptable. You cannot eliminate racism until you face it. Saginaw's leadership has failed to demonstrate the necessary leadership or courage to face it.

In the interest of transparency, the City of Saginaw should lay its police selection criteria and hiring procedures on the table for public discussion and modifications, if necessary. We also want to examine and discuss those police department rules and regulations which govern the use of force in our community. The Saginaw Police Chief has recently rushed forward asserting that he has modified the City's use of force regulations. This is the same assertion the Police Department made eight years ago following the Milton Hall incident. History has decreased our fool ability. This time the community demands an opportunity to be heard and have meaningful input into these rules and regulations.

We acknowledge that the majority of our police are good, decent and professional men and women who do a good job. Our problems with the criminal justice system are much bigger than a few out of control racist police. The criminal justice system adversely affects the lives of more black men than any other institution in America. The over incarceration of black men has destroyed the structural integrity of the black family. Consider these statistics. One out of three black men in this country will spend time in jail or prison during their life time. The incarceration rate for African Americans is six times the national average. From 1985 to 2002, Michigan's prison population tripled. In 2002, 54.5 percent of

Michigan's prison population was Black although African Americans only comprised 14.2 percent of Michigan's total population. Black men in Michigan have gone to prison at 13 times the rate they have gone to college.

As a result, Michigan has more Black men in prison than college. It is more realistic for a male African American child growing up in Saginaw, Michigan to look forward to going to prison than going to college. The leading cause of the incarceration of Black men is non-violent drug offenses. According to the NAACP's Criminal Justice Fact Sheet, "African Americans serve virtually as much time in prison for a drug offense as whites do for a violent offense."

In May, 2014, the Michigan Council On Crime And Delinquency issued a written report which emphasizes how youth of color continue to be disproportionately prosecuted and convicted as adults. In 2012, 59 percent of the youth, under 16-years-old, who were prosecuted as adults were black. Black youth only make up 18 percent of this statewide youth population. Fifty three percent of the 17-year-olds who were prosecuted and convicted as adults were youth of color, even though youth of color only make up 23 percent of this population statewide. Most youth in the adult system are there for non-violent offenses.

Police are not the only reason for the over incarceration of black men. More than anything else, it is the discretionary decisions of prosecutors and judges driven by a lack of cultural competency, fear and both overt and unconscious bias. Prosecutors decide what charges to bring against an individual, what, if any plea bargain to offer and what sentence to recommend. Judges, decide whether or not a defendant goes home 4 on probation, to a rehabilitation or treatment facility or to prison. They also decide the length of any jail or prison term.

Racism has its knee on the Statue of Liberty's neck and America can't breathe. It's time for a reckoning in Saginaw. It's time to make a hard, critical and focused analysis of Saginaw's criminal justice, economic, educational and housing systems for the purpose of identifying and eradicating those insidious customs, habits and procedures which discriminate against African Americans. This will take the collaborative efforts of the entire Saginaw Community. We can make America better. We can keep America strong.

Any comments can be sent to malikthompson@sbcglobal.net



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## Groups

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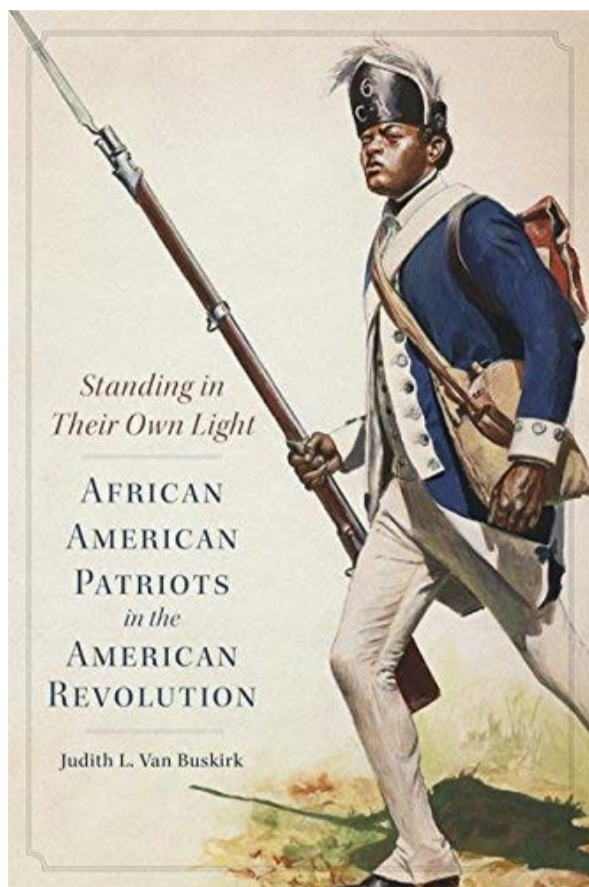
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# Blacks were also Heroes of the American Revolution



courtesy photo

*Chrispus Attucks, Martyr-Patriot: First American killed Salem Poor, Colonial Hero: Purchased freedom then fought Colonel Tye, Loyalist: Excelled in raider warfare Phyllis Wheatley, Poet: Formerly enslaved child from West Africa. Educated by owners. First African American and third woman to publish book of poetry. Abolitionist and Advocate for American independence.*

*The First Rhode Island Regiment: First Continental Army unit that was mostly black. Dwindling manpower forced Gen. George Washington to reconsider banning black men. The impact of these men at the Battle of Newport was praised by Gen. John Sullivan.*

~

The American Revolution, also known as the Revolutionary War and U. S. War of Independence, was a catalyst and mechanism in the late 1700s that established Colonial America as an independent nation. It was an armed conflict that began in April 1775 and ended in 1783 when the American Patriots defeated British soldiers.

During the first year of that war, the growing movement for independence from Britain's dominance came to a point where it was necessary for the Continental Congress to explain to colonials in greater detail exactly why the colonies should break away from Britain. By mid-June 1776, a formal statement of intentions to become a sovereign nation was drafted. And the Congress formally adopted

this document as the "Declaration of Independence" on July 4, 1776. This document listed specific complaints against the king, declared freedom of the American colonies, argued to protect the colonists' rights, and stated that people have rights that cannot be taken away.

The Declaration of Independence is one of the most important parts of American democracy because it contains the ideals and goals of our nation. The preamble and best-known part of the declaration reads as follows:

*We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness -that to secure these Rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these Ends it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and organizing its Powers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their Safety and Happiness.*

Independence means freedom: freedom from control or influence of another or others. Freedom is the condition of being free; the power to act or speak or think without externally imposed restraints (National Archives, 2020).

With all of the widespread talk of liberation in 1775, the 500,000 African slaves at that time became hopeful and saw this revolution as an opportunity for them to gain their independence and freedom too. But by the time the war had shifted into full swing one year later, it became obvious that what they'd heard was only meaningless rhetoric. The founding fathers did not include liberation for blacks who were enslaved.

Even so, black people refused to be mere bystanders throughout the course of the war. Those who joined either fought on the side of the *Loyalists* (colonists who supported and stayed loyal to the British monarchy) or the *Patriots* (colonists who rebelled against British control), whichever side seemed to offer the best prospects for freedom. A handful of them were freedmen. The rest were escaped slaves who had volunteered, and slaves who had been sent to fight in lieu of their owners or their owner's sons who resisted being drafted and sent to fight in the war. Later as the war progressed and the fighting escalated, blacks were formally asked to participate.

These black Africans were integrated into infantry regiments such as the First Rhode Island Regiment (mentioned in the block at the beginning of this article). However, the Continental Army (mostly slave owners and sympathizers) were more fearful of giving weapons to slaves. British officials were also reluctant. But they recanted that position before

the Colonial Army did when they realized that they needed any and all able-bodied men to join their fight if they were to win the war. One such British Officer was Lord Dunmore, Royal British Governor of the Virginia Colony. He established the all-black "Ethiopian Regiment" that was composed of more than 800 runaway slaves.

It took a while for General George Washington to realize why blacks seem to prefer fighting with the British. Eventually he came to know that the British had become a bastion of hope for liberation. The British offered freedom to slaves who volunteered to fight against their Patriot owners. Based on Gen. Washington's estimates, 5,000 black men had joined his Continental Army. More than 80,000 slaves fought with the British.

Black men not only served as infantrymen. They also served in supportive roles such as waggoneers, cooks, waiters, and artisans. Some of them were seamen, sailors, and gunners on private armed warships that had been commissioned by the Continental Navy. And in addition to braving all of the imaginable and unimaginable hardships of racism and war, they also had to deal with a smallpox epidemic that ravaged nearly all of the Colonial troops.

In 1830, only 50 years after the British were defeated at Yorktown, most Americans had already forgotten the extensive role black people had played on both sides during the War of Independence. At the Centennial Celebration of the Revolution in Philadelphia (1876), not a single speaker acknowledged the contributions of African Americans in establishing the nation.

For most of us July 4<sup>th</sup> is a national day off from school and work, with parades, flags, fireworks, barbecues, carnivals, fairs, picnics, concerts, baseball games, family reunions, and political speeches and ceremonies, in addition to various other public and private events. Remembrances and deep reflections don't appear to be that common in Independence Day celebrates in the U.S. Not like some of the commemorative celebrations in other countries.

This 4<sup>th</sup> of July, as the world demonstrates a new consciousness and higher levels of awareness regarding "Black Lives Matter" (like other lives matter), it will be interesting to see if someone (anyone) in politics, news media, whether black or white, at the national, regional or local levels will be seen, heard, or have written articles about those virtuous "Black Lives that Mattered" when it came to establishing this nation! All of those black folks who should be acknowledged and celebrated this and every 4<sup>th</sup> of July but typically are not. Let us all be watchful to see if public voices maintain the status quo and are silent, yet again, regarding our black unsung heroes who sacrificed so much for America's independence.

-Sofus-



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# Police conduct complaint's and Saginaw's old HRC

By Mike Thompson

When the recent mass demonstrations took root to seek reforms in police misconduct and unequal justice, my first thought was, "Revive the Saginaw Human Relations Commission."

To me, this did not seem like simply another opinion in the mix. It's obvious, a matter of process rather than viewpoint. Citizens should have a place to file any complaints regarding their experiences in encounters with our cops. Or for that matter, to be fair and even-keeled, they also should have a place to share any positive good feelings.

Would anyone, even the most pro-police peeps, disagree and argue that no, citizens should not have a place to go?

The reason I thought "Human Relations Commission" is that Saginaw already possessed such a group, organized in 1958 under the great Henry Marsh, until it fizzled out around the turn of the millennium. The HRC wasn't killed or voted out or defunded. Members gradually lost interest and stopped attending. And like too many similar community groups, the HRC eventually died. Poof!

But the structure and the bylaws are already there, so why reinvent the Human Relations Commission, when we simply could reestablish the body?

Now, after reviewing the HRC's old newspaper clippings thanks to the help of the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History, am thinking we may need to pursue formation of an entirely new and original police review board. These are the reasons:

-- The Human Relations Commission dealt most often with different sorts of complaints, such as discrimination in stores and restaurants. Hank Marsh used to joke that it was known as "the Bar Commission" because of a multitude of complaints against bias at local taverns and nightspots. Major focuses at the outset also were group issues like school desegregation and employment affirmative action.

-- When the HRC attempted in 1986 to get serious about probing citizen complaints of police misconduct, union contract rules



*Courtesy Photo*

got in the way. Only the chief and his assistants were permitted to ask questions. Commissioners ultimately were allowed to observe, but they still could not ask questions and were forced to rely mostly on written reports. "There's no way we can interrogate a document," argued Ron Spess, who was one of the members.

However, in closing, I found one good idea from those envelopes of yellowed Saginaw News clippings. This set was from August 1978. HRC members acknowledged that they lacked the tools and the powers to issue "guilty" or "not guilty" findings on any individual citizen complaint, so they tossed all the paperwork together and counted the times each of the department's 131 officers were named. Sixteen were listed multiple times. One was cited in eight complaints, another in seven, another in six.

Controversy surrounded the release of the 16 names. Chief John Schoberth pointed to "unfounded accusations" that could "ruin the records and reputations of these men and their families." HRC Chairwoman Diane Craig countered that the listing included no specific accusations and was intended simply as "a

system of checks and balances."

A month later, in September 1978, Schoberth fired two of the officers, while insisting the dismissals were "not related" to the HRC report.

And so, the counting of complaints seemed to have yielded some results, although a cynic nowadays may note that Derek Chauvin, the Minneapolis officer who killed George Floyd, had no less than 17 prior complaints against him actions but still somehow remained on the streets. That's not an argument against counting complaints. Rather, it's an indictment of a failed administration.

Protesters today will not settle for merely counting complaints. They seek independent review boards with the power to act. And so the HRC's actions in 1978 and 1986 would be seen as too weak for 2020 and beyond.

Still, the Saginaw Human Relations Commission offered a start. Let's revive the HRC, and reshape it into something stronger and better. Any volunteers? My email is [mwtsaginaw@yahoo.com](mailto:mwtsaginaw@yahoo.com).

# Reflecting on the Protest at the Emancipation Monument in Lincoln Park



John O'Brien - President of The Lincoln Group of DC

My name is Nathan M. Richardson, I have been doing living history portrayals of Frederick Douglass for the last six years. On Friday, June 26, 2020, I traveled from my home in Suffolk, Virginia to Lincoln Park in Washington DC. My plan was simple. In the company of a few friends in front of the Emancipation Monument, record my interpretation of the speech by Frederick Douglass titled "Oration on the Memory of Abraham Lincoln. My effort was supported by Mr. John Muller, author of the book Frederick Douglass in Washington DC: The Lion of Anacostia, Mr. John O'Brien, President of The Lincoln Group of Washington DC, Dr. Caroliva Herron of Howard University, the members of FREED – Female Re-Enactors of Distinction and others. After a few personal invitations to the public were shared online, a strange turn of events lead to competing interests colliding on Friday evening at the foot of the Emancipation Monument: one group there to educate the public on its historical significance, and another group determined to take the monument down.

All that set the stage for the press to come out hoping to capture the clash of ideas. Now we are left with the task of trying to moderate the

news coverage of this event, video coverage that has been sliced and diced a million ways to serve separate agendas. You can use the lens through which you have grown accustomed to viewing the world, or you can take it from the person who was there, standing in the shoes of the ancestor Frederick Douglass. Mr. Douglass was there equally to defend the rights of the oppressed to be heard as he was the monument to remain standing. Hopefully you will see later clips of Douglass talking to other media outlets and individual citizens saying what should not come as a surprise. All confederate monuments must come down. And even though Douglass accepted the artistic interpretation of Thomas Ball, the design of the Emancipation Monument did not please Douglass either.

Frederick Douglass an escaped slave who taught himself to read and write understood the US Constitution is not a DEAD LETTER! It is a living idea that belongs to the people! Which means if enough people press the government, the constitution has before, and can again change. And if that is true, then why can't this monument change? It's unfortunate that the anger and hurt people are feeling will not allow them to listen to one another.

But to their credit many who were there on Friday did listen. They heard Douglass clearly acknowledge their right to demand change. "Power concedes nothing without a demand." ~ Frederick Douglass. That acknowledgement in itself created a pause in the shouting. It is hard to keep shouting when you have just swallowed a mouth full of universal truth. An NBC reporter who asked Mr. Douglass if the monument should go or stay was quite surprised at the response he got. "It's up to the people! "

It was the philosophy of Frederick Douglass that there are times when aspects of the government may not seem to be working, but that should not cause us to divest from the Constitution. The First Amendment was working simply fine in Lincoln Park on 06/26/20. Every citizen there was guaranteed the right and successfully aired their grievances with the government in the public square. So why would the people want to move the debate to a back room in the basement of a museum? I asked members of Black Lives Matter and other protestors the same question. Do you even think this worldwide press coverage would follow you into a basement to broadcast your grievances?

The Emancipation Monument known by some as the Freeman's Memorial was commissioned and paid for with the pennies, nickels and dollars donated by emancipated men, women and colored union soldiers. The emancipated person in the sculpture is not an Unknown Soldier or an Unknown Slave. His name is Archer Alexander. It has been proven with DNA evidence that his bloodline traces directly through the veins of the boxer Muhammad Ali, born Cassius Marcellus Clay, Jr. Now wrap your minds around this: His daughter, former boxer Laila Ali, and her eight siblings, are not in the Sankofa, they are alive, breathing, walking and talking amongst us as we speak. Proof again that history is not just something that happened in the past. History is alive and happening now. The will of the people must be heard, but taking this monument down or moving it inside away from the public square is tantamount to silencing ourselves.

~ Nathan M. Richardson, Poet, Author & Frederick Douglass Historian

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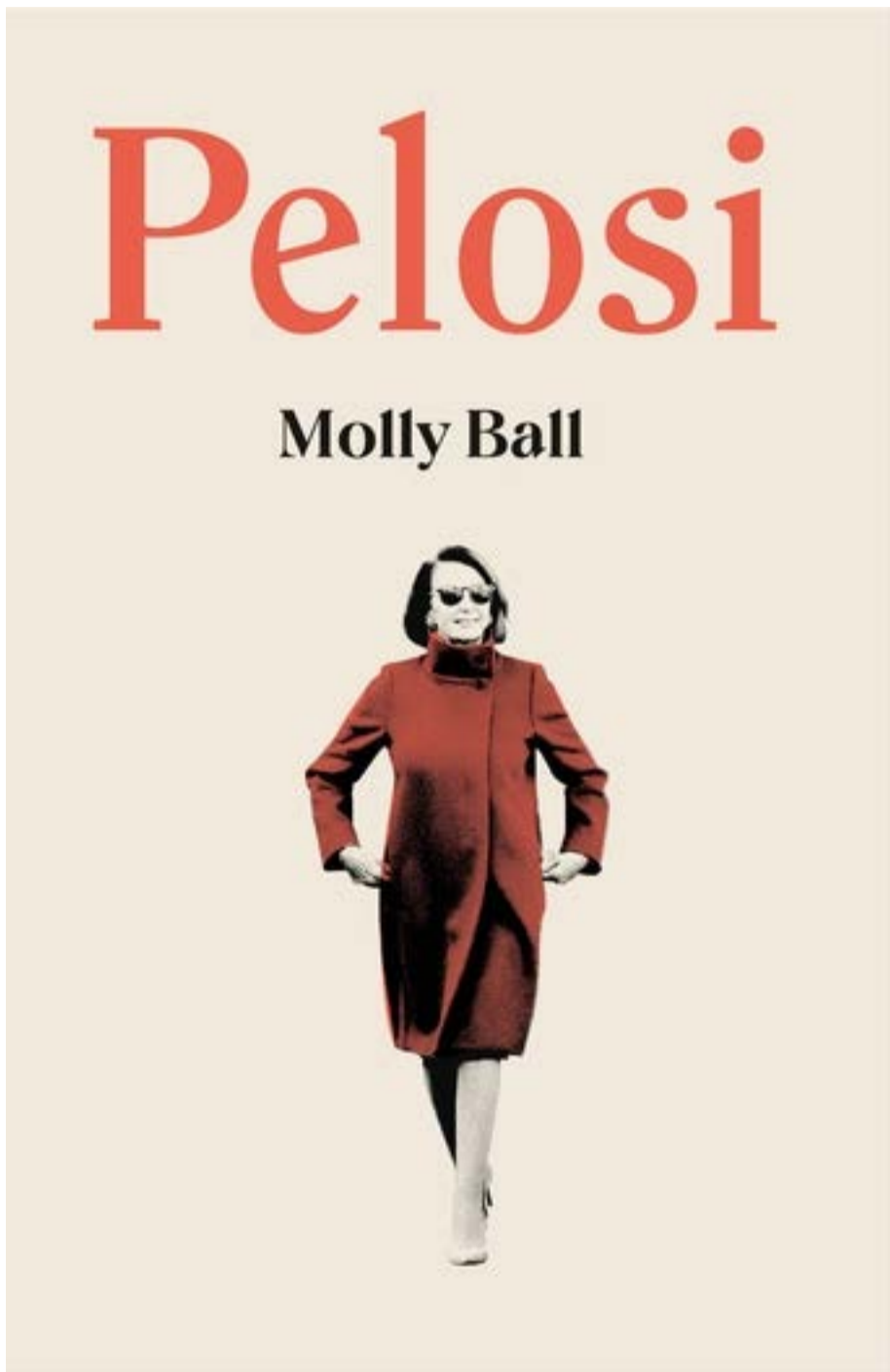
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# Nancy Pelosi is 80, but on top of what's happening

By Mike Thompson



'Pelosi' Book Cover

Highly recommended is a new book, simply titled "Pelosi," by Molly Ball of The Washington Post and CNN. Check it out to fine-tune your grasp of today's tumultuous national politics.

Nancy Pelosi still is prominent and powerful as the now-octogenarian U.S. House speaker and Democratic leader. She was unpopular for a long time. Republicans candidates would post her poster side-by-side with photos of their Democratic foes in order to gain an election edge, and some still do so. Even her fellow Dems (yes, ladies, most of them in power still are fellows) secretly regarded her

as a slightly over-the-top egomaniac, a lady who didn't know her place.

It wasn't until she stood up to Donald Trump on several high-profile occasions that she became sort of an 80-year-old rock star among the legions who can't stand the 45th president. Many partisans have viewed her as a clearcut knockout winner in the confrontations, some instigated by an overconfident Trump himself in his own misogynist way. She has stood stronger than most of the manfolk have stood.

The book is available upon request from any public library or, of course, for purchase online. "Pelosi" is worth reading if only for these entertaining sagas of taking down Donnie. In fact, the cover photo portrays a red-caped Pelosi, ever fashion chic,

departing the White House after one of her triumphs. But I can't help but think an even better cover might have been her sarcastic clap-clap behind Trump's head during one of his State of the Union speeches. Remember that one?

But there's more:

-- We knew Nancy was a mom, but didn't realize t'was five kids in only six

years! Wow. This should explain why political onlookers describe her as being not only tireless, but also hyper-super organized.

-- Detractors try to diminish her as a "San Francisco liberal," but she cut her childhood teeth in a Baltimore political family, East Coast and as Italian Catholic as the Kennedys were Irish Catholic.

-- She's now an icon of women in politics, but she was an old-school wealthy housewife political fund-raiser until she first entered public service on the local library board. She was 47 when first elected to the House

-- Late chapters focus on how she dealt with GOP obstruction during President Obama's tenure (they clicked in some ways but were frosty in others), and then the wrapup extends into the Trump upheaval, with impeachment earlier this year. Nothing on covid, however. Still, it's as up-to-date as a book can be.

-- The author is similar to Bob Woodward in uncovering the behind the scenes details behind public events, and so it's a good stay-up-late read.

Finally, funniest anecdote: During her initial anonymous years in Congress, there were so few women that federal officers at the capitol building often stopped Pelosi's comings and goings with, "Sorry lady, that's for members only." Finally she got fed up, determined to enter the next door without being impeded. The guard informed her, "Congresswoman, that's the men's bathroom."



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A dramatic, low-angle photograph of an emergency scene at night. The scene is dominated by the bright, multi-colored flashing lights of emergency vehicles, including red, blue, and yellow. The lights create a sense of urgency and activity. The background is dark, with some structural elements of a building or bridge visible in the shadows.

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## Third New Hope donated \$5,000 on "Juneteenth" to the Detroit Justice Center



*DJC's founder and executive director Attorney Amanda Alexander*



*Third New Hope's Lead Pastor QuanTez Pressley*

Detroit - 06.18.2020 - Lead Pastor QuanTez Pressley and Third New Hope Baptist Church (TNH), located on Detroit's westside, is donating \$5,000 to the Detroit Justice Center (DJC). This contribution will help support the mission of DJC, a non-profit law firm working with communities to transform the justice system and promote equitable and just cities. Attorney Amanda Alexander, DJC's founder and executive director, expresses her gratitude "for this incredibly generous donation!" She would say "I'm so moved by your congregation's generosity and support."

Following the brutal death of George Floyd, many cities across the country and world, including Detroit, have held continuous protests and marches aimed at seeking justice and reform of excessive policing practices and policies. As a result of these demonstrations, some non-violent protesters have been arrested.

"As a pastor, I was discerning what it means to be the church, in the time and season like this, particularly under the COVID 19 Pandemic that's still out there," said Pastor Pressley. "With many of our members unable to go out into the streets and protest due to

potential exposure them to the Coronavirus. I wanted to find an alternative way to show our solidarity and support for those in this struggle for justice and equality." Determined to do something, Pastor Pressley says "I felt that our way to support this movement for justice was to help finance those organizations that are doing the advocacy work."

Pastor Pressley said discovering that the DJC was on the ground level doing the type of justice work needed in the community, including paying bail for those in need, that he had found a way for the church to support. He says "Supporting an organization that pays the bail for people getting arrested in this fight for justice is our way of living out our Christian mandate to proclaim freedom for the prisoner and to set the oppressed free."

Through prayer and seeking God's wisdom, Pastor Pressley presented his vision to Third New Hope's congregation on the first Sunday of June, asking churchgoers to make donations. "I asked the congregation to give whatever God placed on their hearts," Pastor Pressley said. "My hope was that we would raise at least \$2,500, so it could not be said that the church was not present in this critical

hour."

The generosity of the congregation exceeded Pastor Pressley's goal, raising \$2,800 in one day. In addition, they were able to match \$2,200 through a grant they were awarded by the DTE Foundation, to help amplify the faith-based community's impact in addressing community needs. Thus, enabling the church to contribute a total of \$5,000 to the DJC.

"It's providential that we are presenting this donation to DJC during Juneteenth, which commemorates the announcement that enslaved Africans in this country had been freed," said Pastor Pressley. "We envision that our donation will not only help free black and brown people who find themselves in jail because they cannot afford to pay bail but hopefully it will reconstitute the necessary partnership between the church and civil rights organization like DJC that is crucial to the building of a truly just and equitable society."

For additional information or to interview Pastor Pressley or Amanda Alexander, call Don James at 310.497.9566 or email: [mastermediadj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mastermediadj@sbcglobal.net).

# AS I LOOK ALL AROUND ME

As I look all around me  
I see faces of all colors  
Standing and uniting  
Walking As sisters and brothers  
As I look all around me  
I see the young, i see the old  
Fighting to stop this racism  
All the stories that have been told  
As I look all around me  
I can't help but to cry  
So many mothers suffering  
Because their child had to die  
As I look all around me  
I'm scared of the unknown  
How will I react  
To the ignorance of your tone  
As I look all around me  
Black lives really matter  
Protesters protesting  
All races have gathered  
As I look all around me  
Our blood runs the same  
I'm praying for a world of peace  
I'm praying ... Lord, No More pain  
All races have struggles  
All Races have Choices  
That's why it's important  
We exercise our voices  
So much hatred in this world  
We all have to face  
But as a Color United  
We are protected under  
GODS HOLY GRACE



Brigitte Denise Johnson



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Fax: 989-752-2777  
www.cancouncil.org

**The New Ezekiel Project**

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

**Great Lakes PACE**

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

**Great Lakes Bay Health Centers**

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

**Houghton-Jones Task Force**

1708 Johnson Street  
Saginaw, MI  
989-752-1660

**Samaritas Community Center**

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

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

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

**Restoration Community Outreach**

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

**Saginaw County Business & Education Partnership**

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

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

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

**Saginaw Promise**

1 Tuscola St., Suite 100B  
Saginaw, Michigan 48607  
(989) 755-0545  
www.saginawpromise.org

**The Michigan Banner Outreach Ministries**

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

**The Saginaw Community Foundation**

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

**Women of Colors**

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womenofcolor.org

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# FAITH-BASED DIRECTORY

**Bethel AME Church**

535 Cathay St.  
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989-755-7011

**Bread of Life Harvest Center**

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

**Christ Disciples Baptist Church**

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

**Christ Fellowship Baptist Church**

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

**Faith Harvest Church**

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

**Grace Chapel Church**

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

**Greater Renaissance**

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

**Greater Williams Temple**

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



**Jacob's Ladder**

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

**Life in Christ Ministries**

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

**Messiah Missionary Baptist Church**

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



**Mt. Olive Baptist Church**

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



**New Beginnings Deliverance Ministry**

Pastor Roy & Evelyn  
Baldwin  
2609 E. Genesee  
Saginaw, MI 48601

989-777-8272

Pastorbaldwin@charter.net



**New Beginnings Life Changing Ministries**

Pastor Otis Dickens  
2312 S. Washington Ave.  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-755-3650



**New Birth Missionary Baptist**

Pastor Larry D. Camel  
3121 Sheridan  
Saginaw, Michigan  
989-327-1755



**New Covenant Christian Center**

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

**New Hope Missionary Baptist Church**

Rev. Dr. Willie F. Casey  
1721 Tuscola Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-753-7600



**New Life Baptist Church**

Pastor Rufus Bradley  
1401 Janes St.  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-753-1151

**New Mt. Calvary Baptist Church**

Pastor Alfred "AJ" Harris Jr.  
3610 Russel St.  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-754-0801

**New Way Ministries**

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



**Ninth Street Community Church**

Pastor William L. Scott Jr.  
Assistant Pastor Rex Jones  
1118 N. 9th Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
989-752-7366

**Prince of Peace Baptist Church**

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

**St. John Ev. Lutheran Church**

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



**Saginaw Valley Community**

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



**Transforming Life Ministries**

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



**True Vine Baptist Church**

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

**Victorious Belivers Ministries Church**

Pastor Chris V. Pryor  
624 S. Outer Dr.  
Saginaw, MI  
989-755-7692

**World Outreach Campus of Greater Coleman Temple Ministries**

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



**Zion Missionary Baptist Church**

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

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# POLITICS & PUBLIC POLICY

## Saginaw Police Department updates 'Use Of Force' Policy



saginaw-mi.com

SAGINAW, MI – The City of Saginaw has released the Saginaw Police Department's updated use of force policy as nationwide calls for police reform continue following the death of George Floyd. The updates to the policy include clearer emphasis on when certain use of force tactics are or are not allowed, adding requirements regarding de-escalation of any police-citizen encounter, and highlighting the current requirements for officers' duty to intervene in and report improper conduct.

"In Saginaw and across the country, George Floyd's death at the hands of Minneapolis police has sparked important conversations about race and the role of police in America," said Tim Morales, City Manager. "In Saginaw, we have been working for years to build a police department that reflects the values of our community and embraces

the forward-thinking policies and practices of 21st century policing. By updating and releasing the SPD's use of force policy we take an immediate and meaningful additional step to improve our practices. I commend the men and women of the Saginaw Police Department for their professionalism and dedication to keeping Saginaw residents safe, and their commitment toward continual improvements in the department."

The Saginaw Police Department maintains a use of force policy that is consistent with current national and legal standards. It is periodically reviewed by SPD command staff and the city attorney to ensure it remains in proper form. The policy takes into consideration a use of force continuum developed by the National Institute of Justice and contains guidelines as to how much force may be used against a resisting subject

in a given situation. SPD Officers receive consistent training and understand that they are only allowed to use a level of force that is objectively reasonable to bring an incident under control. Actions such as those taken by the officers in Minneapolis are not contemplated by any policy of the Saginaw Police Department.

To view a copy of the Saginaw Police Department's use of force policy, visit: <https://www.saginaw-mi.com/pdfs/New-PP-01-Response-to-Resistance.pdf>

"The focus of the Saginaw Police Department has been about building personal relationships, being proactive in addressing community concerns and working with partners to innovate new approaches to police work," said Robert Ruth, Saginaw Police Chief. "The City of Saginaw remains committed to diligently addressing how we handle citizens and taking steps to improve community relations."

In recent years, the City has made major investments in equipment and technology upgrades aimed at increasing police transparency and accountability, and improving safety for both residents and police officers. These include body-worn cameras for every patrol officer, and outfitting patrol cars with high definition in-car camera systems. The City continues to renovate the station headquarters located at 612 Federal Avenue with the latest technology to improve safety and transparency.

"Cities should not wait for tragedy to happen to make changes that improve transparency, safety, and accountability," said Chief Ruth. "The Saginaw Police Department will maintain its ongoing commitment to reevaluate our policies and programs, and introduce new initiatives as needed."

# Midland City Buildings Remain Closed to Public Until July 6



*cityofmidlandmi.gov*

In accordance with the City of Midland's ongoing COVID-19 response, most City buildings will remain closed to the public until Monday, July 6 to allow for protective measures to be installed and rolled out in line with COVID-19 workplace requirements.

All previously-suspended City services will resume on Monday, June 15 unless impacted by flood-related activities.

Residents should be aware of the following service changes and updates:

- Midland City Hall, Municipal Service Center, Water Treatment Plant, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Midland Civic Arena, and all Midland Fire Department stations will remain closed to the public until Monday, July 6.
- The Law Enforcement Center will reopen to the public on Monday, June 15.
- The Grace A. Dow Memorial Library and Midland Community Television (MCTV) remain closed to the public until further notice due to damage sustained from the recent flooding event.
- Rental certification inspections through the Building Department will resume on Monday, June 15. Building Department staff will reach out directly to reschedule inspections that were postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Water service installations will resume on Monday, June 15.
- Visitors to Washington Woods senior living community is limited to essential care providers only until further notice. Riverside Place senior living community remains closed due to damage sustained in the recent flooding event.
- Following a brief hiatus due to flood debris collection, the City of Midland will resume regular heavy item and brush collection in Area D on Monday, June 22. Collection will then resume its normal schedule: No collection the week of June 29; collection in Area A beginning Monday, July 6; collection in Area B beginning Monday, July 13, and collection in Area C beginning Monday, July 20.
- The terminal building of the Jack Barstow Airport remains closed until Monday, July 6. Pilots may continue to access hangars and purchase fuel as needed.
- Public meetings of the Midland City Council and City boards, commissions, and committees will be evaluated on a meeting-by-meeting basis to assess their need to meet and take action on matters of significant importance. Public meetings that must be held will be done so electronically through Monday, July 6. A list of meetings to be held electronically will be updated regularly online at [www.cityofmidlandmi.gov/emeetings](http://www.cityofmidlandmi.gov/emeetings).

While some City staff will return to their physical offices on Monday, June 15, many staff will continue to work remotely and will respond to residents' requests by phone and email to the best of their ability. Residents are encouraged to conduct business with City staff via email or phone or on the City's website, [www.cityofmidlandmi.gov](http://www.cityofmidlandmi.gov), whenever possible. To contact a City staff member or department by phone, residents can call the City Hall switchboard at 989-837-3300 and use the prompts to find the appropriate department.

Water and sewer bill payments will still be accepted during the closure. Residents can pay their bills online at [www.cityofmidlandmi.gov/pay](http://www.cityofmidlandmi.gov/pay) or submit payment by cash or check via the City's secure drop box located inside the main doors of City Hall, 333 W. Ellsworth Street. Please note that online bill pay will be unavailable on Wednesday, June 17 from approximately 12 – 6 p.m. for software upgrades.

Order forms and payments for City refuse and yard waste bins and bin stickers will still be processed during the closure. Residents should visit [www.cityofmidlandmi.gov/publicservices](http://www.cityofmidlandmi.gov/publicservices) to find, complete, and print the appropriate form and may: 1) mail their form and payment to the address on the form; 2) place their form and payment into an envelope and drop it into the secure drop box outside the Municipal Service Center, 4811 N. Saginaw Road; or 3) place their form and payment into an envelope and drop it into the secure drop box located inside the main doors of City Hall. For fastest processing, dropping forms and payments at the Municipal Service Center is recommended.

The City will continue to monitor public health information regarding COVID-19 and will reassess and alter its response as needed.

For the latest updates and information regarding the statewide response to COVID-19, please visit [www.michigan.gov/coronavirus](http://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus).

I believe public service is a responsibility that we all share, and we should all be willing to contribute our time and best effort toward the well-being of the community in which we live, work and play.



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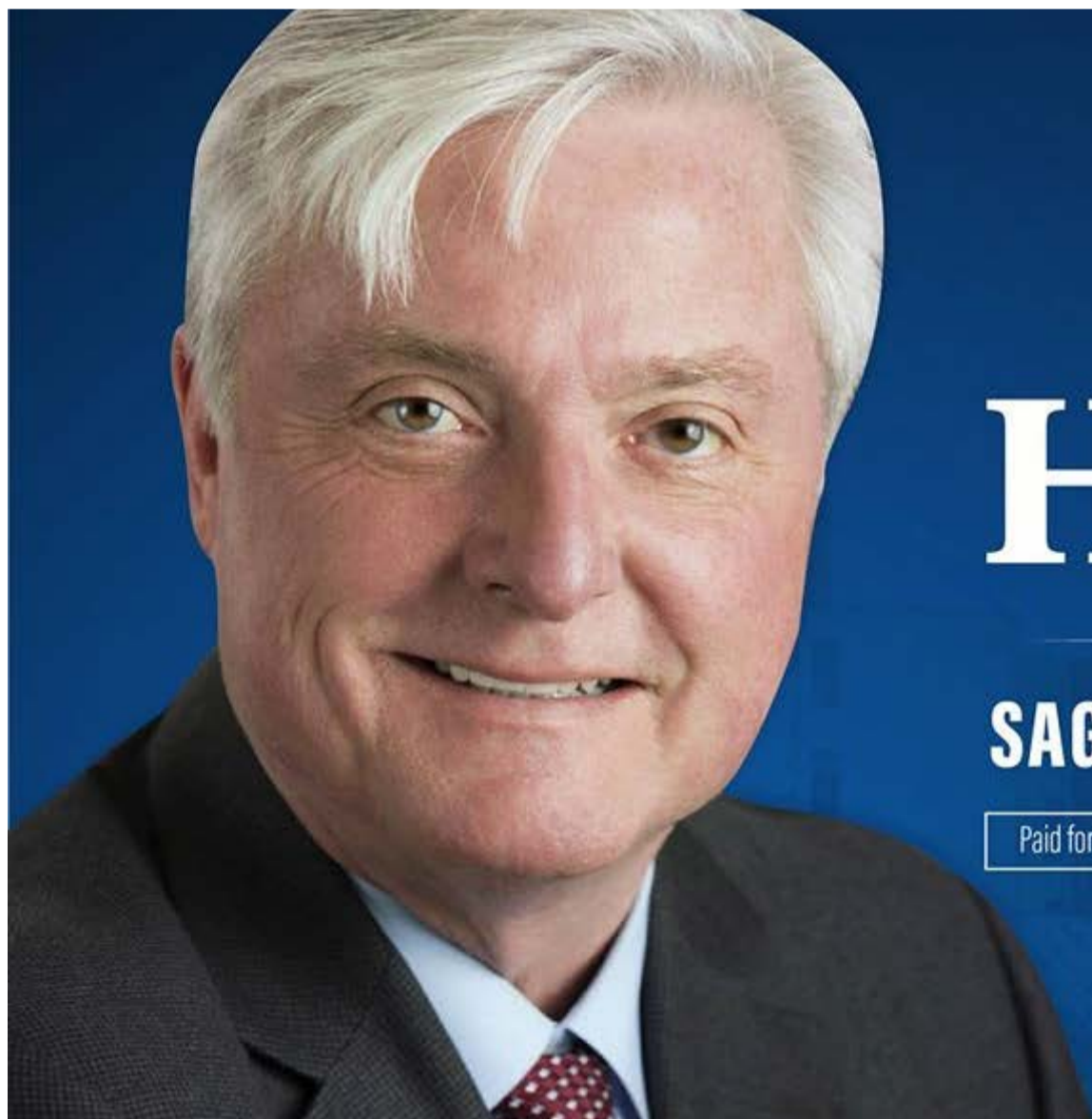
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## PICS OF THE WEEK

On June 24, Artists MARKedARTs and Kevin Burdick began working on the Great Mural Project located at the Court Street underpass on the East side.



*facebook.com/TheGreatMuralProject*



**We**

*empower.*

Brittany Saunders is ready to pay it forward. The Chicago native enrolled at SVSU with ambitions to pursue a teaching career. Brittany was encouraged and invigorated by other passionate educators who worked closely with her to ensure she would accomplish her goals. And she is. Even before she was set to graduate, Brittany could boast a résumé with a paid internship in a school district along with K-12 classroom experience. **Now she can't wait to begin a professional career, inspiring students with the same kind of one-on-one attention she received from her professors at SVSU.**



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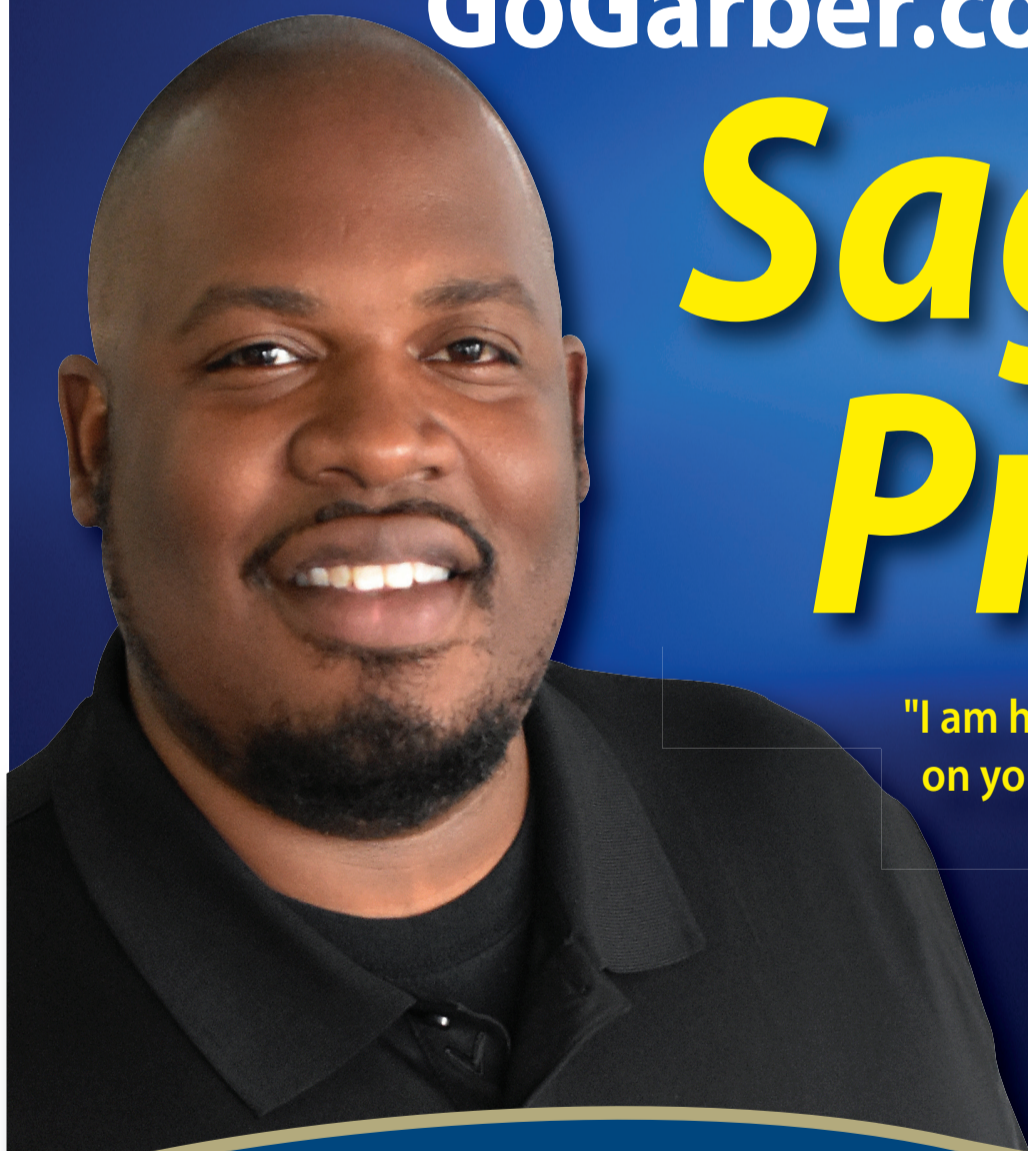
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