

THE MICHIGAN BANNER

Celebrating 18 years of Positive News

Stronger Together, in these Challenging Times



Michigan Banner Candidate Surveys

Community, pg 41

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

SEPT 15TH - OCT 15TH

Leading in Diversity, Empowering Communities and Changing Lives www.themichiganbanner.com



LLEAD to host 2020 Virtual statewide conference



LB, pg 2

Students, teachers make covid adjustments



Health, pg 14



New coalition localizes national concerns

By Mike Thompson



Brandell Adams, SCUEJ Chair

enforcement. This takes place as part of a national movement for reform. Think of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, and many others whose lives have been lost. Or not so long ago, Saginaw's own Milton Hall.

Members have asked young Brandell Adams to serve as the startup chairman. You may recognize his name as a candidate for the open 95th District State House seat, for which Amos O'Neal won the nomination back in August. Brandell is a 2008 Bridgeport High School grad who also attended Bridgeport Middle and Central Middle, as well as

Saginaw Citizens United for Equity and Justice is a newly formed coalition of involved leaders and citizens who will pursue exactly those, equity and social justice.

Brucker Elementary and Loomis Elementary. He recently achieved a bachelor's degree from Saginaw Valley State University and now is pursuing a law degree. His mother, Prescilla "Peaches" Adams, is a retired local nurse.

A top first priority for Citizens United is to help to fine-tune a proposed City of Saginaw ordinance to create a Citizens-Police Advisory Commission, which would monitor local law

Continues on pg 3, New coalition

A message from the Publisher: Black History homeschool transition



courtesy photo

The transition to homeschool, hybrid-learning and virtual school has been illuminating for families. Caregivers and children are celebrating knowledge in unprecedented situations, sometimes learning just as much about one another as they are learning about math or history! For many caregivers, this is one of the first times they have been able to observe the entire curriculum that their children are learning. This means we can better appreciate the hard work that teachers put in to prepare our children for work, college and leadership in our community. However, some caregivers may also come to recognize that important lessons about culture, civil rights and Black history seem to be missing from the assignment their children are completing each day.

Finding time to honor the thought leaders and freedom fighters who sacrificed to advance Black education, political representation and economic equality is important, particularly for Black children. Positive racial identity is the sense that a person comes from a group that makes constructive contributions to society. When a Black child reflects on their history or role models, seeing other Black people in positions of respect and honor helps them to imagine a respectful, honorable future for themselves and their families. Positive racial identity is associated with higher self-esteem and higher academic achievement for Black children. If you don't see resources that promote positive racial identity in your child's curriculum, here are some tips for ensuring their education includes stories about the accomplishments, struggles and beauty that make Black history

such a powerful part of world history.

Choose a starting place. Black history is really many overlapping stories about Africans and their descendants around the world. A Black history lecture can cover just about anything! Choosing a theme or topic that interests you and your family is a great way to build knowledge about the past. Biographies of individuals are a popular starting place. If your child is interested in poetry, consider beginning with biographies of Black poets. A future physician might be interested in biographies about Black pioneers in medicine. You can also choose a time period that interests you – a child who loves hip hop might be interested in Black culture in the 1970s, for example. There are many landmark legal cases that have shaped Black history, a child who wants to be a lawyer could research documents on emancipation, desegregation or anti-discrimination law. Involve a friend who loves Black history, ask a librarian or use an Internet search engine to begin collecting ideas possible starting places for a monthly theme.

Use what you already have. With a theme or topic in mind, now you can begin to find the learning materials that will support a monthlong journey into Black history. Over the past few years, stories that center the Black experience have become more accessible. You may have books to read or re-read in your personal collection, or available through the local library. When you find a book you love, visit the publishers' website to find similar books (and sometimes enrichment opportunities). Most television channels and subscription streaming services provide options related to Black history education, and content providers across the Internet offer creative perspectives on the Black experience. While there is no definitive list of the absolute best books, documentaries, activities, movies or television shows, it is easier than ever before to pick learning goals for everyone in your family. To help sort through online resources, start with museum websites, college and university websites, public broadcasting websites, and those that end in .org, .edu and .gov.

Commit to connecting. Once you've chosen a theme or topic and gathered resources, commit to connecting with your child three or four times each month to share what you've learned or to learn together. If you chose Black poetry for example, you might read poems from the Harlem Renaissance, celebrate the birthday of a Black poet by writing a poem in their signature style, watch an online video of a contemporary spoken word artists, or spend an afternoon asking friends and family about their favorite Black poets. You can add other activities that encourage critical thinking and creative expression: drawing pictures, reading stories, learning or singing songs and experimenting with your own inventions. A Black history lesson can be as simple as a Black family talking about family pictures, talking with a community elder about their experiences, or visiting a Black owned business.

There is no wrong way to start encouraging your child's positive racial identity. Take time to celebrate the truths that all Black history affirms: every Black person is capable, every Black person is beautiful, and every Black life matters. While resources can be expensive and learning anything new can be time consuming, remember that you are Black history, too! Beginning with your own story can be just as impactful as finding a new story to share. Black people face many challenges as we work against legacies of oppression and exclusion. Taking moments to reflect on our past sets a stronger foundation for an informed and hopeful future.



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

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

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Cover Story, New coalition

Brandell Adams describes himself as someone who aims "to work for solutions, rather than just complaining" in the spirit of community unity. To keep current with the proposed law enforcement advisory panel and with other Citizens United activities, including upcoming meetings, check the coalition's Facebook page.

Youth also is represented in Citizens United through parent activists Hattie and Norman Norwood and through Michelle McCoy, now The Michigan Banner's editor-in-chief. Comparative old-timers include Terry Pruitt, our Saginaw NAACP president; Karen Lawrence-Webster, CPA also affiliated with the Saginaw branch; Evelyn McGovern from Women of Colors; the Rev. Charles Coleman from the Board of Education and from the Ezekiel Project; Arletta French, a retired social worker; and Vicki Hill, gospel lady from KISS-107. And also, of course, yours truly, the author of this writeup and others through the past summer, imploring a need for a civilian review board. Like Brandell says, don't just be complainers.

Vicki will serve as vice-chair, Evelyn as secretary and Michelle as treasurer, while Hattie will take the lead in drafting signs and forms to gather citizen complaints.

Local officials who have taken the lead in preparing the first draft of the ordinance include City Council members Jamie Forbes, former Ezekiel director, and Annie Boensch, along with City Manager Tim Morales. To view a copy, see pages 28-32 of the meeting agenda. <https://www.saginaw-mi.com/pdfs/cityCouncil/agendas/09-28-2020.pdf>

Membership in Citizens United is open to all. Meetings carry the option of participating in-person or online.

If you or someone you know desires an investigation of an encounter with a police officer, send a note to the FB site, Saginaw Citizens United for Equity and Justice or email saginawcitizensunited@gmail.com.

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MICHIGAN YOUTH BANNER

VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 18



YouthQuest to host self-care workshop for out-of-school time professionals

courtesy photo

Flint, MI / YouthQuest — With school back in session, the YouthQuest afterschool program is hosting a free virtual workshop for out-of-school time professionals in Flint and Genesee County on Sept. 30. The three-hour event will focus on the importance of self-care in the time of COVID-19.

“Today’s youth are dealing with an overwhelming amount of stress, and to be honest, so are most adults,” said Nefertari Jones, program director of YouthQuest at the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce. “As educators,

we must be able to understand and process our own emotions to effectively support our students. That’s why this workshop aims to help participants feel connected, valued and capable of taking on the challenges ahead.”

The training event, which will run from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., will help those in the out-of-school time field learn how to create working conditions that encourage self-care, develop supportive staff relationships and build equitable learning environments for students. The event is designed for professionals who

work for before-school, afterschool and summer learning and enrichment programs. Educators in the day school space can also benefit from the content.

The workshop will include two breakout sessions, including one that explores how people interpret and feel emotions; how they personally experience hot buttons and emotional activation; and how attendees can self-regulate their own emotions and thoughts. It will be led by Alandra

Continues on pg 6, YouthQuest

YB Cover Story, YouthQuest



courtesy photo

Chuney and Amanda Ruud of the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality, an organization that empowers education leaders to adapt, implement and scale quality improvement systems to advance child and youth development. Chuney is a senior program associate for the organization, and Ruud is a training product & design specialist.

In the second session, attendees will gain a deeper understanding of social and emotional learning and its importance during a year where many

have experienced heightened emotions of fear, sadness and grief. The session will be led by Matthew Emerzian and Jocelyn Guansing of Every Monday Matters (EMM), a California-based organization that is committed to helping people and organizations understand how much and why they matter. Among the nonprofit's offering is a no-cost K-12 curriculum that engages today's youth in topics and activities that build self- and social-responsibility, awareness and engagement. Emerzian is founder and CEO of EMM, and Guansing serves as

the organization's education director.

"We're proud to bring the expertise of such highly esteemed professionals to Flint & Genesee," Jones said. "We look forward to hearing and learning from them."

For more information about the Self-care Workshop for Out-of-School Time Professionals, or to register for the event, [click here](#). Details to join the meeting via Zoom will be sent to all registered attendees 24 hour in advance.

About YouthQuest

YouthQuest is a high-quality, research-based afterschool program offering educational and enrichment activities that engage young minds. The program is administered by the Genesee Area Focus Fund, a supporting organization of the Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce, with support from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and 21st Century Community Learning Centers. For more information, visit www.yquest.org.



THE MICHIGAN BANNER NEWS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH AT&T

A dramatic, low-angle photograph of an emergency scene at night. The scene is dominated by the intense, multi-colored flashing lights of emergency vehicles, including red, blue, and yellow. The lights create a sense of urgency and chaos. The background is dark, with some blurred structures and more lights in the distance. The overall atmosphere is one of a critical, high-stakes situation.

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THE LATINO BANNER



LIDER EN LA DIVERSIDAD

Vamos Adelante



**HOLA! USA
launches
the Latina
Powerhouse
Top 100 List**

LB Pg. 2

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news at**

themichiganbanner.com

Urgent focus on mental health and career health for Hispanic Heritage Month

Rancho Santo Margarita, CA — In the midst of a year like no other, Healthy Hispanic Living (www.healthyhispanicliving.com) launched its annual campaign to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month by acknowledging the unique challenges of a year filled with pandemic, lockdowns, social unrest and a general feeling of uncertainty and instability – especially among communities of color.

Covid-19 has disproportionately sickened Hispanic communities in the United States (CDC). Hispanic women have experienced a steeper decline in employment (-21%) in the Covid-19 downturn than other women or men (Pew Research). A whopping 65% of Latino households have faced at least one of these: job loss, hours/wages cut, or loss of their self-employment – and 43% of Latino adults report that they will have trouble making rent (Latino Decisions-SOMOS survey).

Healthy Hispanic Living (HHL) promotes health in all its forms – physical, mental, financial and societal – by changing the conversation from illness to wellness, and by addressing the issues from a cultural point of view. HHL partners with large employers to promote healthy living and to help Hispanics explore and pursue a wide range of careers.

"At Banfield, we are committed to fostering a sustained culture of health and wellbeing that celebrates the different backgrounds, stories and experiences of our more than 19,000


associates across the U.S.," said Tiffany King, director of equity, inclusion and diversity at Banfield Pet Hospital. "Banfield is a community of people characterized by diversity of thought, preferences and approach, and we're thrilled to partner with HHL to help amplify the unique voices of our associates."

"Given the global identity of the Cost Plus brand and our more than 120 international suppliers – we not only strive to be inclusive, but we believe diversity of thought is what allows us to provide our customers the best selections of home goods, foods and more," said Jack Schwefel, CEO, Cost Plus. "Inclusion is our growth strategy."

For more information, visit <http://www.healthyhispanicliving.com>.



LLEAD to host 2020 virtual statewide conference



Joaquin Castro
Chair, Congressional
Hispanic Caucus
Keynote Speaker

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 7, 4-6:30 PM EST
**LLEAD 2020 VIRTUAL
STATEWIDE CONFERENCE**

LATINO LEADERS
FOR THE
ENHANCEMENT OF
ADVOCACY AND
DEVELOPMENT

**THE LLEAD 2020 VIRTUAL
STATEWIDE CONFERENCE**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH
STARTING AT 4:00 P.M. EASTERN STANDARD TIME

THE AGENDA IS AS FOLLOWS:
JOIN US BY REGISTERING
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/LLEAD2020-VC](https://tinyurl.com/LLEAD2020-VC)

4:00 P.M. WELCOME BY ALBERTO FLORES, PRESIDENT - LLEAD MICHIGAN

4:10 P.M. LATINOS: GET OUT AND VOTE!

4:30 P.M. COVID-19: MICHIGAN LATINOS SURVIVING THE VIRUS

5:00 P.M. IMMIGRANT DETAINEES IN MICHIGAN AND DACA

5:30 P.M. LLEAD CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM
ASSISTING LATINO HATE CRIME VICTIMS

◆ JOIN US ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL: LLEAD MICHIGAN AT
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/LLEAD-YOUTUBE-CHANNEL](https://tinyurl.com/LLEAD-YOUTUBE-CHANNEL)
TO JOIN OUR KEYNOTE ADDRESS

6:00 P.M. KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
CONGRESSMAN JOAQUIN CASTRO, (D-TX)
CHAIR, CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS

courtesy photo

On Wednesday, October 7, LLEAD will host a virtual statewide conference with keynote speaker Joaquin Castro.

Joaquin Castro is an American Democratic politician who has served in the United States House of Representatives for Texas' 20th congressional district since 2013. The district includes just over half of his native San Antonio, Texas, as well as some of its nearby suburbs. From 2003 to 2013, Castro was a member of the Texas House of Representatives for District 125. While in the Texas state legislature, Castro served as vice-chair of the Higher Education Committee and was a member of the Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence Committee. He also previously served on other committees, such as County Affairs, Border & International Affairs, and Juvenile Justice & Family Issues.

Joaquin served as campaign chair for his identical twin brother, Julián Castro, during

his 2020 presidential campaign.

Castro ran for Texas's 125th House district in 2002. He defeated incumbent State Representative Arthur Reyna in the Democratic primary 64-36 percent. In the general election, he defeated Republican Nelson Balido, 60-40 percent. He was twenty-eight at the time of his election to the state House. In 2004, he won re-election to a second term unopposed. In 2006, he won re-election to a third term, defeating Republican Nelson Balido, 58%-38%. In 2008, he won re-election to a fourth term unopposed. In 2010, he won re-election to a fifth term, defeating Libertarian Jeffrey Blunt, 78%-22%.

In June 2011, Castro announced that he was running for a seat in the United States House of Representatives in the newly-drawn Texas's 35th congressional district. He was initially set to challenge fellow Democrat and nine-term incumbent Lloyd Doggett, whose home in

Austin had been drawn into the district, in the Democratic primary.

However, on November 28, after Charlie Gonzalez of the neighboring 20th District announced his retirement after seven terms, Castro announced his intent to run instead for the 20th District seat. He was unopposed in the Democratic primary, all but assuring him of being the next congressman from this heavily Democratic, Hispanic-majority district. At the 2012 Democratic National Convention, he introduced his brother Julián as keynote speaker. In November 2012, Castro defeated Republican David Rosa 64%-34% becoming only the fifth person to represent this district since its creation in 1935.

Castro was officially sworn into office on January 3, 2013 becoming a member of the 113th United States Congress. He was chosen as the president of the freshman class of Democrats in the 113th Congress.



HISPANIC/LATINO COMMISSION OF MICHIGAN

Hispanic Heritage Month TownHall

with

Governor Gretchen Whitmer
Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist
HLCOM Chair Monica Reyes
Commissioner Juan Marinez
Commissioner Juanita Bocanegra
Executive Director Felipe Lopez Sustaita

Friday, October 2, 2020
2 p.m.

Facebook Live @
www.facebook.com/hlcommission

HOLA! USA launches the Latina Powerhouse Top 100, a list of influential, empowering and inspiring Latinas that have made a lasting impact in their fields



New York, NY — HOLA! USA released the Latina Powerhouse Top 100, an annual initiative celebrating a group of powerful women with outstanding professional achievements and impactful stories. This list includes women from eight categories: entertainment, culture, sports, social media, business and tech, fashion, leaders, and beauty.

"This is the first time in Hispanic media that a digital outlet has gone full force and recognized 100 influential Latinas. Their talents and efforts have been essential to the Latinx community. Together, we take pride in their accomplishments and inspiration. We sincerely thank them for their continued contributions to our Latinx culture and community," said Nagidmy Marquez, Editorial Executive Director at HOLA! USA. "The final list of influential women was curated by HOLA! editors, writers, and staff, who are active members of the Latinx community. We are excited to share this initiative with the world."

The first Latina Powerhouse list will be released in both English and Spanish. From artists, entertainers, comedians, athletes and musicians, to businesswomen and techies, HOLA! USA will establish a solid foundation to inspire an intergenerational audience of Latinas.

In addition, Latina Powerhouse Top 100 is dedicated to Luchita Hurtado, who recently passed away at the age of 99. She went from painting in the shadows to being publicly

recognized by the TIME 100 as one of the most influential people in 2019. Marquez expressed, "For some, Luchita is a known and celebrated artist. Perhaps for others, this is the first time you have heard of her. I invite everybody to immerse themselves in Hurtado's art and life. In such a conflicted and complex world, Hurtado is everything we need: inspiration, resilience, success, happiness, and love. She left a lifelong legacy and it is our responsibility as members of the Latinx community to keep it current and relevant. She is the ultimate Latina Powerhouse!".

Official List Latina Powerhouse Top 100

Entertainment

Jennifer Lopez, Salma Hayek, Demi Lovato, Selena Gomez, Eva Longoria, Shakira, Sofia Vergara, Thalia, Ana de Armas, Eva Mendes, Lele Pons, Chiquinquirá Delgado, Rosalía, Clarissa Molina, Selena Quintanilla, Dascha Polanco, Danna Paola, Anitta, Gloria Estefan, Zoe Saldaña, Yalitza Aparicio, America Ferrera, Isabela Merced, Karol G, Julissa Calderon, Ivy Queen, Cardi B, Jenna Ortega, Dayanara Torres, Lupita Infante

Fashion

Lineisy Montero, Hiandra Martinez, Licett Morillo, Yaya DaCosta, Sofia Sanchez de Betak, Joan Smalls, Denisse Bidot, Giannina Azar, Karen Perez, Denise Mercedes

Beauty

Jessica Alba, Alejandra Espinoza, Rea Ann Silva, Carolina Contreras, Monica Veloz, Joanna Vargas, Priscilla Ono, Jesaeelys Ayala González, Jennifer Yepez, Kay-Lani Martinez

Leaders

Vanessa Bryant, Candace Valenzuela, Ana Marie Argilagos, Maria Hinojosa, Miriam Jiménez Román, Janel Martinez, Elena V. Rios, Adriana Aristizabal, Maria Teresa Kumar, Maria Celeste Arraras

Social Media Influencers

Paloma Mami, Dulce Candy, Gaby Castellanos, Joanna Hausmann, Massy Arias, Paola Antonini, Sascha Fitness, Yuya, Lilliana Vazquez, Daniela Alvarez

Athletes

Diana Taurasi, Laurie Hernandez, Marta Vieira da Silva, Angelica Delgado, Melissa Gonzalez, MJ Acosta, Leticia Bufoni, Rachel Garcia, Mónica González, Jessica Mendoza

Culture

Fernanda Melchor, Julia Alvarez, Natalia Sylvester, Silvia Moreno-Garcia, Rayma, Flor de Toloache, Daniela Soto-Innes, Carmen Maria Machado, Ella Fontanals-Cisneros, Pati Jinich

Business & Tech

Rocio Guerrero Colomo, Claudia Mirza, Mariana Atencio, Irma Olguin, Leila Cobo, Ana Corrales, Katia Beauchamp, Rosemary Mercedes Beepat, Nanette Cocero, Margarita Oliva Sainz de Aja

About HOLA! USA

HOLA! USA is part of the ¡HOLA! & HELLO! global media powerhouse founded in 1944, which publishes 26 international editions in 10 languages throughout 120 countries. The brand mission is to entertain through stories ranging from the latest celebrity and royal news to trends in fashion, lifestyle, culture, and beauty, to exclusive events and interviews that celebrate the greatest moments in life. HOLA! USA is the number one Hispanic entertainment site in the U.S. (non-network) and together with its sister brand HELLO! US, one of the top 30 lifestyle publishers in the U.S.

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



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FUNDRAISING GOOD TIMES

Donor, funder, sponsor, partner?

How do you give your money and what do you want in return?

Today's question for philanthropists is: are you a funder, donor, sponsor, or partner?

The question for nonprofits is: are you seeking gifts, grants, sponsors, or partners?

And for all of us: why does this matter?

Here's what we believe: language matters. And words reflect the meaning that lies behind our actions. There are different names that are used by people to describe their giving; and there are different names used by nonprofits to describe the people and organizations who give to them. When the words are used with different meanings behind them, then confusion can creep into a relationship leaving both parties wondering, "what's going on?"

For us, there are distinct differences in the terms listed above. We share our understandings/ meanings for each, and then discuss the implications of what can happen when a "giver" has a different understanding than the "receiver." There is no value judgement associated with the different terms – they simply represent different financial transactions between an individual or organization/business and a nonprofit.

A donor is a person who gives a gift with no strings attached. The nonprofit recipient can use the funds in any way they choose. Good manners dictate that a thank you be sent to the donor. Fundraising strategists recommend keeping donors informed of your work with the goal of encouraging future donations. When an organization does this type of giving, they can be referred to as a "grantor."

A funder is typically a foundation or granting

agency that provides money for a specific purpose as documented by a grant agreement or funding agreement that is signed by both the funder and the nonprofit. The funder may also give "unrestricted" money that can be used as the nonprofit believes is best. The funder typically wants a report showing that the nonprofit met specific agreed upon benchmarks.

A sponsor is an organization, business, or individual who provides money to a nonprofit in exchange for exposure to the nonprofit's audience. The sponsor typically expects to receive specific visibility that is tied to the amount of money given. This can include items ranging from listing on a website, to a business representative making remarks at a specific event targeted towards a specific audience.

A partner is engaged with a nonprofit on a project that extends beyond financial support. Partners may help define a strategic direction, anticipated outcomes, and who should be

included / excluded amongst other things. A partner has a shared interest in the outcome of the nonprofit's work and invests with more than money to help support the work.

Our suggestion is to make sure there is clarity about what is expected in the financial exchange. Be clear and that can help eliminate future confusion. You may like the sound of the word "partner," for instance, but most funders, donors, and sponsors are not partners. They may want to be – and you may want to partner with them – but it involves much more than money.



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

HEALTH

More than COVID in County health plan

By Mike Thompson

Some voters may view the Saginaw County Health Department's first-ever property tax proposal to be a "COVID-19 millage," but Health Officer Christina Harrington says an ongoing budget pinch would have caused agency leaders to pursue a request, regardless.

The viral pandemic, which by late September had led to 139 countywide deaths among 2,936 cases, merely "amplifies" issues that cause Saginaw to rank 77th among Michigan's 83 counties in overall public health, she says

County general funds have supported about 10 percent of the Health Department's \$10 million annual budget. The remainder comes from federal and state revenue sharing that have declined sharply since the turn of the millennium. A new tax would provide \$2.43 million the first year, a boost near 25 percent.

Property owners would pay 24 cents for each \$1,000 of a home's sales value (double the taxable value, or SEV, on your latest statement from the courthouse). For example, that's \$4.80 for a \$20,000 market value, or \$14.20 for a \$60,000 value, or \$24 for a \$100,000 value.

Health Department administrators say the added funds would help pay for:

-- Sustained operation of one or possibly two mobile units, returning services to out county areas and enhancing services countywide, beyond the main headquarters on North Michigan Avenue, a mile from the courthouse.

•-- A full-time epidemiologist to delve into Saginaw County's higher-than-average rates of cancer, asthma, heart disease, and infant mortality.

-- Instead of a single overworked nurse, a team of nurses for disease surveillance and investigation of more than 100 diseases



courtesy photo

including influenza, Hepatitis A, and now, COVID-19.

-- New equipment and increased testing capacity for the public health laboratory.

-- Enhanced public communications for reliable health information and education.

Examples of people who would benefit include restaurant diners, outdoors enthusiasts, households served by well, essential employees in work places, visitors to public buildings and residents who face natural disasters or emergencies.

School children would receive hearing and vision screenings, immunizations, and communicable disease prevention.

"The Health Department safeguards Saginaw from COVID-19 and all other diseases," Harrington says. "We work to make sure that our air, water, food, schools, businesses, stores, salons, restaurants, and neighborhoods are safe. While they are much more visible now during the pandemic, they are always behind the scenes protecting the community

Continues on pg 15, County health plan

Continued from pg 14, County health plan

from disease."

She adds: "Beyond the obvious impact of COVID-19 and other emerging infectious diseases, Saginaw is suffering from poor health outcomes. Obesity, inactivity, alcohol consumption, smoking and food inequities are contributing factors. So are higher than average rates of infant mortality, cancer, heart disease, and sexually transmitted infections than the rest of our state and nation. These aren't problems that hospitals or doctors fix. These are public health problems. They impact our community's quality of life. Solutions require adequate numbers of public health experts and better mobility to reach people countywide, and better technology and more robust data to investigate, analyze and understand how and why these problems are occurring."

An epidemiologist is defined as a "public health professional who investigates patterns and causes of diseases." The hiree would team with Dr. Delicia Pruitt, a family physician who serves part-time as the Health Department's medical director through a recently developed partnership with Central Michigan University Health. Evidence of CMU's growing presence is seen in the construction project on the north section of Covenant Medical Center's campus.

"Dr. Pruitt's clinical expertise," says Harrington, "has helped us provide reliable, trustworthy guidance to health care providers, hospitals, nursing homes, businesses, schools, restaurants, gyms, banquet centers, municipalities, congregate living centers, and more — not only during COVID but also for the recent flooding and the current West Nile virus/EEE situation. The health department's only 'epidemiology capacity' has been graduate school interns who worked on special projects."

A millage support group, Yes to Public Health, and the Saginaw County Health Department have established Facebook pages and a web site, saginawpublichealth.org. Placement of yard signs is slated for October.

Chris Harrington and Dr. Delisha Pruitt answer COVID-19 questions and debunk myths about the virus: https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=538332736867344&ref=watch_permalink

Hand-me-down 'mini taxes'

The federal government, in spite of its freedom to run budget deficits, often hands down unfunded rules and regulations to states and local units. States often follow suit. A result is that Saginaw County now has 10 "mini property taxes" for various purposes. The Health Department's new 0.48-mill proposal on the Nov. 3 ballot would join the list:

Total combined taxes in suburbs and outlying areas are in the 50-mill range. The City of Saginaw is higher, near 60 mills, mostly because of higher rates for 24-hour fire stations, for the historic Hoyt Library, and for STARS mass transit. Either way, proposals such as the Health Department's near-half-mill amount to about 1 percent of a total levy.

- Sheriff's road patrols, 1.75 mill
- Mosquito control, 0.64 mill
- HealthSource (county hospital), 0.48 mill
- Dow Event Center, 0.45 mill
- Commission on Aging, 0.43 mill
- Animal control and shelter, 0.42 mill
- County parks, 0.30 mill
- Emergency 911 service, 0.28 mill
- Museums (Castle and four others) 0.20 mill
- Saginaw Children's Zoo, 0.20 mill

FOOTNOTE: Some of the above figures are slightly rounded off.

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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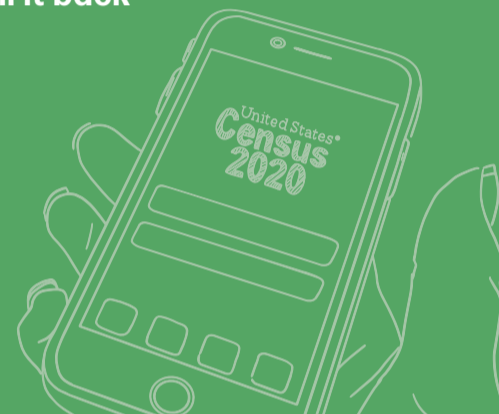
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BUSINESS & WEALTH

More than 200 Genesee County businesses awarded grants from the Michigan Small Business Restart Program

Flint, MI — On September 29, the Michigan Economic Development Corp. (MEDC) announced that 236 small businesses and nonprofits in Flint and Genesee County were awarded grants totaling more than \$2.34 million through the Michigan Small Business Restart Program. The grantees were among the more than 11,300 organizations statewide that received grants.

In Genesee County, the grants, ranging from \$5,000 to \$10,000, helped to retain 1,950 jobs at area businesses. The grantees represent a variety of industry sectors, from small retail shops to nonprofits to manufacturing:

- About 90 percent of the grants were \$10,000.
- Nearly 60 percent of the grantees were either minority-, veteran- or women-owned businesses. Of that, 30 percent were minority-owned establishments.

The Flint & Genesee Chamber of Commerce, which administered the program locally, received nearly 1,300 applications for the program.

The program has clearly helped to fill a significant need in Flint & Genesee, according to Tyler Rossmassler, the Chamber's director of economic development.

"Judging from the number of heartfelt messages the Flint & Genesee Chamber has received from the grantees who were awarded funding, the impact of the Michigan Small Business Restart Program on our region is clear as a bell," Rossmassler said. "For many of these owners, the program truly delivered a lifeline of support."

The MEDC-funded initiative was launched to provide relief for small businesses and nonprofits that have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds may be



courtesy photo

used as working capital to support payroll expenses, rent, mortgage payments, utility expenses or other similar expenses.

Grants were awarded on a competitive basis. To be considered, organizations must first have met the following conditions:

- A business with 50 or fewer total employees that can demonstrate it had been affected by the COVID-19 emergency.
- Needed working capital to support eligible expenses.
- Demonstrated an income loss as a result of the COVID-19 emergency.

Approved in July, the Michigan Small Business Restart Program allocated \$100

million of federal CARES Act funding to provide support to Michigan's small businesses and nonprofits that are reopening and have experienced a loss of income as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. The funding was distributed across 15 local or nonprofit economic development organizations covering all 83 counties in the state for grants up to \$20,000 to support certain small businesses and nonprofits that have realized a significant financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To see the full list of businesses that were awarded Restart grants as of September 10, 2020, visit <https://www.michiganbusiness.org/4a81ee/contentassets/01cfd52f50014f44a4d0490e3d213919/restart-grants.pdf>

SVSU-based Michigan Small Business Development Center gets CARES Act boost to help region's economy

Saginaw, MI — Great Lakes Bay Region communities will be among 83 Michigan counties where small business owners challenged by the pandemic will benefit from expanded support offered by the Michigan Small Business Development Center (SBDC), which operates a regional office at Saginaw Valley State University.

With support from CARES Act funding, resources are allocated to help boost the region's economics. Those resources include the following:

- 46 additional business consultants to meet the increase in demand for one-on-one consulting support
- New partnerships with service providers (website development, marketing, accounting, etc.) that can help businesses weather the effects of COVID-19

“As small businesses begin to restart, recover and launch, they will be required to have a

heightened awareness and response to our ever-changing economic environment,” said Beth Roszatycki, regional director of the SBDC operations housed within the Business Excellence Centers in SVSU's Scott L. Carmona College of Business building.

“This shift will also require modifications to how they previously operated, including their social norms. Being able to equip business owners and future entrepreneurs with the resources, tools and knowledge to respond to these evolving requirements and best practices will be critical. I see the SBDC being the support network to help with these necessary changes.”

The expanded services will be available through March 2021.

“We were able to add consulting staff to meet increased demands and extend our service offerings into key areas that we know will expedite small business recovery,” said J.D.

Collins, state director of the Michigan Small Business Development Center. “This tangible support will aid in business recovery from the immediate effects of COVID-19 while building resilience for the future.”

Michigan Small Business Development Center offices – including the operations housed at SVSU – provide no-cost consulting, training, market research, and technology commercialization services to assist Michigan businesses to launch, grow, transition and innovate.

Assistance includes business plans, marketing plans, applying for financing, budgeting, hiring, business forms, feasibility, and strategic planning.

Small businesses owners can access free business consulting, on-demand and online training, and market research at SBDCMichigan.org.

MDE announces virtual job fairs For Michigan schools and educators



courtesy photo

Lansing, MI — The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will be hosting three virtual job fairs, open to employers of educators and educational support staff, as well as all individuals seeking to work in the education field.

“A top priority at MDE is helping schools meet the diverse needs of Michigan’s students,” said State Superintendent Dr.

Michael F. Rice. “One of the ways we can do that is to connect schools and districts with qualified candidates. Now, more than ever, it is essential that we help ensure that every student is supported in their learning journey.”

Increasing the numbers of certified teachers, especially in areas of shortage, is one of the eight goals of the state’s updated Top 10 Strategic Education Plan.

The three MDE virtual job fairs will be held on the following dates:

- October 7, 2020
- March 3, 2021
- June 16, 2021

“Last school year, we were pleased to help more than 150 employers meet their staffing needs through our job fairs,” said Leah Breen, director of MDE’s Office of Educator Excellence. “We are dedicated to helping ensure that every school is staffed with qualified educational personnel.”

For information on how to become a certified administrator or teacher in Michigan, please visit the Office of Educator Excellence website at https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-5683_14795---,00.html.

Staff are also available to answer specific certification questions via email at MDE-EducatorHelp@Michigan.gov.

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EDUCATION

Michigan receives \$16 million grant to help improve student reading skills



courtesy photo

Lansing, MI — The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has received a \$16 million federal grant to help students improve their literacy skills, the department announced.

The Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy grant from the U.S. Department of Education will provide \$16 million over the next five years to advance literacy skills, including pre-literacy skills, reading, and writing, for children from birth through grade 12, including limited English proficient students and students with disabilities.

“Literacy is the foundation of learning,” said State Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice. “We’ve improved on the margins in our literacy results in the last few years. We need to continue to improve. It was Frederick Douglass, the long-time abolitionist and former slave, who once said, ‘Once you learn to read, you will be forever free.’ So it was in

the 19th century when Douglass lived, so it continues to be in a different context today.”

Dr. Rice said this federal grant is aligned with the state’s goal to improve early literacy achievement, reconfirmed in the new Top 10 Strategic Education Plan by the State Board of Education in August.

MDE will use the grant to build upon an educational and professional development network between the state, and local and intermediate school districts to improve literacy for Michigan children. This partnership will provide a specific focus on high-needs school districts.

“I am enormously encouraged by this grant,” Dr. Rice said. “We need to substantially improve how we do what we do in literacy for our children who have the least. This includes engaging children in literacy and engaging

them in authors, topics, and books that capture their interests.”

This grant will help create and implement local comprehensive literacy plans. The funds will be awarded through a competitive process to local school districts or other eligible entities.

Up to five local school districts will be selected for this project to improve literacy outcomes for students, including those who are economically disadvantaged, English language learners, and students with disabilities. In addition, the work of this grant-funded literacy partnership is expected to generate benefits for students in other districts across the state.

Information on the competitive application process, including an informational webinar, will be forthcoming.

SVSU to host virtual panel featuring women entrepreneurs



courtesy photo

Saginaw, MI — The Saginaw Valley State University-based Dow Entrepreneurship Institute will host an empowering virtual panel discussion featuring successful women entrepreneurs.

“Life Lessons from Successful Women Entrepreneurs” – scheduled Wednesday, Sept. 23, at 5:30 p.m. – is the institution’s third annual panel discussion featuring women entrepreneurs. The public is invited to attend the virtual session.

“The speakers are from a variety of different

backgrounds and fields, and show that people from any field can be successful in starting their own business,” said Izabela Szymanska, interim director of the SVSU Dow Entrepreneurship Institute and an SVSU associate professor of management.

The panel will include the following guests: Gina Adams is the founder and CEO of Wareologie, a clothing innovation company. A social entrepreneur with over 20 years of experience in the apparel industry and social sector, Adams creates adaptive clothing for people with dexterity issues.

Wendy Bloembergen is vice president of clinical affairs at GreenMark Biomedical Inc. Through its regenerative treatment technology, GreenMark is developing treatment products for the diagnosis and treatment of tooth decay.

Stacey Feeley is the founder of GoSili Inc., a silicone tableware company that provides an alternative to single-use plastics in the kitchen. She regularly serves as a guest speaker for Marshall School of Business at University

of Southern California in Los Angeles and Northern Michigan College in Traverse City.

Julia Winter is the founder and CEO of Alchemie, Inc., a company creating digital learning tools that provide an intuitive learning experience that encourages students to explore and experiment with concepts in chemistry. Winter taught college-level chemistry courses for over 20 years at Detroit Country Day School.

Interested participants can join the meeting on Lifesize, a video- and audio-conferencing program, using one of two methods:

- In Google Chrome, enter the URL address <https://call.lifesizecloud.com/5345023>
- Or call in to the meeting via telephone (audio available only) at 1-(312) 584-2401, then use meeting extension 5345023#

For more information or to register to attend this event, visit www.svsu.edu/entrepreneurshipinstitute.

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LAUNCHING SOON!

Saginaw schools will go to ALL the voters

By Mike Thompson



courtesy photo

In their push for capital improvement building funds, including a new unified high school, Saginaw School District leaders are taking a high-profile approach.

The \$99.95 million property tax proposal would cost up to 7 mills per year, or \$3.50 for each \$1,000 of a home's sales value (double the taxable value, or SEV, on your latest statement from the courthouse). For example, that's \$70 for a \$20,000 market value, or \$210 for a \$60,000 value.

A new high school would be built at the riverfront site of the Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy, and SASA would move to a portion of Arthur Hill High, while a portion of Saginaw High would be converted into a middle school, to restore an East Side alternative to Thompson Middle. A new Handley School, the elementary forerunner to SASA, would be erected on vacant Arthur Hill land to replace the 97-year-old home in the former South Intermediate relic.

Among other districts, some strategically have gone low-profile for millage money, conducting special elections in hopes that fewer anti-tax naysayers will come to the polls. In contrast, the Saginaw Board of Education opted last winter to shoot for the Nov. 3 presidential ballot, which will attract approximately three times more voters than a single-issue referendum would have drawn.

"People are starting to feel that it's time to do this," says Ralph Martin, a spokesman for the Building Schools for Our Children-Our

Future Committee, a group of more than 40 millage supporters. "The consensus is shifting. With so much division across the nation these days, we are presenting this as a 'unity' and 'equality' piece."

One obstacle in choosing a presidential election for the millage is that voters will have to stick with their crowded ballots until the very bottom of the second page in order to fill in the circle for the school tax. Absentee voters especially will need to keep this in mind, instead of rushing to fill in mail-in ballots instantly, in fear of a Trump blockage.

During much of the past decade, parents and alumni protested against the prospects of closing either 65-year-old Saginaw High or 79-year-old Arthur Hill, built with capacities of about 2,000 during the World War II era. This was when suburbs and outlying communities sent their teenagers to the city because they had not yet established their own high schools. When the suburbs began to pull out during the 1960s, The Baby Boom kept the buildings mostly full.

But when enrollments at "The High" eventually dropped near 400 and at "The Hill" near 700, Martin says residents gradually have learned that two huge artifacts no longer can be economically sustained.. The new unified high school's capacity of 1,200 pupils would reflect more "operational efficiency," a key school board goal that is expressed in pro-millage handbills.

Alumni still can be "Trojans forever or Lumberjacks forever," Martin asserts. And for sports fans, the prospect of stronger teams in basketball and football would be a boost.

Martin is a recently retired Saginaw city fire captain who now serves as a state marshall's fire inspector. Part of his former job was to inspect the city's mostly-aging school buildings. In his new employment, he visits more affluent districts such as Sanford Meridian and Big Rapids, taking note of their newer facilities.

"From experience," he says, "I have seen firsthand the needs in Saginaw."

Superintendent Ramont Roberts gave

oversight to a 2019 planning process that featured several town-hall type community forums. After Covid-19 struck late last winter, his team worked to streamline millage costs. For example, instead of reopening the Central Middle building on Hoyt Avenue, a portion of Saginaw High will be used, and instead of building a new SASA, a portion of Arthur Hill will be kept in place. Gymnasiums and auditoriums, renovated during the past decade, also will be preserved. More importantly, the two old high schools would maintain community sentiment and presence, instead of being totally wiped out.

In another cost savings, the pace of demolitions would slow down for a savings of \$4.8 million. Delayed targets are the former South Intermediate building, which had housed Handley, along with Ricker Middle in Buena Vista and eight vacant elementary buildings -- Edith Baillie, Nelle Haley, John Moore, Emerson, Jones, Longfellow, Coulter and Houghton.

The timing of the bond issue is ideal, Roberts says, because the school system is turning a corner after beginning the millennium with financial hardship, the threat of a state takeover and steep enrollment declines.

An \$18 million rainy day fund now is in place, although school leaders expect to gradually use some of the surplus in years to come, and the district-wide student count has stabilized in the 5,500 range. Roberts has reported that another 3,200 city school-age children attend schools across district boundaries or are enrolled in charter academies or parochial education. Improved infrastructure, along with related updated "academic excellence" curriculum, potentially could boost enrollment and draw more than \$8,000 in state aid to follow each new or returning enrollee.

Saginaw's most recent school bond issue was \$70 million in 2004, mostly to build the new Thompson Middle and Loomis Elementary facilities. The vote took place as part of that year's lower-turnout August primary and passed narrowly, 5,080 to 4,806.

For more information on the ballot proposal and the updated five-year strategic plan, visit the district's web site, spsd.net.



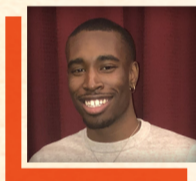
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Brianna Robinson / Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy / Class of 2012 / Earned Bachelor Degree in Kinesiology in 2016 from Michigan State University

What has the Saginaw Promise meant to her education: *"I remain extremely thankful for receiving the Saginaw Promise Scholarship and support... and I would encourage today's high school students to pursue their assistance"*



Johnnie Johnson III / Saginaw High School / Class of 2016 / Studying Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement with plans to become a Criminal Defense Attorney

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Applications open for President's Honors Scholarship

University Center, MI — Applications are now being accepted for the President's Honors Scholarship, a full-ride scholarship that covers two years of tuition, fees and books for incoming Delta College students.

The academic-based scholarship is for high school students in Bay, Midland and Saginaw counties who will graduate in 2021. Students interested in applying can get started by completing a Delta College admissions application and following the steps listed on the scholarships website.

"Now more than ever, students in our district need our support," said Dr. Jean Goodnow, president of Delta College. "This scholarship is just one way we are helping students attend college, receive a high-quality education and ultimately, get their dream job."

The deadline to apply is Wednesday, November 11. Twenty scholarships will be awarded. SAT scores are required to apply for the scholarship, but due to delays related to COVID-19, scores will be accepted until December 1. Send the scores to honors@delta.edu.

ELIGIBILITY

Students interested in applying for the scholarship must:

- Be a resident of Bay, Midland or Saginaw County
- Be graduating from high school in 2021
- Have a GPA of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale or a GPA of 4.1 or higher on a weighted scale
- Have a composite SAT score of 1200 or higher

- Plan to earn a transfer degree or an occupational degree in two years

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- Attend Delta College full time beginning in fall 2021
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- Become a member of the Honors Program and complete the Honors certification requirements
- Complete 10 documented volunteer hours prior to the final semester

For more information, contact the Honors Program at 989-686-9091 or honors@delta.edu.

CMU announces 2021 spring semester schedule Calendar adjusted to protect against spread of COVID-19



courtesy photo

Mount Pleasant, MI — Central Michigan University will continue to be vigilant against the spread of COVID-19 as it remains committed to on-campus learning for the spring 2021 semester.

"COVID-19 will still be with us next year," said Mary C. Schutten, executive vice president and provost. "CMU needs to continue being proactive to maintain our success in slowing its spread."

Here are details for the semester, which begins in January:

- The first week of classes, Jan. 11-15, will be fully online.
- Courses shift to meet in person, online or in a hybrid-flexible — or HyFlex — format beginning the week of Jan. 18.
- Instead of a weeklong spring break, five "wellness days" of no classes will be added to the calendar over the course of the semester. The traditional Gentle Thursday and Friday also will be rescheduled within the semester. The intent is to provide time away from normal class day experiences as well as to reduce widespread travel and the accompanying risk of exposure and spread of COVID-19.
- The spring semester ends with exams May 3-7.

- Study Abroad experiences are canceled for the semester.

Schutten said decisions about the spring calendar were collaborative and determined based on input from student groups, faculty leadership, the university's Emergency Management Team, President Bob Davies and the president's cabinet. CMU also will continue to follow guidance from its own medical authorities, regional and state public health agencies, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Our plans for spring align with our top goals during this pandemic: Keep CMU safe and healthy, open and operational, and prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus," she said.

Current students may register at any time through CentralLink for spring 2021 as part of multi-semester course search and registration. Information available before Nov. 9 on spring courses is subject to changes to update the modalities and other course information.

Further information about the semester and beyond will be shared as it becomes available.



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.

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

Source: www.saginawheadstart.org



Sabrina Beeman-Jackson

Saginaw ISD Head Start/Early Head Start Program Director

“Head Start graduates are more likely to graduate 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

COMMUNITY

Saginaw native & CMU alumni join Michigan Broadcasting Hall of Fame

The Michigan Association of Broadcasters has inducted Central Michigan University emeritus faculty member William "Rick" Sykes into the Michigan Broadcasting Hall of Fame and presented him with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

MAB presented its 2020 awards this month in partnership with Patrick Communications.

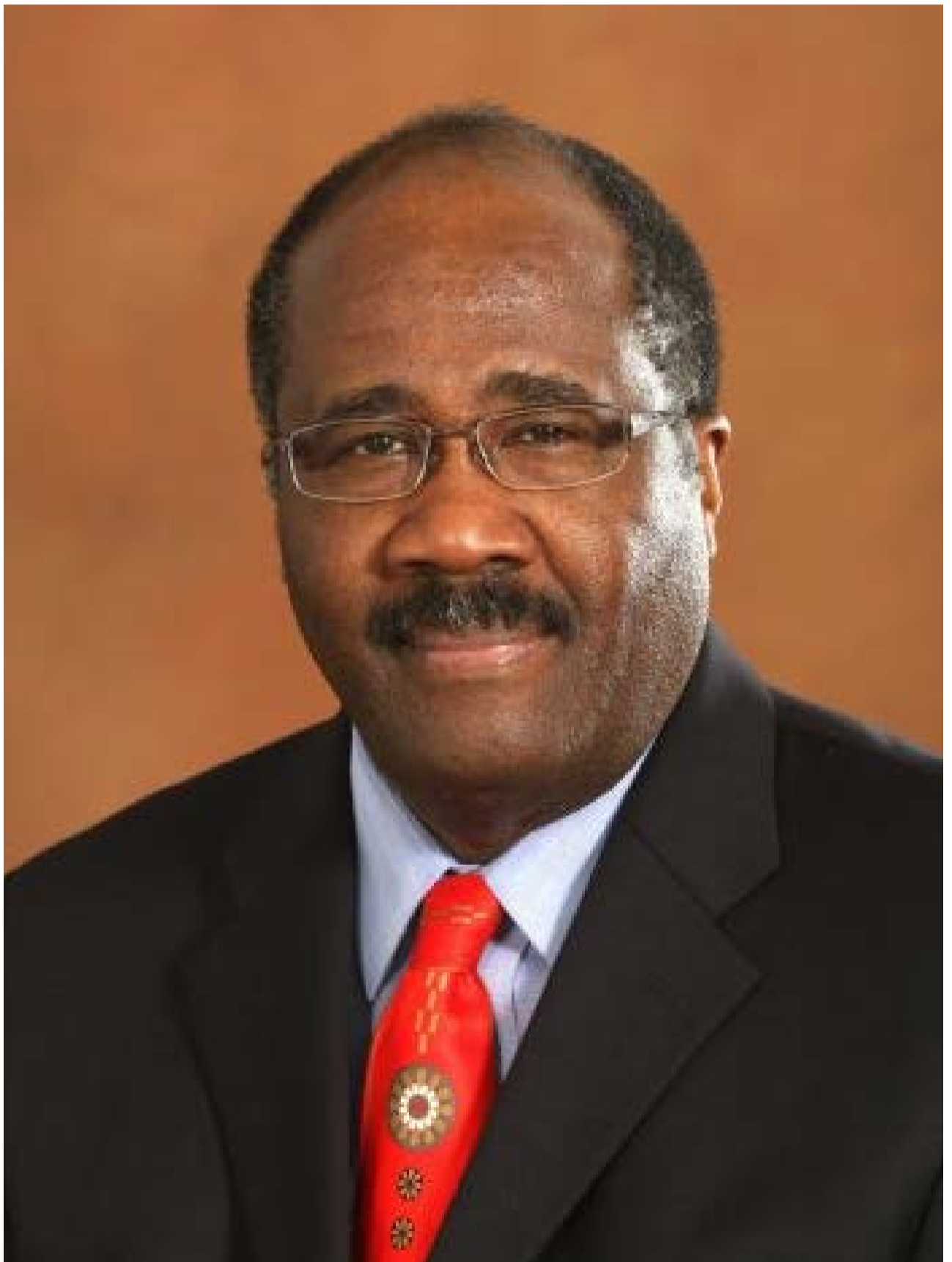
Born in Saginaw, Michigan, Sykes earned undergraduate and graduate degrees at CMU before starting his broadcasting career in 1973 at WNEM-TV in Saginaw. He moved to WDIV-TV in Detroit in 1982 and to a regional public relations firm in Detroit in 1990.

In 1996, Sykes joined what is now CMU's School of Broadcast and Cinematic Arts. He taught news and sports-related courses for 24 years and oversaw the student-produced News Central 34 during its 17-year streak as the MAB Foundation's station of the year. He also has been a member and chairman of the MAB Foundation board of directors.

In 2010, Sykes earned CMU's Excellence in Teaching Award.

"We are very proud of Rick and his many contributions to our college, CMU and the broadcasting field," said Elizabeth Kirby, interim dean of the College of the Arts and Media. Sykes is credited with helping scores of future broadcasters get their start.

Established in 2001, the Michigan Broadcasting Hall of Fame recognizes broadcasters for leadership, achievements and contributions to their local communities. Hall of Fame inductees are chosen based on distinguished professional careers in Michigan broadcasting.



courtesy photo

COLORS

Please don't judge me by the color of my skin
Dig a little deeper, search my soul within

None of us were born with a multiple choice
Black, White, Red, or Yellow, We all have a voice

Today's society is full of crime, all our people
doing time

What is the lesson, we're teaching our children
today
To Fight First, ask questions later, Demand to
have it their way

I don't think this is how God intended it to be,
For our babies to be watching all this violence on
National TV

We all need to stop, look, and listen, and hear all
the cries
Stop killing, Stop Raping, Put a stop to all the
drive-bys

There are innocent people dying, on a day to day
basis
They are White, They are Black, and they are all
different races

Why can't we solve our problems, by sitting down
and talk
Learn to start stepping, add a little speed to our
walk

Let's stop all the nonsense, let's put down the
guns
Let's learn to relax, let's have some safe fun

Let's stop abusing our Women, Give them back
their sense of pride
Whether the answer be yes, whether it be no,
Respect and Abide

Let's teach our children values, and to look pass
skin
Let's give them a sense of direction, Let them
choose their own Friends

And when we lay down at night, let's be quiet and
still
And know that peace, Can someday be real!

Brigitte Johnson

Indecision.

Good
decision.



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I'm Just Thinking..... with Pastor Hurley J. Coleman, Jr., World Outreach Campus Church

In times like these

There is a story in scripture about Joshua and a certain battle that was going long and they were winning, but needed more time. Joshua prayed, and the story says that the sun stood still in the sky. The record is that this was a day like no other day.

We are in a time unlike any that I have witnessed in my lifetime. Even though we are seeing and hearing things that are familiar to our history, it is not the same, because the time is different.

Who would have thought that in 2020 we would be making a strong effort for equality, and for equity. Equality is different from equity. Equality is defined as treating everyone the same and giving everyone access to the same opportunities. Equity refers to proportional representation in those same opportunities.

We saw the Civil Rights movement of the 60's produce language that would present equality for all people, but there was never a strong effort to create the equity that would be sustainable. The institutions of our country made efforts to say the right things, and often to do the right things. The times that we are witnessing show us, however, that the effort for equity did not follow those

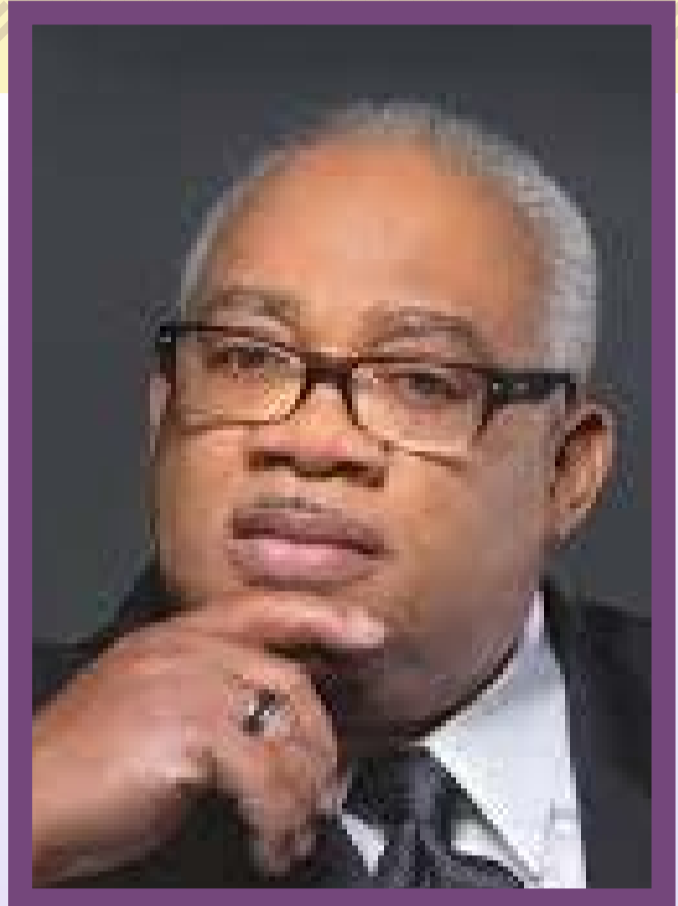
words and efforts.

I have been thinking lately that we must realize that we can legislate activities, but we cannot legislate the heart. Laws can govern civic operations, but cannot govern human interactions.

I am so concerned about this season because we are becoming more polarized in our relationships and attitudes. The level of political discourse has caused such a stark divide, and it seems that so often the truth is ignored in favor of political ends.

There is enough negative on both sides of the political spectrum to spend all of our time in the blame game. But, this is a day like no other, a time like no other, and a moment like no other. We have an opportunity to make significant changes so that we can pursue equity in areas where we desire equality.

This moment gives us a chance to make some things right, that should have been corrected long ago. It is an opportunity to balance the playing field, and give everyone an equal



opportunity. It is a moment to honestly accept the truth of our history, and make the necessary changes to improve the future.

Yes, this is a day like no other, and I am encouraged. I have many conversations that tell me that I am not the only person thinking like this. I am seeing people of all races, ethnicities, belief systems, and lifestyles coming to this same position.

This is indeed a day like no other. Carpe Diem! Let's seize the day, and guarantee a future that grows from the past, that profits from mistakes, and that benefits from the sacrifices of those of willing hearts.

I'm just thinking.....



WOC
WOMEN OF COLORS

WINTER COAT GIVEAWAY & MORE

WARM A CHILD FOR WINTER
Drive-thru Coat Giveaway

Saturday, November 14, 2020
9:00am - 12:00pm
1000 Tuscola St.
Saginaw, MI

This is a drive-thru pick up (only) event. The registration form must be provided the day of the event and the child must be present (in vehicle) to receive a coat.

For more information contact Women of Colors at 989.737.9286 or ewmtoday@aol.com.

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GARBER AUTOMOTIVE



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BETHEL AME CHURCH VIRTUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT - PHILIPPIANS 3:13-14

Join us for an exciting event designed to embrace "God's Master Plan for a better you"!

With all that we have faced in 2020 and the degree of uncertainty, we must still stand strong but we are not alone. The Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church Virtual Retreat will feature fun, fellowship, and spiritual renewal.

Friday, October 23, 2020
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Ladies Night Pajama Party
Enjoy a night of virtual fun and fellowship. Door prizes will be awarded throughout the evening.

Saturday, October 24, 2020
9:30 am - 12 noon
Self-Care & Spiritual Empowerment
The retreat experience continues with breakout sessions on self-care and spiritual empowerment followed by a motivational moment designed to keep women moving forward while staying focused and keeping the faith.

Saturday Special Guest
Rev. Dr. Twana A. Harris
Senior Pastor
Carter Metropolitan C.M.E Church
Detroit, Michigan

Cost: \$40
Register for Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church Virtual Women's Retreat on [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).
Registration deadline is October 10, 2020. All registrants will receive a special gift bag. In observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, a portion of the proceeds from this event will be donated to The Underground Railroad.





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CDC releases Thanksgiving guidelines



courtesy photo

Michiganders can follow the guidelines according to the level of risk outlined by the health protection agency.

Citizens are urged to take precautionary measures to protect themselves and others. Thanksgiving gatherings are best kept small, travel should be limited, and holiday shoppers are encouraged to keep a safe distance while purchasing items.

Health officials recommend remaining at home during the holidays if possible.

“Staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others. If you must travel, be informed of the risks involved,” their website states.

High-risk activities include:

- Attending large indoor gatherings with people from other households
- Attending Crowded parades
- Participating of being a spectator in a crowded race
- Going shopping in crowded stores just before, on, or after Thanksgiving
- Using alcohol or drugs that could cloud judgement and increase risky behaviors

Moderate-risk activities include:

Having a small outdoor dinner with family and friends who live in your community
Visiting pumpkin patches or orchards where people use hand sanitizer before touching

pumpkins or picking apples, wearing masks is encouraged or enforced, and people are able to maintain social distancing

Attending small outdoor sports events with safety precautions in place

Lower-risk activities include:

- Having a small dinner with only people who live in your family
- Having a virtual dinner and sharing recipes with friends
- Shopping online, rather than in person, on Black Friday and Cyber Monday.
- Watching sporting events, parades, and movies from home.

You can find more information about the CDC’s Thanksgiving guidelines at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html#thanksgiving.



SAGINAW COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

515 N. Washington Ave., 3rd Floor | Saginaw, MI 48607
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www.saginawchamber.org

Miss Saginaw... there's no place like home

By MB Staff Writer



courtesy photo

She dispels the age-old myths which label participants in beauty pageants anything other than absolutely brilliant and hard-working. Simone Vaughn, Miss Saginaw 2019, is indeed beautiful – her smile lights up the room. Then she speaks. She speaks with wisdom and experience far beyond her 23 years and it is evident that she will succeed in her efforts to offer and provide hope to individuals and families facing life challenges which may seem insurmountable. She shares her life experiences with transparency and

a sense of confidence in having achieved success against the odds.

Simone has participated in pageants since she was fifteen years old. She very quickly realized that she would be at a disadvantage - in some pageants the entry fee alone was \$1,000.00. Then there were gowns, swimsuits, coaching lessons, transportation, overnight stays, the list goes on. Some of the larger, more prominent pageants can easily exceed \$10,000.00 in costs with no guarantee

of winning! The majority of the entrants had the resources to compete – she would have to work to earn hers. At a very early age she would learn the value of working hard and saving to achieve a goal. She did work and save but did not win in those early competitions. She continued to work and develop in areas she learned were lacking. She asked for critiques and focused on delivering noticeable improvement each time she set foot on stage. She mastered the walk, the smile, the speech and the talent but found that the most challenging area to strengthen is one's confidence. As in any competition, the entire process is designed to compare yourself to other women all of whom bring amazing skills to the stage. As she developed confidence, she began to place and eventually to win.

Prior to being crowned Miss Saginaw, Simone was crowned Miss Bay City, MI. As a student at Delta Community College, she was an official resident of Bay City and eligible to participate in that pageant. Now a senior at Saginaw Valley State University majoring in Communication, Simone speaks highly and with fondness of her two years of learning at the local Community College. She says that she saved tons of money because there is no astronomical student loan debt to be repaid, she lived at home so was able to focus on coursework and pageantry, and perhaps most importantly, she was surrounded by family, community and church which help to keep one grounded. She credits one of her favorite Delta College instructors, Barb Handley, with supporting her in ways that she may not even realize. As Simone gave speeches in the Communication class taught by Ms. Handley, she did well – very well. Ms. Handley, however encouraged her to 'dig deeper'. She felt that there was a story to be told which would cause Simone to share with passion – a passion that would be necessary for Simone to achieve her future career goals. That story was one of such significance that it led to the creation of what was to become Simone's platform – the cause for which she now shares at every speaking engagement and has developed a non-profit to provide service to families in need.

Continues on pg 34, Miss Saginaw

Continued from pg 33, Miss Saginaw



courtesy photo

With permission from her mother Diane, with whom she has shared a podium on more than a few occasions, Simone shares that as a small child, her family experienced homelessness. It was long, long ago and for a very short period of time but families who have had this experience understand the stigma associated with the challenge of being without housing and often choose to maintain silence when giving it a face and voice may help others to overcome similar trials. Simone has given her experience a face, a voice and a name, 'THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME'. This new non-profit organization is designed to provide scholarships to graduating seniors who stayed the course in spite of tremendous odds against them. With sufficient funding, the organization will eventually partner with existing service providers to assist individuals with securing permanent housing during their transition period.

In addition to being a full-time student, for the past three years Simone has been employed as an Auto Show Host with Ford Motor Company (based in Detroit, MI). This requires a very detailed working knowledge of each of the vehicles she shows and, of course, a great deal of confidence. Since the on-set of the COVID 19 pandemic, the

shows have been done virtually which is even more of a challenge. She now does shows for Audi, Chevrolet and General Motors. She was hired to perform with the Detroit Tigers Energy Squad, again before the onset of the pandemic so is looking forward to the 2011 season when hopefully, there will be fans in the stadium to motivate. To further dispel the myths surrounding the pageantry business, Simone would like for young women to know that it is so much more than a pretty face and that the competitions should be a means to an end. She shares that Miss Michigan USA is an attorney in the Detroit area; Miss Michigan is a 1st grade teacher in Bay City; Miss USA is an attorney in North Carolina; and Miss America is a scientist.

Simone cites her resolve to succeed as a driving force in her life. She learned and embraced a marketing tactic, 'Go for No', in a class years ago. The strategy is basically one that encourages individuals to go for the no (the impossible) but not to stop there. Improve in the necessary areas and go again and again – that level of grit has served her well. She shares that she is succeeding because of her faith and sheer determination – turning her obstacles into willpower and motivation to work harder. It is working well

for her. Moving forward, Simone plans to use her now very well-honed public speaking skills in the talent segment of competitions. Miss Saginaw 2019 is both beautiful and brilliant – a true front-runner in every aspect of her life.



courtesy photo



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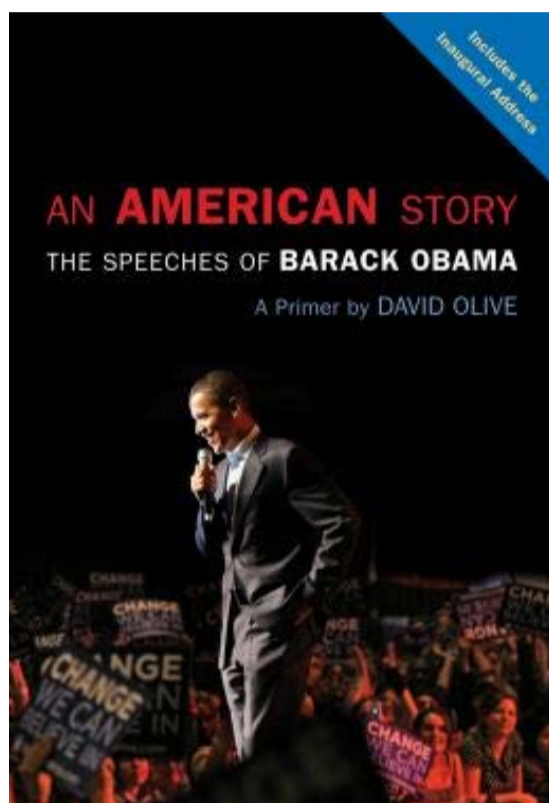
Go to
2020Census.gov

The Great Lakes Bay Regional 2020 Census initiative is supported by your local community foundation in Bay, Isabella, Midland and Saginaw counties.

BOOK REVIEW

Great orator, an even better writer

By Mike Thompson



courtesy photo

To find "An American Story: The Speeches of Barack Obama" during a random search along the Hoyt Library shelves, a book to simply grab with no need to look inside, was a no brainer. To me, he's an even better writer than he is at making speeches, if that's possible.

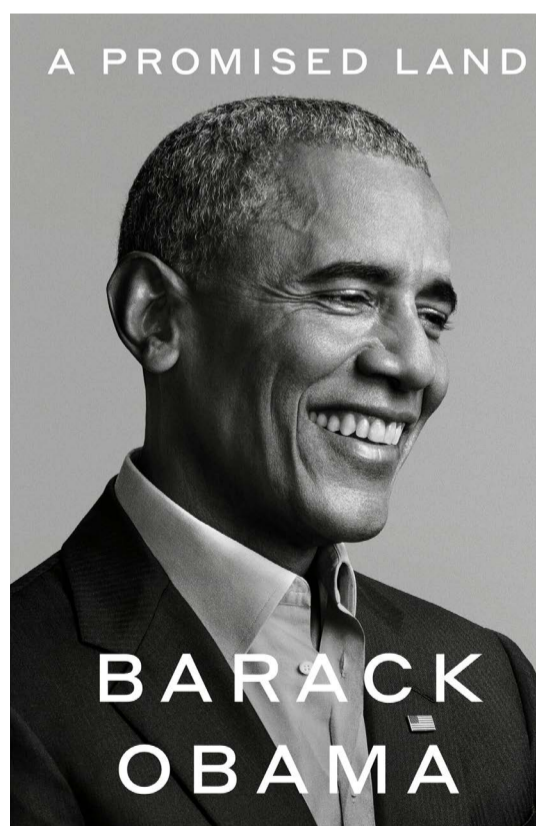
Many presidents and overall famous folks have their books ghostwritten, starting with John Kennedy with "Profiles In Courage" (actually by Ted Sorensen), or at least heavily edited. Not President Obama. He writes most of his own stuff, although he had some help when he was working endless hours at the White House.

It was disappointing at first to learn that the copyright on this tome is 2008, which means these 21 speeches all are prior to him even becoming president. But in a way, this might create cause for better reading, because he had more time to put pen in left hand back then. And, I suspect, he felt he could speak more freely.

The starter is his 2002 screed against the Senate vote that allowed Bush 43 to launch the Iraq War. Highly prescient. Other topics include national unity, prosperity and fairness, religion and politics, political reform, and of course, race in America.

Several subjects deal with issues that President Obama was focusing upon a decade before the Trumpies started aiming to roll back the progress that the Obama-Biden administration had achieved, in particular health care and global warming.

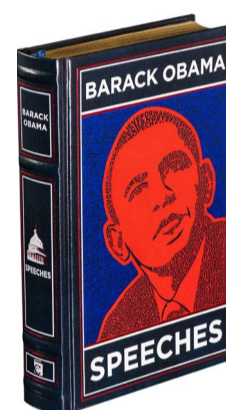
So what ever became of the memoir that President Obama was supposed to be compiling under he and Michelle's \$65 million deal with Penguin Random House? After all, Michelle's "Becoming" came out two years ago and has sold more than 8 million copies. And so what's Barack been up to?



We finally learned two weeks ago that he's only half done, and in mid-November

will release "A Promised Land," covering everything in his political life up to taking out Osama bin Laden in 2011. (Also the same weekend that he return-mocked Trump, then a birther, in his Press Club satire and unwittingly honked off Donnie enough to make him run for prez himself.) At 768 pages, it will carry up to a \$45 price tag, and so I will wait until it becomes available at the good ol' library.

Talk about a blockbuster! The initial printing will be in 25 different languages.



Dang, why couldn't he have gotten this into circulation BEFORE the election? Oh, well. And will the second volume take him another three-and-a-half years to finish?

In the meantime, we found at least three books on Google that include collections of his presidential speeches, compiled by various journalists. And a fourth, simply titled "Speeches," contains his personal favorites. It is slated for release on Oct. 6, leather bound, starting at \$24.95. Sounds like it would make a great holiday gift for a loved one, for a friend, or for yourself.

Or you could wait for that one to arrive at the library, also!

Footnote: Maria McCarville, Public Libraries of Saginaw director, explains, "We have four copies of President Obama's memoir on order and will order more based on demand. We have 12 copies of "Becoming". We will purchase print, ebook, eaudio books, books on CD and large print copies. The general public reaction has been very positive. We get weekly reports of the number of holds for books. If we see a book has a large number of holds we will purchase additional copies to meet the demand."

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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



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LifeInChristMinistries07@gmail.com

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Pastor Otis Washington
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messiahmbc@att.net
www.messiahmsag.org



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989-752-8064



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989-777-8272

Pastorbaldwin@charter.net



New Beginnings Life Changing Ministries

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New Life Baptist Church

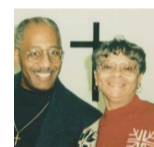
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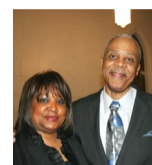
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POLITICS & PUBLIC POLICY

Some candidates DID answer The Banner's survey

By Mike Thompson

The Nov. 3 election is mainly about Trump vs. Biden, of course, but also there are a host of other state and local elections. We will present them, in the order that you will find them on your ballot.

The Banner conducted a survey of more than 40 state and local candidates. More than half did not respond, in spite of our sending three separate requests for free-of-charge coverage.

STRAIGHT PARTY TICKET

You may choose Democratic or Republican, or one of five obscure third parties, but this will not include the Michigan Supreme Court, the Delta College Board of Trustees, your local town council or school board, or any tax millage questions. So do not be lazy. Check your full ballot.

Electors of President and Vice-President of the United States

- **Biden-Harris** or **Trump-Pence**

CONGRESSIONAL

United States Senator

- Incumbent **Democrat Gary Peters** faces Republican challenger **John James**.

Neither responded to The Banner's survey.

Representative in Congress 5th District

- Incumbent Democrat Dan Kildee versus Republican challenger Tim Kelly.

Kildee did not respond.

Kelly states: "My current door piece, what I hand out as campaign literature, across the



top says, God * County * You. What's this mean? It means I believe we should find our faith, be it whatever religion you follow, and understand that there is something greater than ourselves. Without getting into the weeds, I simply believe we should all live a more reverent life and embrace with joy what's been provided to each and everyone of us. Our world, our country, was founded on moral and ethical courage that should not be trifled with, let alone abandoned. Renew America's faith and confidence in providing opportunity, equality, and justice for all. Restore America's faith and confidence in Congresses' ability to solve big problems, and Rebuild the American economy by bringing back critical medical manufacturing and telecommunications jobs from China. Vote for Tim Kelly for Congress and put an end to 43 years of the Kildee occupation."

LEGISLATIVE

Representative, 95th District

- Incumbent **Vanessa Guerra** is term-limited and running unopposed for Saginaw County Clerk.
- Democrat **Amos O'Neal** faced Republican **Charlotte DeMaet**

DeMaet did not respond.



O'Neal states: "Election Day is near. Are you caught up in the issues that I support and am ready for fight for? Economic development. School funding. Infrastructure. Health care access. Vocational training. Criminal justice reform. Right to organize.

Environmental reform. I am the most qualified candidate on the ballot."

Representative, 94th District

- Incumbent Republican **Rodney Wakeman** meets Democratic challenger **Demond Tibbs**

Wakeman did not respond.



Tibbs states: "I'm an accomplished Public Servant, Attorney and Saginaw Township resident driven by my commitment to improving our community and the lives of its people.

I've previously served as a Saginaw County Prosecutor and as a Saginaw City Council Member. I currently serve as Deputy Assistant Director for Saginaw's Defender's Office. I'm running for State Representative because the 94th District needs leadership with integrity, experience and vision for the future.

Pandemic Recovery that prioritizes the health, safety and economic security for all residents.

Expand access to high quality, affordable health care so everyone can see a doctor when they're sick.

Invest in our infrastructure so our dams and bridges don't fail us during natural disasters.

Safety based, innovative community economic development solutions to assist small businesses and create jobs.

Fully funded public school budget, universal

Continues on pg 42, Candidate Surveys

Candidate Surveys Continued...

pre-k, vocational training and access to affordable college, so all of our kids can fully realize their potential.

Smart criminal justice reform through transparency and accountability.

There's 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."

Members of the State Board of Education, U-M Regents, MSU Trustees and Wayne State Governors are listed by political party. The Banner did not survey them.

THE ONLY CONTESTED SAGINAW COUNTY-WIDE OFFICE IS FOR SHERIFF.

- Incumbent Democrat **William Federspiel** is opposed by Republican challenger **Rick Riebschleger**

Federspiel did not respond.



Riebschleger states: "The Sheriff's Department needs a full-time sheriff, a game plan to increase efficiency, no new millage for the next 4 years, a local recruiting program, a real maintenance program for vehicles and

equipment, vehicles to start and end each shift at headquarters, support divisions must be restored, restore safety education programs such as watercraft, child seat, child finger printing, hunter safety, and other programs as the public needs. As a lifelong resident of Saginaw County, who was educated in the Saginaw public school system. I started to work part-time at the department in 1976 in the aviation division, as I am also a pilot. From there I worked in the other divisions when the need or opportunity arose. I worked under four sheriffs during this time

and retired in 2016. The residents of Saginaw County deserve better full-time dependable service. This has become very obvious in the past year, with all the serious issues that have occurred in our county. If you have questions on my positions, please feel free to call. Thank you for your consideration and support."

In the County Commission's 4th District, incumbent Democrat Sheldon Matthews faces Republican challenger Rich Spitzer.

Matthews did not respond. Spitzer states: "As Commissioner, I want to address these issues: 1. The budget needs to be transparent so people can see exactly how their tax dollars are being spent.

2. The budget needs to be balanced so taxpayers aren't constantly asked for more money or have to dip into reserves to cover shortfalls.

3. The County budget needs to focus on services that benefit ALL county residents, particularly infrastructure, public safety, and roads.

More revenue shortfalls loom and County Commissioners will have to make some hard choices: must-have vs. nice-to-have. It's time taxpayers have someone capable of saying: enough is enough!"

COUNTY COMMISSION'S 4TH DISTRICT

Incumbent Democrat **Sheldon Matthews** faces Republican challenger **Rich Spitzer**.

Matthews did not respond.



Spitzer states: "As Commissioner, I want to address these issues:

- The budget needs to be transparent so people can see exactly how their tax dollars are being spent.
- The budget needs to be balanced so taxpayers aren't constantly asked for more money or have to dip into reserves to cover shortfalls.

- The County budget needs to focus on services that benefit ALL county residents, particularly infrastructure, public safety, and roads. More revenue shortfalls loom and County Commissioners will have to make some hard choices: must-have vs. nice-to-have. It's time taxpayers have someone capable of saying: enough is enough!"

Michael Webster is unopposed in the 11th District, but as board chairman he submitted a statement: "I'm running for my third term on the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners and want to ask for your vote and support as we strive to move our county forward during these increasingly uncertain times. It is my objective to continue a focus on economic growth to ensure the resurging prosperity of our community. I'm equally excited about improvements in the county services provided to our citizens. These services directly impact the quality of life afforded to county residents, but also our ability to attract business and commercial interest. It is also my desire to continue implementing creative measures to resolve concerns related to our county budget. Finally, I believe that now is the time for us to rally together for the survival of our community. I'm constantly striving to build partnerships and collaborations with government, private and the nonprofit community. I believe these actions are key to our future prosperity."

JUDICIAL

The only contested judicial election is for the two seats on the conservative-leaning Michigan Supreme Court. The justices are supposedly nonpartisan, but the state Democratic Party endorses incumbent Bridget Mary McCormack and Elizabeth Welch, while the Republicans endorse Mary Kelly and Brok Swarzle.

Continues on pg 43, Candidate Surveys

Candidate Surveys Continued...

DELTA COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Voters may select one candidate from each of tri-counties. The candidates from Bay County are **Diane Middleton**, the board chairwoman, and **Barbara Handley-Miller**. From Midland County, **Mindy Smith**, **Susan Montesi** and incumbent **Michael Nash**. From Saginaw County, **Curt Tucker** and incumbent **Karen Lawrence-Webster**.

Middleton, Handley-Miller, Nash and Montesi answered The Banner's survey. Smith and two Saginaw candidates did not respond.



Middleton states: "My first priority will always be student success.

I am experienced & qualified:

- Chair, Delta Board of Trustees since January 2019; Trustee since 2015; outstanding record of attendance & engagement
- Delta Grad ('88); bachelor & master's degrees from WMU & SVSU
- Board Member, Junior Achievement of North Central Michigan
- Graduate, Leadership Bay County & Leadership Midland
- Graduate, Michigan Leadership Development Institute
- Enrolled in Henry Marsh Institute for Public Policy

I have the customers' perspective:

- My family has paid Delta College tuition since 2012. Both our children are Pioneers, and I am, too

Lastly, my professional role has equipped me to serve as a Trustee. For 26 years, I have been engaged in the Great Lakes Bay Region business community. I understand employers' needs from our new graduates, which aids in making decisions that will ensure their future

success in the workplace. "



Handley-Miller states: "Delta College is a world of opportunity to students. I am running for Trustee to use my seventeen years teaching full-time at Delta to

help shape Delta's future. I have a B.A from Michigan State University and an M.A from Central Michigan University.

In my time at Delta, I was a leader, chairing the Graduation Requirements for the Associate of Art and Science degrees, the General Education Assessment and President's Speaker Series committees. I also taught for ten years at Northwood University and worked for WNEM TV for nine and a half years as an anchor-reporter and then News Director. I know the communities, the faculty and staff at Delta, and most of all our students. I understand the curriculum and have the background to help keep Delta academically rigorous, affordable, and financially strong. I will help Delta College to continue to be a great choice for students."



Nash states: "As the incumbent, serving since 2013, I have a proven track record earnings all A's:

Affordability – Delta is area's best value in higher

education

Accessibility – New facilities in Saginaw and Midland

Accountability – Redesigned president's evaluation process

I have a deep and personal connection to the college's mission having graduated from Delta after earning a Board of Trustees Scholarship. I bring 20 years of experience and perspective from some of the area's most vital industries; Chemicals, Automotive and Healthcare. In my current role as Senior Treasury Director at Dow, I have global cash flow responsibility for the corporation. This is a unique skillset that the college can leverage as tuition costs need to be controlled with pandemic-related headwinds impacting state funding. Vote for

the only true independent Midland candidate who doesn't have employment conflicts of interest at the college."



Montesi states: "I will bring an important perspective to the Delta College Board of Trustees as I have served students and community groups through a variety

of leadership, professional, and personal service roles including counselor, teacher, administrator, innovator, volunteer and community advocate. As a Board member I will conscientiously consider all stakeholder perspectives in Board decisions as well as the effects of its decisions and provide a complete explanation of decisions to our communities."

Delta also is seeking an 0.5-mill property tax renewal for a share of its millage support.

SAGINAW CITY COUNCIL

Five seats are open, and at least one will be a newcomer, because Mayor Floyd Kloc is stepping down from the council. With terms ending in 2022, Brenda Moore, Michael Balls, Autumn Scherzer and Bill Ostash do not face challenges on Nov. 3.

Elected incumbents **Annie Boensch** and **John Milne** are joined on the ballot by appointed incumbents **Jamie Forbes** and **Reggie Williams**. Challengers are **Malcolm Clever Jr.**, **Nate Collison**, **George Copeland**, **Michael Flores**, **Monique Lamar-Silvia**, **Cirven Merrill** and **TayVell Richmond**.

Five of the 11 answered The Banner's invitation.



Boensch states: "I am an experienced public servant, mother and lifelong resident of Saginaw.

Continues on pg 44, Candidate Surveys

Candidate Surveys Continued...

I was first elected in 2011 and I have dedicated my time on council to fighting for equality and the fair treatment of all citizens. I have introduced, worked on and helped pass citizen-led ordinances to fight blight and I take great pride in helping residents navigate our local government to make our community a better place.

Some of my Priorities:

* Passing a Citizen's Advisory Committee on Policing via Ordinance to improve accountability and oversight, allowing Council to stay engaged in the process.

* Responsible lifting of the archaic and regressive tax caps.

* Neighborhood based, citizen driven policies that provide the tools needed to address the challenges we face.

If re-elected, I will use my experience and level-headed leadership to continue to help move the city forward during these unprecedented times.



Milne states: "I have helped accomplish major goals in the City. We now have Delta College downtown, The SVRC Marketplace, and the best Street renewal program we have had in decades (Adams Blvd., 14th st., Mackinaw st., etc. Our finances are also the strongest they have been in a decade. No matter what the times we live in may seem, we at the City must provide the services you need and expect at all times. This is my highest priority. Issues may come and go and need to be addressed but the Manager and his team provide the foundation for our progress. City Council gives them their direction. My four years of experience and 30 years in business make me the best candidate for the next four years. I ask for your vote."



Forbes states: "I have been a resident of the city for nearly 9 years and have invested my time in community initiatives and social justice issues for over 11 years.

I have worked for many political campaigns locally and around the state. As Executive Director of The Ezekiel Project, I was blessed to have the privilege to pursue systemic change through the lens of racial justice.

I was in the inaugural class of the Henry Marsh Institute of Public Policy and currently am a member of the advisory board of this program, which seeks to prepare regional leaders for civic service. She serves on the advisory board of The Great Mural Project and is Director of External Affairs at STARS (Saginaw Transit Authority Regional Services).

It is a privilege to a proud member of the generous, welcoming, collaborative community of Saginaw and the surrounding region, pursuing community development, social change, and celebration of diversity."



Flores states: "We are at a point in our city's history where change in the structure of our City Council is essential to the health and benefit of all of us residents. Prior to this 2020 campaign where we have many great newcomers and one passionate and earnest appointed incumbent, there was a lack of energy and attention to the past races that ended up deciding who were elected to govern our city. This election, we can VOTE FOR FIVE -- and change the entire structure of our Saginaw City Council. We can help make our City Police more robust, we can safeguard our land from outside powers looking to facilitate land grabs, and we can use our resources to help folks that have been left out of the conversation get a real shot at being upper-middle class citizens. Like I end every conversation I have - Saginaw we can do this."



Copeland states: "My priorities will be to:

- Support existing Saginaw Small Businesses
- Provide start-up capital for new Saginaw City

business owners

- Provide increased funding for community centers
- Build trust and confidence with the community
- Support a campaign to bring back a full-service Grocery located in the East/North Side Community to eliminate food insecurity in those communities
- Encourage the City Manager to develop partnerships between the Saginaw City Residents and the Saginaw County Land Bank as a Community Development Program
- Promote Safe Crime Free Communities -- Accountability. Transparency. Integrity"

SAGINAW BOARD OF EDUCATION

For two open seats, incumbents **Mattie Thompson** and her son, **Jason Thompson**, are challenged by **Janet Nash** and **Todd Rennea Boone**.

STATE CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

Proposal 20-1 would allow the State Parks Endowment Fund to continue receiving money from oil and gas mining (drilling) on state-owned land, while Proposal 20-2 would require a search warrant in order to access an individual's electronic data and communications.

PROPERTY TAX PROPOSALS

The Saginaw Board of Education is seeking a 7-mill school bond proposal for buildings, including a new combined high school and other infrastructure. A full report can be found elsewhere on these pages.

The Saginaw County Health Department is asking for a new levy of 0.48 mill, partly

Continues on pg 45, Candidate Surveys

Candidate Surveys Continued...

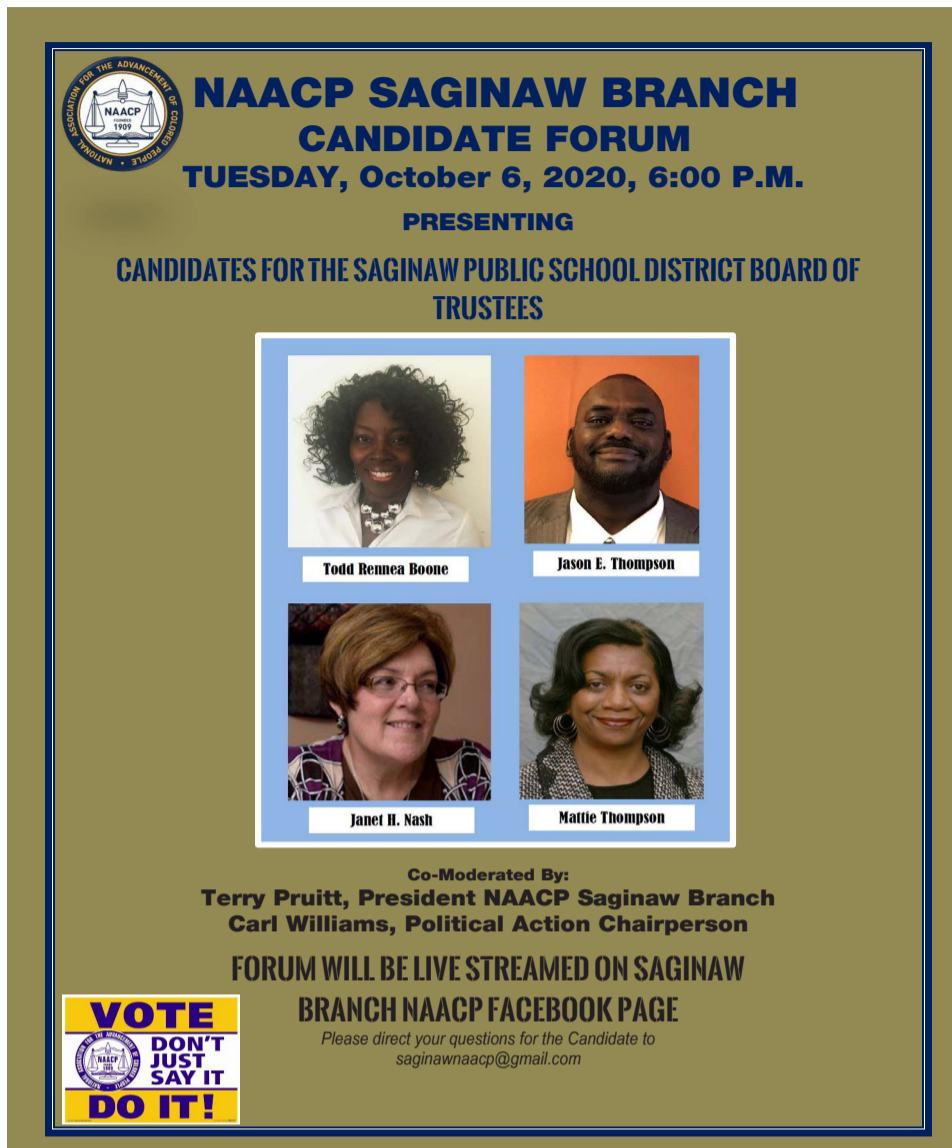
to fight COVID-19. A full story also can be found elsewhere in this edition.

Delta College is asking for a 0.5-mill renewal.

During the opening presidential debate, Donald Trump repeated past assertions about widespread voter fraud and absentee mail-in ballots, predicting that in November "it could take weeks" to arrive at an official final count, and saying he may find cause to challenge the result via a court case if he loses to Joe Biden.





In a Sept. 16 Michigan Banner interview with Saginaw City Clerk Janet Santos, a 31-year veteran of the profession, she provides evidence of the near-impossibility of even voting twice, much less organizing fraud that involves hundreds of thousands of ballots. In The Banner's archives, the report appears on Page 44.

As for the prospect of a weeks-long ordeal in counting the absentees, Santos says: "It is very difficult to estimate without knowing the final number of absentee ballots yet. However, the City will be utilizing the 'early processing' as now allowed via the passage of state House Bill 757. This allows "early processing" to begin at 10 a.m. Monday, Nov. 2. Ballot tabulation will be done on Election Day, Nov. 3. With this new process now allowed under HB 757, I expect to have absentee results in a timely manner."



**NAACP SAGINAW BRANCH
CANDIDATE FORUM**
TUESDAY, October 6, 2020, 6:00 P.M.


PRESENTING
CANDIDATES FOR THE SAGINAW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

 Todd Rennea Boone	 Jason E. Thompson
 Janet H. Nash	 Mattie Thompson

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




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Saginaw Chamber announces endorsed candidates and issues

Saginaw, MI — The Saginaw Chamber of Commerce recently announced their endorsed candidates and issues.

The Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce is committed to taking an active role in the political process in order to support a healthy economic environment. To support that commitment, the Chamber has created a rigorous process to vet candidates, policy positions, and issues in order to provide endorsements of business-friendly options to Chamber members and the community at large.

The process includes an evaluation of those seeking endorsements by the Chamber's Screening and Endorsement Committee. Candidates seeking endorsements must complete an in-depth questionnaire outlining their positions on a variety of business-friendly issues. The committee then makes recommendations to the Chamber's full Board of Directors who discuss the recommendations and vote to endorse, not endorse, or remain neutral.

During the September 24 Board Meeting of the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce, the Board reviewed recommendations from the Chamber's Screening and Endorsement Committee for the upcoming November 3rd elections and are pleased to announce the

following endorsements.

CANDIDATES

The Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce endorses a YES vote for –

MICHIGAN HOUSE

- **Rodney Wakeman** – (R) 94th District House of Representatives
- **Ben Frederick** – (R) 85th District House of Representatives

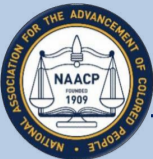
SAGINAW COUNTY COMMISSION

- **Michael Webster** – (D) Saginaw County Commission
- **Jack Tany** – (D) Saginaw County Commission
- **Christopher Boyd** – (D) Saginaw County Commission
- **Cheryl Hadsall** - (D) Saginaw County Commission

ISSUES

The Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce endorses a YES vote for –

- Saginaw County Department of Public Health Millage
- Saginaw Public Schools Bond Proposal
- Delta College Millage Renewal



**NAACP SAGINAW BRANCH
CANDIDATE FORUM**
THURSDAY, October 8, 2020, 6:00 P.M.

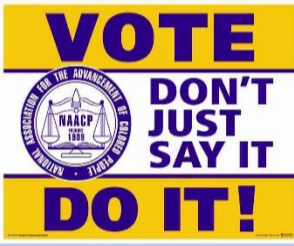
hear from:

CANDIDATES FOR THE SAGINAW CITY COUNCIL

ANN E. BOENSCH
MALCOM CLEVER JR.
NATE COLLISON
GEORGE COPELAND
MICHAEL R. FLORES
JAMIE FORBES
MONIQUE LAMAR SILVIA
CIRVEN DON MERRILL
JOHN J. MILNE
TAY VELL RICHMOND
REGGIE WILLIAMS

Co-Moderated By:
Terry Pruitt, President NAACP Saginaw Branch
Carl Williams, Political Action Chairperson

Forum will be live streamed on NAACP Saginaw Branch Facebook Page
Please direct your questions for the Candidate to saginawnaacp@gmail.com



JANET H. NASH

Your Best Choice for SPSD Board Member
"Together For Tomorrow"

— VOTE November 3, 2020 Election —

Seeking 6-yr Board Member term, Saginaw Public School District

40+ years experience as district educator, community leader and resident

Long history of working with all community students, parents & business resource partners

Proud to to serve district residents in cities of Saginaw, Zilwaukee, Kochville Township and Buena Vista

See reverse side for more reasons to support Janet H. Nash with your vote!

Vote November 3rd for Janet H. Nash in section for "Local School District, School District of City of Saginaw" – Found on the back side of your ballot!



Paid for by CTE Janet H. Nash, 1836 Handley St., Saginaw, MI 48602
CommitteeToElectJanetHNash@gmail.com (989) 272-2767

SPORTS

MHSAA calls for increased gathering numbers at indoor and outdoor events



courtesy photo

Michigan — On September 30, 2020, the Michigan High School Athletic Association released an MHSAA Update - guidance on Executive Order 183. This new order, which becomes effective on Friday, Oct. 9 allows for increased gathering numbers for indoor and outdoor events in all regions of the state.

The following items are stated on the order:

1. The effective date of this new guidance under EO 183 is Friday, October 9.
2. Social distancing **MUST** be followed at all times for everyone except athletes involved in active participation during the contest. There is no change to the face covering requirements under EO 153 (for all non-athletes) and EO 180 (for all athletes).
3. If an indoor event is in a fixed indoor seating venue (gymnasium or pool), 20% of seating capacity is allowed for up to 500 spectators (25% in Regions 6 and 8). If your gymnasium seats 2,500 or more, you would be able to sell 500 spectator tickets. If your gymnasium seats less than 2,500, take 20% (or 25% in Regions 6 and 8) of your maximum capacity to determine the number of allowed spectators.
4. If an outdoor event is in a fixed outdoor seating venue (football or soccer stadium), 30% of seating capacity is allowed for up to 1,000 spectators. If your stadium seats 3,333 or more, you would be able to sell 1,000 spectator tickets. If your stadium seats less than 3,333, take 30% of your maximum seating capacity to determine the number of allowed spectators.
5. If an outdoor event is **NOT** in a fixed outdoor seating venue (cross country, golf, soccer field with no permanent/fixed seating), a site must maintain no more than 30 spectators per 1,000 square feet of the facility, up to a maximum of 1,000 spectators. We realize this will be challenging to enforce in cross country and golf in particular given the
6. When spectator tickets are sold in advance, the availability of those tickets must be divided on a 50-50 basis between the home and visiting school. If remaining tickets are sold at the gate, they may be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. If tickets are not sold in advance, spectators are admitted on a first-come first-serve basis. All persons admitted with a school, league or conference pass for regular season contests must be included in the spectator limits.
7. This new order eliminates the need for the MHSAA definition of “participant” as attendance is no longer connected to the number of participants. Local schools can now determine participant groups to be included with regular season contests such as players, cheerleaders, dance teams, pompon squads and bands.

massive expanse of many cross country and golf courses. In these cases, use every opportunity possible to announce and remind all involved to keep social distancing at all times.

For regular season events, schools may have more restrictive local policies. For questions, contact the MHSAA.



UNDER THE LIGHTS
***** FLAG FOOTBALL

CO-ED K-1st, 2-3rd, 4-5th, 6-8th, 9-10th, 11-12th Divisions
*Divisions may adjust based on final registration numbers

September 13th – October 25th
Every Sunday | Games Beginning at 4PM
Practices are held 30 minutes prior to games

This youth flag football league is brought to you by trainer, high school coach, former NFL Pro & league commissioner, **Vince Agnew**, powered by **Under Armour Under the Lights!**

With 6 weeks of regular season play plus an additional week of playoffs, youth are guaranteed to learn, compete and improve their games. Every athlete receives an Under Armour team shirt, Under Armour shorts, flags & more!

• Register now ONLINE: www.MichiganMade.net/YOUTHFLAG
• Registration Deadline: **AUGUST 31**

\$150 / Athlete

You may organize your own team, request same team placement as friends, request a coach or be placed at random within your age division.

If this league is cancelled prior due to changes in covid guidelines, you will receive a refund.

Financial assistance available via SWAGNEW FOUNDATION. Contact Commissioner for more information on assistance.



For more league information please contact Commissioner Vince Agnew via email: VinceAgnew@MichiganMade.net or Call: 616-723-4147

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- COMMERCIAL FURNITURE
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- ERGONOMICS
- SOUND MASKING
- WINDOW TREATMENTS
- INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE



PINNACLE DESIGN
commercial & residential interiors



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PICS OF THE WEEK

The City of Saginaw Government hosted community members and 20 local artists for a Paint-A-Thon last weekend to create artworks that celebrate the diverse community and aim to increase pedestrian traffic. This project is the first of 16 to be installed in cities across the country through our #AsphaltArt initiative, which brings communities together to revitalize local infrastructure and reimagine streetscapes with art. (Photos by Nic Antaya)





We

empower.

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



SAGINAW VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY

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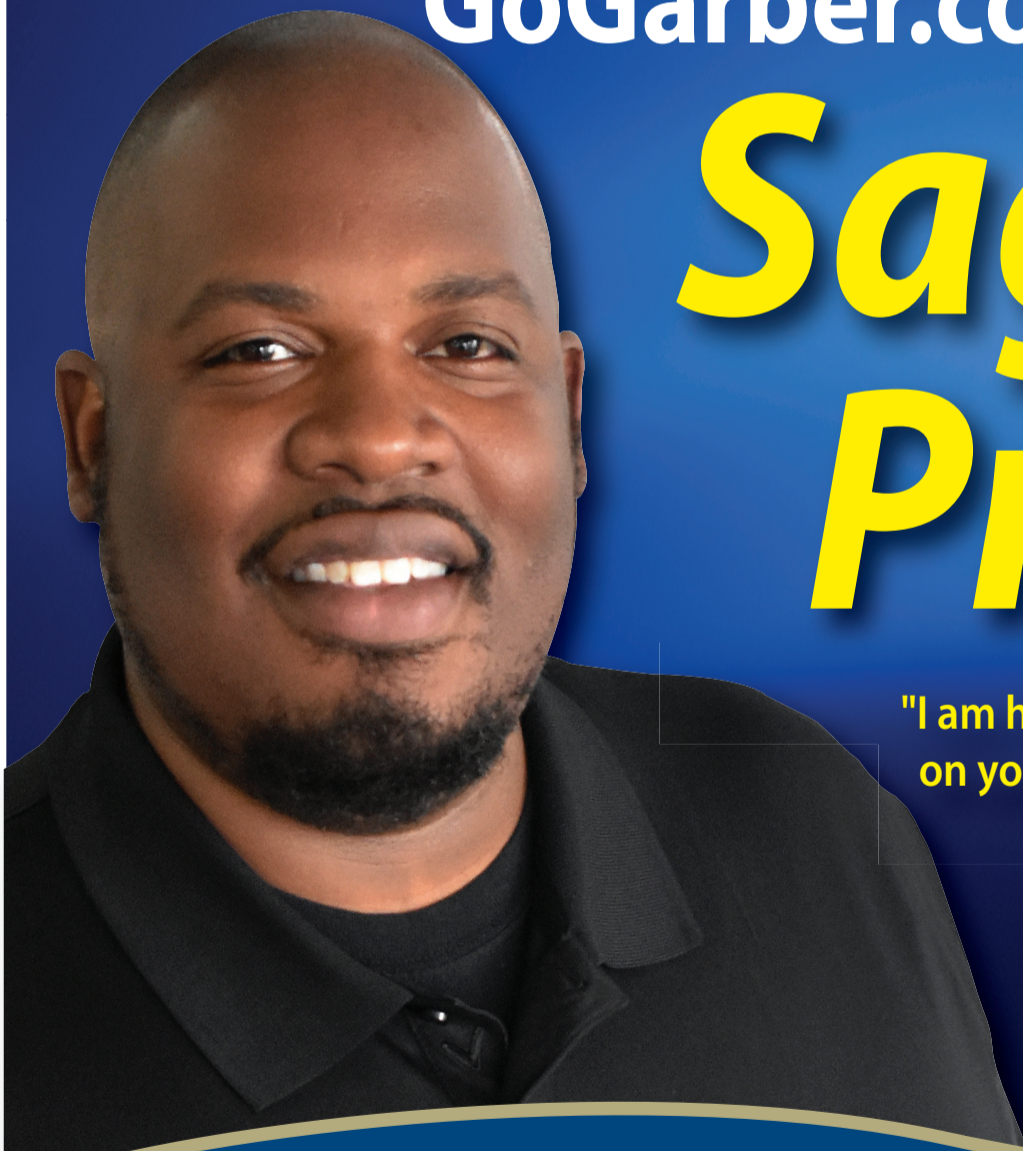
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*Saginaw
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"I am here for you. Looking forward to serving you on your next new or pre-owned vehicle purchase."

Hurley Coleman III
hcoleman@garberbuick.com