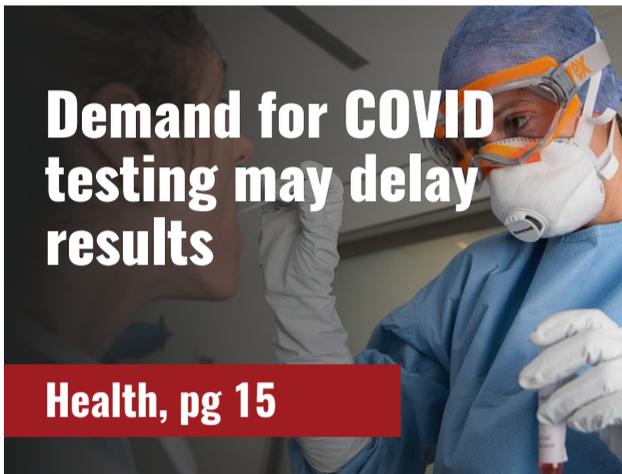


# THE MICHIGAN BANNER

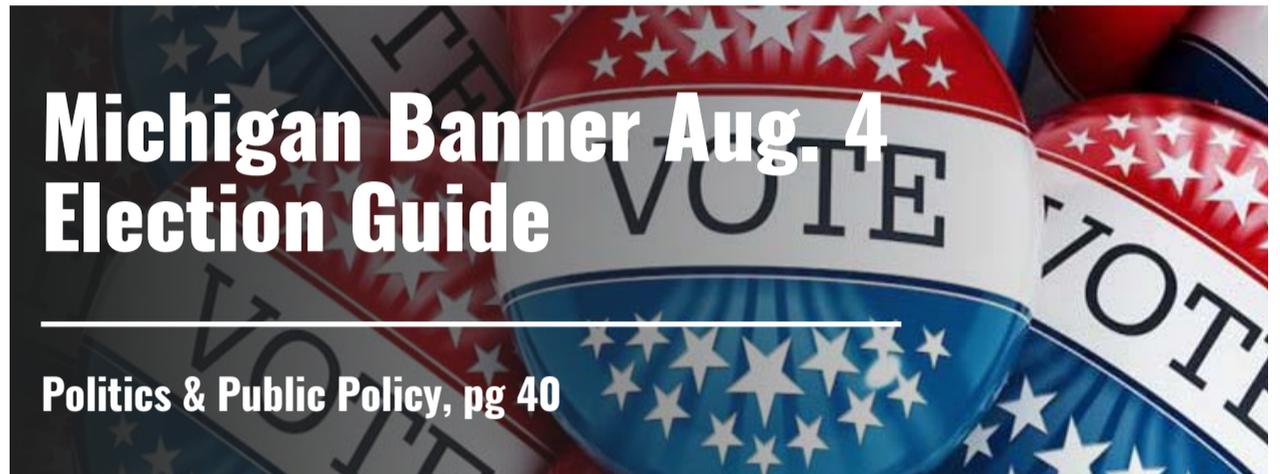
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Stronger Together, in these Challenging Times

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## Flint & Genesee Chamber Awards 'Restart Flint & Genesee' Grants to 144 Small Businesses



**Business & Wealth, pg 18**

## CMU, Covenant, Ascension St. Mary's Solidify Education Commitment



**Education, pg 25**



## Record-setting year for scholarship awards at Saginaw Community Foundation



*Courtesy Photo*

Saginaw, Mich. – It was a record-setting year at the Saginaw Community Foundation (SCF). As part of its 33rd annual Excellence in Education scholarship awards, SCF has awarded 586 scholarships to 390 high school, college and nontraditional students for a total of \$803,250. The number of awards and students and the dollar figure awarded are all record-high numbers.

“The scholarships we award each year are made possible because of the generosity of our fund donors and their commitment to education,” said Mai Lee, program officer at SCF. “Our donors are individuals, families, civic groups and businesses who believe in the value of education. To them we extend our deepest appreciation as they make the dream

of higher education come true for so many students.”

Since 1987, the foundation has awarded more than \$7.2 million to students to help them achieve their educational goals.

“Education is vital to the growth and future of every community. Scholarships can help people in our region obtain a degree, certificate or other training that will help further their aspirations and goals,” said Reneé Johnston, president and CEO at the foundation.

**Continues on pg 3, SCF Scholarships**



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**Host—Vicki Hill**  
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For information call 989-737-9286



**THE MICHIGAN BANNER**  
301 E Genesee Ave, Suite 201B  
Saginaw, MI 48607  
989.992.2600  
publisher022@gmail.com

**CEO/COO**  
Jerome Buckley  
publisher022@gmail.com

**CO-PUBLISHERS**  
Ronisha Sheppard  
Jerome Buckley, Jr.

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Rev. I. LaTrell Bailey  
ilonnye@icloud.com

**EDITOR EMERITUS**  
Rae Lynn Buckley

**THE LATINO BANNER**  
PUBLISHER  
Jerome Buckley  
thelatinobanner@gmail.com

**OMBUDSMAN**  
Elaine Gregory McKenzie

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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, SCF Scholarships



Courtesy Photo

The foundation currently administers 225 scholarships that have been established by its donors as well as the Saginaw Promise Zone scholarships.

“People traditionally think scholarships are just for high school seniors,” Lee said. “But the Saginaw Community Foundation offers scholarships for many individuals seeking higher education – from displaced workers to the single mother just returning to school to a student working full-time and attending college part-time.”

Students representing 50 schools from the Great Lakes Bay Region, the State of Michigan, and other parts of the United States received scholarship awards this year.

Due to Stay Home Stay Safe Orders this past spring, SCF was not able to host its annual in-person Excellence in Education recognition event for donors and students. SCF has created a series of galleries on its website to honor and recognize students organized by school. To view the galleries, visit [saginawfoundation.org](http://saginawfoundation.org).

Saginaw Community Foundation will begin accepting applications for 2021 scholarship awards on Nov. 1, 2020. More information is available at [saginawfoundation.org](http://saginawfoundation.org).

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# MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 13



## Boys & Girls Clubs Of America Hosting Virtual Teen Conference July 24

*Courtesy Photo*

ATLANTA, GA /PRNewswire/ -- Boys & Girls Clubs of America is excited to announce it will host its first ever virtual National Keystone Conference on Friday, July 24, 2020 from 2-5PM EST and all teens are invited to participate. Presented by Aaron's, Inc. (NYSE: AAN) the Keystone Conference is where nearly 1,500 teen leaders from across the country come together to lift up their voices and advocate for change in their communities. The 2020 Keystone Conference was scheduled to be in Washington, D.C. this month but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the in-person event was cancelled.

The theme of this year's conference is "We the Youth Declare We Will Be Heard, Seen and United." Teens will have the opportunity to discover their passions, voice their concerns, create a plan and take action through various breakout sessions throughout the afternoon. The National Keystone Conference is led by an all-teen steering committee representing

communities from across the country, including native lands and U.S. military installations worldwide.

"This year our teens are facing new challenges unlike ever before," said Jim Clark, president and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of America. "From the COVID-19 pandemic to the fight against racial injustice, teens are overwhelmed, and they need a safe place to ask questions and let their voices be heard. Thanks to Aaron's, Inc., now thousands of teens will have the opportunity to find their purpose, be an advocate among their peers and take lessons learned from the conference back to their communities."

In 2018, Aaron's announced a three-year, \$5 million renewal of its national partnership with Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Keystone Program, helping teens develop their character and leadership skills in hopes of helping them reach their potential and

create positive change in the community. Keystone Club teen centers provide members ages 14-18 an environment to "Own their Future" by planning and participating in activities that focus on community service, academic success, career preparation and teen outreach.

"Aaron's is proud to partner with Boys & Girls Clubs of America to bring this year's Keystone Conference to teens worldwide," said John Robinson, CEO of Aaron's, Inc. "Although these are challenging times, my hope is that teens will use this opportunity to enhance their leadership skills and confidence to create a better future for themselves. We're so honored to help teens raise their voices and ignite change in their communities."

All teens, not just teens from Boys & Girls Clubs, are invited to participate. To register your teen(s), visit <https://na.eventscloud.com/ehome/index.php?eventid=553256&>.

## Chicago Gen Z Tech Activist Launches Dollar Campaign to Fund Virtual CS Summer Camp for 1,000 Black Youth During Dangerous Times

CHICAGO, IL /PRNewswire/ -- "I want to convince 375,000 people that for less than the cost of a cup of coffee, they can help transform 1,000 young Black lives this summer by donating \$1," says Ian Michael Brock, 15-year-old Computer Science Activist and self-proclaimed "New Nerd." He says that while he definitely won't refuse a big check, he'd prefer to have hundreds of thousands of people make small donations in the hopes that it will encourage dialogue about the importance of Black youth learning Computer Science. A Gen Z'er himself, Brock believes that if his Black peers study computer science on a large enough scale then it would change the economy of the entire Black community in America, while closing the gap not only on the digital divide, but more importantly on economic inequality. Who knows, the next Black billionaire may just be \$1 away.

The New Nerd Virtual Summer Camp is an 8-week program that combines computer programming and personal development for 5th - 9th graders. The hybrid online class introduces JavaScript through Code with Google's Grasshopper Application. To increase maximum engagement, Brock blends popular music to add in fun. It's definitely not your typical classroom!

Brock is certain that personal development strategies are a critical tool to support students especially when they encounter roadblocks. He believes that once they learn life strategies, they will apply them in their daily lives just as he has done for the past eleven years. This is especially true for Black youth in Chicago this summer, who continually face threats from escalating violence and murders, historic racial unrest, and surging COVID-19 concerns. Participating in this virtual class and gaining life skills can keep youth out of harm's way and take their minds off the chaos.

Brock is no stranger to leading a group of students virtually. For the past 15 weeks he has coached and mentored youth from 19 different states across America. The COVID-19 pandemic gave rise to a different kind of distance learning through Brock's unique NEW NERD CS + Personal Development Mini Boot Camp and Friday Speaker Series. He has created a direct digital



*Courtesy Photo*

pipeline for students to access computer programming/coding at a comfortable pace, in a cool environment with a coach that they can vibe with live daily. Gaining self-confidence, learning to overcome adversity and developing goal setting skills are key program outcomes. Brock's work in technology finds its origins in Dream Hustle Code, the nonprofit organization he co-founded to bring access to computer science education to youth from communities underrepresented in tech.

Brock will continue featuring a Friday Speaker Series highlighting leaders from different industries who will share their stories of success and failure. Past guests have included R. Donahue Peebles (America's most successful Black Real Estate Developer), Chris Bosh (2x NBA Champion, Olympic Gold Medalist), Daraiha Greene (Google Global Head of Strategic Partnerships, Inclusion), and Jeff Hoffman (Priceline.com Co-Founder) among others. Brock is lining up an impressive list of upcoming speakers, but he's keeping the names under wraps.

At 15, Brock has built an impressive resume of his own. Twice invited to Google, he has spoken at their HQ in Mountain View and Los Angeles where he was the only teen speaker. Before 15,000 screaming students at a WE Day Chicago event, he took to the stage, unleashing his inner Tech Rock Star while advocating for increased computer

science education. His story has been featured in Forbes, Black Enterprise, Education Week, Travel Noire, and onstage live at the BET Awards. Brock's vision and confidence enabled him to gain the support of millionaire entrepreneurs and multi-billion dollar corporations to carry out his ambitious idea to take a group of kids from Chicago and Racine WI, to Silicon Valley "to gain a bigger vision for their future." For his book on success for kids, he has interviewed an inspiring list of 49 individuals from Hollywood to Venture Capital.

Brock believes that the great digital divide in America can be closed. He dreams of a day when racial, education and economic inequality will become a thing of the past. His belief is that Black youth must first gain essential skills to play a meaningful role in shaping America's future.

He says that God blessed him with gifts and opportunities that made it possible for him to be in the tech game. Ian Michael Brock believes that it's his responsibility to make sure he opens the door for millions to follow.

The Virtual Summer Session began on Monday, July 13, 2020.

Donations can be made at [www.dreamhustlecode.com/donate](http://www.dreamhustlecode.com/donate)



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**Bishop Gruss  
Appoints Deacon  
Librado Gayton  
as Director of  
Hispanic Ministry**

**LB Pg. 4**

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## Trump Administration issues Executive Order on the White House Hispanic Prosperity Initiative

*The Trump White House Administration released the following Executive Order establishing the White House Hispanic Prosperity Initiative:*

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in order to improve Hispanic Americans' access to educational and economic opportunities, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Purpose. The success of Hispanic Americans is integral to the economic future of our country. As more than 60 million Hispanics live in the United States today, Hispanics are the largest minority group in the country. Hispanics are also the Nation's youngest major racial or ethnic group. Generations of Hispanics constituting different backgrounds and cultures have contributed to building a strong and prosperous America. Their collective contributions continue a legacy of inspiration that is a cherished part of the American experience.

While we celebrate the many ways Hispanic Americans have contributed to our Nation, we also recognize that they face challenges in accessing educational and economic opportunities. In the last 3 years, my Administration has supported school choice, Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), and new career pathways, including apprenticeships and work-based learning initiatives, because quality education options offering multiple pathways to economic success are critical to developing our Nation's potential for the jobs of tomorrow. My Administration has also supported investment in economically distressed communities, including through Opportunity Zones, and economic opportunities for small and minority-owned businesses. The initiative set forth in this order increases emphasis on the connection between educational and economic opportunities, and exploring and promoting opportunities for Hispanic Americans, both through and outside traditional education options, that lead to economic prosperity. Today,

Americans have more paths to prosperity than any previous generation, and it is necessary to ensure that Hispanic Americans have every opportunity to access these pathways and to fulfill their educational and economic aspirations.

Sec. 2. White House Hispanic Prosperity Initiative. There is established the White House Hispanic Prosperity Initiative (Initiative), housed in the Department of Education (Department).

- (a) The mission of the Initiative shall be to improve access by Hispanic Americans to educational and economic opportunities. Consistent with its mission, the Initiative shall:
- (i) identify and promote educational and workforce development practices that have improved educational, professional, and economic outcomes for Hispanic Americans;
  - (ii) encourage private-sector initiatives and foster public-private partnerships that improve access to educational and economic opportunities for Hispanic Americans;
  - (iii) develop a national network of individuals, organizations, and communities, with which to consult and collaborate regarding practices and policies that improve access to educational and economic opportunities for Hispanic Americans;
  - (iv) monitor the development, implementation, and coordination of Federal Government educational, workforce, and business development programs designed to improve outcomes for Hispanic Americans; and
  - (v) advise the President, through the Secretary of Education (Secretary), on issues of importance to Hispanic Americans and policies relating to

**Continues on LB pg 2, Hispanic Prosperity Initiative**

## LB Cover Story, Hispanic Prosperity Initiative

Hispanic Americans' prosperity.

(b) The Initiative shall be led by an Executive Director, designated by the Secretary. The Executive Director shall also serve as Executive Director of the Commission created by section 3 of this order. In addition to leading the work of the Initiative, the Executive Director shall coordinate the work of, and provide administrative support for, the Commission. As appropriate, the Department shall provide the Initiative with staff, resources, and administrative support, to the extent permitted by law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) All executive departments and agencies (agencies) shall, to the extent permitted by law, provide such information, support, and assistance to the Initiative as the Secretary may request.

(d) The Initiative, acting through the Executive Director, shall provide regular reports on its activities to appropriate officials in the Executive Office of the President, including the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Assistant to the President for the Office of American Innovation, the Assistant to the President for the Office of Economic Initiatives, the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, the Director of the Office of Public Liaison, and the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs.

(e) As part of the Initiative, there is established an Interagency Working Group (Working Group) to collaborate regarding resources and opportunities available across the Federal Government to increase educational and economic opportunities for Hispanic Americans. The Working Group shall also serve as a channel for communication between the Initiative and other agencies.

(i) The Working Group shall be chaired by the Executive Director of the Initiative and shall consist of a senior official from the Domestic Policy Council, the Office of American Innovation, the Office of Public Liaison, and each agency that develops or implements policies relating to Hispanic American prosperity, as identified by the Secretary.

(ii) The Department shall provide the Working Group with administrative support to the extent permitted by law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

Sec. 3. The President's Advisory Commission on Hispanic Prosperity. There is established in the Department the President's Advisory Commission on Hispanic Prosperity (Commission).

(a) The Commission shall be composed of not more than 20 members, who shall be appointed by the President. The Commission may include individuals from outside the Federal Government with relevant experience or subject matter

expertise in promoting educational opportunities and economic success in the Hispanic American community. The Commission shall also include the following officers, or their designees:

(i) the Secretary of Commerce;

(ii) the Secretary of Labor;

(iii) the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development;

(iv) the Secretary of Education; and

(v) the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(b) The functions of the Commission shall be to:

(i) promote pathways to in-demand jobs for Hispanic American students, including apprenticeships, internships, fellowships, mentorships, and work-based learning initiatives;

(ii) strengthen HSIs, as defined by the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, and increase the participation of the Hispanic American community, Hispanic-serving school districts, and HSIs in the programs of the Department and other agencies;

(iii) promote local-based and national private-public partnerships to promote high-quality education, training, and economic opportunities for Hispanic Americans;

(iv) promote awareness of educational opportunities for Hispanic American students, including options to enhance school choice, personalized learning, family engagement, and civics education;

(v) promote public awareness of the educational and training challenges that Hispanic Americans face and the causes of these challenges;

(vi) monitor changes in Hispanic Americans' access to educational and economic opportunities; and

(vii) advise the President and the Initiative on educational and economic opportunities for the Hispanic American community.

(c) The Commission shall periodically report to the President, through the Secretary and after consulting with the Executive Director, on progress in providing Hispanic American students, workers, and communities with increased access to educational and economic opportunities. The reports shall identify efforts of agencies to improve educational and economic opportunities for Hispanic Americans. The reports shall also include, as appropriate, recommendations for improving Federal education, workforce, small business, and other programs.

(d) The Commission shall have a Chair and two Vice Chairs, designated by the President from among the members of the Commission. The Chair and Vice Chairs shall work with the Executive Director to convene regular meetings of the Commission, determine its agenda, and direct its work, consistent with this order.

(i) The Department shall provide funding and administrative support for the Commission, to the extent permitted by law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(ii) Members of the Commission shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by law for persons serving intermittently in the Government service (5 U.S.C. 5701-5707).

(iii) Insofar as the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), may apply to the Commission, any functions of the President under that Act, except that of reporting to the Congress, shall be performed by the Secretary, in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Administrator of General Services.

(e) The Commission shall terminate 2 years after the date of this order unless extended by the President.

Sec. 4. General Provisions. (a) This order supersedes Executive Order 13555 of October 19, 2010 (White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics), and section 1(u) of Executive Order 13889 of September 27, 2019 (Continuance of Certain Federal Advisory Committees).

(b) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or

(ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(c) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(d) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.



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Census 2020 - Hispanic/Latino Count

# Bishop Gruss Appoints Deacon Librado Gayton as Director of Hispanic Ministry



*Courtesy Photo*

To extend and strengthen the diocesan commitment to Hispanic and multicultural ministries, the Most Rev. Robert D. Gruss, Bishop of Saginaw, has appointed Deacon Librado “Larry” Gayton as the director of Hispanic Ministry effective July 20, 2020. As director of Hispanic Ministry, Deacon Larry will oversee all pastoral efforts, programs, and initiatives of this ministry office throughout the Diocese, which includes assisting parishes in serving the needs of the Hispanic community, coordinating the Hispanic Ministry Advisory Board and the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for Hispanic Ministry, and collaborating with other diocesan offices and Hispanic leaders. Additionally, the office will work to support and promote the richness of diverse heritages and their integration within the life of the Diocese of Saginaw and beyond. It will initiate evangelization and outreach to racially and ethnically diverse communities.

“It is my desire,” Bishop Gruss said, “that the work of the Hispanic Ministry Office in partnership with other ministries and local organizations, will bring hope, healing and a greater sense of community within the

diocese.”

Deacon Larry will assume office leadership previously held by Rev. Christian Tabares, who formerly served as the Vicar for Hispanics. Father Christian will continue as Pastor of St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Reese, and St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Parish, Vassar. Maria Coss, office assistant serving in the Office for Hispanic Ministry for more than three years, will continue to provide administrative support.

“I am most grateful to Father Christian for his faithful service and valued counsel as Vicar for Hispanics,” Bishop Gruss said. “Thanks to the efforts of Father Christian, Deacon Larry is well positioned to champion this important role and serve as a catalyst for action and outreach. Deacon Larry has demonstrated his deep faith, perseverance, and commitment to pastoral ministry throughout his extensive lifetime experiences, both personally and professionally. His compassion and advocacy for those entrusted to his care will enable him to develop sustaining relationships and networks throughout the diocese and greater

community.”

Deacon Larry has been serving as Pastoral Associate at St. John XXIII Parish in Hemlock/Merrill since November 2019 and prior to that was the Director of Parish Life for that parish since June 2019. He was ordained a Permanent Deacon for the Diocese of Saginaw in June 2017. As an attorney for more than 40 years, Deacon Larry specialized in civil matters, and retired from the UAW Legal Services Plan prior to his diaconate ordination. He is a member of St. Joseph Parish, Saginaw.

“It is with great excitement that I accepted Bishop Gruss’ offer to help the Diocese and build upon the good work of Father Christian and the Office of Hispanic Ministry,” Deacon Larry said. “I am reminded in the USCCB Pastoral Letter Against Racism - Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love that ‘all humans share a common origin, they are all brothers and sisters, all equally made in the image of God.’ As people of God, we strive for justice, for multicultural equity, inclusion of all people, and to see the face of God in the person standing in front of us today.”

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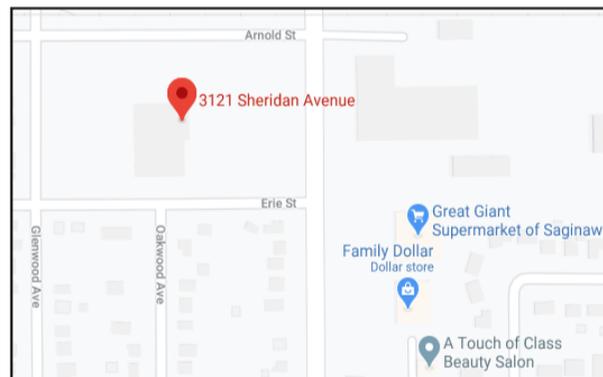
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# FUNDRAISING GOOD TIMES

## Nonprofits, what is your business?

Recent events have many nonprofit organizations and institutions wondering about their ability to survive. We encourage leaders to think about changing and thriving. But that requires hard work, sometimes more than what board members and executives thought they “signed up for.”

Let’s start with answering the question “To Non-Profits ...What Business will we be in?” Rosa L. Hunter and Lewis M. Rambo, PhD. ask this question in their provocative article of the same name. They ask nonprofit leaders to think of those they “serve” as “customers.”

“Every non-profit leadership team could, wisely, use this opportunity to examine the shifts that are occurring or implied by its particular “prevailing reality” and, yes, take a clear-eyed look at the impact these unimaginable forces have had on them, their organization and their Customers. Like it or not, at the end of each and every day, not-for-profits are in business and, as such are actually serving customers.”

While the phrase “customers” can make some nonprofit leaders uncomfortable, there is more discomfort to come. Here are a few samples of what Hunter and Rambo have to say.

“Some may be surprised to know that we have more than 1.6 million organizations approved as tax-exempt under Section 501-c-3 of the US Internal Revenue Code. Each and every one of these non-profits will be in search of the donations and resources felt needed to restart themselves and fund their operations. The competition for resources

will be fierce! For that reason, it is time, right now, for the leaders of every non-profit to begin creating a thoughtful, data driven, honest, no nonsense conversation among themselves about the organization’s reason to continue to exist.”

We often write about the importance of a nonprofit’s case for support or “business brief.” This document – and the work it takes to produce it – is at the heart of fundraising success, organizational health, and sustainability. Hunter and Rambo echo our core message.

“The questioning will have to begin with asking: ‘What business are we in? What are we selling?’ ... Just because your organization is designated as a non-profit does not mean that it is not in business! The phrase ‘non-profit’ refers merely to its tax status.”

“As surprising as it might seem, non-profit organizations are selling themselves to donors and potential donors, to their communities, and to those they have targeted to receive (i.e., buy) what they offer. The board, its Executive Director and the leadership and management teams may have a hard time accepting that their organization has customers. Going a step further, determining exactly who their ‘customers’ are, and then coming to an agreement on what their customers are ‘buying,’ can be even more confounding.”

Hunter and Rambo end their column with nine actions that nonprofit leaders can take to help ensure they are actually meeting “customer” needs. Read it for yourself and share it with your board. While there is no one “right answer” to achieve – the process will take you into the future equipped for what’s next.



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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

# Midland Cardiac Patients to Benefit from Grant for Mobile Teaching Kitchen



*Courtesy Photo*

MIDLAND, Mich. – MidMichigan Health Foundation was recently awarded a grant from the Allen Foundation that will aid in teaching cardiac patients healthy ways of eating and to preparing foods.

The \$49,425 grant helped fund the purchase of a Mobile Teaching Kitchen that will be located in MidMichigan Medical Center – Midland’s new Heart and Vascular Center opening in the fall of 2020.

Under the direction of Jennifer Felten, R.N., B.S.N., cardiac nurse specialist, the Mobile Teaching Kitchen will be utilized to offer nutrition education to patients who have had open heart surgery or angioplasty. Felten, with the assistance of a registered dietician, will instruct patients on how to prepare foods in a way that can help reduce risks for additional cardiac incidents and an overall healthier approach to eating.

Felten has extensive background in working

with cardiac patients in both intensive care and rehabilitation units, has studied nutrition, and has trained at the Health Meets Food Conference which offers medical culinary specialist certifications. She has also facilitated the Healing Hearts support group in Midland for three years. Her philosophy is that prevention is the best medicine.

“So many of today’s chronic health conditions can be prevented by what we eat, said Felten. “It’s important to limit sodium, sugar and saturated fats. There are many delicious and nutritious ways to cook to maintain good heart health. I’m looking forward to giving patients some control over their health through the way they approach food.”

The new program will be offered to cardiac patients monthly in 1.5 – 2 hour sessions beginning in January 2021.

“The Allen Foundation, committed and

chartered to the advancement of human nutrition and nutritional research, is again thrilled to partner with MidMichigan Health in this project,” said Mark Ostahowski, M.D., president, Allen Foundation. “We look forward to the growth and success of the Mobile Testing Kitchen and the entirety of cardiovascular advancement at the Medical Center in Midland.”

Sunita Vadakath, M.D., system vice president of service lines for MidMichigan Health, is equally enthusiastic. “We are pleased to be in a position to deepen our educational opportunities for cardiac patients as part of their overall care plan. We are thankful to the Allen Foundation for their approach to care through education and supporting heart patients in our community.”

Those who are interested in more information about the upcoming programs may reach Felten at [jennifer.felten@midmichigan.or](mailto:jennifer.felten@midmichigan.or) or (989) 839-3569.

## Demand for COVID testing may delay results



*Courtesy Photo*

Great Lakes Bay Health Centers (GLBHC) has three drive-through COVID-19 test sample collection sites available in Saginaw, Bay City and Bad Axe. GLBHC sites have collected more than 7,300 test samples since the services began in late March

Due to the increased volume of people getting tested for COVID-19 throughout our nation, the wait time to receive test results has increased. While on average results are available within 2-3 days, some results are not available for up to 10 business days. GLBHC site staff collect nasal swab samples and work with commercial laboratories to process the tests. Patients receive a phone call with test results from their physician.

Testing is available at these daily sites to anyone, as long as testing supplies are available:

**Saginaw - David R. Gamez** community health center, 501 Lapeer Ave. Saginaw, MI 48607 Monday – Friday 7:30 am to 12:30 pm or until supplies run out each day. (989) 293-3492

**Huron County – Thumb Area** community health center, 876 N Van Dyke Rd. Bad Axe, MI 48413 Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10am–12pm or until supplies run out each day. (989) 284-0076

**Bay County – Bayside** community health center, 3884 Monitor Rd. Bay City, MI 48706 Monday – Friday 8 am to Noon or until testing supplies run out each day. (989) 280-0725

There are no symptom requirements or doctor's order needed. You must bring your ID and insurance card to be tested. You can be tested if you don't have insurance, however.

While waiting for test results, individuals should:

- Limit interaction with others in their home and use a different bathroom if possible. Don't share personal items.
- Wear a mask or cloth face covering and stay 6 feet away from people and pets.
- Use meal or grocery delivery services when possible. Don't use public transportation.
- Cover cough and sneezes.
- Clean and disinfect things you touch and wash your hands frequently.

The mission of Great Lakes Bay Health Centers is to provide excellent health care to individuals and communities, especially

those who are underserved, uninsured or underinsured. The services provided are sensitive to the needs of the community, are not based on ability to pay and are offered without regard to criteria such as race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation or gender identity.

GLBHC is one of the largest community health centers in the state. It is a non-profit Federally Qualified Health Center operating in 30 different locations throughout the Great Lakes Bay Region and beyond, providing medical, behavioral health and dental care to everyone regardless of their insurance coverage. For information on all GLBHC sites go to [www.GreatLakesBayHealth.org](http://www.GreatLakesBayHealth.org). GLBHC is a Health Center Program grantee under 42. U.S.C. 254b, and a deemed Public Health Service employee under 42 U.S.C. 233 (g) – (n). The health centers are supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant #H80CS00689 titled Health Center Cluster for \$6,948,777 with about 87% funded with nongovernmental sources. This information or content and conclusions are those of Great Lakes Bay Health Centers and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government. We are an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# 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!**

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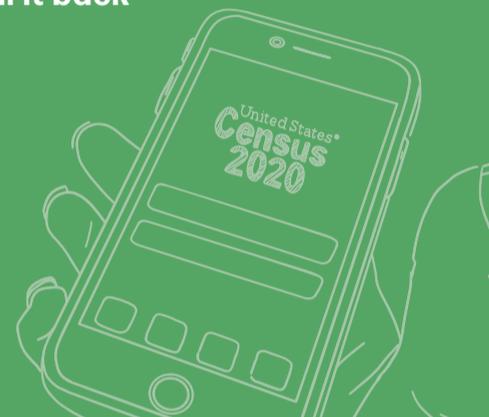
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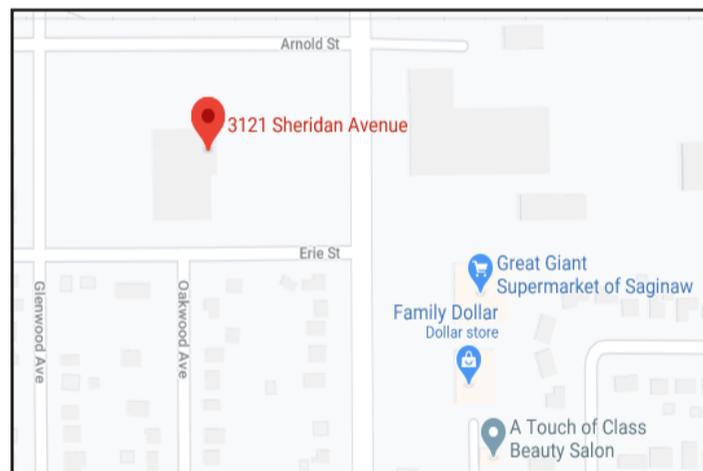
**ANYONE can get tested** and is welcome to our drive-thru for COVID-19 testing. There are no longer symptom requirements to be tested at our sites. You do not need a doctors order and costs you nothing out of pocket. Sample collection is free. To be tested you will need to **bring your ID and insurance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

**For help with health insurance enrollment please call (989) 921-5353 for assistance**

**Where: New Birth Missionary Baptist Church  
3121 Sheridan, Saginaw MI 48601**

**When: Tuesday, July 14  
10:00 am to 12:00 noon  
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**Saginaw County Testing Site Open Monday - Friday**

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Tues. - 7:30 - 4:00

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

# BUSINESS & WEALTH

## Flint & Genesee Chamber Awards ‘Restart Flint & Genesee’ Grants to 144 Small Businesses



*Courtesy Photo*

The Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce announced that 144 small businesses were awarded grants totaling \$570,000 through the Restart Flint & Genesee Grant Program.

The grants, ranging from \$1,000 to a maximum of \$5,000, were awarded to small businesses from a variety of sectors, including barber shops/salon, retail, construction/landscaping, bars/restaurants and non-critical manufacturing. The funds must be used to cover expenses directly associated with activities and purchases to reopen a business under guidelines and requirements for social distancing and safety of clients/customers.

“Small businesses are critical to the health of our local economy and we need to do what’s necessary to help as many as possible to stay open,” said Chamber CEO Tim Herman. “These grant dollars will help businesses cover expenses to meet the reopening requirements set by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer’s executive order. This includes purchasing

things like personal protective equipment, cleaning and disinfecting products or new systems to support online and carryout purchases.

“Thanks to the support of our partners – Consumers Energy, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Ruth Mott Foundation and JP Morgan Chase – we were able to provide these grants to small businesses through the Restart Flint & Genesee program.”

The program received 538 applications, with 170 from businesses located in Flint and 368 from various out-county communities, including Burton, Davison, Fenton, Flushing, Goodrich, Grand Blanc, Montrose and Swartz Creek. Review committees comprised of business and community leaders in Flint and Genesee County evaluated the applications and selected the recipients. (Separate committees handled applications for Flint businesses and out-county businesses.)

The applicants represented a variety of industry sectors, but more than 50 percent were comprised of barbershops/salons (20.6 percent); retail (18.4 percent) and bars/restaurants (12.6 percent).

Restart Flint & Genesee also focused attention on the extraordinary needs of Black-owned businesses. As African Americans have been disproportionately affected by the coronavirus pandemic, the Black-owned business community has been hit hard, too. Recognizing this, the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and Ruth Mott Foundation each designated the use of their funds – \$350,000 in total – to assist Black-owned businesses in Flint. As a result, 75 Black-owned businesses were awarded grants.

About 54 percent of the applicants self-identified as Black/African American.

The grants were restricted to covering expenses related meeting the guidelines and requirements for social distancing, such as:

- Purchase of personal protection equipment (PPE), such as masks, gloves, etc.
- Cleaning services to sterilize and deep clean facilities
- Cleaning supplies
- New Point of Sale systems that allow for carryout/online purchases
- Physical improvements to facilities that create space for social distancing, i.e. creating wider aisles

“Given the economic distress that small businesses in Flint & Genesee have suffered over the past three months, we knew that many would need help once it was time to reopen, particularly with expenses that would be incurred to safely bring back their employees and customers,” Herman said. “These grants should be helpful.”

# Select Frankenmuth Credit Union branch lobbies will be open beginning July 10



Courtesy Photo

Beginning July 10, select Frankenmuth Credit Union branch lobbies will be open: Frankenmuth, Vassar Main, Birch Run Meijer, Bay City, Bad Axe, Caro, Mayville and Saginaw T&C. All other Frankenmuth Credit Union branch lobbies are by appointment only. To schedule a branch appointment start here. All branch drive-thru and ITMs will continue to be fully operational. For branch hours, drive-thru hours and ITM hours, click here.

### What to expect when you visit an FCU Branch:

#### Branch Commitment:

- Vigorous disinfection and sanitation
- Physical distancing measures in place
- All staff wearing masks when needed
- Barriers in place for your protection
- Hand sanitizing or wash stations available

#### Guest/Member Expectations:

- If you can medically tolerate it, wear a

#### face covering

- Do not enter if you feel sick or have a fever or have recently had related symptoms. We encourage those with underlying health conditions or infection concerns to consider using our drive-thru
- Maintain more than 6 feet of distance with anyone outside of your household
- Wash or sanitize your hands frequently
- For security and safety, we will ask for picture ID to enter the building and to remove any mask for visual ID check. Our drive-thru and ITM options typically do not require ID check.
- Teller transactions should be done through drive-thru whenever possible.

Members can now schedule an appointment with an FCU Member Service Representative at any/all FCU branches for loan inquiries, account needs and questions. Please Note: Appointments are not required for drive-thru or general teller transactions at branches that have open lobbies. Because of high volume, we are currently NOT scheduling mortgage appointments via the online scheduler.

### SENIOR HOURS

- Frankenmuth Main Branch:  
*Thursdays 7:30am-9:15am*
- Birch Run Meijer, Vassar Main, Bay City, Bad Axe, Caro and Saginaw T&C:  
*Thursdays 8am-10am*
- Mayville:  
*Tuesdays 8am-10am*



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# SBA Offers Disaster Assistance to Residents of Michigan Affected by Severe Storms and Flooding

WASHINGTON – SBA Administrator Jovita Carranza issued the following statement after the announcement of the Presidential disaster declaration for several counties in Michigan affected by severe storms and flooding on May 16-22, 2020. Businesses and residents in the declared area can now apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

“The SBA is strongly committed to providing Michigan residents with the most effective response possible to assist businesses, homeowners and renters with federal disaster loans. Getting businesses and communities up and running after a disaster is our highest priority.”

The disaster declaration covers Arenac, Gladwin, Iosco, Midland and Saginaw counties in Michigan which are eligible for both Physical and Economic Injury Disaster Loans from the SBA. Small businesses and most private nonprofit organizations in the following adjacent counties are eligible to apply only for SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans: Alcona, Bay, Clare, Genesee, Gratiot, Isabella, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Roscommon, Shiawassee and Tuscola in Michigan.

In accordance with health precautions for the Coronavirus (COVID-19), the SBA will not establish a field presence to assist survivors. However, SBA will continue to provide first class customer service and conduct outreach virtually with webinars, skype calls, phone assistance and step-by-step application assistance. As a result, SBA has opened a Virtual Disaster Loan Outreach Center/Business Recovery Center (VDLOC/VBRC) to help survivors apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via the SBA’s secure website at <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/> and there are virtual customer support representatives available to assist applicants with completing the online application. The VDLOC/VBRC information:

Virtual Disaster Loan Outreach Center/  
Business Recovery Center (VDLOC/VBRC)  
Open: Monday – Friday  
Hours: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Closed: Saturdays and Sundays

FOCE-Help@sba.gov.  
Phone: (571) 422-8013, (571) 422-6016 and  
(571) 422-0331

These services are only available for the Michigan disaster declaration as a result of the Severe Storms and Flooding on May 16-22, 2020, and not for COVID-19 related assistance.

Survivors should contact the Disaster Assistance Professionals at (571) 422-8013, (571) 422-6016 and (571) 422-0331 to schedule an appointment for immediate one-on-one assistance in completing their applications. Requests for SBA disaster loan program information may be obtained by emailing FOCE-Help@sba.gov. The SBA will conduct extensive outreach to ensure that all impacted by the disaster are afforded the opportunity to seek assistance.

Businesses and private nonprofit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace disaster damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. Applicants may be eligible for a loan amount increase up to 20 percent of their physical damages, as verified by the SBA for mitigation purposes. Eligible mitigation improvements may include a safe room or storm shelter, sump pump, French drain or retaining wall to help protect property and occupants from future damage caused by a similar disaster.

For small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace disaster damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible up to \$40,000 to repair or replace disaster damaged or destroyed personal property.

Interest rates are as low as 3 percent for businesses, 2.75 percent for nonprofit organizations and 1.25 percent for homeowners and renters with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant’s financial condition.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application (ELA) via the SBA’s secure website at <https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov/>.

To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, applicants should register online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://DisasterAssistance.gov) or download the FEMA mobile app. If online or mobile access is unavailable, applicants should call the FEMA toll-free helpline at 800-621-3362. Those who use 711-Relay or Video Relay Services should call 800-621-3362.

Businesses and individuals may also obtain information and loan applications by calling the SBA’s Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing), or by emailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov). Loan applications can also be downloaded at [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov). Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is Sept. 8, 2020. The deadline to return economic injury applications is April 9, 2021.



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# EDUCATION

## Michigan's Special Education Performance Improves Again on Federal Rating



*Courtesy Photo*

LANSING – Michigan's performance on key special education factors associated with the U.S. Department of Education improved for the second straight year, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) reported.

Michigan received a score of 72.5 percent for its federal determination annual performance rating on meeting the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B for the 2019-20 school year. In 2017-18, Michigan scored 59.17 percent. In 2018-19, the score improved to 65.28 percent, an increase of over six percentage points. This year's increase was more than seven percentage points, which brings the two-year growth to 13.33 percentage points.

"Our statewide progress is welcome news and reflects strengthening partnerships among local school districts, intermediate school districts, the Michigan Department of Education, and groups that advocate for our children with special needs," said State

Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice.

"This is the highest score Michigan has received since 2014, when the federal government moved to results-driven accountability," said Deputy State Superintendent Dr. Scott Koenigsknecht. "We are pleased with the trajectory of the growth and will continue to work to improve outcomes for every Michigan student. There is still much work to do around the areas of graduation and dropout rate, research-based best practices, and inclusion as we are still in the 'Needs Assistance' category."

Dr. Koenigsknecht said a lot of work is being done in the school districts across the state, and at MDE, to improve compliance and results outcomes. MDE formed a steering committee and four work groups in December 2018 to generate and implement recommendations designed to lead to continued improvements in graduation and dropout rates, M-STEP test participation, and

national NAEP test results and participation.

"We appreciate the commitment from our partners across the education landscape in Michigan and look forward to continued growth and improvement," Dr. Koenigsknecht said. "To become a top education state, we need to provide a quality education and growth for all students, including those with special needs."

Last year, the Michigan Department of Education was in full compliance with the reporting and submission of timely and accurate data of specific indicators required by the U.S. Department of Education. However, outcomes for students with disabilities for graduation and dropout rates were below the federal targets.

Federal officials use both compliance and results data for a "letter of determination" on whether a state "meets requirements," "needs assistance," or "needs intervention."

# CMU, Covenant, Ascension St. Mary's Solidify Education Commitment



*Courtesy Photo*

Building on more than 50 years of graduate medical training, health care in the Great Lakes Bay Region took a significant step forward this month as two Saginaw hospitals signed a long-term education agreement with Central Michigan University.

CMU, Covenant HealthCare and Ascension St. Mary's Hospital — the founding members of the collaborative organization CMU Medical Education Partners — reaffirmed their commitment to graduate medical education by signing a 25-year affiliation agreement.

"This historic agreement provides a sustainable framework for resident education and increases the health care capacity for the region," said Dr. George Kikano, CMU's vice president for Health Affairs and dean of the College of Medicine. "Residents in this program learn from highly trained medical professionals and from serving the large and varied population of Saginaw and the 14 other counties they serve."

Residency is the next step of preparation for a doctor who has graduated from medical college and is training in a focused area of

practice. CMU Medical Education Partners manages 60 faculty-physicians and offers residency programs in emergency medicine, family medicine, general surgery, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, podiatric medicine and surgery, and psychiatry, plus two fellowships in emergency medical services and child and adolescent psychiatry. Physicians employed by CMU Medical Education Partners are CMU faculty members appointed through the College of Medicine.

"This agreement provides a vision for comprehensive educational programs that will enhance medical services and public health initiatives while providing a pipeline of physicians for the region," said Dr. Samuel Shaheen, executive director of CMU Medical Education Partners, noting that two-thirds of doctors remain in the regions where they complete their residencies.

"Ascension St. Mary's is proud of our continued participation and collaboration with CMU," said Dr. Stephanie Duggan, regional president for Ascension Michigan Northern Ministries. "Having well-developed and recognized medical education within our community will benefit our state by

helping recruit physicians, retain doctors who choose to train with us and fill the gap of physicians needed in the future to care for the communities we serve."

Ascension is a faith-based health care organization committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. Ascension is one of the leading nonprofit and Catholic health systems in the United States.

Covenant HealthCare is a nonprofit health system and the most comprehensive health care provider in the Great Lakes Bay Region. It offers a broad spectrum of specialized programs and services for patients throughout east-central Michigan.

"This affiliation agreement is a reaffirmation of Covenant HealthCare's commitment to the CMU College of Medicine and graduate medical education. We are excited to work collaboratively to continue efforts leading graduate medical education and clinical training into the future," said Ed Bruff, president and chief executive officer, Covenant HealthCare.

## Mott Community College's Dr. Denise Polk is recipient of Campus Compact Award



*Courtesy Photo*

Dr. Denise Polk, Mott Community College Dental Assisting Coordinator and Faculty Member, is one of four college faculty statewide to receive the 2020 Campus Compact for Michigan Community Engaged Teaching Excellence Award. Campus Compact is a national coalition of colleges and universities committed to the public purposes of higher education.

"This is truly a well-deserve award," said Dr. Rebecca Myszenski, Dean of Health

Sciences at MCC. "Dr. Polk is one of the most inspirational people with whom I have ever worked, but even more notable is her dedication to inspire others through service," Myszenski said.

Dr. Polk was nominated for her dedication and commitment to ensuring her students participate in community –engaged learning. She has partnered her program with Mission of Mercy to provide free dental services to provide care for low income families and individuals. Each year she hosts a Dental Fair at an elementary school in the community, where her students set up fun and engaging stations to help children learn and practice good oral hygiene. Additionally, she coordinates outreach opportunities for dental assisting students in partnership with community organizations such as Sloan Museum, Hamilton Dental clinics, and Michigan State University.

Dr. Polk was also instrumental in developing a military bridge program for military-trained dental assistants to pursue civilian credentials at MCC.

A general dentist who has practiced in Flint 1984, Polk joined the faculty of Mott Community College in 1988. She has been

a faculty member in the dental hygiene and dental assisting programs; and, currently holds the position as coordinator/program director of the dental assisting program.

She is a member of the Michigan Education Association, National Education Association, American Dental Association, Michigan Dental Association, former secretary, and president of the Genesee District Dental Society; and, former secretary and president of the Mid State Dental Study Group. She was inducted into the International College of Dentists, the American College of Dentists, and the Pierre Fauchard Academy.

### Campus Compact

Formed in 1989, Campus Compact for Michigan (CCMI) is a partnership of college and university presidents and chancellors who have committed themselves and their institutions to their communities through mutually beneficial and meaningful collaborations to create engaged citizens and vibrant communities. CCMI proudly works with public, independent, and two-year institutions of higher education to meet student learning outcomes, address strategic priorities of member campuses and cultivate sustainable campus-community partnerships.

## CMU President Davies' statement on ICE guidance for international students



*Courtesy Photo*

The following statement is in response to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's announcement regarding modifications to temporary exemptions for nonimmigrant students taking online classes this fall semester due to the pandemic.

At Central Michigan University, we are fully committed to serving our international

students. As we plan to return to campus this fall for a hybrid of in-person and remote learning classes, we look forward to welcoming them to campus next month and will continue to support them while remaining in compliance with federal regulations.

International students provide enhanced learning opportunities for our student body in terms of cultural awareness, intercultural interactions, and diversity of ideas and thoughts in and out of the classroom. We live in a global society, so enhancing opportunities for both domestic and international students benefits our entire campus community.

We will continue to study the impact of the modifications announced by the Student and Exchange Visitor Program this week to identify a path forward that allows us to continue serving our international student population, and we will advocate and lobby for policy that will enable them to continue their education during these unprecedented times.





**About Saginaw ISD HE/EHS**

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

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

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

women and their families.

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

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

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

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

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

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

# MDE to Request Federal Waivers for Child Nutrition Programs



LANSING – The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) announced that it will request several federal waivers of statutory and regulatory requirements in child nutrition programs, in accordance with federal guidance, on behalf of all sponsors determined to be in good standing in the state of Michigan.

These waivers will help minimize potential exposure to the novel coronavirus by providing sponsors the flexibility to continue serving meals and snacks outside of regular cafeteria settings. The waivers will also minimize the complexity of the meal pattern

requirements for sponsors.

MDE is seeking statewide waivers for School Year 2020-2021 for the following:

- Requirements for the availability of drinking water, specific meal patterns for specific age and grade groups in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), and milk variety in the NSLP.
- Suspension of the requirement to provide enrichment activities with the NSLP Afterschool Snack Program during non-congregate meal distribution.

- Suspension of the enrichment activities for the at-risk afterschool snack program within the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) if serving non-congregate meals.
- Allowance for MDE to have the option to conduct monitoring of CACFP institutions, sponsors, and facilities offsite (e.g. through a desk audit) and suspension of the monitoring requirement for MDE for number of annual desk audits to complete.

Upon approval of the waivers from the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), further MDE guidance will be issued to sponsors in Michigan. Sponsors will then be required to notify MDE which waivers are selected for use in their programs.

For questions about Michigan's Child Nutrition Programs, contact Dr. Diane Golzynski, Director of MDE's Office of Health and Nutrition Services, at 517-241-5364 or [mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov](mailto:mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov).

## Digital Educators Evidence-Based Resources

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# COMMUNITY

## The Racism That Wouldn't Stay Under the Rug

By State Sen. Marshall Bullock



*courtesy photo*

*This article was originally published on July 10, 2020 in The Michigan Chronicle and has been reprinted with permission.*

I consider myself a strong Black man, the kind who has learned to use chess moves to navigate the minefields in American life rather than throw grenades or take aim at my enemies with flame throwers. Chess is a different kind of strength, and as a Black person who has learned that Black life is

a risk unto itself that frequently results in abbreviated life spans, chess is a strategy for those of us who prefer the long game.

But sometimes the cerebral and methodical strategies of chess simply don't contain a sufficient vocabulary to get the job done. Sometimes being a Black man in America means you have to scream, yell, and basically exhibit the type of behavior that certain white folks say make us so

threatening. Because sometimes being a Black man in America means you don't always get to choose the calm response. Just ask George Floyd, or the thousands of protesters who took to the streets all across this country – and around the world – to raise their voices in response to yet another Black man killed at the hands of police brutality.

**Continues on pg 30, Racism**

## Continued from pg 29, Racism

I want a society where my children are no longer the enemy.

For generations we have endured the one-size-fits-all-Black-folks virus of racism, classism, white privilege and profiling. This virus has manifested itself as the proverbial knee on the neck of Black and Brown communities here in Michigan through inequitable healthcare and criminal justice policies and racially discriminatory laws.

Racism is a public health crisis. We need to work together to address it, and that means speaking up and speaking out. Because silence about racism, police brutality, insensitive conduct and implicit biases makes you guilty.

The last few months have been filled with injustice – Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia, George Floyd in Minnesota, and Shatina Diggins right here in Washtenaw County. In Lansing, we witnessed assault rifles paraded in the gallery by white people spewing hatred from their lips as their colleagues literally performed a modern day minstrel show in blackface on the steps of the Capitol while others waved the Confederate flag just a few short weeks ago.

And not one word from any of my own 22 colleagues. Nothing but a deafening silence. Just like the silence two months ago when Republican State Sen. Dale Zorn wore a Confederate flag as a face mask to work. First he denied that it was what it obviously was, but then he later felt compelled to apologize when he realized those who made the accusation actually were not blind and knew a Confederate flag when they saw one. The unapologetic response that was eventually issued displayed nothing but deflection and a clear lack of understanding of why an elected official wearing a Confederate flag to work in the State Capitol was not a good idea.

But this is so much bigger than that. This is an underlying representation of what minority members of the legislature, staff and other political professionals encounter all too often in this world every day.

The persistence of racism in our communities is exhausting as we continue to struggle to get a handle on decades of federal and



*courtesy photo*

state policies of racial and socio-economic discrimination that has become magnified by the COVID-19 virus.

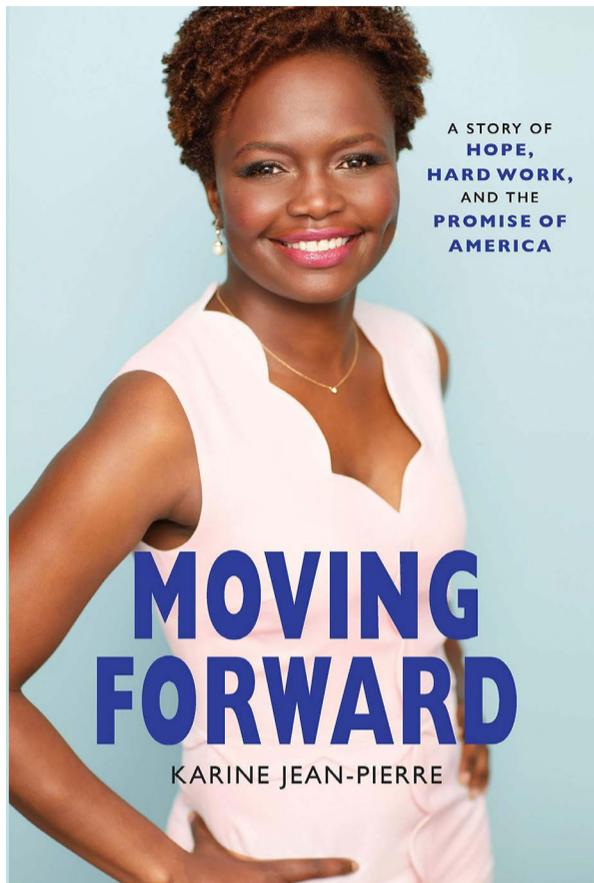
This is 2020, and ignorance can no longer be accepted as a valid excuse to habitually cross the line on racism with no fear of consequence

or repercussion. Either we step up and tackle the problem together, or our children will pay the price for the rest of their lives. And their children will likely pay as well.

Leadership matters. Black Lives Matter. For all of us.

# 'Moving Forward' is about the author, also about us

By Mike Thompson



*courtesy photo*

My first TV encounter with Karine Jean-Pierre, political activist and cable news pundit

(and now Biden advisor), was like this: (1) She seems too down-to-earth, too nice, to be in politics. (2) She is really cute and attractive

On the second point, I felt some embarrassed shame. This old man should not be noticing a young lady one-third his age. But from checking out her book, "Moving Forward," from the library, I am learning that Karine is 43 years of age, not 23 like she appears. So at least that makes her two-thirds my age.

On the first point, being nice and all, on that particular cablecast Mizz Jean-Pierre proceeded to unleash on Wal Mart. She noted that the Sam Walton family is worth \$175 billion, but they pay their workers so little that some qualify for food stamps. Etc. Then, from Wal Mart, she segued into taking on Wall Street abuses and excesses. Such as noting that all those executive bonuses, combined, would be enough to lift 3.2 million American minimum wage workers out of poverty.

Wow! No holds barred. Kittens may be cute, also, but this social activist roars like a tiger. Don't be fooled.

She makes her progressive points through her book's 278 well-written pages, but that's not all. She tells her personal story as the daughter of Haiti immigrants, her father a dawn-to-midnight New York City cab driver and her mom a two-job laborer, home health aide and beautician. She also provides modest and non-preachy guidance for how all of us can become more involved, including book appendices with dozens of recommended journalism reporter web sites, TV news shows, books, documentaries, even movies.

Karine, with her Columbia University hard-won education, has jumped from role to role in her career. She has repped for Walmart Watch and more recently, the left-wing MoveOn.org. She has advised and advocated for an array of candidates, including eventual disreputables John Edwards and Anthony Weiner, prior to finding better fortunes with Barack Obama. She's always itching for the next political battle.

And her writing shows that she's still a really down-to-earth, nice person.

## Saginaw Future Inc. Recently Launches Newly Designed Website

Saginaw Future Inc. recently launched a newly designed website to further strengthen its online presence and economic growth by offering a more robust and informative tool to prospective companies. The newly revamped website, SaginawFuture.com, will promote Saginaw County as a premier location for domestic and foreign investment and package the "Saginaw County Story." SaginawFuture.com utilizes the latest economic development tools for site location, small business market research and business intelligence, and talent recruitment, all in a streamlined design. The site offers a dedicated search engine designed to easily navigate a concise and robust site selection template, web searches, and social media.

The goal of this project was to provide comprehensive communication and marketing package to assist the growth of the existing business and entrepreneurs, attract new business/talent, and promote the opportunities

for success in Saginaw County.

Saginaw Future Inc. worked as a team on the project and applied each of their expertise to particular pages. Saginaw Future also worked with Golden Shovel Agency, a full-service marketing agency specializing in groundbreaking economic development communications and award-winning applications. Golden Shovel provided the platform and system, as well as led Saginaw Future through an in-depth strategic plan process to help match assets and competitive advantages with development goals.

Saginaw Future was able to incorporate two key economic development tools on the new site. GreatLakesBaySites.com is an 8-county regional property database that includes any type of property besides residential. This one-stop location for property information was and will continue to be a standalone site, but now is functionally embedded in

SaginawFuture.com with timely interaction. SizeUp is a new tool to help private sector, government, and non-profit organizations better serve their small business customers with the market research and business intelligence they need to succeed. This is an incredible tool for small business as they reopen in order to make judgements on hiring, revenue, etc. SizeUp is embedded in the new site and will be publicly launched on a small business Zoom seminar in July 2020.

"Working with Saginaw Future Inc. on this redesign project has been a great experience. The customized online portal really highlights the community's assets and demonstrates its economic growth potential," said John Marshall, President of Golden Shovel Agency.

View the redesigned website at [www.SaginawFuture.com](http://www.SaginawFuture.com)

# Some media bias is not intentional

By Mike Thompson

"Unconscious racism" suddenly is a popular phrase during this summer of brass tacks on long-overlooked (at least among we whites) issues of prejudice, but I first heard it at Saginaw Human Relations Commission meetings and workshops during the 1980s.

It means that we anglo folks sometimes can be oppressively biased without even realizing what we are thinking and doing, to which I've often heard skeptical black and brown folks answer, "Yeah, right."

But it's true. Following are three examples in the media I've observed recently.

\*\*\* \*\*

First version.

"60 Minutes" is doing another update on Flint water. I've seen several of these followup reports during recent years, and the visiting journalists generally do good jobs with a difficult story. One thing that grinds me, however, is that they always seem to start by show containers with rusty water that looks like gingerale.

Okay, sure enough, but those were extreme exceptions, not the norm. The norm was that the water still was basically clear, maybe tasting a bit bitter, and so residents for the most part could not SEE the lead or realize it was there.

The problem is that when the reporters always start by showing the rusty H2O, they imply that Flint peeps are so stupid that they actually would consume water that looked like that.

WRONG! Why would a reporter even think that? This is what I do not understand. When I had a chance 18 months ago to do a Flint water article, this was the first thing that I made sure to make plain and obvious. The citizens and children were lead poisoned by the clear water, not the rusty water.

And so the "investigative reporters" who imply that the officials may have been racially negligent would seem to be somewhat unconsciously prejudiced themselves, to think



Courtesy Photo

that Flint folks would be dumb enough to consume discolored tap water.

\*\*\* \*\*

Second version.

Feeding America reports that one in six children -- as many as one in three in poverty areas -- is going hungry. They mean mostly minority youngsters.

This Is Not True. It's been a few years since I volunteered in children's summer feeding programs, and school and summer lunches still are positive programs, and with my own eyes was able to see that this is not true.

But in the same way that we imply that poor people will drink foul tap water and give it to their kids, in this case we suggest that poverty parents won't feed their children.

Believe me, these kids have something on the table, except in cases of severe drug abuse, and those cases cut across all income levels and ethnic groups. Maybe poverty causes the rent or Consumers to fall behind, but there is not widespread hunger, because poor parents have pride just like the rest of us and will make sure their children are fed.

Parents are not going to allow their children to drink nasty tap water and they are not going to allow their kids to go without dinner.

\*\*\* \*\*

Third version.

PBS News Hour begins an introduction to a story on increased rental evictions among covid economic hardship. Maybe they will show a rural white family? This is doubtful. Before they even start the video footage, I tell myself, "Will bet they show a black family being evicted." And they do.

When I reported for The Saginaw News on 1990s state welfare cuts under then-Gov. John Engler, I realized, of course, that more whites than blacks (in whole numbers, not per capita) were and are enlisted with DHS. Was determined for my reporting on clients to reflect this. But it's multiple times harder to get a white person to go on camera and reveal themselves in these circumstances. Am not going to go into a long listing of reasons, because readers no doubt will surmise many of them.

All I know is that I busted my butt to find at least an equal number of white people and families to portray in these stories, even if it took triple the effort.

Reporters and editors, in many cases, need to pay more attention to this aspect.

We need to stop implying these so-called unconscious prejudices, and liberals often are as guilty as conservatives.

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--	---

**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.*



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# BE COUNTED MICHIGAN2020

April 1, 2020 is Census Day. It is important that everyone is counted – and here's why.

Millions of dollars in federal funding is at stake for Saginaw County. Federal agencies use census data to provide funding at state and local levels for vital community services such as hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, job training centers, senior centers and police departments. The census also determines how many Representatives each state has in Congress. If we get undercounted, we get underfunded and underrepresented.

We're counting on community leaders *like you* to promote the importance of participation in Census 2020.

Learn more at [becountedmi2020.com](http://becountedmi2020.com)



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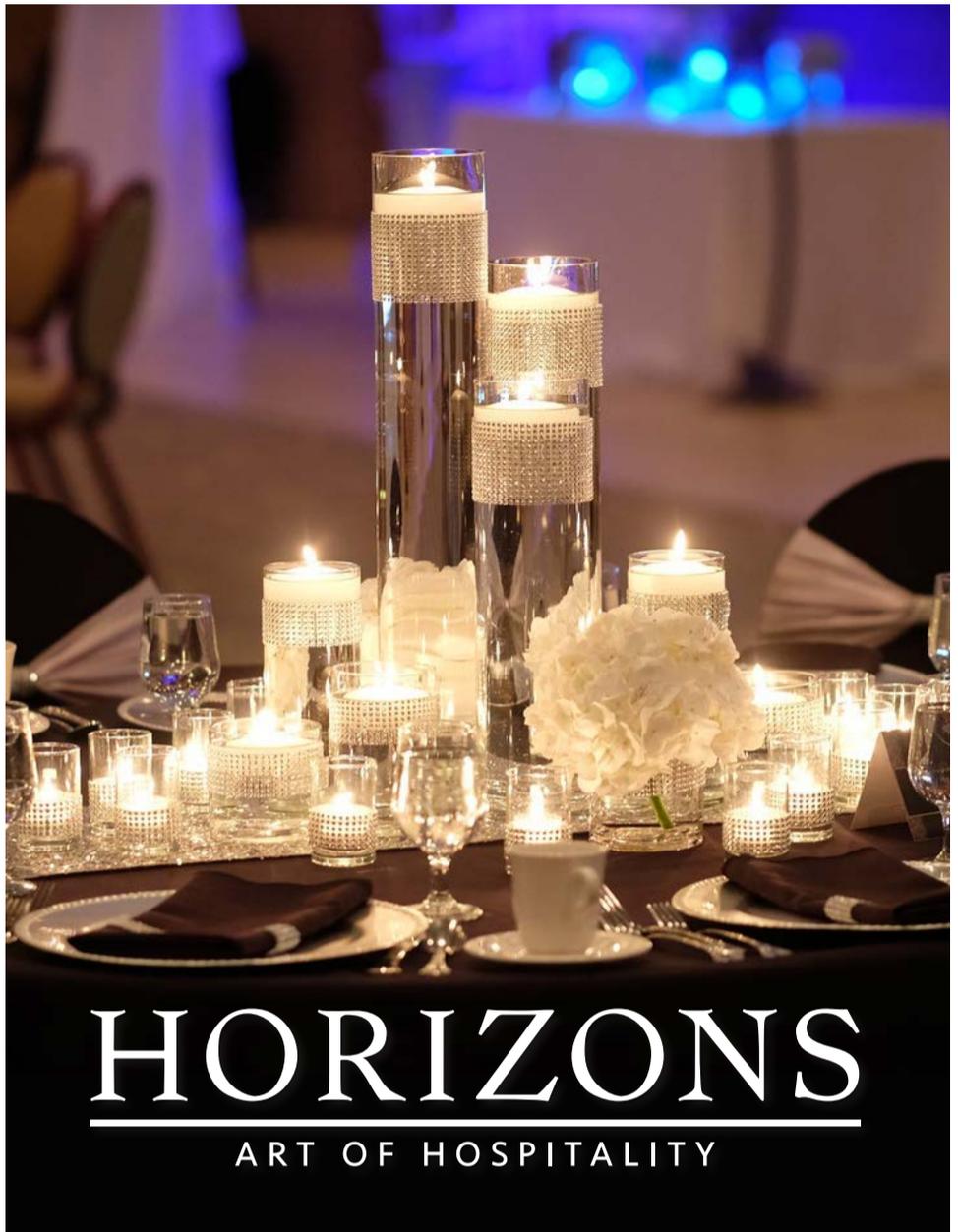
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# AS I LOOK ALL AROUND ME

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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989-752-7226  
Fax: 989-752-2777  
www.cancouncil.org

## The New Ezekiel Project

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

## Great Lakes PACE

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

## Great Lakes Bay Health Centers

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

## Houghton-Jones Task Force

1708 Johnson Street  
Saginaw, MI  
989-752-1660

## Samaritas Community Center

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

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

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

## Restoration Community Outreach

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

## Saginaw County Business & Education Partnership

1213 South Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48601  
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## Saginaw County Community Action Agency, Inc. (CAC)

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## Saginaw Promise

1 Tuscola St., Suite 100B  
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www.saginawpromise.org

## The Michigan Banner Outreach Ministries

301 E Genesee Ave, Suite 201  
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989-992-2600

## The Saginaw Community Foundation

1 Tuscola, Suite 100  
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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**

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

**Grace Chapel Church**

Pastor James Nelson  
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**Greater Renaissance**

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

**Greater Williams Temple**

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Saginaw, MI 48601  
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**Jacob's Ladder**

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

**Life in Christ Ministries**

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

**Messiah Missionary Baptist Church**

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

## Michigan Banner Aug. 4 Election Guide

By Mike Thompson



*courtesy photo*

Yes, there is an election prior to Trump vs. Biden in November. It's the political primary on Aug. 4.

The contested decisions are among Democratic candidates, and so you will have to declare "Democrat" at your poll site to vote in them. They include the State House 95th and 94th Districts, the Saginaw County sheriff and the Saginaw County clerk. Please do not allow this to bother you. These are not general elections here in August, they are for the Dems and Repubs to elect nominees. This is why they ask.

However, you would not have to declare Democrat (or Republican) to vote on a pair of nonpartisan countywide tax proposals. One is for sheriff's road patrols, and the other is for the Castle Museum.

At The Banner, we have followed simple rules for our forums. There are no leading questions. Candidates are free to say whatever they choose, within word limits, of course. Therefore, there can be no allegations of local media bias.

If you wish for more info on a candidate, or

a bio, simply type their name into Google search.

If you wish for an absentee ballot, you still may have time. Contact your local clerk.

Following, The Michigan Banner proudly presents our Aug. 4 election preview package to support our readers in making informed decisions. Please share with family and friends. And please VOTE!!!

# Saginaw County Clerk elections

By Mike Thompson

To serve as a local county clerk usually is not a high-profile office, but Saginaw County is an exception this year as incumbent Mike Hanley is challenged by Vanessa Guerra in the Aug. 4 Democratic primary. The nominee will face no Republican opponent in November.

## Vanessa Guerra



I believe the county clerk's office should focus on four main areas, those being: making the clerk's office more convenient for the people, making local government

more transparent, enhancing the role of civic engagement in our community and engaging young people to become active voters. If elected I would address these areas in a number of ways, but I will summarize a few of those changes here:

- I will provide satellite office hours so that county residents can utilize county clerk services at their local clerk's office. Residents should not have to visit two government buildings to accomplish one task. By bringing services closer to home, residents will be able to conduct county business at their own convenience.
- I will work closely with the county commission to provide expanded office hours in the evening as well as provide services at least one Saturday a month. Saginaw's working men and women deserve a county clerk who understands their work schedules and their need to utilize county clerk services outside of the typical 8-5 work week.
- I will ensure that county and local campaign finance reports are posted on the county clerk website. As a state representative, Michigan residents can access all of my campaign finance reports with the click of a button. I believe our county and local officials should be held

to that same standard.

- I will become a nationally Certified Elections Registration Administrator (CERA) within my first term in office. Nothing is more important than the security and administration of our electoral process; Saginaw County deserves a leader dedicated to learning and implementing the most up-to-date election security information available.
- I will host an "Election Training Academy" for residents throughout Saginaw County so that they can be prepared to either work as an election worker or simply learn more about how elections are conducted in our county. This will not only increase civic education in our county but also create a database of Saginaw County residents willing to serve as election day workers. Our election day workers should be as diverse as our county.
- I will personally offer to host mock elections at every Saginaw County High School so that students can begin to develop an understanding and desire to vote even before they're able to. The sooner we engage students, the more likely they are to treat voting as part of their civic duty.

## Mike Hanley



The County Clerk is an executive, responsible for management, leadership and communication. I have experience as a former Michigan House Democratic Leader, and

as the President of UAW Local 699 from 2006/2009. I've been County Clerk since 2017, presiding over nine elections in that time. I'm a State of Michigan Certified Elections Administrator and provide training for over 400 poll workers in Saginaw County.

The top priority of my office is "to exceed customer expectations", whether the customer is 1) the general public, 2) the city and township clerks – our partners in elections, 3) the attorneys who depend on our circuit court records office, or 4) the Judges we serve.

I'm very proud of the work ethic of each and every member of my staff, and the culture we've built together. I've surveyed staff on their feeling about our culture. The strong majority sentiment is that they are there for each other and that management is trusted and truly care for the well being of all. I've surveyed the Cities and Townships Clerks too. Of the 15 who responded 14 gave us a 10 and one gave us a 9, proving there's always room for improvement. FYI, that clerk endorses me for re-election!

I believe we're all put on this Earth to HELP. A couple of years ago, when I was the Chair of the County Board, I got a call from a person who said "I can't find a Doctor". I didn't say it wasn't my job to find them a Doctor. I found them a Doctor.

In addition to being County Clerk, I'm still passionate about community/economic development. I'm Chair of the Saginaw County Economic Development Commission, a member of the City of Saginaw Economic Development Commission, Vice Chair of the Downtown Development Authority and the founding facilitator of the Riverfront Saginaw group. My cell is 798-3903. I'm here for YOU.

I'm endorsed for re-election by the Tri-County Building Trades Council, the Plumbers Local 85, Laborers Local 1098, the Carpenters, UAW Region 1-D CAP, the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce, and dozens of elected officials from my fellow county wide officers to the Mayor and majority of the Saginaw City Council, two former Mayors, six Township Supervisors, and 25 City and Township Clerks by who've gone on record by name. They're listed on my Re-elect Mike Hanley Saginaw County Clerk Facebook page.

I would truly appreciate your support.

# State House 94th District elections

By Mike Thompson

This district includes most of Saginaw County's southern outer communities, in a U-shape underneath the city-based 95th. There are two Democratic primary candidates on Aug. 4 seeking the nomination to challenge Republican incumbent Rodney Wakeman in November.

## Demond Tibbs



I am an attorney and Saginaw Township resident. I currently serve as the Deputy Assistant Director for Saginaw County's newly formed Office of Counsel for Indigent

Defendants (OCID). I am also an Adjunct Professor at SVSU. Prior to joining the OCID, I spent ten years as an Assistant Prosecutor for Saginaw County.

I have a Bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University and have a Juris Doctorate from Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

I served for 4 years on Saginaw's City Council. I was appointed in 2014 and then elected to the seat in 2016.

As a former member of Saginaw's City Council, I know how important it is for our legislators to stay connected in order to fully understand the needs of the community. On Council I worked as part of a team with colleagues from varying political backgrounds to craft ordinances in direct response to issues brought forward by concerned citizens.

My time as a former Saginaw County Prosecutor and as the current Deputy Assistant Director for the OCID gives me valuable insight into the needs of our residents. This unique perspective will translate into thoughtful legislation and real solutions to

the pressing issues we are facing, such as Pandemic recovery that prioritizes health, safety and economic security for all citizens, expanded access to affordable healthcare, smart criminal justice reform, fully funded public education and investment in our aging infrastructure.

There is no denying that we are at a critical moment in history and that steady, experienced leadership is needed in Lansing now more than ever. The residents of the 94th District deserve leadership with Integrity, Experience and Vision.

## Kevin Seamon



I am Sr. Commander Commando Legionnaire Kevin Christopher Seamon of the United States Military in Saginaw Michigan.

I am also a Federal

Agent Code Name White Knight 196.

I tested above a Mastermind Genius on my Government Testing.

I am on a World Scale.

I work on projects worth Mega Money.

I am a Job Creator.

I am Running for Office to push for Projects that I have designed to be done and boost Michigan's Economy.

I am working on a Michigan Gambling Bill to bring in \$230 Million Dollars Extra a Year in Lottery Money for the K-12 Program.

I am working on E15 in our Gasoline as we currently have E10.

I am working on 2 Hemp Paper Plants in

Northern Michigan.

I am working on bringing Fidelity into the City of Detroit as they build a brand new skyscraper and create 1,500 Brand New High Paying Financial Jobs.

I am working on making it Mandatory that all Companies with 20 workers or more have to offer a 401k to their employees. This will help get Fidelity in Detroit.

The Michigan Gambling Bill will Legalize RaCino's which will have Slot Machines, Table Games, Sports Betting, Live Horse Racing, and Simulcast Horse Racing.

I plan on Unionizing Amazon with the UAW for Better Pay.

I plan on Unionizing All the Indian Casino's in Michigan with the UAW for Better Pay.

I am running on Jobs / Education / Wages / Public Safety.

I have a Double Major in Banking / Financial Management. I went to College to be a Wall Street Stock Broker / Commodities Broker or work at the Federal Reserve Bank or the IMF in Europe.

I have created Millions of Jobs with My Projects. I have made a lot of people a lot of money off of My Projects. I have more Projects in the Works.

I designed the 6 year (72 month) loan. This boosted Auto Sales from 13 million to over 17 million.

I designed the 7 year (84 month) loan on New Vehicles Only. This should boost Auto Sales to between 20 and 21 Million.

I designed bring back Cash for Clunkers to Boost Auto Sales. 6 year program. 84 million vehicles on our Roads that are 12 years or older.

You can only get \$4,500 rebate on New Vehicle that are Made in the USA.

I am fighting for you. Will you fight for me?

# State House 95th District elections

By Mike Thompson

This district covers the city of Saginaw and some of the inner suburbs, and is dominated by Democrats. Prior to six-year term limits, the long-time representative was James E. O'Neill Jr. Reps since then have been Mike Hanley, Carl Williams, Andy Coulouris, Stacy Erwin Oakes and, most recently, Vanessa Guerra.

There are six Dem candidates in the Aug. primary, and five of them provided statements to The Michigan Banner. The Democratic nominee will face Republican Charlotte DeMant in November, and is history holds true, the district's next state rep will be determined in August.

## Brandell Adams



After college graduation, I sought counsel from friends and loved ones on which direction I should take. Each one of them advised me to uproot from the Saginaw area

and seek opportunity elsewhere – California, Texas, New York – anywhere but here would afford me great job prospects and a bright future. I immediately felt a sense of dread and disappointment; dread because no one seemed particularly optimistic about Saginaw's future and disappointment because none had the same instinctual feeling that I had. If opportunities were in other regions of the country, then why not here? Who would fight to create opportunities in THIS region? With so much culture, history and potential I knew that the greater Saginaw area needed a champion who believed in a brighter future right here at home and that is why I am running for state representative.

Allow me share some of my priorities with you:

- **Technology Available to Schools.** Providing the latest technology as well as basic supplies to schools in the 95th District will create a fulfilling educational experience. Having the proper tools and resources that many other schools are able to provide for their students will help our children be able to better use this

knowledge in the 21st-century economy. We want to give our children an advantage when they enroll and are accepted into specialized internships, vocational schools, and apprenticeships.

- **Local Business.** Small businesses are the growth engine of any economy and I will work to support and enhance the local business community and ensure that wealth generated here, stays here.
- **Skilled Trades.** Trades programs and apprenticeships offer a pathway into the middle class that doesn't create a mountain of debt. I will secure the funding necessary to expand these programs and create opportunities for our young people.
- **Future Community Projects.** By modernizing our infrastructure we revitalize our economy while maintaining local businesses and attracting new partnerships. Communities with continued infrastructure improvements provide a home for many successful businesses and neighborhoods.

These are only a few of my priorities but I believe them to be absolutely crucial to creating a prosperous future for this district. I am just the man for this moment – a man determined to see our hopes and dreams realized right in our own backyard. Help me by lending me your vote, and thank you in advance!

## Clint Bryant



My motivation to run for state representative is in response to the effects of harmful legislation under a Republican led state legislature that has failed to put people first.

As a Saginaw City Council member, I fought against devastating cuts to state aid and the severe lack of funding coming from Lansing. As a union negotiator and substitute teacher, I have witnessed our students fall through the cracks because of reduced resources. I am the eldest son of a single mother who worked two to three jobs at a time to make ends meet.

Although we didn't have much, my mother instilled within me a commitment to service.

I understand that my story is like many of the proud members of our district. I'm running so that our stories will be translated into action. I'm fighting to eliminate inequities in our district and throughout Michigan. We cannot wait, the time for action is now.

I'm a public servant that lost his job as a result of the Snyder Administration's new criteria for school funding. When schools don't perform well according to those rules, teachers suffer first. They're the first on the chopping block. Once elected, one of my priorities will be creating some commonsense policy to benefit educators in Michigan while ensuring our kids' futures are brighter.

All Michiganders must have equitable opportunities for entrepreneurship. I plan to sponsor legislation that will add protections for at-risk minority owned businesses as well as initiating a state sponsored grant program, which includes \$50,000 apiece for 1,000 minority and small businesses in Michigan. This grant program would account for less than one percent of the Governor's requested allocation to the state budget for Inclusion and Opportunity each year.

We must ensure strong policy in Michigan that will protect our community from these injustices and create safer community relations between our citizens and law enforcement.

**The Milton Hall Plan: Ensuring Proper Policing and Criminal Justice Reform:**

End of militarized police resources, Statewide de-escalation to be a requirement for un-armed threats, redistribution of conduct fines against police forces, establishment of a Citizen's Advisory Council for each level of police force in the state, creation of an open records system for police misconduct.

We additionally call for an end to: Capital Punishment, Cash Bail, Zero-Tolerance School Disciplinary Policies Student Arrests on High School and College Campuses.

**Continues on pg 44, 95th District Elections**

## Continued from pg 43, 95th District elections

Please visit [ClintBryant.com](http://ClintBryant.com) for a full view of my policy agenda.

### Carly Hammond



I am a 24-year-old progressive who has an extensive community organizing and environmental justice background in Saginaw and Genesee counties. She worked with

Michigan United in Flint to organize protests, host community meetings, and conduct press conferences around the Flint Water Crisis.

In Saginaw, I've worked extensively around youth organizing and developing progressive policy. I led a team in 2018 to register over 1,200 students to vote. At the onset of the Covid crisis, I developed policies alongside the late State Rep. Isaac Robinson to protect vulnerable communities including incarcerated and undocumented persons. Most recently, I co-organized a peaceful protest and march against police brutality that drew over 2,000 participants in Saginaw on June 2nd; which also released policy points to encourage better police procedures and accountability practices.

Michigan's system doesn't work for the people of Saginaw. Big corporations and special interests have had their way in Lansing for far too long, leaving vulnerable communities left behind and cut out from the political process. Our communities, from Detroit to Saginaw to Flint and beyond, have lived through and experienced racial, environmental, and social injustice for generations; we're here to end the status quo of exploitation and put people over profit. I will work with other representatives and organizations to make that happen. The age of Trump has made it abundantly clear that we need strong state leaders and policies to protect Michigan's people.

My four main policy points for Saginaw include

#### Neighborhoods First.

A promise to prioritize the residents in the community. Investing in our infrastructure, roads, and schools FIRST will improve

residents' lives and businesses' sustainability.

#### Dignified Wages.

I support raising the minimum wage to a living wage- at least \$15 an hour- while expanding public assistance so workers aren't punished for their increased wages.

#### Medicare-for-All.

Healthcare is a human right, and I'll support efforts in Michigan to support a Single-Payer system

#### Green New Michigan.

I support Michigan becoming a center for innovation in green technology and practices. The creation of thousands of well-paying careers could start right here, helping to combat climate change.

### James Graham



Experience is the key to the 95th District Democratic Primary. I have 12 terms on the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners. I have served on all standing committees and subcommittees,

chairing the appropriations committee and courts and public safety. Presently I am serving on Saginaw County Health and Human Services Committee. I was appointed in 2013.

I have been both accessible and accountable with a 96 percent attendance record.

I have a bachelor's degree in political science and 18 credit hours of credit hours of graduate studies in criminal justice and political science.

I am thankful to have the opportunity to run for the 95th District primary.S

### Amos O'Neal



The issues I feel need the most attention from the State are listed below:

- **Economic Development**

**& Business Expansion:** Economic Development and expansion impacts all of us in Saginaw County because new businesses will necessitate new investment in infrastructure -- water treatment, roads and bridges, public education, colleges and universities, police and fire protection.

- **Criminal Justice Reform:** Criminal Justice reform should take the form not only of crime prevention, but also transition back to civilian life once debt is paid.
- **Public School Funding:** The education of our next generation of leaders is key to the future of our community.
- **Infrastructure:** Both employers and employees depend on a strong infrastructure in the communities where they live, work and go to school.
- **Vocational Training:** Michigan needs skilled trades people more than ever. With the shrinking population of Baby Boomer workers, our skilled trades are not meeting demand for plumbers, electricians, welders, and other skilled laborers. Not everyone will attend college to have a career for life.
- **Health Care:** The Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act in Michigan has ensured that over 600,000 more families have access to health care.
- **Right To Organize:** The right for employees to band together to negotiate the best rate for their labor is as Michigan as the Great Lakes.
- **Environmental Reform:** Protecting the environment is one more spoke on the wheel of economic development and strong infrastructure.
- **Seniors.** Convalescent homes throughout the 95th District.

# Saginaw County Sheriff elections

By Mike Thompson

Incumbent William Federspiel faces a Democratic primary challenge from Kevin Stevens. The nominee will face a Republican challenger, Rick Riebschleger, in November.

## William Federspiel



*(Note to Readers: Sheriff Federspiel is the only Aug. 4 candidate who did submit a statement to The Banner's candidate survey, in spite of a half-dozen email requests and then a telephone talk in which he had agreed to do so. At The Banner, we wish to make clear that equal opportunity was provided to all candidates.)*

## Kevin Stevens



I am a lifelong resident of Saginaw County and have had a passion for public service and law enforcement dating back prior to joining the United States Army as a Military

Police Officer. I began my career with the Saginaw County Sheriff's office in 1991, and held many positions throughout my career – beginning as a Deputy and retiring as a Lieutenant, overseeing law enforcement personnel and budgetary operations. My background of hard work and fiscal responsibility is the foundation of my commitment to improve public safety and spend public money sensibly.

My Campaign Top Priorities:

-- **School safety.** Create a new school liaison division, which will provide services to Saginaw County school districts offered by trained, certified, retired police officers to assist with school security and drug education.

-- **Internet safety.** Training to the elderly community to promote Internet safety and detection of fraud activity. Services will be offered at Commission on Aging buildings, and retirement communities across Saginaw County.

-- **Expand Internet Reporting.** I will expand the use of the Internet to provide the ability for Saginaw County residents to self-report crimes to the Sheriff's office, including the ability to upload relevant photos and information that would assist in the creation of a police report, or in the further investigation of possible related crimes.

-- **Balanced Budget.** It is critical that the Saginaw County Sheriff's office operate responsibly within the available budget. Balancing the means of the department, while providing quality services to residents is of the utmost importance. I would refrain from requesting tax increases to fund unnecessary expenditures and promote aggressive contract negotiation for goods and services purchased by the Sheriff's Department.

Read more about my Undersheriff running mate Charles Coleman II and our campaign at <https://www.facebook.com/KevinStevensforSheriff/> or on our website <https://www.electkevinstevens.com>

# Governor Whitmer issues mask requirement

On Friday, July 10, Governor Whitmer issued EO 2020-147, which requires any individual who leaves their home or place of residence to wear a face covering over their nose and mouth when in any indoor public space, on public transportation or in a hired car service, and when outdoors and unable to consistently maintain a distance of 6 feet or more from individuals not in the same household. This mandate is effective immediately and a \$500 fine may be issued for non-compliance.\* (see below for exceptions)

The EO also mandates that no business that is open to the public may provide service to a customer or allow a customer to enter its premises, unless the customer is wearing a face covering as required by this order. This is effective at 12:01am on Monday, July 13th.

\* The requirement to wear a face covering does not apply to individuals who:

- a. Are younger than five years old, though children two years old and older are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering, pursuant to guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC");
- b. Cannot medically tolerate a face covering;
- c. Are eating or drinking while seated at a food service establishment;
- d. Are exercising when wearing a face covering would interfere in the activity;
- e. Are receiving a service for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service;
- f. Are entering a business or are receiving a service and are asked to temporarily remove a face covering for identification purposes;
- g. Are communicating with someone who is hearing impaired or otherwise disabled and where the ability to see the mouth is essential to communication;
- h. Are actively engaged in a public safety role, including but not limited to law enforcement, firefighters, or emergency medical personnel;
- i. Are officiating at a religious service; or
- j. Are giving a speech for broadcast or an audience.

# Road patrol tax: A choice, but not a choice

By Mike Thompson



*courtesy photo*

In one way, Saginaw County voters will have a chance to decide the future of the Sheriff's Department's rural outcounty road patrol millage. This is because a combined 1.75-mill renewal and increase is on the Aug. 4 election ballot.

But in another way, voters will not have a complete voice. This is because the renewal of 1.3394 mills is combined with the increase of 0.4106 mill. A voter who may wish to back the renewal, but not the increase, has no option to do so. It's all-in-one. Either support both the renewal and the increase, a hike that amounts to 24 percent, or throw the entire deal out into the wash.

Sheriff William Federspiel in April told the County Board of Commissioners that he recommended a combined ballot proposal because higher inflationary costs require increased funds to maintain the same level of road patrols. He pointed, for example, to a need for new patrol cars after 100,000 miles of service, and miles pile up rapidly in the spacious rural townships such as Albee and Marion Springs.

The sheriff is independently elected but the county board has control over the department's funding. Board members unanimously approved Federspiel's recommendation to place the combined

millage proposal on the August ballot.

Board Chairman Michael Webster offers an explanation to The Banner.

He says, first of all, that he encourages voters to support the overall plan because law enforcement is important not only to residents' quality of life, to "reducing crime and violence" and combating the image of "Saginasty," but also in marketing the county for jobs-generating economic development.

He adds that split tax millage proposals, one for a renewal and another for an increase, sometimes will confuse voters "with a bit of complexity there."

Indeed, other tax entities have taken a similar combined approach. Most recently, STARS, Saginaw Transit Authority Regional Services, added a small increase (not as large as the road patrols) to its 3-mill renewal last year and still gained widespread voter affirmation.

In conclusion, Webster notes that the plan is for six years and that if voters give approval, county board members consistently will monitor expenditures.

"We don't (year by year) have to collect the entire millage," the chairman says. "We will just be allocating what we need. This is true

of all of our millages."

Those other smaller millages are devoted to such needs as parks and recreation, the Commission on Aging, TheDow Event Center, and mosquito control.

Webster acknowledges that Saginaw city and inner-suburban voters may question a road patrol millage to benefit rural outlying townships that either are unable to support their own police, or are unwilling to pay the price. He says outcounty feedback that he receives is that most of the county budget seems to support the inner county, and that the road patrol millage provides a fairness balance.

At the same time, some inner communities pay for public safety. Saginaw's annual city levy for police and fire, for example, is 7.5 mills. And when Saginaw still has faces a personnel shortage, state police have mostly filled in, not county road patrols.

Federspiel told the county board in April that a portion of the combined millage renewal and increase on Aug. 4 would help pay for staffing at the new \$37 million county jail.

Webster, in the absence of an explanation from Federspiel, says staffing reductions indeed are paying for jail construction itself, but jail staffing, even if reduced, still requires county funding.

For the owner of a home with a \$30,000 sales value (\$15,000 taxable SEV) the 1.75-mill proposal would cost about \$26 per year. The breakdown would be \$21 for the renewal and \$5 for the increase.

For the owner of a home with a \$100,000 sales value (\$50,000 taxable SEV) the annual levy would be \$88, or \$66 for the renewal and \$22 for the increase.

To calculate your own cost, for every \$2,000 of your sales value or \$1,000 of your tax value, figure \$1.75 per year and multiply.

The current road patrol tax would expire in 2021. Therefore, if defeated in August, the county board still could seek taxes in a 2021 election in order to save the road patrols.

# Ballot plan would keep Castle Museum

By Mike Thompson



*courtesy photo*

For the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History, leaders and supporters will not take their basic, small property tax for granted.

They are telling their story in preparation for a six-year renewal proposal on the August 4 election ballot, after a surprising defeat back in 2018.

The amount, 0.1997 mill, is a tiny fraction of other property levies on our annual tax bills. It amounts to \$1 for each \$10,000 of a property's sales value -- for example, \$3 for the owner of a \$30,000 home, or \$10 for the owner of a \$100,000 home. The sales value is double the taxable value that we see on our assessment statements.

Jonathan T. Webb, president and CEO, says the main points for the Aug. 4 vote are:

-- This simply is a renewal that does not include a tax increase, unlike the 2018 proposal.

-- This merely is for six years, instead of 10, which will provide the public with increased say-so.

-- Funds also would continue to support community history museums in Bridgeport, Chesaning, Frankenmuth and St. Charles. This fact was overlooked in the 2018 ballot

language, but not this time.

-- For that matter, the home-based museum in downtown Saginaw takes travelling exhibits to festivals and special events all across Saginaw County.

-- Displays focus not only on geography and older buildings, but also on the personal histories of Saginaw's richly diverse ethnic groups.

For example, Webb points to the Goodridge Brothers, who were among Saginaw's first successful entrepreneurs as African American photographers beginning in 1863 with a downtown portrait studio, but they also took time to focus on the community.

"They were single-handedly most responsible for the photographic history of Saginaw from that era that our museum displays today," Webb explains, noting that the museum contains and maintains more than 150,000 Saginaw County artifacts.

Plans for upcoming temporary exhibitions will feature a Smithsonian traveling exhibit, "Pleibol! (Play Ball!) In the Barrios and the Big Leagues," on the history of Latino players in major league baseball and baseball's impact on Latino culture.

"We will be the first museum in the world to host this exhibition," Webb says.

Speaking of sports, an Aug. 4 vote in favor of the Historical Society also would be a vote to support the Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame, which maintains a section within the museum's confines. Teams and athletes are honored, from Saginaw High to Swan Valley, from Freeland to Frankenmuth, from Buena Vista to Bridgeport, all across the spectrum.

The museum's support has helped the venture to thrive, says Jack B. Tany, the Sports Hall's founding president.

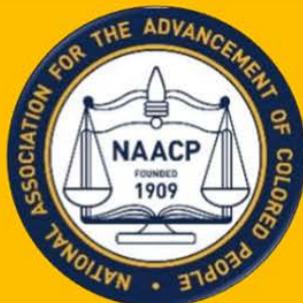
"People who grew up in Saginaw and moved away always come back to visit," he says. "I get contacted quite a bit about the Hall of Fame wing inside the Castle Museum, and people actually thank our organization for preserving the history of Saginaw County sports."

For that matter, he notes, visitors are enthralled by the building itself, as much as with the displays.

"The Castle Museum is a hidden gem here in Saginaw. When the Castle was a post office, it was one of my favorite places," says Tany, a product of the nearby former St. Mary's Cathedral High School. "As a young boy, our family had a post office box and I would go with my mother to retrieve our mail. I would marvel at the floors and high ceilings. It's now 50 years later and I still marvel at the building and the artifacts."

Webb says the museum has funding through the end of 2020, but a failure to renew this millage would result in closure. Ongoing millage support would preserve the museum, located on the same block with Hoyt Library, and avoid the decay that has eroded other local historic structures, such as the Potter Street Railroad Depot a half-mile to the north.

"We take care of this building," he says. "Prices have gone up, but not total property values countywide, but we still are asking only for a renewal. We will continue to do more with less."



# JOIN US

## NAACP SAGINAW BRANCH

### CANDIDATE FORUM

THURSDAY, July 16, 2020, 6:00 P.M.

PRESENTING

## CANDIDATES FOR SAGINAW COUNTY CLERK



**Vanessa Guerra**



**Michael J. Hanley**

Co-Moderated By:

**Terry Pruitt, President NAACP Saginaw Branch**  
**Carl Williams, Political Action Chairperson**

**Forum will be live streamed on Saginaw Branch NAACP Facebook Page**

*Please direct your questions for the Candidate to [saginawnaacp@gmail.com](mailto:saginawnaacp@gmail.com)*



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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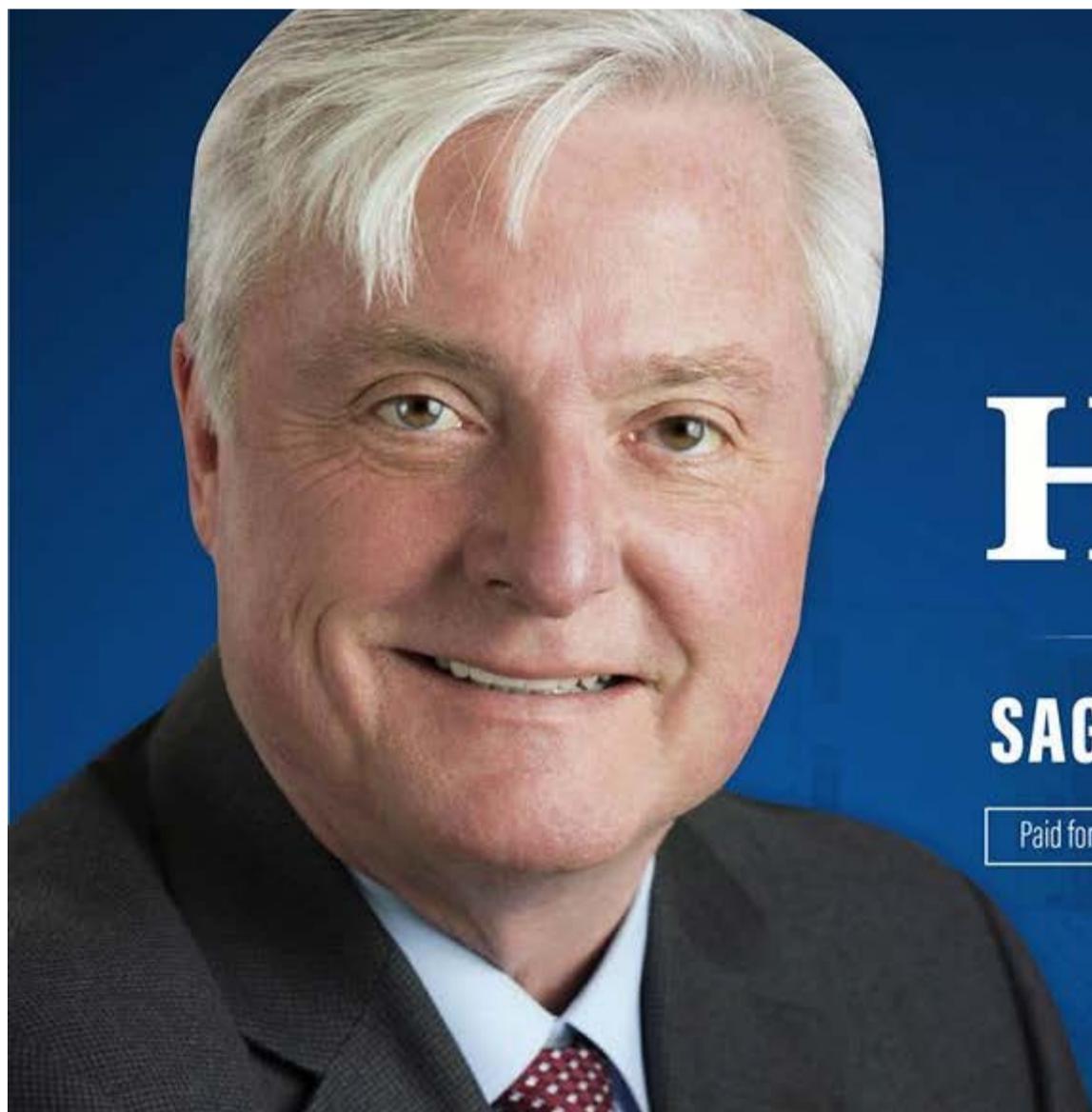
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Mike  
**Hanley**  
*for*  
**SAGINAW COUNTY CLERK**

Paid for by Mike Hanley for County Clerk, 413 Alice, Saginaw, MI 48602

## COMMERCIAL SERVICES

- INTERIOR DESIGN
- OFFICE FURNITURE
- COMMERCIAL FURNITURE
- SPACE PLANNING
- ERGONOMICS
- SOUND MASKING
- WINDOW TREATMENTS
- INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE



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## RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

- INTERIOR DESIGN
- KITCHEN & BATHROOM DESIGN
- FURNITURE
- LIGHTING
- WINDOW TREATMENTS
- INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE

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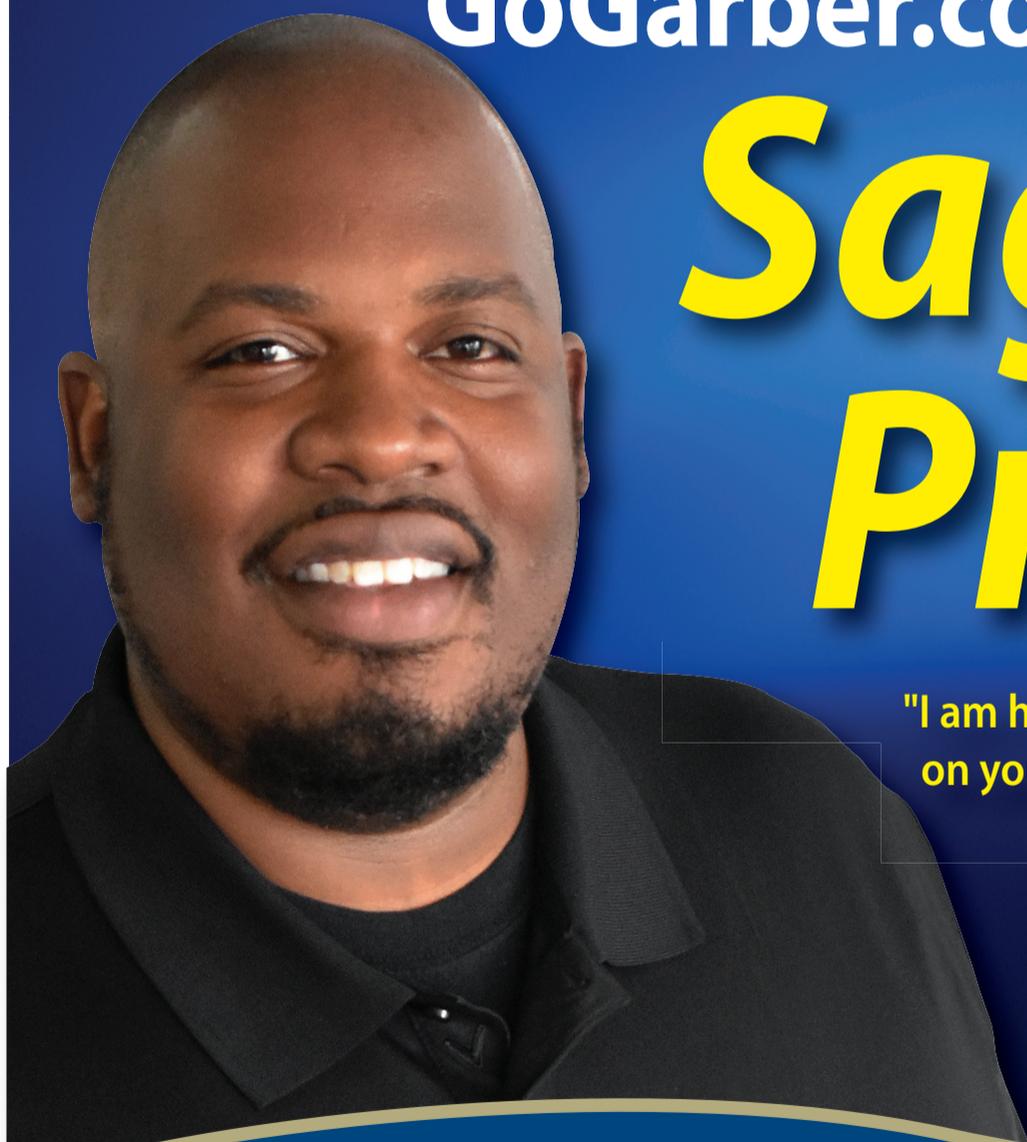
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